

IT IS UP TO US TO IMPOSE ORDER—NOW



ARE WE GOING TO SIT AND LET BLACK COMMUNITIES CRUMBLE AROUND US? GRASS ROOTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, MUST EMERGE, TO FORGE A UNITED EFFORT AGAINST CRIME, NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING, BLIGHT AND DECAY.

Editorial

Weep, Oh Mother of Exiles

Monday morning, the bodies of thirty-three refugees from the Caribbean island of Haiti — and the tyranny of it's "President-For-Life" Jean-Paul "Baby Doc" Duvalier — washed up on the shores of Florida. Their small leaky boat had started out, over a month ago, with 57 on board and was swamped by high seas. Thirty-four made it — tired, poor, yearning to breathe free.

America has welcomed refugees from lands of white people and yellow people and brown people. The Haitians are from a land of black people. President Ronald Reagan has ordered the Coast Guard to interdict Haitians on the high seas. In other words, catch 'em before they get here and send 'em back where they're coming from — America doesn't want 'em. He justifies this by talking about some nebulous "agreement" with the Duvalier government that they will not be persecuted when they return home. Any dumb buff in the street knows that's just empty rhetoric. Ronald Reagan knows better. He simply doesn't care what happens to those black folk.

When Emma Lazarus wrote of America's promise symbolized by the Statue of Liberty — "... Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand glows world-wide welcome; ... 'Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me. ...'", she must have known that many of the world's "huddled masses" would not possess white skins. Those who chose to engrave her poem on the tablet within the statue's pedestal, must also have known. We wonder if President Reagan has ever read Emma Lazarus' poem or this nation's Constitution. We wonder if President Reagan and his cronies can't see beyond the ends of their noses. It is simply dumb to alienate non-whites from anywhere. They must remember that (1) they are destroying America's image around the world; (2) they are weakening America's foundation; (3) a whole lot of non-white folks have made valuable contributions to the building of this great nation — it wouldn't be where it is today without them; (4) four-fifths of this world's population is non-white; and, (5) in the words of the late, great black orator, Mordecai Johnson, "the same elevator that takes you up, can and will bring you down and the same people you pass on your way up, you will pass on your way down."

The American dream and promise are too significant in human history to be scuttled by narrow-minded, shortsighted, racist, little people. Whatever it takes, we must ALL strive and continue to do whatever we can to make America work for ALL, irrespective of skin color. We can not let 'Mother of Exiles' lamp be extinguished with her tears. ... "beside the golden door."

Wake up, Mr. Reagan. You are the watchman on duty. The watchman cannot sleep at his post. Danger always lurks at the gate. No more tarnish on our golden door.

Things You Should Know



Charles Henry TURNER

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, February 3, 1867, he attended school there and won his Master of Science degree in 1892. He did so well in the field of biology that he was awarded a Ph.D. Summa Cum Laude in 1907! His far-reaching discoveries on the habits of bees and ants are world famous!

Continental Features—

To Be Equal

The Birth Of An Arms Race

By Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

The President's decision to back a new strategic arms package including the reborn MX missile and the once-dead B-1 bomber signals the start of a new arms race that will make the world an even more dangerous place.

The debate over the President's plan will feature volumes of expert analysis both for and against the specifics of each weapons system.

But amid the welter of conflicting claims one basic fact is not expected to emerge with any clarity, so it might be well to state it now and to remember it in the days to come.

Both the United States and Russia have enough nuclear missiles to blow any enemy off the face of the earth and to wipe out much of the rest of humanity at the same time.

That's it. You can forget all about the supposed "window of vulnerability" theory that says the Russians can take out our missiles unless we install new delivery systems. They won't, unless they are mad enough to accept a retaliatory strike that would leave them in nuclear ashes as well.

If, as the Pentagon fears, land-based U.S. missiles are vulnerable to attack, then the Russians still have to take into account airborne and submarine-launched missiles.

The scariest part of the MX fiasco is that it could only make an enemy more likely to jump the gun and make a first

strike. In the words of one expert: "It is a weapon system that can be both a means to launch an atomic strike and a magnet to attract an atomic strike against it — and us."

