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Raid on Libya

The fallout from this week's bombing raid on Libya is being felt both in this country and the Middle East. In America, many people are saying it is about time that the U.S. responded to terrorist attacks against American lives and property overseas.

The response is not unanimous as some Americans fear that the response will only escalate the violence and not diminish it. This position appears to be the minority one in the country right now.

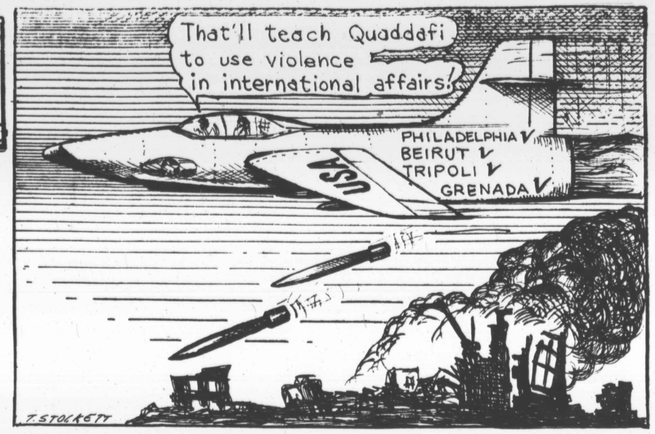
Although the raid was not cost-free, two fliers are believed to be dead and their plane shot down, it was a relatively small price to pay for such a morale boosting, notice serving effort. Was it really?

Libya's capacity for retaliating was not diminished to any great degree since terrorist attacks are covert, small operations. The retaliation will most likely be protracted and widespread. Libya's allies will no doubt join in the retribution and so the security problems of this country are increased, not diminished.

If the intent of the raid was to give Americans the sense that they have extracted some revenge on Libya and that the people of Libya will now be haunted by the same fear and uncertainty that plagues Americans and their European allies then the raid was a success.

The more serious question is can this country withstand the kind of endless cycle of violence begetting violence that the Israelis have lived with since 1948. They have retaliated against Arab attacks in every conceivable way and they have no real peace or security in their region.

Perhaps other ways could have been found to handle the Libyan conflict.



Anthony Armstrong

The conspiracy of silence

Back in the 1960's a then rising bureaucrat/politician named Daniel Patrick Moynihan authored a study of the condition of the black family in America, that for several weeks sat this country buzzing and howling.

Many people, speaking in private, thought that Moynihan (now senior U.S. senator from New York) had, at the least, overstepped his bounds.

Those people who would speak publicly about the "Moynihan Report," as the 1960's document was titled, usually spoke in scathing terms; some even going far enough to say that Moynihan was part of a large national conspiracy to destroy the black man, his woman, and the whole institution of the black family.

The attacks were so fired that some people thought it had been those attacks that convinced Moynihan to take the ambassadorship to India.

What Moynihan talked about, in the study, was the then creeping dependency of black mothers of dependent children on welfare; the break-up of the traditional black family, into mother and children, with the fathers nowhere to be found; the joblessness of black men and; the danger that this nation was producing a whole generation of blacks who would not be able to cope in an America of the 80's, and beyond.

Almost every black political leader of that time, a time that now seems like heaven compared to what has happened to us since, took the position that racism was our true bane and; that if racism could be effectively attacked and destroyed that black Americans would be able to make Moynihan eat his words.

Well, twenty years have passed and; instead of Moynihan eating his words, those words have become reality and Moynihan almost a prophet. What did Moynihan know that black leaders didn't know or; better still, was it that black leaders did know or were too dumb, too weak, or too unwilling to let their constituents know?

Was it a case of a conspiracy of silence, by our leaders, to purposely misinform blacks of the terrible dangers that lay ahead?

Was it an attempt to avoid telling blacks the truth, because that truth would have been unpopular and hard to get reelected on?

Whatever it was then, the truth of the matter now is that all of Moynihan's statistics and warnings of gloom have come home to roost; pregnancy; broken homes; jobless men; moral loss.

What is still being shouted, from the nearest available podium, by too many black leaders is the same garbage they told you and me in the 60's. Then it was "all our problems can be traced to racism and the policies of the federal government."

