

Thousands  
protest Euromissiles

Page 2



Blacks in  
the NBA

Page 8



Rainbow  
Coalition

Page 4

# PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume XIV, Number 2  
October 26, 1983  
25¢ Per Copy

USPS 959-680-855

© Exie Publishing Co., Inc. 1983

## U.S. Marines invade Grenada



Affanita McCuff, a fifth-grader at King School plants a juniper bush for the playground border. Dr. Matthew Prophet's report on scholastic achievements in the Portland schools appears on page 3. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

"Foreign troops are invading Grenada. This is our country, our sovereign country, our dear homeland. Foreign troops began landing this morning. Our armed forces are now meeting them in fierce battle..."

With these words the people of Grenada learned early Tuesday morning that the long-expected U.S. invasion of their nation had begun.

President Ronald Reagan told the American people that the reasons for the attack on the small island off the South American coast, which is twice the size of Washington, D.C., and has 110,000 people—nearly all Black—were:

To protect the lives of U.S. citizens, mainly medical students living on the island; to restore law and order; to establish democratic institutions.

All of Reagan's reasons for the attack have been refuted.

On Monday, Oct. 24th, the day before the invasion, the government of Grenada sent the United States a message. "We are for peace, friendship and for maintaining the historically established ties between our countries and hope they grow and strengthen. We further take this opportunity to inform your government that the Military Revolutionary Council of Grenada has no desire or aspiration to rule the country. We are presently beginning the process of establishing a fully constituted civilian government within ten to fourteen days. Such a government would be broad-based, expressing the interests of all social classes and strata in our country. We have already held discussions with our local Chambers of Commerce and industry, commercial, banking managers and hoteliers, as part of the process of constituting such a government.

"Our civilian government would pursue a policy of mixed economy with state, cooperative and private sectors and would encourage foreign and local investments within the framework of the national inter-



Black United Front co-chair Ron Herndon adds his voice to Wednesday's protest against the U.S. invasion of Grenada. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

est of the country."

The U.S. government also states that it invaded Grenada at the request of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean states, which was organized in 1981 with Grenada as a founding member. The organization met Sunday; however, Guyana and Trinidad, Grenada's closest neighbors, refused to participate in the attack, while Barbados and Jamaica, non-members but allies of the U.S., joined in the invasion. These small island nations all hope to benefit financially from Reagan's Caribbean Initiative.

"We are faced with a very grave situation in the Caribbean; a situation that has been directly brought about by the intervention of the United States into the sovereign and independent country of Grenada."

Grenada's Deputy Permanent Representative to the U.N. Ian Jacobs told the U.N. Security Council.

Jacobs called Reagan's statement that the U.S. is assisting OECS states is merely a smokescreen to hide the truth. "There is no doubt in anyone's mind as to who is behind the invasion of Grenada. Talk of multi-national force is a joke, an absolute joke, because over 95 percent of the forces that are present in Grenada tonight are from the United States and those forces are there, Mr. President, in keeping with what has been the policy of the United States towards the people and the Revolution of Grenada since March 13, 1979. Nobody should be surprised at what has happened in Grenada tonight.

"We merely have to look at the

facts. Look at the 1980 plot that was revealed in the *Washington Post* just six months ago—a plot that detailed an attempt to organize and execute the overthrow of the government of the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada." He quoted Larry Speakes, White House spokesman, as saying that overt and covert activity against Grenada has been stepped up in the last two or three months.

"The people of Grenada tonight," he said, "are suffering untold hardships and despite reports being issued by the U.S. we have other reports that indicate many deaths. As far as reports we have been getting from around the world, as many as 700 people, many of them civilians, have been killed as a

Please turn to page 4 column 4)

## District 18 public forum chooses candidate

The District 18 Leadership Forum will hold a community-wide forum on leadership to determine who is the best candidate to oppose the incumbent Representative in District 18. "The splitting of the Black vote by too many candidates and divided supporters caused an excellent chance for representation to slip through our hands. We cannot allow this to happen again," the group stated.

