

RELIGION

Muslim Fury Grows Despite Apology

Militants vow war, others try to calm passions

(AP) Al-Qaida militants in Iraq vowed war on "worshippers of the cross" and protesters burned a papal effigy on Monday over Pope Benedict's comments on Islam, while Western churchmen and statesmen tried to calm passions.

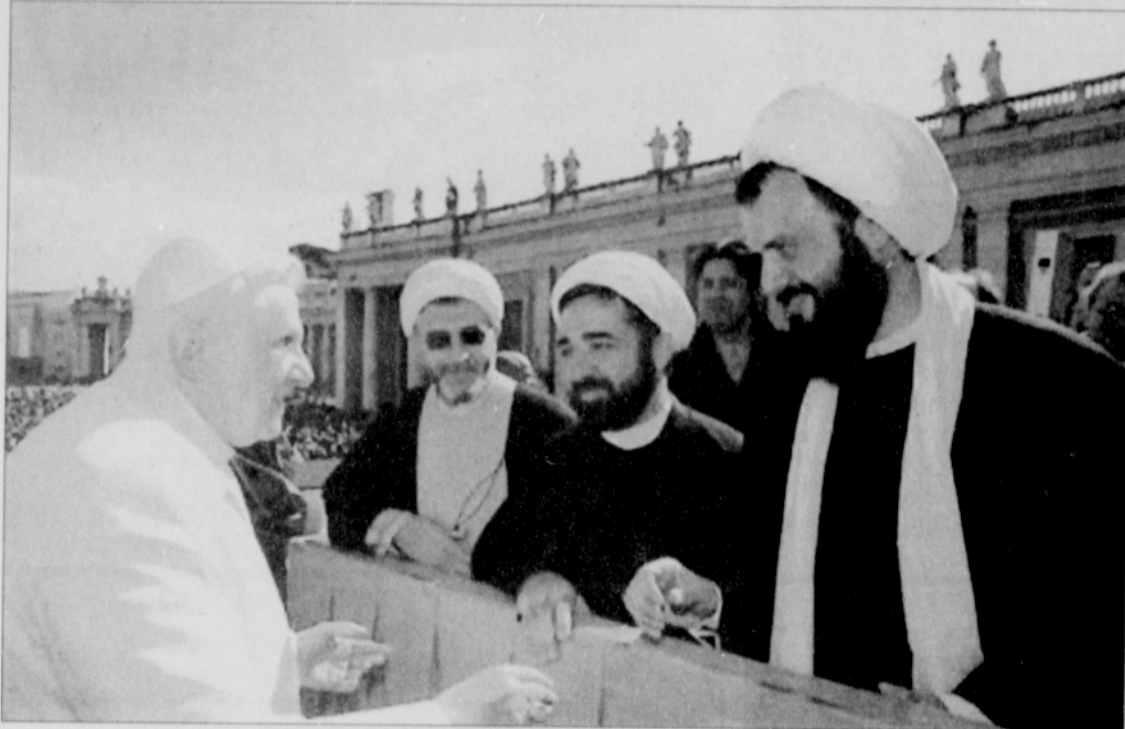
Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei joined a chorus of Muslim criticism of the head of the world's 1.1 billion Roman Catholics, calling the pope's remarks "the latest chain of the crusade against Islam started by America's (President) Bush".

The pontiff said on Sunday he was "deeply sorry" Muslims had been offended by his use of a medieval quotation on Islam and holy war. But he stopped short of retracting a speech seen as portraying Islam as a religion tainted by violence.

While some Muslims were mollified by his explanation for the speech made in Germany last Tuesday, others remained furious.

"We tell the worshipper of the cross (the pope) that you and the West will be defeated, as is the case in Iraq, Afghanistan, Chechnya," said a Web statement by the Mujahideen Shura Council, an umbrella group led by Iraq's branch of al-Qaida.

"We shall break the cross and spill the wine ... God will (help) Muslims to conquer Rome ... (May) God enable us to slit their throats, and make



Pope Benedict XVI speaks with members of a Muslim delegation from the United States during an open-air general audience in St. Peter's Square on March 1. (AP photo)

their money and descendants the bounty of the mujahideen," said the statement, posted on Sunday on an Internet site often used by al-Qaida and other militant groups.

Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Palaeologus, who said everything the Prophet Muhammad brought was evil "such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

In Somalia, an Italian nun was killed on Sunday in an attack one Islamist source said could be linked to the dispute. The Vatican said it hoped the killing was "an isolated event."

On Monday, about 150 people in the Pakistani-controlled region of Kashmir demanded that the pope apologize over his remarks on Islam, chanting "Death to the pope" and burning his effigy.