Today it is still 'all our problems can be traced to racism and the policies of the federal government." It was bullfeces then, it remains bull-feces today.

In 1986 the problems of black Americans cannot be explained away as the work of white conspirators or government covertness. Today it is us, black Americans, who are our own worst enemies.

The problems that are, literally and figuratively, killing black Americans are mostly internal; they are being caused by us, sustained by us and, denied by us. Leading that denial, as though through some psychiatric attempt to kill ourselves, are many of the same black leaders who hollered "fire in a crowded theater" back in the 60's.

Why don't or can't black leaders tell people the truth? What have we allowed to happen that our black leadership can continue to be elected and reelected by telling us lies; things we want to hear, things that only soothe us for the moment, yet cripple us for life?

Now another prominent leader, a white man, former governor of Virginia, Charles Robb, has again sounded the call to rethink the problems of black America. Some of you will automatically throw his views in the trash cans of your minds; after all who is Charles Robb that he would dare offer his points of view on the problems of blacks? Who was Daniel Patrick Moynihan, in the 60's?

I don't care who they are, what I do care about is that what they said and are now saying is the truth. Somebody has to say it, somebody has to tell the truth; it seems our own leadership can't or won't? I quote Robb:

"Although racial discrimination has not been eliminated, it's time to shift the primary focus from racism, the traditional enemy from without, to self-defeating patterns of behavior, the new enemy within." What he is saying, nice words or not, is that racism isn't killing blacks but instead, and though I hate the phrase, it's now us killing us.

All I can say to Robb is look-out; you too may find a torrent of scathing words directed at you by black leaders, because you've told the truth. That truth can enlighten and spur to act; that truth can also expose the conspiracy of silence.

Student activism

Many commentators have tried to say that college students of today are passive and politically inactive compared with their counterparts of the 1960s. That is not entirely the case.

Students of today are less vociferous than their predecessors and their issues are less divisive than the anti-war movement and the civil rights struggles of 20 years ago.

The burning issue on the campuses now seems to be the anti-apartheid struggle with its calls for colleges and universities to divest their holdings in companies that do business with South Africa.

Students around the state have participated in anti-apartheid activities ranging from picketing to building shanty towns on campuses to remind trustees about the pressing nature of the anti-apartheid struggle.

The days of pitched battled on Route 1 near the College Park campus between police and protesting students may be a thing of the past, but students there and at other campuses in Maryland are carrying on the tradition of students raising questions about the future and the nature of American foreign and domestic policy.

Today (Friday) some students on Morgan's campus are scheduled to protest the U.S. bombing of Libya. Although many Americans might disagree with the student's position, they at least have concerned themselves with the most crucial issue of the day, and that is a good sign.

Doubletalk over set-asides

Administration officials at times test public waters on controversial issues by unleashing what is called a "trial balloon to gauge public reaction. If reaction is mixed, sometimes a real effort is made to gain acceptance of a particular program. On the other hand, if reaction is unfavorable or negative a ready-made excuse is always available: we just wanted to get public opinion. This seems to be the case with the "set-asides" programs, which generally designate a portion of federal contracts for businesses owned by minorities or women.

The U.S. Civil Rights Commission under Clarence M. Pendleton, Jr. has called for a one year funding moratorium of existing set-aside programs. The commission at this writing contends that such programs have been ineffective and even lead to bankruptcy of some white-owned businesses. The commission report also maintains that corruption has been rampant and mainly benefited wealthier black and Hispanic employers.

It further states that blacks have fronted for actual white owners. Pendleton has strongly advocated the moratorium, claiming that such programs as "set-asides' really amount to reverse racism. The controversial chairman has also criticized other programs designed to make up for years of race and sex discrimination. Pendleton has really become an embarrassing liability not only to the commission but to the administration as well.

His remarks are usually like a sledge hammer and tend to "rub salt" in festering wounds. Diplomacy or the art of cooperation with adversaries so far have not been in his arsenal of illogical rhetoric. From all indications, his primary mission is to create dissension rather than appeal to reason or offer compromise. Apparently for him "it's see things my way" or else become the butt of scathing wrath.