In an effort to unify behind one candidate, a Community-Wide Forum on issues and candidates will be held on November 5th. The forum intends to:

- Discuss the needs and issues of the District.
- Establish the qualities necessary for a candidate.
- Allow candidates to make presentations.
- Endorse one candidate.

•Assist with the campaign of the candidate chosen.

Each candidate will speak for ten minutes, answer questions, and close in two minutes. The same questions will be asked each candidate.

Following the presentations a secret ballot will be held with voters identified by voter registration cards or drivers licenses.

Issues identified are: taxes and tax structure; unemployment; education; crime and prostitution; disinvestment in South Africa; economic development; health care.

The forum will be held at 1:00 p.m. November 5th. Members of the steering committee are Ronnie Herndon, Edna Robertson, Rev. John Garlington, Marion Scott and Herb Cawthorne. For more information call 248-4575.

## Out now! Out now!

by Chuck Goodmacher

"OUT NOW! OUT NOW!" echoed off the front of the Portland Federal Building Wednesday as nearly 1,000 people demanded an immediate full withdrawal of American Marines from Grenada. The protest had been called less than 24 hours earlier by people outraged over the invasion.

The event ended with a conversa-

tion between Senator Packwood (who was pulled off the floor of the Senate) and Ada Sanchez, who spoke on behalf of the protesters.

The demonstration, publicized mainly by phone calls, overwhelmed everybody there. Several experienced organizers said they'd never seen such a successful spontaneous demonstration.

The crowd included people of all colors and ages—a true Rainbow Coalition—opposed to Reagan's war in Grenada.

By 12:30 there were so many people present that it became impossible to make an orderly circle in front of the building. Among the slogans—led by Citizens Party co-chair John Blank—were, "U.S. Marines come home, leave Grenada alone," and "1, 2, 3, 4—dump Reagan in '84."

Ronnie Herndon, Black United Front co-chair, speaking to the crowd through a bullhorn, noted that the administration's "concern" about the safety of Americans in Grenada was a big lie. Herndon quoted the chancellor of the medical school there, who said during a television interview the night before that there was no danger to the American students whatsoever. Calling the leaders of the Caribbean nations which also sent troops against Grenada "Uncle Toms and Aunt Jemima

(Please turn to page 11 column 1)

## South Africa payoff

PHILADELPHIA—Several members and former members of Congress and the U.S. Senate have accepted gifts and money from the South African government, according to a copyrighted story in *The National Leader*, the nation's only national weekly newspaper aimed at the Black community.

The story, which appears on the front page of the current issue of *The National Leader*, was released on October 20. It alleges that the South African government has engaged in a massive influence-buying campaign in the U.S. Several of America's best-known political leaders and journalists were involved. South Africa spent millions of dollars in free trips, favors and

political contributions to enhance its image in the U.S.

An in-depth investigative effort by reporter Murray Wass, in this two-part series, reveals, in part, that:

•The South African government funneled hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions to two U.S. Senate candidates. Some \$250,000 in covertly provided South African funds was used to help facilitate the election of Senator Rodger Jepsen, R-Iowa, and the \$150,000 was funneled to Senator S.I. Hayakawa, R-Calif.

•Hayakawa received and never returned a \$2,000 payment from a front organization of the South African government, the South African Foreign Affairs Association, in

July 1978.

•The South African government covertly financed more than 50 trips to South Africa for members of Congress and their aides.

•The South African government provided free travel and secretly funneled campaign contributions to members of the House Agriculture Committee in an attempt to secure higher sugar quotas.

•The South African government funneled some \$20,000 in payments for speeches to former President Gerald Ford through one of its front organizations.

•The South African government provided more than 200 U.S. journalists with free, all-expense-paid trips to South Africa. Among those

Please turn to page 4 column 4)



Iris Armis is arrested and dragged out of Senator Bob Packwood's office by federal marshalls.

(Photo: Gerald Taylor)