



*We see the world  
through Black eyes*

## Protesters deserve respect

Suggestions have been advanced that the persons who protested the proliferation of nuclear power plants by "occupying" the Trojan plant should be forced to pay for the increased cost of police power by paying large fines. Since Trojan is located in a small county, police and court costs have taxed the local county budget.

The locals thought Trojan was a good idea when it was proposed — bring jobs and tax funds to their area, much as some of the people in Eastern Oregon have fought for the proposed Pebble Springs plant, the Boardman arsenal and nuclear waste storage grounds. They tend to favor immediate gains in spite of long range dangers. Then, when problems do arise, the tax burden falls on the few residents and property owners who get left with the bill.

So now the public calls for bigger fines and larger jail sentences for those who protest. And is the case of all who dare to oppose the establishment, they are heaped with ridicule.

The same abuse was given Martin Luther King and the civil rights activists, Cesar Chavez and the farmworker's union, the anti-war protesters.

The proponents of nuclear power claim it is safe. But the makers of destruction always defend their products. The residents along Love Canal, who now find themselves in danger of death and deformity, must wish someone had protested the dumping of chemicals in their backyards. And those now dying of lung disease caused by asbestos must wish someone had seen the danger and had been brave enough to protest.

How long did the tobacco growers maintain that cigarettes have no hazard to health? And what about DDT, thalidomide and all of the other products that have been used for years with devastating effects?

So don't be too quick to laugh at those who protest nuclear power or spraying the forests with pesticides. In future years, when the profits have been made or when the negative effects are too blatant to ignore any longer, the people will wonder why they were not banned long ago. Then maybe we will remember with respect a few people who sat in rain and then went to jail.

## Another Point of View

### Startling statistics

from *The Atlanta Inquirer*

NEW YORK (UMC) — Ten million children in the U.S. have never received any medical care, half the nation's children have never seen a dentist, and one million children were physically abused by their parents in 1975.

These statistics and others showing serious problems among children were cited by President Carter in appointing the U.S. Commission on the U.N. International Year of the Child (IYC).

Even more impressive to a small group of United Methodist Women, who gathered in New York in August to make plans for the 1979 observance, was the information that 16 percent of all America's children are growing up in poverty, below the government's "understated poverty line." In 1976 that figure stood at \$5,500 for a family of four in a non-farm environment.

"That's a bare minimum," said Franna Diamond, program specialist for the Children's Defense Fund of Washington, D.C. "Children are the poorest age group in our population; they constitute an even larger group than the elderly poor," she said.

The Women's Division Task Force will propose several IYC goals to the division's October annual meeting. These include: seeking to rediscover the theological basis for justice for children; highlighting the U.N. Declaration of the Rights of the Child; learning about the children of other

culture; and working for justice for children through legal and legislative structures.

The Human Rights Seminar scheduled for February 22-23 in New York City will give special emphasis to the rights of children in an effort to increase United Methodist women's awareness of them.

Since the main thrust of the year is to generate far-reaching and sustained national activities on behalf of children, the seminar will concentrate primarily on problems plaguing U.S. children. But because the year is an international observance, the task force said the activities of multinational corporations in developing countries and their impact on children should also figure in the discussions.

Possible topics for "struggle groups" at the seminar include: parent/family situations, health and nutrition, children in crisis, child welfare, children and the media, education and child care.

Eileen Moon, who covers UNICEF for the Women's Division, urged that IYC not be a "one-year effort" but that "afterward you keep children in your thinking."

In closing Ms. Diamond warned: "The temptation will be to debate the issues rather than doing something about them. We know what children need. We don't need a study on hungry children. We need to do something about feeding them."

We'd like to simply say "Amen" to that last statement.

## Africa news carries bias

by N. Fungai Kumbula

The quantity of news coming out of Africa, particularly southern Africa has jumped considerably over the past few months. A lot of the newspapers, magazines and other publications now carry regular features devoted to African affairs. But, while the quantity of news has improved, the quality in most cases still leaves a lot to be desired.

Considering the severity of the censorship in both South African and Rhodesia, maybe this should not be too surprising. After all, both countries are far away enough but also added to that is the problem of unfamiliarity. Even with all the news flowing out of the area, a lot of journalists are still very much in the dark once they arrive in southern Africa. And, because they usually have deadlines to meet, most end up getting all their news from government sources. Thus the news is always presented in a way that makes the government(s) look good and responsible and portrays the African freedom fighters as bloodthirsty, anti-white, communist led savages.

Both Rhodesia and South Africa have notorious "guided tours" for journalists, so the journalists can only see what the government wants them to see. And even after they gather the news, it has to pass through a Board of Censors and anything that portrays the government in an unfavorable light is scratched. In Rhodesia at the moment, no journalist can go into the operational areas. All the news about the war comes from government sources. They were more time it comes out, it (the news) has been fully doctored.

Taking a closer look at a concrete example: did you notice how every time a number of whites are killed, you hear the story for weeks on end? Did you know though, that thirty Blacks are getting killed every week? When those twelve missionaries were killed, the government flew in foreign journalists and allowed them to write stories and photograph all the gory details and made no attempt

to censor anything. Just two weeks before, Smith's security forces had massacred 22 Black civilians. Did he fly in journalists to take all the pictures and write all the stories like he did with the killing of the missionaries? Hell, no! At that time, even the protestations of his colleagues in the Executive Council, Bishop Muzorewa and Reverend Sithole, were censored. Also, only a day before, Rhodesian troops had raided a refugee camp in Mozambique and killed seventeen refugees and two United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization volunteers from Belgium but, that news too, never saw the light of day.