Administration officials have knocked the pins from under Pendleton by repudiating his position on set-aside programs. "The administration's position is that we support the minority set-aside program, said a presidential spokesman and he added that the commission is an independent "advisory" group.

Although Pendleton is a mere subordinate and has no policy-making authority it is known that he reflects views of the administration on issues within his domain. Most observers know that Pendleton or any other factotum would not express policy decisions without tacit approval from the administration. He tests the atmosphere, so to speak, and if unfavorable then the issue at hand is shelved.

This is game-playing on a most heinous scale because the stakes involve the welfare of so many powerless individuals who are mere pawns in a political chess game. But in the process the purveyor is not suppose to alienate opponents by being bombastic or deliberately offensive. This is myopic because the current scene is not eternal.

Furthermore, Reagan usually complains that he is practically persona non grata in the black community because he is misunderstood on civil rights issues. The gutting of many social programs that primarily benefit black persons and other minorities is a valid reason along with the raspy Pendleton.

Veteran civil rights observers don't put too much credence in the presidential statement on the set-asides program. The attack on minority set-asides is merely another attempt by the administration to turn back the clock on the advancements made by women and minorities in their struggle to overcome discrimination," was the way Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins of California put his remarks.

The Watts legislator is no newcomer to the civil rights movement. Other congresspersons espouse his views. Assistance programs such as "set-asides" are not flawless but they do help in solving pass disparities in employment opportunities that are mainly peculiar to minorities.

JUST THINKING:

Money counts, character wins

By Al Sweeney

Maybe you can figure it out, but this observer of political developments certainly can't.

The status of Blacks in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area is no different than that of those living in every section in the nation, whether it is in New York, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago, Gary, South Bend, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Houston, Baltimore or Los Angeles.

There are more political minority groups than ever, many individuals posturing as leaders, yet, the political clout of blacks is at its lowest ebb.

Every ethnic, special interest group is using the political rights strategies of the civil rights groups during the 1940's, '50's, 60's leading to the landmark victories in the legislative, executive and judicial branches leading to solid civil rights gains.

While political scholars explain the current dilemma, many of the occupational, educational and economic gains of the 50's for blacks are gradually eroded.

Many individuals obtain attention with so-called self-help talks about economic programs. In the early 1900's, so-called minority self-help programs flourished. Synonymous to blacks owning their own businesses.

In Washington, D.C., the Wormley House was an outstanding black-owned inn during the early 1900's.

The Murray Brothers owned a chain of theaters in D.C. and the biggest printing business and most popular newspaper on the East Coast at the time.

C. C. Coley owned some 18 establishments including barbecue outlets, bistros, fast food outlets and other enterprises during the 1940's.

He bankrolled the biggest sports event in this nation in the annual football Capital Classic extravaganza that drew some 30,000 persons to old Griffith Stadium to witness top black colleges perform. It was a happening!

Scurlock Studios was the outstanding Photographer in town, while Harrison's Restaurant was the place for Sunday dining.

Some persons will claim that black businesses faded with integration. That is a copout.

Before and after integration, blacks never became producers. Even as merchants, they operated through middlemen and never controlled the source.

Many of the present black Cinderella stories of economic success, probably are truly at the mercy of the white financial leaders.

The richest black entrepreneur, an owner of a media conglomerate including several publications, radio and television outlets, doesn't control his entire operation.

His entire production depends on majority owned presses, distributors et al. He is a master manager, but entirely self-black supported, hell no.

Blacks as advertisers can't support his organization, though black consumers keep it alive.

Maybe, you have an answer. Don't give me that wornout economic tripe.

It is great to manage a business for white investors.

Black owners of the broadcast stations work for the big investors who hold big mortgages.

It's just like driving a Mercedes. You say you own the car. You pay for the tags, insurance and upkeep. The real owner is the holder of the mortgage note.

Let's understand the realities of black status.

On Friday, Eddie Williams and the Joint Center is holding a huge Operation Big Vote fundraiser.

Williams has done a tremendous research job with the center. They have facts and figures on the Blacks in politics.

