

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Uphold Civil Rights Act

Tuesday was the 20th anniversary of the day Lyndon Johnson signed into law the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which guaranteed that overt racial discrimination and segregation would no longer be acceptable in the United States.

There's no question that many of the most vicious signs of bigotry have been eradicated in the past twenty years. Denying housing or employment strictly on the basis of race, for example, is illegal and can be sanctioned by court action.

But, as Mary Berry, a member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, noted recently, the

progress has not wiped out the "more sophisticated forms of racism." She cited last month's Supreme Court decision effectively gutting the concept of affirmative action hiring and firing as one example.

It is becoming clear that, as Berry said, "The problem now is one of enforcement" with regard to racial discrimination in this country.

Actions by the Reagan Administration are chipping away at the achievements of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. This landmark legislation must be upheld and even strengthened to make sure that the mandate of the law becomes reality.

Cartoons lack humor

If we were to believe the editorial pages of Oregon's largest daily newspaper, Jesse Jackson's campaign amounts to nothing more than a series of outrageous media acts designed to destroy the Democratic party, divide Blacks and Jews, and support Cuban, Syrian, and Sandinista "guerrilla" anti-American tendencies. Furthermore, rather than creating a Rainbow Coalition, Jackson supporters are pictured as being from these same groups and without significant American support.

The recent treatment by *The Oregonian's* editors, of Jackson's campaign (in cartoons drawn by its cartoonist, Ohman, and by the *Arizona Republic's* cartoonist, Benson) is not altogether unexpected from a newspaper which considers itself "objective" because it criticizes all "serious contenders" for national office. We have yet to see, however, editorial page cartoons that treat Walter Mondale or Gary Hart with either the frequency or degree of derision accorded to Jesse Jackson, considering they are certainly far more "serious contenders" for the

presidential nomination.

It is Jackson's ideas that are the "serious contender" for the allegiance of millions of people who stand behind what he has articulated. This threat to the corporate power structure is the reason his views are being stereotyped and trivialized by mainstream media outlets such as *The Oregonian*, which functions as a cornerstone of this structure.

Contrary to the implication of the cartoons, the Rainbow Coalition does exist. Jackson received eight percent or more of the vote in every single county in both Oregon and California; he received 15% of the vote in La Grande and 20% in Ashland alone! Pretty good showing in a state that is only 1.4% Black.

An editorial examination of Jackson's ideas, rather than an attempt to discredit him, would be welcome. The community could then participate in informed discussion.

This is the role newspapers should play, rather than hiding behind clever images that trivialize significant policy alternatives.

Protest BPA pullout

The U.S. Treasury Department is displaying a chump-change mentality by pulling the Bonneville Power Administration's funds out of American State Bank—Oregon's only minority-owned bank.

The Treasury says its reasons are, "BPA receipts indicated a high concentration of dollars drawn on East Coast and West Coast Banks—consistent with the location of Treasury lock-box depositories." This means funds targeted for the Treasury will go in California banks which are part of the "Lockbox" system.

This is a bankrupt excuse because the Treasury is siphoning the resources of the Pacific Northwest to benefit the West Coast. Is there any correlation between this abrupt withdrawal and California being the President's home state? And why is the Executive Order to deposit governmental monies in minority-owned

banks being ignored by this administration when it was implemented by the last three administrations?

A billion dollars is no ho-hum amount. Its ripple effect on the local economy could be seen and felt. American State Bank has, and still is, among the strongest minority and non-minority banks in the country.

In a region that is suffering from a depressed timber industry, any shifting of resources across state lines will disproportionately impact those who live in the country, as well as families that reside and pay taxes in the City.

Our political leaders should display more action and less talk in persuading the Treasury to reverse their withdrawal. This region needs an aggressive infusion of funds and not a cowardly retreat of deposits.

Letters to the Editor

Not first Black

To the Editor:

After doing much research at the University of Oregon, following the article on me in the newspaper, I was able to find out that there have been two other Black females who were awarded Ph.D.'s in the past. These women were Deborah Pickens, who graduated in 1976, and Gladys Mottley, who graduated in 1972, from the Department of Developmental Studies. They received their doctorate degrees and moved back out of state. (Both were from out of state). There have also been several Black males who have received their Ph.D.'s in Counseling Psychology. With the exception of one Black male who is head of the

University of Oregon Student Services, they have, presumably, left Oregon. There are currently two Black males in the Counseling Psychology program which was the program I received my degree from and possibly two Black individuals in the clinical program currently. There had been one Black female a couple of years ago in the program. However, she dropped out, subsequently, only receiving her masters degree. Since the Division of Counseling Psychology has been in existence as different from the Department of Developmental Studies, it is true I have been the only Black female coming out of the counseling or clinical programs with a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology. The article you wrote was great, and tell your photographer he did a

good job also. Maybe you could write a sequel to your article stating the statistics along with not only the need for Blacks in general, but for Black females to get into the field of psychology.

