



Dick Bogle

By Dick Bogle

Herb Cawthorne is a busy, busy man. Not only is he in the middle of a heavy campaign to retain his seat on the Portland School Board, but he has a full time job as director of the Office of Special Services at Portland State University.

"It's no secret that Portland schools face a tremendous financial crisis," Cawthorne says. "When there's a financial crisis, the Black community's programs will be severely hit. We use education as the fundamental driving force to make progress so we shouldn't want anything to happen to weaken the educational system because when that larger system weakens, it weakens us."

He says that if the school levies

don't pass, Blacks will lose some of the kindergarten programs, the improvements in the early childhood education program and perhaps a number of other important programs that it took a struggle over the past ten years to obtain. That, he says, would be "tragic."

"People are going to have to accept financial cutbacks and that means we are going to have to look for different ways to achieve some of the same goals. That means innovative programs that would bring together teachers, administrators, parents and community representatives to provide the same quality of education," Cawthorne says.

School closures are sure to happen here in Portland and Cawthorne

feels it was a slap in the face of the Black community by the School Closure Committee when it recommended the closure of two East side high schools, Adams and Washington-Monroe, both having large Black enrollments. He thinks that decision will cause severe problems in the next six or seven months.

Cawthorne says he is running a hard campaign for the school board despite the fact that his opponents stand very little chance of unseating him. He says no matter who opposes him, he should run a good, strong campaign so that people know who they are voting for.

He sees another benefit to a strong and well organized cam-

paign. He has been very visible in the Black community and has organized through the churches and civic organizations so that Black people can have impact on the overall community.

He is also urging his supporters to vote for another candidate for the school board, Sarah Newhall. Cawthorne says she worked for "us" when we really needed her help and it's real important for the Black community to understand that when people help us politically, it's important for us to return the favor.

Cawthorne spends some of his free time with his wife Joyce and their three children; Alena, Elise, and Jon, but there always seems to be time for him to work on his oral history portrayals of famous Blacks, such as W.E.B. DuBois, Martin Luther King and others.

It all began while the 33 year old Cawthorne was teaching at the University of Oregon. He noted many of his Black students were weak in reading and writing skills because of poor high school preparation. But these same students were strong in listening and speaking. So, he began to read aloud speeches by Martin Luther King and, Malcom X and others. He researched the history of oral tradition back to Africa and at the same time remembered that when Blacks came to this country as slaves, reading was prohibited and that we all became dependent on oral communication.

He sees a continuation of that strong oral understanding and facility. He says after reading aloud to his students, many of them were encouraged to read more about famous Blacks.

When asked if he plans to pursue higher political office in the future, Cawthorne simply says, "I don't know what the future holds as far as political office. I'm not really concerned about it at the present time. I'm more concerned about serving on the board and completing the work I've started there."

He said, "The key to progress in our community is good aggressive communication and that always translate to some degree into political activity and I guess that's how I ended up where I am."



Murder in Atlanta

Ron Wyden
U.S. Congress

(Editor's Note: Below is a statement by U.S. Representative Ron Wyden on the murder of Black children in Atlanta, to be included in Congressional Record)

Mr. Wyden: It hasn't been very long since we untied yellow ribbons as our hostages returned from Iran. Now we are witnessing a new sprouting of ribbons for an equally serious crime against America - the murder of 20 children in Atlanta.

These murders have riveted attention once again on the rising rate of crime throughout the nation. This wave of crime, in a very real sense, has made each of us feel as if we are hostages in our own homes, our neighborhoods, our cities.

The fact that these children are Black make the murders no more or no less important than any other crime. But the failure to stop more murders from occurring and to apprehend the killer or killers are understandably rekindling resentment and bitterness in our Black com-

munity - a community that knows all too much about being a hostage in their own land.

President Reagan deserves praise for taking steps to assist Atlanta's police officials in their investigation. His efforts have helped ease mounting tensions in the Atlanta community. I have agreed to cosponsor legislation by my colleague, Mr. Clay, for an appropriation of \$1.5 million to beef up police efforts to track down the killer of these children. My thoughts and hopes are with one of our friends, former Portlander Lee Brown, as he leads these efforts.

To me, the issue runs far deeper than merely a concern for rampant crime in the streets. What bothers me is the waste of human potential these killings - and all violent crimes - produce.

Of these 20 children, one may have grown up to be the scientist who discovered a way to harness solar energy so it is affordable in all

our homes. Another may have been a doctor who saved lives. Still another may have excelled in the arts and given us an inspiring play or novel. And yet another may have been a hard-working father and friend to his children.

We'll never know because these 20 children are lost forever. Their loss robs America of productivity for the future. It diminishes our chances to make a brighter tomorrow.

Regretably we will never stop all violent crime. But we must move quickly to solve this particular crime against the children of Atlanta, against the community of Atlanta, against the Blacks of Atlanta - and the rest of the nation.

If we fail, our failure will symbolize much more than faulty police work. It will symbolize that the very foundations of our society are crumbling, and that our great experiment of men and women living in a free society at peace is in terrible jeopardy.



Newhall - A track record of community support:

- Fought for Harriet Tubman Middle School
- Consistently supports strong basic skills for students
- Voted for increased parent involvement in neighborhood schools
- Will fight for balance in school closures

Newhall - An independent voice for the whole community.