They can just about list the names of every elected black official in the nation from the local, county, state and national offices.

They can give you a fairly good rundown on the political strength of blacks throughout the nation. They can pinpoint the black vote.

Like most scholars they can tell about the past. But, like the persons in the street, the barber shops, beauty salons, the churches, on the job, they can't predict about the future of black votes.

In 1988, black groups from all segments are determined to get Blacks fully registered to vote. They are determined that once registered, blacks will vote.

The black vote is the most impressive tool fighting for the black aspirations.

No matter how you cut it, if the voting turns out in 1980, the Black vote will only be some 10-12 percent of the total.

The problem for black political leaders is to devise a strategy that will make the black vote influence the final outcome.

The coalition of Blacks with labor and other liberal groups made the New Deal of FDR and the Democratic party the dominant political force nationally and locally in the 1940's.

Blacks in leadership roles settled for crumbs, chasing the halycon days of the 1940's

The black voter is paying the price for narrow visioned Blacks in leadership failing to go for the big piece of the economic pie, merely just flakes.

If you read Sam Yette's "The Choice," he spells out the real beneficiaries of the LBJ's poverty program. Many large corporations made money out of the poverty programs, while blacks were locked into the lower ranks.

The point of this trivia is let's understand where we really stand. Somehow, someone comes along to lead us through a test for survival.

Those who have enjoyed the fruits of affirmative action are jolted into the realities of present life.

We can scream about those individuals who have used blacks for their personal agendas, it's up to those who understand the game that the Blacks must set their own agenda.

Blacks can't make it alone. But, with understanding they can do it with other special interest groups for mutual gain.

The selfish power brokers will get trampled in the upcoming elections. The two political parties—the Democratic and Republican—must understand the old political hacks don't have the answers.

It's a new ball game. Many diverse

Continued on page 5

Samuel L. Banks

The political arena: route to power/control

The political season, with every indication of a rapid intensification of pronouncements and frenetic activity, is now upon us. A cardinal task for each of us in Maryland is to make sure that registration has occurred and we are ready to vote in the primary on Tuesday, September 9, 1986 and the general election on Tuesday, November 4, 1986.

The stakes for black Marylanders, given the enormity of exclusion and under-employment and unemployment, are grave and troubling.

It is a clear and present reality that the avenue to power and control in the American body politic is through politics. **Control of the political apparatus or requisite representation by advocates for you will determine, to a substantial degree, the level of educational and economic enhancement.**

Political power and the establishment, in fact, of respect for black people will not come as a result of whining and complaining or waiting for others to do for us. **It is we who must pull the lever to deliver ourselves.**

The time is now at hand to give serious attention to the forthcoming campaigns for governor of Maryland, the U.S. Senate; the mayoral race; the Seventh Congressional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Maryland General Assembly.

These offices, to be sure, are highly important and pivotal in terms of the future direction and progress of Maryland. You can help to make certain that persons elected to office are responsive to you and take you seriously by (1) **Registering to vote; (2) Voting on Election Day.** Persons elected to office will not take you seriously if you are not a registered and participating voter.

While it is true that black citizens should not forswear or abandon participation in national politics. The primary thrust of black citizens during the duration of the Reagan administration should be directed toward state and local elections.

The accretion of power at state and local levels, especially in large urban areas, will make us a potent force to be reckoned with at the national level.

Stated differently, majoritarian politics, where blacks constitute a clear majority, must translate into political power that can be a negotiating force in national political deliberations.

As I indicated in this column in the past, majoritarian politics and a spirit of change will dictate that the next mayor of Baltimore will be a black citizen. All that is necessary, in line with majoritarian politics, that the majority black population determines that is the course it wants and vote for the change.

It, too, must be understood that self-styled political brokers, apostates and sycophants cannot encumber or deter the process of majority black power and control in Baltimore or anyplace where blacks constitute a majority of the electorate, if they work in unity and solidarity.

We must not waste our time worrying about rank opportunists and toadies. Ossie Davis' political and survival maxim adopted by the Congressional Black Caucus over a decade ago still prevails: **It is not the man, but the plan. It is not the rap, but the map.**

In short, plan and act to protect and sustain community and collective interests. It is imperative, in the upcoming elections, that we, as black citizens, become more group oriented and conscious of the formidable dimensions of political power. In this connection, as the political races unfold, I plan a detailed analysis and recommendations pertaining to office seekers.

