

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Make his dream a reality

The U.S. Senate has joined the House in voting for a holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. All that remains is for Ronald Reagan to sign, and this being a pre-election year, he has indicated that he will.

The credit goes to Rep. John Conyers and other members of the Congressional Black Caucus who have submitted the bill year after year without losing the hope that someday their colleagues would join them.

This is not only the first U.S. holiday to honor a Black man. It is also the first holiday to honor a man who struggled to bring an end to racism and poverty at home, to imperialism and war abroad. It is the first holiday to honor a man

who was harassed, threatened and perhaps even killed by agencies of his own government.

Although he is recognized as a hero now by many Americans of all political stripes, while he lived King was attacked by officials of all levels of local and national government. Some of those who voted for the King holiday today were among those who fought him and what he stood for hardest. Those who now understand and accept the challenges of King's life and death, while they honor him, should continue his struggle. The Senators who voted today are in a prime position to make many elements of his dream a reality.

EEOC role still essential

The General Motors Corporation, the nation's largest automobile manufacturer, has signed a settlement in a 10-year-old complaint of racial discrimination brought by the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission.

The agreement sets numerical goals, includes a \$15 million scholarship fund, earmarks \$8.9 million for training of minorities and women for white-collar jobs, and sets aside \$4 million for back pay and relief to resolve individual discrimination complaints. The total package will cost GM \$42 million, the nation's largest monetary settlement.

While the EEOC was negotiating this EEOC's own life is in danger. President Reagan has diminished the Commission's role by replacing its members with his own appointees—persons who do not endorse affirmative/equal opportunity principles. Congress has attempted to intervene by creating new positions so Reagan can keep his appointees and former Commissioners can remain. If Reagan does not accept, Congress has threatened to end the Commission's funding.

The value of a commission—free of political interference—can be seen in the GM settlement.

Press aids CIA covert wars

The CIA and its allies have stepped up their war against Nicaragua since September, when CIA-owned airplanes bombed the airport at Managua. Mercenaries and ex-Somoza national guardsmen, world-renowned for their brutal murder and torture during the 50-year Somoza dictatorship, are stepping up their war against Nicaragua.

In recent weeks the Somocista "contras"—recruited, trained, supplied and armed with U.S. tax dollars—have increased their raids across the borders of Honduras and Costa Rica, destroying villages, roads, bridges, communications and oil storage sites, and killing the peasants and villagers. This, together with a U.S. economic blockade, is crippling the ability of the Nicaraguan government to provide for its people. This in turn—and its build-up of arms for defense—is used as reason for the U.S. attack.

Why are the citizens and the taxpayers of the U.S. sitting idly by while our government wages war against innocent people?

Could be the slander campaign in the U.S. press. The press refers to the Nicaraguan government as the Sandinistas—never referring to it as a legitimate government. The Sandinista Liberation Front is referred to as "leftist," "communist," and "Marxist," while the mercenaries attempting to overthrow the government are called "anti-communist." The U.S. govern-

ment and the press treat the two sides as if they were equals, when in reality one side is the government (won from the Somoza dictatorship through the sacrifice of 50,000 lives), and the other is traitors.

The press also persists in portraying Nicaragua as a Marxist state controlled by the Sandinista party and directed by Cuba and the U.S.S.R. Nicaragua has and plans to retain a mixed economy—with both public and private enterprise. Nicaragua has eleven functioning parties—all protected by law—which participate in the national congress along with representatives of all segments of the population. The nation is developing a new constitution and system of elections, with the election to be held in 1985.

Little can be found in the press about the great strides Nicaragua has made—in spite of U.S. opposition—in education, medical care, agrarian reform, and including the people in decision-making.

Perhaps this is why the American people are willing to participate in the murder of thousands of people—mostly poor peasants—who only want to live in peace and control their own destiny.

We do have to question the motives and the ethics of the media who are willing to spread lies over and over again.

