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Opinion

Being Intolerant of Intolerance

By HUGH B. PRICE
PRESIDENT, NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

One might almost have felt some sympathy for 82-year-old Richard Girt Butler, looking frail and tired, as he stood outside the Idaho State courthouse in Coeur d' Alene late last week.

After all, it's quite a blow at any age to be hit with a \$6.3-million civil judgment handed up by a jury against the organization you've built up over several decades. Because of that verdict, Butler stands to lose his organization's 20-acre property in nearby Hayden Lake and, vowed one of the attorneys who sued him, "every desk typewriter and computer" in it.

Yes, one might feel at least a

twinge of sympathy—were it not for the fact that Richard Girt Butler, whose followers call him "Pastor" Butler, is the founder and guiding figure of the Aryan Nations, one of the most dangerous of the white-racist extremist groups which has sheltered and inspired numerous racists who have committed violent bank robberies and murders, has long been called "the elder statesman of American hate."

One of those who knows most Butler and the Aryan Nations is Morris S. Dees, Jr., a co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center. The nonprofit center, which is based in Birmingham, Alabama and has long been a stalwart crusader against groups and individuals who preach bigotry and violence, brought the suit.

We can take heart that one jury of Americans "in a rural courtroom in the back country of Idaho" followed the law and refuted intolerance.

Letters to the editor:

Latinos, Latinas outraged over Portland INS

Genacion is a group of over 80 professional young Latinos and Latinas who have come together to promote leadership and effect social change in Portland.

We are outraged at the treatment of Guo Liming by INS and support any requests or call to action from the Asian Community on her behalf.

On August 25th, the Oregonian reported the story of Chinese businesswomen, Guo Liming. Ms. Liming was forced to comply with a strip search because the INS throughout her citizens of Non-

European background experiences whenever they come into contact with the INS Department in Portland. It is becoming increasingly clear that communities of color receive severe treatment by Portland INS officials.

An example of The heavy handed tactics used by INS were demonstrated on Guo Liming's humiliating experience of being strip searched, jailed for two nights and her business partners and the Chinese Consulate not being contacted, as is local policy.

This a clear violation of her human rights.

We applaud the efforts of Governor John Kitzhaber and Representatives David Wu, Darlene Hooley, Earl Blumenauer and Peter DeFazio in their request for the

'Zero Tolerance' Spells Disaster

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, Founder and President of the Rainbow/Push Coalition, recently responded to news of the arrests of several High school students in Decatur, Illinois.

The Youth were among the group that was expelled last fall for fighting at a football game, prompting intervention by Reverend Jackson and Governor Ryan.

"The incident leading to these arrests is tragic," said Reverend Jackson. "It is clear that these youth are troubled, it is unfortunate that intervention did not occur earlier in their lives. Far too many of our youth are lost and live in the margins without adequate support from the commu-

nity or the school system. Rather than lend the support and guidance necessary to help them become self-sufficient adults, countless school districts are shutting them out and pushing them further toward a pattern of self-destructive behavior that lands them in trouble with the law."

"These arrests have absolutely nothing to do with the issues that led to our involvement in Decatur last year," maintained Reverend Jackson. "We fully believe that individuals should face the consequences for their behavior. However, the rules should be clear, the playing field should be even, and the punishment should fit the crime."

None of these principles were being upheld by the Decatur school

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board last year. Zero tolerance policies that our children, whose future opportunities are at stake, make them doubly harmful.

Comparing the case of the Decatur students to that of recently fired Indiana basketball coach Bobby Knight, Reverend Jackson said, "We are sending a mixed message to our kids. For a high school student, it is often 'one strike and you're out.' But Bobby Knight gets ten strikes and overtime."

'Zero tolerance' is really a misnomer for the treatment he received—the university tolerated years of violent behavior and abusive conduct.

Had the Decatur youth received half the support Knight has, it's unlikely we would be discussing this issue today.

resignation of INS Portland District Director, David Beebe.

Minority-Owned Burger Kings' Against Boycott

The following is a statement by Burger King Corporation's Minority Franchise Association in response to the national boycott initiated by La-Van Hawkins:

There are 1,173 minority-owned Burger King Corporation reassurance nationwide — 15 percent of 7,830 franchised-owned Burger King Corporation is a 26-year-old national organization made up of 75 minority franchisees.

"As a group, we are united in our opposition to the national boycott of Burger King restaurants as

called for by Al Sharpton.