Christians — a minority in the Middle East that varies from nearly 40 percent in Lebanon to tiny communities in the Persian Gulf states — generally live in peace with the majority Muslims.

But relations are sometimes strained and outbreaks of violence have occurred in recent years. Some worry the flap over the pope will lead to a new round.

We tell the worshipper of the cross (the pope) that you and the West will be defeated, as is the case in Iraq, Afghanistan, Chechnya.

In Iraq's southern city of Basra, up to 150 demonstrators chanted slogans and burned a white effigy of the pope.

Muslims, and some Christians, across the region have expressed anger over comments Benedict made Tuesday in Germany where he cited the words of 14th cen-

But he said on Sunday this was not his view and he favored frank dialogue with Islam.

Sunday, two churches in the Palestinian West Bank were set afire a day after Muslims hurled firebombs and opened fire at four other West Bank churches and one in the Gaza Strip.

Benefit Set for AIDS Orphans in Kenya

Donations bring survival, education

When Beaverton resident, Joyce Maier and her family arrived in Kenya last year, they weren't prepared for the poverty and suffering that surrounded them. Since then, Maier has devoted herself to helping hundreds of school children in Kenya who have lost one or both parents to AIDS.

"The best hope in keeping these HIV-free children alive is for them to stay in school until graduation when they become eligible for university or employment. In Africa more than anywhere else, education is the key to the future," she says.

Since then Maier has joined with Portland's Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Wash Jo Humanitarian Outreach in a non-profit endeavor committed to giving AIDS orphans the chance for survival and hope for the future.

Their non-profit organization, Partners in Kenya, is preparing for a stunning benefit dinner Sunday, Oct. 1 at The



The African Gospel Acapella will perform Sunday, Oct. 1 at the Governor Hotel, downtown, in a benefit for AIDS orphans in Kenya.

Governor Hotel, Heritage Ballroom, 614 S.W. 11th Ave. The event begins with a silent auction at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6:30

p.m. Master of Ceremonies is Sheila Hamilton, co-host of KINK 102 FM. The event will feature performances by the

acclaimed African Gospel Acapella and Loveness Wesa and the Kgotso African Dance Troupe.

The dinner is \$125 per plate with 100 percent of all proceeds going to the educational expenses of Kenyan orphans.

Partners in Kenya pays for the educational expenses of high school age children who might otherwise end up on the street. Secondary education provides them with the knowledge and skills to break the cycle of poverty and misinformation associated with the epidemic that took their parents lives. Partners in Kenya is committed to the belief that every child is a precious and unique individual.

"Most schools have no running water and no electricity," Maier explains. "At some schools 8 to 10 students share one book in one class. In Kenya, the cost of education a child of secondary educating (grades 9-12) is only \$400 for room and board and school fees. An additional \$100 will pay for uniforms and books."

To register for the banquet or for more information, contact Maier at 503-626-4239 or 503-703-6089 or by email at joyce@partnersinkenya.org.

Obituary

In Loving Memory John Otis 'Frog' White Sr.

Funeral services were held Sept. 19 at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in north Portland for John Otis "Frog" White Sr.

He was born Jan. 31, 1940 in Crossett, Ark., son of Otis and Johnnie Mae White. He moved to Portland as a child and spent his younger years in the Guilds Lake

area of Northwest Portland and in north and northeast Portland. He attended Roosevelt High School.

He married Peggy Butler and became the father of four children: Terry E. White, Wendy K. Hurlie, Clifford C. White and John O. White Jr. The family remained close and Clifford extended special care for

him during his long illness. There are 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

John Otis was the oldest of 10 children. I.V. White, Charles R. White and Eddie G. White preceded him in death. His surviving sisters and brothers are Shirley White, Helen White, Ricky White, Joseph White, Arnella Miles and Robert Anderson.

He worked as a cook at Goldberg's restaurant in the Lloyd Center.

He was a stellar performer in boxing in his youth. He was included in the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame for Knott Street Community Center in October 2005. His boxing

enabled him to experience his first airplane ride and travel to different parts of the country participating in tournaments and being a main contender in his division.

In 1989, he accepted the Lord as his personal savior and was baptized at Mount Olivet Baptist Church.

John Otis was a father, brother, grandfather, nephew, brother-in-law, cousin, great-grandfather, uncle, son-in-law and a friend to many.

He will be greatly missed. He was truly loved.

Arrangements were under the direction of Ross Hollywood Chapel.



In Loving Memory

Bennie Jean Williams

Sunrise: April 9, 1949

Sunset: Sept. 13, 2006

A homecoming celebration will be held at Emmanuel Temple Full Gospel Pentecostal Church, 1033 N. Sumner St., on Thursday at 11 a.m. with Senior Pastor Bishop C. T. Wells, presiding.

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