AuCoin challenges deployment

PORTLAND, OR—Oregon Congressman Les AuCoin warned Friday that the United States faces a tightening "nuclear noose" worldwide and stalemate in Central America because it is trying to apply military force where it won't work.

Speaking to the City Club of Portland, AuCoin said the United States "obviously needs adequate military strength, or there will be no negotiations" to control nuclear arms. "We have that strength. In real-world combat capability, we and our allies are the strongest power on earth."

But he said while western military equipment and tactics are superior to those of the Soviet Union, the West remains insecure, with the "noose of nuclear war growing ever tighter," because it has misused its military force in an attempt to solve problems around the world.

As an example of faulty strategic thinking, AuCoin cited the idea of a nuclear weapons build-down, currently being promoted in Washington, which he said will not help de-escalate or reduce the risk of nuclear war.

Under the build-down concept, two older strategic missiles would be dismantled by the United States and the Soviet Union for each new mis-

sile deployed. AuCoin said that because of advances in technology, new classes of weapons would be faster, more accurate and more lethal than the ones they replace.

Making a distinction between sheer numbers and destructive capability, AuCoin said, "one of the best policies we can make is qualitative arms control, because it's in the qualities of new weapons that the danger lies," especially in such "quick-paralyzing, first-strike" weapons as the MX Missile.

The great strength of the nuclear weapons freeze, which passed the House of Representatives earlier this year, said AuCoin, is that it "would stop these new technologies. They have to be flight-tested before any war-planner would have enough confidence to use them. This testing can't be hidden, and the freeze would prohibit it."

AuCoin added that the freeze is not based on trusting the Soviets. "If it were, no rational American could support it. It bans only what is verifiable," he said, "and flight testing of ballistic missiles is very easy to verify."

Military force is being misapplied not only in arms control strategy, but in El Salvador, AuCoin said, where U.S. military aid is being used

to "protect the status quo... a government power structure made up of, or dominated by, extreme right wing elements with close ties to the military who in any normal society would be considered mafia-type hit men."

Some 30,000 civilian non-combatants have been killed and mutilated over the last three years in El Salvador because they were suspected of sympathizing with insurgents, AuCoin said, and not one Army official has been brought to trial.

"There is a limit to how long a people will take such repression before those governments are invariably toppled; when they are, the countries that bankrolled those governments are equally blamed—a fact which creates diplomatic openings for our adversaries."

AuCoin said now is the time for the United States to "turn away from a military strategy which emboldens right wing elements in the current government," and to embrace the approach called for by the Contadora nations and the Pope: "unconditional negotiations among all parties in the civil war, leading to a coalition government of national reconciliation, with elections to follow."

Portland plans anti-missile rally

PORTLAND—Oregonians will be protesting the planned U.S. deployment of Cruise and Pershing II missiles in Europe at a march and rally to be held in Portland on Saturday, October 22.

Marchers will parade from the South Park Blocks by Portland State University, beginning at 10:00 a.m., to Waterfront, where various nationally and locally known speakers will address the themes of the rally:

- No Cruise and Pershing missiles: Stop first-strike weapons.
- Support the nuclear weapons freeze campaign.
- Employment for peace, not deployment for war.



Protests are being registered throughout Europe, Canada and the United States on October 22 to protest the deployment of the Cruise

and Pershing II missiles in Europe, scheduled to begin in December. Such deployment by the United States would heighten tensions in Europe, would increase the chance of nuclear war, would initiate a new round of nuclear arms escalation on both sides, and would seriously undermine the prospects of achieving a comprehensive and verifiable U.S.-U.S.S.R. freeze on all nuclear weapons.

The march and rally are being organized by a coalition of peace and religious groups throughout Oregon, under the auspices of the Peace and Disarmament Committee of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Herb Cawthorne, Portland school board member, will be master of ceremonies of the local rally.

Grenada

(Continued from page 1 column 3) Grenada had no relations with Cuba. Grenada refused, and accepted help from Cuba and a number of other nations in building its new airport.

