

EDITORIAL/OPINION

China's new foreign policy

by N. Fungai Kumbula

Renew commitment

The death of four young boys, members of the Columbia Boys Club basketball team, reminds us of the special uniqueness of each and every child. Each child is not only an individual -- with his own talents, desires, joys, and dreams -- but he holds a special place in his family, his church, his school, his community, a place that can never be filled by another.

The loss of these young boys reminds us of the community's responsibility to each child -- to insure that each receives the care and protection, the guidance and the education that will allow him to achieve some of those dreams.

As we mourn the loss of these young boys, we must also renew our commitment to all the community's children.

Free them, too

Amnesty International has charged the US with cruel and degrading punishment in some prisons, possible fabrication of charges against political activists and the use of the death penalty by some states.

Among the specific cases mentioned were the Wilmington 10; the Charlotte Three; Johnny Harris, who faces the death penalty in Alabama; and additional Black and Indian prisoners.

In light of the CIA's years of drug testing and brain washing of unsuspecting, defenseless citizens; the FBI's harassment of Black and Indian rights groups; the suspicious nature of the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. King, these allegations are undoubtedly true.

Now that President Carter has set Patty Hurst free, he should look into the prisons and the courts and free the US's political prisoners.

Change filibuster rule

The United States Senate is again attempting to deal with the filibuster -- a procedure that allows one or a small group of Senators to prevent discussion of or vote on proposed legislation by holding the floor for days or weeks.

Organized filibusters have echoed through modern Senate history beginning with the effort to talk to death the Anti-Lynching bill of 1937. The filibusters have usually been Senators from the same bloc of states, trying to preserve white supremacy or corporate power.

Virtually every step toward human rights in the United States has been the target of the filibuster. These anti-human rights filibusters include those against the 1937-1938 Anti-Lynching bill (29 days); the 1942 Anti-Poll Tax bill (9 days); the 1946 Fair Employment Practices bill (18 days); the 1964 Civil Rights bill (83 days); the 1965 Voting Rights bill (26 days); the 1966 Repeal of Right-to-Work-for-Less (14b) (16 days); the 1968 Campaign fund financing bill (20 days); the 1968 Open Housing bill (34 days); the 1972 Equal Job Opportunities bill (23 days); the 1973 Voter Registration bill (10 days); the 1974 Consumer Protection bill (17 days); the 1975 Common Site Picketing bill (10 days); the 1976 Anti-Trust Amendments (14 days).

Past attempts to change the rules to control filibustering have failed. At the beginning of each session the rules can be changed by a procedural motion -- and that opportunity can be taken now if enough Senators agree.

Persons who are interested in a more democratic process in the Senate should urge Oregon's Senators, Mark Hatfield and Robert Packwood, to support this rule change.



For a long time now, Africa has viewed China as a friend, a leader and a comrade in the struggle to be free. The Chinese revolution and her ensuing 'go it alone' policy provided a shining beacon that inspired colonial Africa to rise up and throw off the colonial shackles. China was one of the few countries that not only turned up its nose at 'capitalism's exploitation of man by man' but actually came up with a viable alternative.

They wiped out starvation, drug addiction and drug abuse, crime and all the other ills of capitalist decadence and built from one of the poorest countries on earth, a major world power. And they did it single-handed too. That's what was so attractive to other people around the world, people who were also trying to get up from under the yoke of oppression. China's call for self reliance was something they could all identify with.

The architect of this philosophy, one Mao Tse-tung, died a few years back and soon after his death, China began to undergo profound policy changes. The Great Wall of China that had kept 'foreign barbarians' for hundreds of years began to tumble -- torn down by China's new open door policy. The world watched and Africa gasped.

Now China's door is open so wide that Coca Cola is gushing through. Before too long, Big Macs will be making the 'Great Leap To China' with 'Saturday Night Fever' right

on their heels. Credit cards, autos, tractors, blue jeans, the whole works. The way things are going, before too long, you will have trouble deciding whether you are in Chinatown (California) or 'Red' China.

You do not quarrel with your neighbor because he is fixing up his home for his family or building a play area for his kids. By the same token, we do not have any quarrel with China's modernization program. We understand their need for technology, to enter the 20th century. The Chinese leadership know best what's good for China and we applaud them for trying to accelerate the advancement of their country.

The one thing we are concerned about is the resultant change that in her foreign policy that accompanies these 'advances.' As China's relations with the West have improved, so her ties to the Third World have been equally and adversely affected. The change had been coming for quite some time but, the real danger signal came with the Angola Civil War of 1975. China had become increasingly obsessed with trying to 'check Soviet expansionism' and so China began to throw in her lot more and more with the Western countries.

During the Angola War, because of this obsession, China, for the very first time, took the same side as Africa's arch enemy, South Africa, in opposing the ascension to power of the MPLA. This came as a rude shock to all Africa and suddenly

made us realize what a very different hue our friend had now taken. After Angola came Zaire and, again, China took the same side as South Africa along with France, West Germany and the U.S.

This is where our concern lies: that in 'normalizing' relations with the Western countries, China has begun to take some rather unpopular positions. In the struggles in Southern Africa, China had been one of our most enthusiastic supporters, lending moral, political, financial and material support. Most of the time, this was in direct conflict with the wishes of the Western nations who were concerned about their investments. Lately, Chinese aid has either been tied to too many conditions or been cut off altogether.