I am giving you this information so that it is known that other Black women have achieved and earned their Ph.D. also. I cannot morally or ethically take credit at this point for being the first Black female. My apologies.

Dr. Leslie Westfield-Gunn

The Observer welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters should be short, and must contain the writer's name and address (addresses are not printed). The Observer reserves the right to edit for length.

Street Beat

by Lanita Duke and Richard Brown

Jesse Jackson's trip to Cuba dominated the news this week. The Street Beat Team asked, "What did you think about Jackson's trip to Cuba?"



Paul Rivers
Cook

"He did a good job. He brought them home."



Doug Becker
Retreader

"It is alright. I heard he brought back a bunch of Cubans and I don't know about that. But getting the Americans out is alright with me."



Irma Carroll
Darkroom Aide

"I thought it was great. He got all those people out of prison. He is doing something for the people and not just the politicians."



Arlene Miles
Housewife

"I thought it was great. Jesse Jackson is Black and I'm for Black folks."



Michael King
Machinist

"I feel perfect about it. I hope Jesse does all the things he said he is going to do."



Bob Hill
Retired

"I feel good about it in one way and, in another, I have to study on it some more. We don't know why he did it. And we don't know if it did us any harm."

Soviet people want peace too

by Dr. Manning Marable
"From The Grassroots"

Most Americans who support the accelerated expansion of nuclear arms and Reagan's confrontationalist foreign policies justify their position with a single explanation—"the Soviet Union wants war." Reagan has frequently described the Soviet Union as "an Evil Empire," "savage," and "inhumanly brutal." During recent months, the Western press has been filled with "evidence" which indicates that the "Russians are coming." Several weeks ago in the *New York Times*, for example, F. Stephen Larrabee, the director of research at the Institute for East-West Security Studies, declared that "Soviet Union's withdrawal from the Olympics...is part of a wider policy of retrenchment and repression." The Soviets' "withdrawal from the intermediate-range missile talks in Geneva, and the suspension of strategic arms reduction talks" represented a policy decision to "restrict contacts with the West and to crack down domestically." This year, the Reagan Administration deployed cruise and Pershing II missiles in Western Europe, supposedly to maintain a nuclear balance with the Soviet bloc. The reality is just the reverse: these new missiles can hit Soviet cities in 6 to 8 minutes, much faster than the older missiles on either side, thus making it virtually impossible for negotiations to take place during a time of political crisis. The Soviets had little choice but to break off arms reductions talks, and accused Reagan with an attempt to gain a "first strike" nuclear superiority over

their country and its allies. The Reaganite response? "The Soviets want war."

In early June, a delegation of ten Americans travelled to the Soviet Union as guests of the Soviet Peace Committee. Coordinators during the trip were civil rights attorney Sentwali Aiyetoro, a Vice Chair of the U.S. Peace Council, and attorney Mike Kelly, a Freeze campaign activist and board member of SANE. Other members of the group besides myself included former Boston mayoral candidate Mel King and Rev. Elizabeth Scott of the National Council of Churches. In ten days, we visited Moscow, Minsk, Samarkand, and Tashkent, and met over one hundred Soviet peace activists, trade union leaders, cultural workers and officials.

The pre-eminent and unconditional fact I learned during the trip is that the Soviet people are absolutely committed to peace and the ultimate destruction of all nuclear weapons. I could not begin to count the hundreds of posters and billboards I saw in the countryside and in major cities with the word "mir"—peace. At virtually every level of society, millions of people have mobilized independent of the state to demonstrate for peace. Soviet Baptists, who number one half million, are actively involved in peace activities, as are the leaders of the country's substantial Muslim population. During our visit, on the weekend of June 2-3, 150,000 young people demonstrated in Kiev, the ancient capital of the Ukraine, holding banners which

read "No nuclear bombs East or West." Thousands of Soviet physicians are part of the "International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War." The chair of the Soviet Committee, Egerly Chazov, states that young Soviet doctors must take an oath "to take an active stand against nuclear war." "...Human reason can curb the arms race and halt the slide towards nuclear war, (but) there is an urgent need... (to) save life on Earth." In the republic of Byelorussia there were 16,000 specific peace activities and demonstrations, involving a total of seven million people in 1983. In Minsk, over one hundred thousand women recently marched through the city in one demonstration. Workers across the country voluntarily donate one day's wages to the national peace fund. Noted Soviet artists, such as theatre directors Georgi Tovstonogov and Mark Zakharov, and playwright Alexander Shtein, have donated their royalties from their works and publications toward the peace campaign. Over 90 million citizens have contributed to the Peace Fund—and as Tamara Khapalyuk, executive secretary of the Byelorussian Peace Defense Committee emphasized to me, "not a single kopek comes from the government. Today we have only one issue: how to save the peace. The question is now whether it will be or not be this humanity and civilization." Every September 1, schools across the nation begin classes with lectures devoted to peace and disarmament for 45 million youths.

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