Reagan has charged that the airport, which was planned during the colonial era but never constructed, is really a landing strip for Cuban and Soviet fighters. Until the airport is completed, in March of 1984, tourists must travel from Barbados or Trinidad, both of which are competitors for the tourist dollar.

The New Jewel Movement is a member of the Socialist International, but Grenada does not have a socialist economy. Although there has been a development of cooperatives and unionization, with new rights for workers, agriculture, the major industries and commerce are in the hands of private enterprise, which

controls 60 percent of the nation's economy.

Grenada is a member of the British Commonwealth and recognizes the Queen.

One of the reasons for Bishop's removal is believed to be his reluctance to nationalize private enter-

prise and to erase symbols of colonialism.

The last news from Grenada prior to Bishop's death indicated that the option to retain his position and share power was still open to Bishop.

Williams

(Continued from page 1 col. 3) more Black reporters hired at The Oregonian.

Prior to coming to City Hall, Williams covered the Legislature during its off-season. "Oregon has some really talented legislators, especially from Portland. But the Legislature reflects the state, which is rural, small town. The attitude of some of the legislators is very provincial and parochial. In some cases it has hurt the concerns of Portland, which is more urban and cosmopolitan."

As for the politics behind City Hall, Williams said, "At times I have been amazed at some of their reasons for doing things the way they've done them. A lot of issues have been decided on personality. This is a problem with government in general. Sometimes they make decisions based on facts and other times they are based on how they felt when they got up in the morn-

ing." Williams kept her ear to the ground and was able to predict Charles Jordan's removal as Police Commissioner. "There were some people in the Black community who thought they had gotten a commitment out of Ivancie that Jordan would continue as Police Commissioner. That was a conflict with know facts. Ivancie was very close to the Police Union, who never hid the fact that they did not like Jordan as a Commissioner. The scandal in the police department and the 'possum incident' gave Ivancie a convenient reason to remove Jordan."

Because of this and a few other victories, Williams said she believed the Police Association is surrounded by a perception of power. "If you go back and look at the record they did not support Mike Lindberg, Neil Goldschmidt and a number of candidates who won over their objections. Their biggest defeat was measure 51 which was the measure to

prevent the Police Auditing Committee."

Linda Williams will go down in the history of Afro-Americans in Portland as a reporter who developed a grassroots connection with the community. An example of this connection was an editorial (February 23, 1983) exposing police harassment of Black males who are stopped and detained while police officers exhaust their computer banks looking for something to arrest them for.

"The main reason I wrote about him (Cliff Walker) is that he was among many Black males with the same complaint. Secondly, there was something on the record I could use other than his word."

Her editorial stated that the police officers' determination of a "suspicious person" is too often based on race. Her research validated the complaint and as a staff writer for The Oregonian the violation of individual rights was exposed to the entire state.

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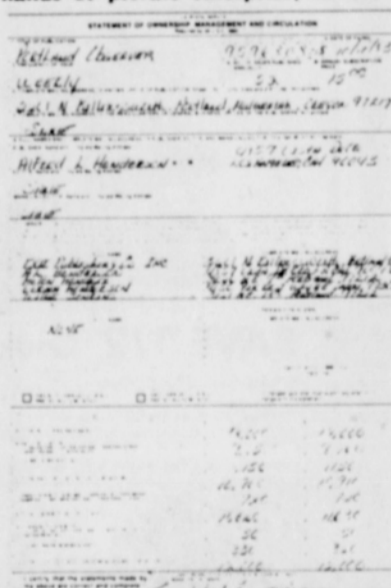
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"Brown Beauty" is reputed to be the name of the horse Paul Revere rode when he warned the countryside of the approach of the British.

A "deltologist" is one who collects picture postcards.

Teepees and wigwams are not the same things. A teepee is a conical tent of the North American Indians, while a wigwam is a hut or dome-shaped wooden house.

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