



*We see the world through Black eyes*

## A day of rededication Mountain needs rules

On the anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr. we must once again rededicate ourselves to the ideals for which Dr. King lived and died.

Dr. King was a man who, with his own inner strength and belief in the humanity of man, led a vast multitude of people who had no political power or influence and little money, but were able to move the conscience of a nation. Though police dogs, fire hoses and wire taps were used against him, he never doubted the eventual triumph of truth.

Dr. King was a man whose philosophy was so powerful, whose goals were so prevailing, that he was harassed, slandered and perhaps murdered by the government of the United States.

And what was this philosophy that was so feared by United States officials? Merely that the vast majority of Americans are good and that when they are exposed to the suffering they are inflicting on others, they will bring about change.

Dr. King's movement went beyond the quest for civil rights for Black Americans. He directed his efforts toward unity of all people who were suffering the debilitating effects of poverty and he sought to identify the country's oppression in Vietnam with its oppression at home. For this he was murdered.

On this anniversary of Dr. King's birth we must rededicate ourselves to carry on his work. We must strive to see that this nation redefine its priorities -- that the economy is rebuilt to insure meaningful employment for those who can work and an adequate income for those who cannot. The wealth of the nation must be used to benefit the people -- not the few who would live off the suffering of the majority.

We must extend our sights beyond our own borders -- to see the suffering of our brothers in Africa and the Third World caused by our own economic policies and the secret police tactics devised to protect them.

The anniversary of Dr. King's birth should mean more to us today than ever before. With the nation in deep depression, with our overseas aggression increasing, with our secret police operating at homes, it is more than ever necessary that we keep our eye on the goal. Only through continuous perseverance and dedication will we ever be able to say with conviction -- "Free at last."

Three teen-age boys have been lost on Mt. Hood for more than two weeks and hope of their rescue dims. Since they were last seen, on January 1st, storms have raged and more than fifteen feet of snow have fallen on the mountains.

We are generally opposed to the personal restriction of personal freedom, but it does seem that there should be some effort to prevent this type of tragedy, which happens all too often. Surely the forest service could make some restriction on climbing on the mountain during stormy periods and particularly during the winter.

Not only can the lives of these three young men be lost, but their decision to take a winter hike, and their parents' approval, endangers the lives of hundreds of men who climb and fly over the mountain in an effort to find them.

We pray that these young men will be found safe, but we hope their ordeal leads to some consideration of regulations that will help prevent future tragedies.

## Freeway brings danger

The Banfield Freeway is a menace!

Not only are the lanes narrow, but during wet weather -- which is most of the time -- the outside lanes are almost unusable. Water covers an area two or three feet wide on the outside lanes, forcing the traffic toward the center line, and in many places covers half of the lane.

Unsuspecting motorists driving through these deep ponds of water are engulfed with a sheet of water.

It seems that with as much money as was spent rebuilding this freeway, proper drainage would have been installed.

It is another example of poor planning and temporary expediency which costs money but does not solve the problem.



Dr. Martin Luther King marches in Memphis, on March 29, 1968, five days before his murder. Reverend Ralph Abernathy is on his right and Reverend Ralph Jackson on his left.

## The Campaign Against Dr. King

by Bayard Rustin

It is no surprise that J. Edgar Hoover hated Martin Luther King, Jr. But even in this cynical age accustomed to dirty tricks and deceit, it is shocking to learn the desperate and despicable lengths Hoover and the FBI went to in order to destroy King.

During the time when I worked with Dr. King, we knew that the FBI had sent spies into the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and we suspected that we had been bugged as well. In recent weeks it has been revealed that the FBI went much further -- that they organized and carried out a campaign designed to destroy Dr. King.

The FBI tried to prevent a college from giving King an honorary degree, they hatched a plan to keep the Pope from granting him an audience, and tried to undermine the financial support for the S.C.L.C.

The FBI did not stop at trying to destroy King as a civil rights leader. Nor did they stop at a slanderous whispering campaign planned to destroy Dr. King's personal reputation. They went so far as to send a note and tape recording to King

in late 1964 in an effort to drive him to suicide.

Paradoxically, the revelations about Hoover's six-year campaign to destroy Dr. King make it clear that it was not King's reputation that was damaged by this effort but the reputation of Hoover and the FBI. Hoover's suspicions about King, if they could be called that, tell us more about him than about King.

Certainly in his later years Hoover was a petty man, jealous of his reputation, and deeply resentful of any criticism. It is unclear what aroused Hoover's suspicion of King, but perhaps it was the very largeness and charity of King's character.

If it could be said that King and Hoover were foes the way in which they conceived of their contest and the manner in which they reacted to each other show the stark contrasts between the quality of man that each was. While Hoover used a federal agency to carry on a personal vendetta against King, Martin was engaged in a great battle for social justice through non-violence and Christian love.