It is heartening as one thinks of power, perseverance and determination to observe how the 24 million black South Africans remain tenacious, steady and resolute in their awesome and inspirational struggle to be free in their own country.

The armed might of the P.W. Botha regime has been ineffectual and impotent in stopping the majority black population. Winnie Mandela, the courageous and intrepid wife of Nelson Mandela, has identified a mighty force for black South African liberation: People Power.

The application of People Power, in this instance in South Africa, by Winnie and Nelson Mandela, Alan Boesak, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Oliver Tambo of the African National Congress, is a pragmatic application of majoritarian politics.

The process of liberation and human dignity for 24 million black South Africans vis-a-vis five million white South Africans is ineluctable and cannot be repressed.

Black Americans, too, must use People Power where we constitute distinct majorities to advance and maintain our educational, economic, cultural and political agendas. There is nothing heretical or unAmerican about electing people of our choosing in accordance with our numbers and political clout.

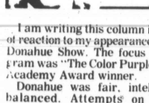
We are still sorely underrepresented in the political world. In the United States at present, there are approximately 6,200 black elected officials of the 535,000 elected officials. **We are 12 percent of the population and our elected officials represent a little over one percent. This situation is scandalous and reflective of a failure to get our political house in order.**

What, then, are the political immediates for us:

1. Register to vote now
2. Study the candidates carefully and refuse to let so-called political brokers speak for you.
3. Vote on Election Day; don't go fishing or stay home because of inclement weather.

The time is long overdue in Baltimore and Maryland and across the United States for 38 million black people to get serious and take care of educational, political, economic and cultural business. The tremendous potential must be made kinetic and active both for ourselves and our posterity.

To do otherwise is to remain mired in impotency, mendicancy, alienation and incur the continued contempt and disrespect of the white controllers and holders of power.



Tony Brown's Comments

From Donahue show

I am writing this column in the midst of reaction to my appearance on the Phil Donahue Show. The focus of the program was "The Color Purple," the non-Academy Award winner.

Donahue was fair, intelligent and balanced. Attempts on his part, however, to get this largely white studio audience to understand that black male rage at this propaganda film was legitimate was met with silence. But when he spoke of its production virtues, his audience applauded wildly.

It wasn't difficult to know what the audience expected of myself and the other three black panelists. We were expected to do what Blacks are always expected to do; suffer in silence. Also, we must worry about offending White sensibilities at all times. And our immediate barometer was the 180 or so Whites facing us — who either applauded, cheered, hissed, booed or met an intelligent point with stone, cold silence.

It was my conscious decision not to play to white racist expectations, but to give voice to the legitimate expectations of the 30 million African-Americans who will never be given the opportunity to say what they feel on a television network.

That statement is not exactly true. There is abundant time allotted on national television for Blacks who will say nothing (and less about the Black condition). Whoopi Goldberg (Caren Johnson is her real name) is a classic example. She's not alone, however. There are other black collaborators.

There are the opportunists who believe they have finally been accepted as White people because they write music for movies, have roles in movies produced by Whites, perform on charity recordings with White stars and are guided through life by White managers, lawyers, agents and husbands and wives. Because of this life of service to white supremacy, they are all welcomed to the gigantic exposure and glitter of the commercial media.

And white America is so conditioned to these stereotypical excuses for real human beings that any deviation from the "Birth of a Nation" or "Color Purple" darkies (the noble coloreds who suffer in silence) will not be tolerated.

One white woman in the Donahue audience wasted no time in letting me know that I was not housebroken. I was angry, she said, and out of my place, she suggested.

I was on the Donahue program, the best-hosted and the best-produced program of its kind, for two primary reasons. Phil Donahue is a secure man who does not need racism to define himself or those around him.

And speaking of those around him, there are Blacks everywhere — the producer and researcher and others who are out of the public's eye. What other white TV show can you name with a non-racist host and a black woman producer who is not seeking her identity from outside?

