

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Reconsider police review board

Back in the sixties there was a lot of talk about Citizen Review Boards to police the police, investigating charges of brutality and harassment. During the civil rights demonstrations and the Vietnam war protests many honest and upright citizens fell under the police club.

Police Departments conspired with the FBI and other government agencies to spy on and attempt to destroy legitimate citizen organizations.

Portland had its own police riot at the PSU campus and more recently the "shoot-out" at Van's Olympic Room. The killing of a series of young Black men was followed by other police errors which brought injury or death to innocent people. These cases, when investigated, were always found to be acceptable.

Lately reported instances of police brutality and harassment seem to be on the rise. Or is it just that more cases are being reported and discussed publically?

How much of the seemingly increased police activity is due to political tension? Several years ago a North Precinct captain told a Sabin Neighborhood Association meeting that Albina and St. Johns would eventually war with each other over jobs and other economic gains -- so the necessity for a citizens' Precinct Council to advise the police of hot spots.

Along with valid and necessary aspects of neighborhood crime prevention, the spy system

was discussed. Although neighbors should look out for neighbors, when does it cross over the line and approximate what one neighborhood organization leader suggested -- buying cameras to take pictures of suspicious looking people waling down the street?

The new captain expressed concerns about conflict between boycotting and non-boycotting Blacks, while denying any increased police presence during the period that the boycott was being planned and discussed. Many citizens question that denial.

While charges of brutality are increasing, nothing seems to be done. Frustrated citizens file complaints and receive form letters.

During the Ricky Johnson inquest police officials admitted that when tensions are high -- during the chase or the capture -- expressions are used, vulgarities and racial epithets -- that indicate the true feelings of some police officers. Is it just a few bad apples or is there a lack of discipline from the top?

Can't the Chief control his men, or doesn't he believe the reputable people who claim they have been abused?

A police review board is something the people should seriously consider. If hard times are ahead -- as predicted by economic forecasters -- then now is the time to get control of the police.



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Warren charges police brutality

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was happening. I had never seen such ignorance or such racism. I didn't believe it could happen."

Warren said he tried to tell them they should be helping him find his daughter, not arresting him, but when his questions were met with laughter and snickers, he gave up.

He was booked into the jail and released on bail. When he went for his first court appearance, he learned no charges had been filed. He was treated the next day for injuries to his throat and hand.

The police report tells different story. According to the report written by R. W. Morris, when he and his partner arrived they found Warren in the house using the telephone.

Morris asked him to leave and when he refused, "I placed my hand on his left elbow and started to lead him out and he grabbed Officer Pantley. I then told him he was under arrest and when we tried to handcuff him, he refused to let us. He was subdued, taken down and handcuffed."

Warren says the police did not tell him why they approached him, that he was under arrest until he asked while in the squad car. No explanation of the police behavior toward him was made, he said.

Warren, who is an insurance agent for Prudential, was employed by the Boy Scouts for seven years. The first year he was Executive for the Big Thunder District -- recruiting boys and leaders, training leaders and

raising funds. For six years he was District Executive for the Explorer program. Besides operating his own district including much of Portland and Southern Washington, he coordinated the Law Enforcement programs throughout the state.

Warren is a Lions Club past president, a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner and a member of the United Way board, a resident of Beaverton, he has a son in pre-law at Willamette University and a daughter at Sunset High School.

Warren said he intends to sue the City. "I have worked closely with the Portland Police Bureau and with other law enforcement agencies. It was a shock to experience the ignorance, the brutality, and the racism practiced by these officers."



Africa: Itzy Bitzy Tidbits

by N. Fungai Kumbula

The jubilation we had felt at the overthrow of self-styled emperor Jean Bedel Bokassa of the then Central African 'Empire' has been interrupted in mid-celebration by some of the first moves made by his successor, David Dacko. To begin with, he is retaining Bokassa's entire cabinet. What madness has possessed him to retain a group of ministers who formed the core of probably the most ruthless regime in this whole miserable world? The logic escapes me. It also makes me wonder what sort of changes we can expect when the system Bokassa left behind is left intact.

Dacko has also indicated that the CAR (Central African Republic) will pursue the possibility of opening diplomatic relations with South Africa. If he does, the CAR would be only the second African nation to open an embassy in Pretoria. The only other one is Malawi. This would be a great disservice to all Africa and would do a lot of harm to Africa's efforts to completely isolate the apartheid regime. It is true that under Bokassa, the CAR had established considerable economic ties with South Africa and it is also true that several African countries clandestinely trade with her but none has gone so far as to recognize the illegal apartheid regime. Not even such countries as Lesotho, Swaziland and Botswana that are completely or partially surrounded by South Africa have gone that far. Here's hoping that Dacko reconsiders his hasty decision and backs out before he finds himself on the outside looking in.

Bokassa himself, is now in the Ivory Coast after being kicked out of France where he had fled to after his overthrow. He is a dual French-Cen-

tral African Republic citizen. He was such a fiercely loyal French 'citizen' that, when Charles de Gaulle died, he (Bokassa) openly wept "Mon pere!" (My father) at his grave. He also served in the French army and was an unabashed admirer of Napoleon but, when he fled there, the French were too embarrassed and they kicked him out. So far, Felix Houphet-Boigny, virtual dictator of the Ivory Coast and also another fiercely pro-French "leader", has refused to extradite Bokassa back to the CAR to stand trial.