One incident during my ten-year association with Dr. King illustrates this difference. Apparently angered by Dr. King's criticism of the FBI for appointing

servative agents to investigate civil rights violations in the South, Hoover publicly attacked King as the "biggest liar" in the country. Many of King's advisors myself included, urged Martin to make a counterblast at Hoover, demand

that Hoover produce evidence to back a charge.

But public denunciation was completely alien to Martin's character. Whenever someone was in error and especially when they wrongly attacked him, Martin always sought a personal conference to attempt to reconcile the differences. Thus he met with Hoover and asked the FBI chief to explain just what he had done that Hoover considered deceitful.

Hoover, of course, was unable to supply any basis for his attack.

I don't imagine that Martin would have been too alarmed at the knowledge that the FBI was out to destroy him. What would have disturbed him and what should disturb us today is that all the time and effort devoted to tearing down King could have saved the lives of many people who were killed during the great crusade to gain civil rights.

The good that men do does live long after they have died. Dr. King did much good in his life. It is our responsibility to make sure that that good continues and that it be expanded. For what King did will be regarded one hundred years from now as one of the greatest contributions to mankind.

Martin took the strategy of non-violence a step even beyond Gandhi. He showed that it is possible for a minority using the principles and tactics of non-violence to win concessions from the majority, an effort Gandhi attempted but failed to achieve in South Africa.

He showed that it is possible to secure justice and that it is realistic to dream of a better world.

## Letters

### Racist militia

Dear Editor:

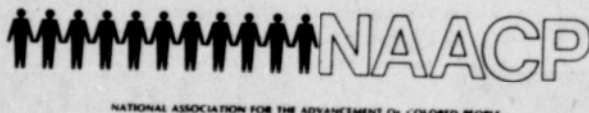
Shotguns in all police cars. What's next? Portland now stands out as a racist militia aimed at the poor and minority groups.

Honestly, who do you think the shotguns will be used on? Right. And to think most hunters use shotguns for large game animals. But, of course, minorities are regarded by many as **Animals**.

I am ashamed of this city: the Bay Area got rid of Chief Baker because of his racist tactics there. It now seems that the city of Portland has retained him when others would not. What does that make the city of Portland, a very, very, racist city.

Citizens remember Kent State, sometimes it's not the Blacks or other minorities...Students you know how you are usually regarded -- as niggers.

Ms. F.J. Sandy Yuvienco



For more than 66 years, black Americans, faced with threats to their civil rights, have turned to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The NAACP response to these threats would fill volumes. It ranges from the end of lynchings, the abolition of jim-crow, the 1954 school integration decision, equal access to public accommodations and the extension of voting rights, to guarding the rights of blacks on the aircraft carrier, Kitty Hawk, and participation in winning the largest back-pay award ever for black steelworkers in Alabama.

The means to maintain and increase civil rights gains for all Americans are threatened because the NAACP and its programs are now throttled by inflation and the continuing national economic crisis. Yes--when we're in trouble, your civil rights are in trouble. Only you and your like-minded fellow Americans can help maintain the Association in times of stress as the firm and unwavering civil rights bulwark.

To continue the work of the NAACP, send your contribution today.

Margaret Bush Wilson  
Chairman of the Board

Jesse Turner  
Treasurer

Roy Wilkins  
Executive Director

1790 Broadway, New York 10019  
2752 N. Williams Avenue, Portland 97212  
5701 Arizona Drive, Vancouver 98664



ALFRED L. HENDERSON  
Editor/Publisher

## Portland Observer

Published every Thursday by Exie Publishing Company, 2201 North Killingsworth, Portland, Oregon 97217. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3137, Portland, Oregon 97208. Telephone: 283-2486.

Subscriptions: \$5.25 per year in the Tri-County area, \$6.00 per year outside Portland.

Second Class Postage Paid at Portland, Oregon

The Portland Observer's official position is expressed only in its Publisher's column (We See The World Through Black Eyes). Any other material throughout the paper is the opinion of the individual writer or submitter and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Portland Observer.

1st Place  
Community Service  
ONPA 1973

1st Place  
Best Ad Results  
ONPA 1973

5th Place  
Best Editorial  
NNPA 1973

Honorable Mention  
Herrick Editorial Award  
NNA 1973

2nd Place  
Best Editorial  
3rd Place  
Community Leadership  
ONPA 1975



WISDOM is...

giving to the March of Dimes



Birth defects are forever. Unless you help.

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY THE PUBLISHER

Not Everyone

Subscribes

To The

Portland Observer

but then, not everyone

comes in out of the rain.



How About You?

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Tri-County area \$5.25

Other Areas \$6.00

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....

PORTLAND OBSERVER

2201 N. Killingsworth Street

Box 3137 • Portland, Oregon 97208

(503)283-2486