Those two reasons will explain why a Tony Brown was able to tell this insulting white woman and the nation how she felt as a black human being. I said that I debated coming on the show, in the first place, because I knew I would be expected to buck dance or do a Whoopi.

Instead, I represented the aspirations of my people — those who will never get on a Donahue show. I told the viewers that I loved black women — the finest thing God put on this earth — and I loved my freedom given to me by God, not white people. When I said that I was not going to pander to whites the studio audience booed.

But at my office, the phones have not stopped ringing with the testaments of support and love that black people are sending me; love and support without which I cannot continue my fight against the savagery of a racist system that attempts to deny you your most fundamental and God-given dignity.

June Wall Williams from Ithaca, New York and Geneove Herbert from New York City said that they wanted me to know that they were offended by the hostile response I got from the white studio audience (including some of the Blacks).

"This family is behind you," said Gladys Nesbit of Pittsburgh. "We were very proud of you," she added. In response to my saying that I had considered not appearing because of the racist attitude of the audience, Charlotte Evans of Brooklyn said they were simply upset because I did not "kow-tow" but "you made me feel very good as a Black woman. Please continue to go on the shows. We need you."

Bernice Mandes of Baltimore was near tears. My statement on loving black women had given her new hope, especially when so many Black men are abandoning them for non-Blacks, she added. Marvin Williams of New York said "outstanding!" three times.

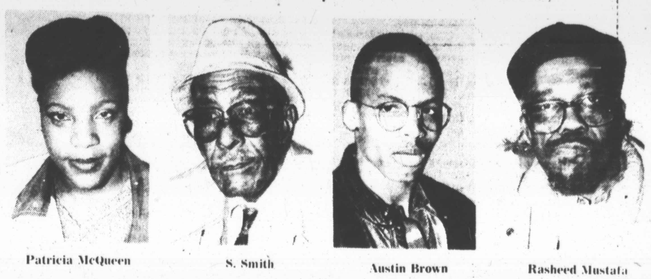
This is not ego writing this column, but appreciation. These calls and those from Tampa, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Diego, Washington, D.C. and across the country from my people have given me new hope and strength.

And the day I appeared on the Donahue show and the day of all of this outpouring of love was the anniversary of my miracle — my birthday.

God speaks in mysterious ways — His wonders to behold.

—AFRO SURVEY—

Would you go into space on the shuttle?



Patricia McQueen — S. Smith — Austin Brown — Rasheed Mustafa

This week the question to the man and woman in the street is, "Would you like to go into space on the shuttle?"

Patricia McQueen, 21, student, "No. I wouldn't go. I'm not interested in the space shuttle. I don't even want the lame that goes with it."

Rasheed Mustafa, 51, tile setter, "No. I don't think so. I don't see any use other than the satellite for commercial use, etc. Other than that, it doesn't have any relevance to me at all."

S. Smith, 75, refired, "No, I'm not looking for nothing up there. I'm satisfied with things right here on the ground. To tell the truth, I'm afraid of airplanes."

Austin Brown, 20, porter, "I wouldn't go. Something may go wrong again. I've got something to live for. The last time something was wrong and they knew it; so who's to say it won't happen again."

Kevin Robinson, 16, student, "Yes, I would go for the experience and the challenge. If I were to go up, I would work with the engineers to try and make it safer."

Darrell Jackson, 17, student, "Yes, I would. I would go for the challenge. I want to see what's up in space. Next time I hope they'll have an attachment that can be released in case something happens."

Jacke Dudley, 22, retail sales, "Space shuttle? No... No. I'd rather stay here on earth. I am neither interested nor curious about what is up there."

Samuel Roberts, 20, student, Yes, I would go. It's a challenge. It also is something that people don't get into everyday. There are many benefits to going into space. You'll learn many things also."

Kevin Robinson — Darrell Jackson — Jack Dudley — Samuel Roberts

Bloodnotes

R. B. Jones

Who are the terrorists?

The cheering is still echoing around America. President Reagan showed that "madman" in Libya that the U.S. will not be pushed around anymore. The pride shows every time a high ranking U.S. official appears on television.