We are committed to Burger King's corporate diversity philosophy and its five key provisions for striving toward diversity and economic parity in the areas of employment, franchises, marketing and advertising, procurement and philanthropy.

For example, Burger King has demonstrated its commitment to forming strategic alliances with a number of minority companies. This includes its 18-year partnership with the Uniworld Group, the largest African American advertising agency in the United States and its 11-year partnership with Bromley, Aguilar — its Hispanic-advertising agency of record.

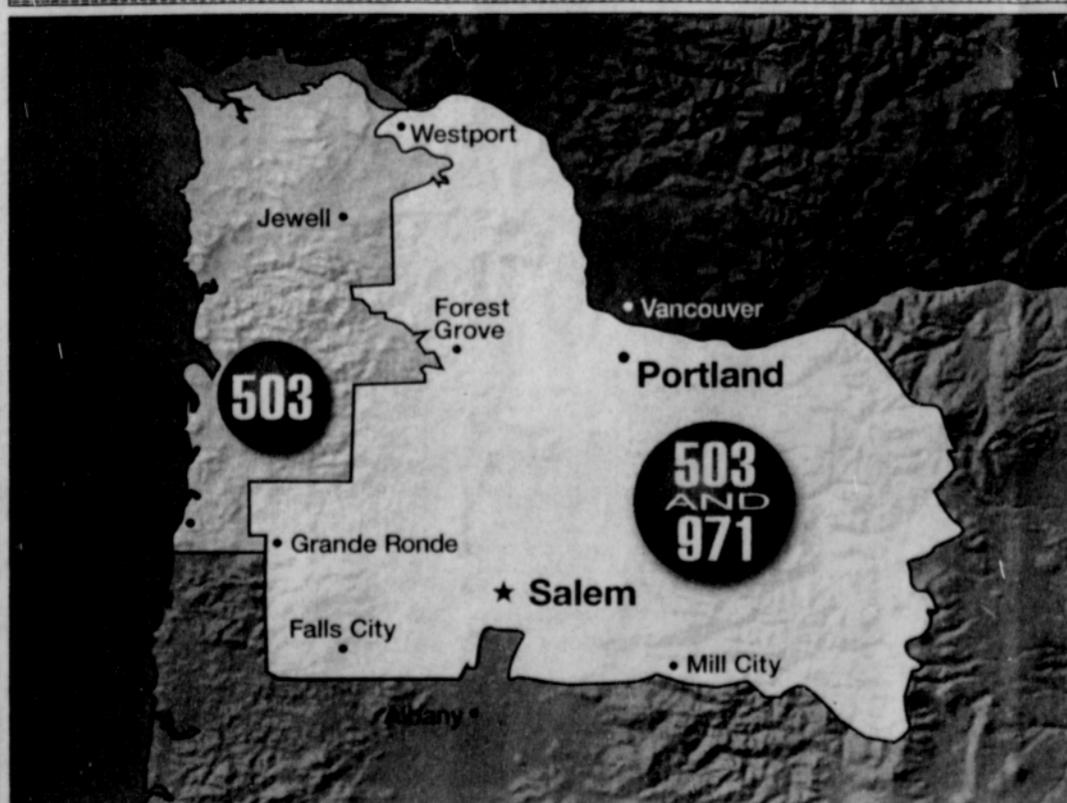
Additionally, in 1991 Burger King Corporation and the Minor-

ity Franchise Association formed a Diversity Action Council. The DAC was formed to extend economic and business development provisions.

For the last 26 years, the Minority Franchise association has worked in partnership with Burger King Corporation to stimulate economic growth and development in our communities.

It is our strong belief that the people of these communities including our employees, our community-based business partners, our suppliers and their families will most harshly feel the effects of a national boycott. It is only with the ongoing support of our loyal customers that we can continue to make positive contributions to the communities that we serve.

If you're on speaking terms with anyone in the Portland metro area, be sure to learn the new area code.



To better serve a growing population and its increased reliance on modems, wireless phones, fax machines, and pagers, the phone companies of Oregon have added a new 971 area code to the 503 area. This kind of change is not just occurring in Oregon, but throughout the country. And because the new codes differ in format from previous codes that contained either a '1' or a '0' in the second digit, you should check all specialized Central Office-based systems for compatibility. Some of these systems may require reprogramming or upgrading. Cellular phones must be reprogrammed by your cellular service provider.

To test your equipment, call the new Oregon area code test line at 1-800-000-0000. If you have any difficulty dialing the new area code, please call your operator to assist you in placing your call.



The Oregon Telecommunications Association and Your Local Telecommunications Providers