Equatorial Guinea: Macias Nguema, the dictator of Equatorial Guinea who was toppled August 3rd, has been executed. He was tried and sentenced to death by civilian-military tribunal. After his overthrow, he fled with a number of followers to his birthplace in the interior of Guinea but, soon afterwards, his followers deserted him and when he was captured, he was alone. A fitting end to one of the most arrogant and most brutal murderers of modern times.

Uganda: Idi Amin is still missing. After all this time, he has not been located. He, supposedly has been seen in such varied places as Libya, Sudan, Lebanon, Iraq, Uganda and, somebody swears he saw him in Los Angeles headed toward Hollywood. Could he have been looking for San Clemente? It's taking a little time but Uganda seems to be settling down at last.

Rhodesia: The diminutive, arrogant and misguided bishop continues to grapple with an unwinnable war. He has made a number of raids recently into Mozambique and Zambia again killing mostly innocent civilians. This time, however, he seems to have

deliberately sought out Mozambican military targets as well.

This can be seen as a feeble attempt to divert attention from the horde of problems facing him at home. The white exodus continues steadily at the rate of a thousand a month. Desertions from the mostly white led army are said to be on the increase. His extension of the draft to include Blacks who, up till recently have been exempt, has met with very little success. What popular support he still claimed among the Africans has evaporated as more people see him for what he is: a mere stand-in for Ian Smith. At the conference being held in London, much to the horror and consternation of some of his closest aides, he continued to fight for the retention of whites' privileges at the cost of Black advancement.

London: A little progress has been reported from the conference taking place in London. Muzorewa, with the surprising backing of most of the white delegation with the sole exception of Smith, finally agreed to a new proposed constitution that will reduce the roll of the whites. The Patriotic front, for its part too accepted the proposed constitution which still reserves 24 seats out of 120 for the whites. Supposedly, the guerrillas agreed to this compromise because they did not want to appear intransigent and thus offer Britain a way out (Britain could then very easily have excluded the PF from further negotiations and recognized the Muzorewa-Smith clique). However, whites will no longer have veto power under this new arrangement. It is still being negotiated and is far from being fully accepted by either side.

Young leads successful African trade mission

LAGOS, NIGERIA—On his last visit to Africa, United States Ambassador to the UN, Andrew Young has built "bridges" between Black America and West Africa that will have a significant political and economic impact by opening doors for business opportunities in West Africa, a region plentiful in natural resources.

Nigeria was the third stop of a seven-country trade mission, led by Young, along with Louis Martin, Assistant to President Carter for Black Affairs. Seven of the 23 chief executives of American firms selected for the mission are Black. They included: Theodore A. Adams, Jr., Unified Industries, Inc., Alexandria, Virginia; Clarence Avant, Tabu Productions, Los Angeles, California; Ofield Dukes, Ofield Dukes and Associates, Washington D.C.; John Grayson, UNIVOX-California, Inc., Los Angeles, California; Marion Oliver Greene, Jr., International Business Services, Inc., Washington, D.C.; Thomas Wood, TAW International Leasing Corp., New York; Edward Henry Jones, International Commercial Resources, LTD., New York.

Young's political stature and un-

paralleled popularity with African dignitaries gave the mission the aura of a head of state visit. Adding to the Economic power and influence of the trade mission were John Moore, Chairman of the Export-Import Bank, and Bruce Llewellyn, who is Black, President of Overseas Investment Corporation. Both represent more than \$1 billion in funds available for African business investments.

The trade mission and its success will only add to Young's track record in opening lines of communication in the hope of forming lasting ties with African nations in mutually beneficial alliances. Moreover, the clout of the mission, coupled with the inclusion of Black businessmen, will go far to merge Black Americans with their African brothers and sisters in economic ventures and exchanges that will strengthen Blacks' political and economic position domestically.

Young said he was "extremely pleased" by the reception of the trade mission and the substantive and productive business discussions held with top officials and business leaders of the first three countries visited—Liberia, Ivory Coast, and Nigeria. The remaining countries on

the itinerary were the Cameroons, Kenya, Tanzania, and Senegal.

In Liberia, where President William Tolbert, Jr. told Young he was "considered a son of Africa, and we salute you for all you stand for for all you've done," Young received the Star of Africa. The award, one of Liberia's highest civic honors is given for "distinguished achievements in the service of fellow men."

It was appropriate that Young visit Liberia first since the small West African country was founded by freed slaves in the 19th century.

The mission spent two days, most of which centered on business meetings in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, described as the French Riviera of Africa.

In Lagos, the Nigerian government expressed its interest in increasing its business endeavors with American firms.

Despite his controversial resignation over an unauthorized talk with a PLO representative to the UN, Young, as a result of this mission, has made an impressive mark as a U.S. statesman with the foresight and initiative to forge international alliances that will go far in benefiting Blacks and the nation.

National Champs

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Roy Pittman of the Peninsula Wrestling Club, both were bright prospects when they started.

Nine year-old Darren won first place in the City of Portland championships; First Place in the State Championships; First Place in the A.A.U. Junior Olympic Regionals in Butte, Montana and first place A.A.U. Junior Olympic Grand Nationals. It might be noted that Darren has never placed less than Third Place in any competition.

On the other hand, you have the oldest of the two brothers, Dwayne, who's wrestling record is just as impressive as his brother's, Dwayne won First Place in the federation regionals; First place for the City of Portland. He placed second in State competition and won second place in the A.A.U. Junior Olympic Grand National Championships.

Both young men work out three to four hours a day, five days a week, to keep the competitive edge. The season starts in September and ends in July. Their parents Bettie and Lovine Briggs continue to support the boys in their hectic schedules.

As far as the boys are concerned, their ultimate goal - the Olympics! The chances - excellent!

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