Reagan declares that America will not stand by passively accepting victimization by international terrorists and as I listened to Ronald Reagan I became very confused about just who are the terrorists.

I thought a terrorist was someone who used violence to further his or her cause. Terrorism is primarily a covert affair. A bomb is detonated or someone is assassinated and the message conveyed is that unless the victims acquiesce to the demands of the bombers they or someone dear to them will be killed.

Terrorism is a subjective term. When a bomb explosion is linked to Libya it is terrorism. When the bomb is detonated in Nicaragua by the contras, it is not terrorism but a blow struck for freedom.

When a bomb kills members of the Iranian government it is resistance to tyranny, but when a bomb is detonated in El Salvador killing U.S. personnel or Salvadorian government officials it's terrorism.

An act of violence by pro-U.S. forces, is never terrorism but an act of violence by anti-U.S. forces is Always terrorism. The U.S. may use this form of evaluation in judging world events, but it is not used by the entire world.

It is imperative that black people in this country think for themselves and not get stampeded into any mad patriotic rush. They followed the flag in Viet Nam and suffered casualties that were so disproportionate many people charged the government with deliberately placing black men in a position to be killed.

Whether or not Col. Quaddafi is behind indiscriminate acts of terrorism is not something that I can say at this point. If the U.S. has conclusive proof of Libya's guilt it can prove it in the world court.

Oops, I forgot that the U.S. doesn't recognize the authority of the World Court because it was found guilty of terrorist acts a couple of years ago for mining the harbors of Nicaragua without a declaration of war.

Once again the terrible problem arises of exactly who is a terrorist and who is not? When the pro-U.S. death squads in El Salvador assassinate thousands, including Archbishop Romero of San Salvador they are not condemned with all the presidential might that Ronald Reagan can muster.

When the Somoza led National Guard terrorized the Nicaraguan people for over 40 years they were not labeled "mad dogs." After the people expelled them after four decades of struggle, this country refinanced them, reorganized them and rearmed them.

Contra atrocities are not called terrorism by Ronald Reagan.

The continual slaughter of black children in South Africa brings no bombing missions from U.S. carriers and what regime in the world is less democratic than South Africa?

As a member of the black community I am extremely skeptical of selective opposition to terrorism. Thousands of white people in this country belong to white supremacist groups which are arming themselves and engaging in terrorism in this country. Where is Reagan's strike force against them.

Race motivated violence is a tradition in this country. Ku Klux Klan members and freelance white supremacist terrorists have plagued the black community for decades with near impunity.

In 1979, the Klan and some Nazis murdered five people in Greensboro, NC in front of television cameras and were acquitted of murder charges.

The recent mob attacks on the homes occupied by black people in Chicago and Philadelphia that received widespread media attention were terrorist acts. Yet, President Reagan displayed very little zeal for punishing the perpetrators of those acts.

It seems that only MOVE members with dreadlocks in their hair in Philadelphia are the only Americans who receive treatment similar to Libya.

I am opposed to the killing of innocent people. I am for sparing human life whenever possible, but I will not be stampeded by Reagan and his war hungry cabinet.

America is an imperialist power and being such a power means that one tries to mold the world to one's liking. That entails the use of force and when force is used against some people they will respond with force.

This country has spilled enormous quantities of blood both foreign and domestic to preserve capitalism and white supremacy and it is inevitable that some innocent Americans will be caught in the return fire.

Third World countries and oppressed groups cannot match the U.S. in conventional military power and so the tactic of terrorism is used to wear down the will of the U.S. to maintain certain policies.

The bombing of Libya will not end terrorism, but the bombing of Johannesburg and Pretoria South Africa might. Of course America is not quite so enthusiastic about ending that kind of terrorism.

—JUST THINKING

(Continued from page 4)

organizations have a political action committee raising funds for elected officials.

For years, blacks used the NAACP with its one-man lobbyist, the late Clarence Mitchell, as its PAC. He did a tremendous job with only moral persuasion. Today, there is more than mere persuasion to influencing legislation. As they say freedom isn't free. But, money isn't the answer. Character will ultimately play in the future of the political developments.

APR 1986