The Rhodesian army has a notorious band of operatives known as the Selous Scouts that have been responsible for some of the worst atrocities of the war. David Martin, writing in *The London Observer* (3/13/77) says that all but one of the people (missionaries) that he spoke to stressed that their African congregations were convinced that the killings were the work of the Selous Scouts. They were more afraid of the Scouts, whom they regarded as the real terrorists, than of the guerillas. The former Bishop of Umtali (since deported) the Rt. Reverend Donal Lamont said... "I had a visit from one of my African clergy who reported that he was being terrorized by the European (white) members of the security forces. They said to him: 'You'd better watch out. One dead missionary is as good as 100 dead terrorists.'"

Wonderful Mukoyi, a captured Selous Scout, quoted in the July-December issue of *Zimbabwe News* had this to say: "A thirteen man section of Selous Scouts posing as guerillas arrived at Nyadiri kraal. The commander, Lytton, interrogated Mr. Nyadiri and, after torturing him for two hours without getting any useful information, ordered his men to shoot the innocent man. Three days later, the Rhodesia Broadcasting Corporation (radio and TV) filed this report: 'Terrorists arrived at Nyadiri kraal and

demanding food. Mr. Nyadiri refused them food and the murderers gunned him down with Soviet automatic weapons.'"

Another interesting aspect is that all the missionaries killed had been supporters of the guerillas. One of the first victims, Bishop Adolph Schmitt was a personal friend of Joshua Nkomo, one of the two guerillas chiefs. The Pentecostals, the latest victims, had been cooperating with the guerillas in their areas. On the other hand, the missionaries of churches that have been supporting the regime such as the Dutch Reformed Church and the Anglican Church have never even been touched. Something smells very fishy. Both Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, the other guerilla chief, have stated that the regime, realizing that it is losing the war, has suddenly started to sacrifice missionaries in an effort to discredit the guerillas and win world sympathy.

Rhodesia also has powerful supporters in the U.S. which help make its voice heard. The Rhodesia Information Office in Washington D.C. continues to disseminate propaganda to sympathetic Americans especially politicians and journalists. The media outlets of the New Right are busy mobilizing support for the internal 'settlement'. Robin Moore heads an unofficial U.S. "embassy" in Salisbury. Robert Cleaves, a Los Angeles "lawyer" writes and speaks extensively trying to sell the internal 'agreement.' Industry is represented by E.F. Andrews of Allegheny Ludlum (the country's largest specialty steel company and one that has used Rhodesian chrome) who has been lobbying for years for a resumption of trade with Rhodesia.

Virtually all the news from Southern Africa that you read about in this country comes either from AP or UPI, both of which have bureaus in Salisbury but none in the Front-line states where the Patriotic Front guerillas are based. Propaganda can be a powerful weapon and Smith and Company are going for broke in their efforts to gorge you.

## Letters to the Editor

### Defends school administration Doesn't like cover photo

To the Editor:

In Herb Cawthorne's most recent myopic pre-release of a portion of the Community Coalition for School Integration final report (*Oregonian*, September 26, 1978), he employs the use of literary theatrics laced with emotionalism, all apparently calculated to enrage rather than inform the public about Portland's school desegregation program.

His comments implying that Portland Teachers have received little or no training in the management of a desegregated classroom or teaching Black children, that schools teach no Black history whatsoever, and that children are callously scattered in schools are all examples of his monumental ability to manipulate, distort and when necessary, ignore existing data which fails to hone his axe.

Mr. Cawthorne's comments on teacher training are of particular concern to me because this is my current field of activity. School District #1 records, which were available to Mr. Cawthorne, reveal that Portland has provided a multitude of teacher training in race relations, multi-cultural education, and teacher effectiveness. The following list of past and current Portland Public Schools offerings, while not complete, provides some

idea of what in fact has been provided for teachers and other staff: Black Culture and Awareness Seminar; Intergroup Problem Solving; Intergroup and Cultural Awareness Workshop for Classroom Teachers in Support of the Administrative Transfer Program; Urban School Management; Human Awareness Workshop; Summer Urban School Management Workshop for Administrators; Intergroup and Cultural Awareness Workshop; Team Building for Multi-cultural Education; Systematic Self-Observation; Summer Institute for Intergroup Education; Values Clarification; Fallmark; A Multi-cultural Education Training Workshop; Multi-cultural Curriculum Development; and many more.

If Mr. Cawthorne can set himself up as investigator, judge and jury of Portland's desegregation program and exclude relevant data, such as provided above, who then, can stop him from totally polluting the stream of understanding?

Clifford Campbell Jr.  
Portland, Oregon

(Editor's Note: Mr. Campbell is Curriculum Specialist for the Portland Public Schools Title VII (desegregation) program.)

To the Editor:

The *Portland Observer* welcomed NAACP delegates with an excellent June 29th special edition. It was well-written, in good taste, and valuable to the delegates.

Consider another Portland-based publication, the *Oregon Times*, which had the monumentally bad taste to welcome the NAACP delegates with a July cover featuring a KKKlanner holding a noose before a sign reading, "Welcome to Oregon — Have a Nice Visit but Please Don't Stay."

When the *New York Daily News* reported that the delegates were offended by the cover, *Oregon Times* editors apologized in the September issue, saying, "the cover was meant to convey Oregon's historical attitude toward Blacks."

Don't spend too much time searching historical sources because you will not find this "historical attitude" conveyed. At no time in history did Oregon ever say "Welcome to Blacks," for a visit or otherwise.

So, then, *Oregon Times* editors — just what was the cover meant to convey?

Dean Synder



ALFRED L. HENDERSON  
Editor/Publisher

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