Vote for Sarah Newhall

for School Board - Position #1

Supporters include: Nick Barnett, Herb Cawthorne, Rev. John Garlington, Lillian Herzog, Leon T. Johnson, Gretchen Kafoury, Neil Kelly, Armando La Guardia, Vesia Loving, Bob Nelson, Edna Robertson, Ruth Spencer, Raul Soto-Seelig, Betty Walker, Commissioner Charles Jordan

Committee to retain Sarah Newhall for School Board, Jay Delman, Treasurer, 419 NE Hazel Fern Place, Portland 97232.

Did Haig read his security report?

White Paper disparities

(Editors Note: Last month, Secretary of State Alexander Haig announced that forthcoming U.S. policy in El Salvador would be based on a massive White Paper with some 47 pages of appended documentation. While the conclusions of the White Paper were widely discussed, and the policy initiatives it claimed to justify were sharply criticized, no one has yet publicly questioned the White Paper's actual description of the contents of the documents themselves.

John Dinges, a Washington, D.C., based writer with extensive experience in Latin America, undertook an exhaustive study of the documents for Pacific News Service, cross-checking them with the description provided by the White Paper and State Department officials, as well as additional intelligence reports available to the Administration but not included in the White Paper. Dinges found disturbing disparities between the allegations of the White Paper and the contents of the documents on which they are allegedly based. His analysis demonstrates how the documents themselves refute the interpretation of an escalating Soviet confrontation with the U.S. in our own backyard. Mr. Dinges, co-author of the book *Assassination on Embassy Row*, worked in Chile from 1972-78 as a stringer for *Time*, *Washington Post* and the *Peru-based Latin America Press*.)

Bound between stiff brown paper covers, complete with photo inserts, title pages, glossaries of terms and translations, the inch and a half packet is entitled "Documents Demonstrating Communist Support of the Salvadoran Insurgency."

The meat in the package is a collection of 20 documents in Spanish captured from Salvadoran guerrilla hideouts, 47 pages in all of handwritten jottings, aide memoirs, minutes of meetings typed on paper torn out of spiral notebooks.

This is the original law intelligence upon which the State Department and the Reagan Administration based its White Paper released February 23. There was

nothing secret about the data: one hundred copies of the documents were released to reporters along with the White Paper.

The captured documents are intended to prove the Reagan Administration's contention that the Soviet Union and International Communism are sponsoring armed aggression in America's backyard, and justify the first dispatch of American troops as advisors into a combat area since the Vietnam War.

But do they? Leaving aside the matter of their authenticity, they unquestionably demonstrate that socialist countries have supported the efforts of the Salvadoran opposition to overthrow the country's ruling Civilian-military junta, and that immense quantities of arms and ammunition were on their way at the time the Salvadoran guerrillas launched their offensive in January.

But these very same documents -- in addition to other intelligence reports available to the Reagan Administration which were not included in the White Paper -- provide conclusions that fall far short of the Administration's portrayal of El Salvador as an arena of East-West confrontation in which the U.S. faces the challenge of the Soviet Union.

The White Paper charges that some 800 tons of arms were promised to El Salvador, and that 200 tons were delivered to the insurgents by the time of the offensive. The captured documents themselves, however, provide evidence of far lesser quantities promised or in shipment -- and indicate that only about 10 tons ever actually crossed the border.

Moreover, battlefield evidence gathered since January, including the statements of a captured Nicaraguan soldier-turned-informer, fails to corroborate the White Paper picture and, in fact, reveals that the guerrillas were forced to depend on relatively antiquated rifles and other weapons purchased on the international black market.

In contrast to the Reagan interpretation that the Soviet Union masterminded the arms traffic, the

documents reveal that the guerrillas' Communist Party representative encountered a cool reception in Moscow, and was deeply concerned that Soviet "indecisiveness" might jeopardize any promise of arms made by other socialist countries.

According to a Carter Administration Latin America expert, Robert Pastor, much of the information used in the White Paper was in U.S. hands before Reagan took office, and had been taken into account in earlier policy decisions. While an increased arms flow was a key factor in Carter's decision to resume shipments of U.S. weapons to the junta shortly before he left office, the documents did not alter the conclusion of experienced Carter analysts that the guerrillas were an indigenous movement, largely independent politically of outside forces.

The documents -- read literally -- portray a period of nearly a year in which the Salvadoran opposition was gearing up politically and militarily for the January offensive. A relatively haphazard coalition of guerrilla forces and civilian politicians forged a united general command called the United Revolution Directorate, obtained arms, logistical and political backing from socialist countries, particularly their chief allies Nicaragua and Cuba, then confronted serious supply bottleneck problems and finally launched an offensive that sputtered into isolated skirmishes and sabotage after 10 days.

None of the documents, however, indicate anything but groups of Salvadorans organizing their own revolution. If the Soviet Union and Cuba were pulling the strings behind the guerrilla movement, as Secretary of State Alexander Haig has charged, evidence of such control is not to be found in any of the captured documents.

The State Department White Paper says that the documents show "commitments (by the socialist countries) to supply the insurgents nearly 800 tons of the most modern weapons and equipment (and) the covert delivery to El Salvador of (Please turn to Page 9 Col 3)

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Electricity costs are going up everywhere, it's not just here. Both private and public utilities throughout the country are facing soaring prices. Higher equipment costs,

fuel costs and interest rates have everyone on a tight budget. And the rapid increase in new customers in our service area is another strain on our existing supply.

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