If the Chinese no longer wish to support our struggle, we cannot argue with them. After all, you do not prosecute a man for refusing to offer you food. Our concern stems from the fact that they may now decide to flex their muscles and influence the course of events (in the wrong direction) in Southern Africa. Already, it has been reported that, when Zbigniew Brzezinski went to China recently, he was trying to persuade the Chinese to cut back their support for the Zimbabwean guerrillas. This in spite of the fact that the U.S. officially maintains a 'neutral' policy.

As Teng Hsiao-ping basks in the limelight in Washington, we wonder: 'Have we merely lost a friend or made a new enemy as well?'

Letters to the Editor

O.S.P. runs 'kangaroo court'

To the Editor:

The January 25, 1979, 'Behind the Wall' column is one of the best analysis of the prison kangaroo court I have read. The standard, "You can have witnesses as long as they are not inmates, staff members, or other persons" of O.S.P. has been laughed at, ridiculed, held up as an example of madness. From coast to coast people are earnestly trying to understand what type of "human intelligence" could come up with such nonsense. The keepers of O.S.P., meanwhile, are content that they are perfectly normal. After all, they have always done things upside down and

see no reason to change now. They are working, drawing steady paychecks, paying bills: what else is there to life?

The last paragraph of Earnest Watson's article summed up the entire Oregon "correction" story: "... poorly trained personnel that deal directly with the prisoner." The emotions of guards and other prison personnel run the prison. If the keepers like the prisoner on a personal basis, the prisoner will find that all of a sudden things are going right for him -- he secures the favored job he wants, he gets the cell move he wants, his daily life starts running smoother, thanks to the almighty guard. If the keepers become men-

tally/emotionally involved with a prisoner on another level, the prisoner's life is beset with troubles, from the hassle of getting his cell door open to getting a job change, a cell move or any of the 101 daily involvements of staff and prisoner. The convict who is the object of the guards negative emotions may find himself trying to reason with the "intelligence" that believes "you can have witnesses as long as they are not people" makes sense. And up is down and straight is crooked and few are many ...

Sincerely,
Donald Danford

American State Bank expands

(Continued from page 1 col. 4) businesses who find it inconvenient to come to the east side."

Booker credits Sol and Frank Director, owners of the property the bank will occupy, as providing much of the encouragement for the move downtown. The general area where the branch will be located is having a renewed growth with the building of the Marriott Hotel, Portland General Electric's buildings and planning for the Hawthorne Bridge area.

For the first time, ASB paid dividends to stock holders this year. The first three quarters of 1978, the dividend was 5¢ a share, but it was increased to 10¢ a share for the final quarter.

The bank is increasing its loans and is establishing a specialty in real

estate loans. Currently, a \$1 million loan, the bank's largest, is being closed with a Marion County company. As a community based bank, there is a desire to assist new and potential homeowners as well as businesses locate in the North-Northeast area. The bank also has a large number of Small Business Administration loans, possibly the greatest number compared to the size of the bank.

A bank is the hub of the community, around which the economic and financial life evolves. Life in this community does not yet evolve around ASB, since its competitors are the well-established First National and United States National Banks. "Our competition is the best," according to Booker. "First National is the 38th largest bank in

the nation and U.S. is right behind. Accounts don't come from nowhere -- every account has to be taken away from another bank. When the old established banks open a new branch, most of the customers transfer from another branch and they pick up a few new ones. But our customers are all new.

"We are competing against the giants. They have the history and the technology to win. We have had hurdles to overcome that others don't -- proving that a minority owned bank can have integrity and stability. But now we are able to compete on their grounds and sometimes to win.

"We are growing and expanding, and the year ahead will bring greater successes."



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Jail demonstration planned

(Continued from Page 1 Column 4) without ever being allowed out for fresh air which is contributing to poor health conditions at the jail.

According to previously revealed information, the food remains below par, overcrowding continues, sanitary conditions are poor and health care specifically is inadequate.

A committee spokesperson has stated "a new facility will not be built until approximately 1984" pointing to this five year period "as an additional reason to immediately urge Commissioner Clark and other correction officials to bring the jail to a level of compliance as required by law as soon as possible."

Members of the committee have also labeled the county correction system as "racist" citing statistics that upwards of thirty percent of the

population being held at Rocky Butte are Black while the outside ratio on Black citizens is about four percent.

Spokespersons for this Support Committee are asking anyone sensitive to these conditions to attend the demonstration Sunday.

Attorneys have been reported as gathering information preparatory to launching lawsuits such as have been successfully concluded in other states and similar to suits currently pending such as was brought by a Portland resident citing lack of access to the insulin he requires twice daily. The lack of insulin for approximately three days lead to hospital treatment and a \$35,000 suit. The driving violation leading to the incarceration was later dismissed in court.

Williams convicted, manslaughter

(Continued from Page 1 Column 6) already been there once, had already been cut, and here's the man with the knife again."

Juanita Rivers, the waitress who saw much of the incident, had testified that she saw Morrison "lunge" at Williams before the shot and the coroner's report corroborated that statement.

Deputy District Attorney Erich

Hoffman told the jury that Williams had gone back to the donut shop with the intent to kill Morrison because he was angry and humiliated. "Black pride -- ethnic pride -- is not an excuse for murder."

Maximum sentence for first-degree manslaughter is twenty years. Sentencing has been set for March 2nd and Williams remains free on bail.

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