Besides increasing the likelihood of a miscalculation leading to a nuclear holocaust, the MX inevitably will lead to some Russian response such as an ABM defensive system. Then we would have to build one. Then they would do something else to which we would respond, and so on up the arms race spiral until one or the other side pulls the trigger or goes broke.

And going broke is a real possibility. The strategic weapons plan of the Administration come to a whopping \$180 billion — and that is before the cost overruns that double and triple the ultimate price of new weapons, a scandal rarely noted.

How will we pay for these and other defense bills? Perhaps the idea is to finance them with proceeds of our record wheat sales to the Russians.

There's another paradox. The Administration cuts food subsidy programs for the American poor while selling food grains to the Russians, whose payments are partially applied to buying weapons that will be aimed at Moscow!

The new weapons systems the President wants have either been rejected before as unnecessary, such as the B-1, or, in the case of the MX, considered a destabilizing

danger to our security.

Instead of throwing money at the Pentagon for weapons that can only escalate the arms race and decrease national security, we ought to be making a new thrust to arms limitation.

The Russians are tough customers and we should be under no illusions about their protestations of peaceful intentions. But at the same time it is in their interest as much as ours to get off the escalator to doom.

The same energy and effort that went into devising the new weapons proposals should instead go into a negotiating process that slows the arms race. National defense would be better served by plugging gaps in conventional forces and negotiating arms limitation with the Russians.

As President Eisenhower once said: "when you get to the point that the outlook comes close to the destruction of the enemy and suicide for ourselves. ... then arguments as to the exact amount of available strength as compared to somebody else's are no longer the vital issues."

It is ironic that an Administration pledged to fiscal austerity, less government, and strong defense has embraced policies that will bust the budget, increase government power, and weaken national security.

The Plight Of The World's Refugees

By Bayard Rustin
A. Philip Randolph Institute

The awarding of the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is an act that should be heartily applauded. The award will serve to focus world attention on an international problem which has reached epidemic proportions: the plight of the world's refugees.

It is estimated that this year there are between 14 million and 18 million refugees in the world. These millions upon millions of men, and women, and children have been forced to flee their homelands as a consequence of war, disease, and poverty. Since 1980, well over one million people have fled Ethiopia as a consequence of war and the policies of a barbaric Leninist regime. Refugees from Afghanistan now number over 1.4 million. These figures are shocking and horrible. And yet they are dwarfed by the number of refugees from Indochina. These total over six million and include approximately four million displaced Cambodians who have been forced to abandon their towns and villages as a direct result of the Pol Pot regime's barbarism, and as a consequence of a Vietnamese and Soviet-backed invasion. Organizations such as CARE, the International Rescue Committee, and the French-based Physicians Across Borders have exhibited remarkable skill in coordinating support for refugees the world over. Many such organizations have addressed the refugee problem without

regard to political considerations and have provided charitable aid to Haitian refugees fleeing dictatorial oppression, Soviet Jews fleeing Kremlin-inspired anti-Semitism, Vietnamese boat people, and Cuban refugees fleeing Castro's prison island. Yet this flood of refugees cannot be dealt with by charity alone. The problem must also be resolved by attacking it at its roots — the absence of democracy, the expansion of totalitarianism, and the upsurge in war. War, much of it a consequence of Soviet expansionism, and a large part of it a consequence of ultra-nationalism and chauvinism is one of the great scourges of our times. Clearly, the efforts of charitable organizations must be complemented by an American foreign policy which has as its aim the limiting of Soviet aggression and the construction of a stable and peaceful world.

The plight of refugees has not been alleviated by the economic difficulties that have afflicted Western Europe and the United States. It is these countries which have supplied the bulk of assistance to the poor of the world. Yet at a time when their own populations are feeling the serious effects of an economic downturn which is eroding their own standard of living it is often difficult for many Americans and their West European counterparts to understand why massive aid to refugees is of vital importance. Black Americans disproportionately suffer from unemployment and poverty.

And some blacks have argued that we should take care of our own problems first and not worry about those of the rest of the world. Yet this, in my judgment, is a remarkably short-sighted and narrow point-of-view. For if America is not willing to help in relieving the plight of those refugees who are starving and near death, how can we be sure it will be compassionate enough to solve the problems which afflict our own nation's poor and working poor? It is important for blacks and all Americans to realize that suffering knows no boundaries.

Our country has historically provided a haven for the world's refugees. In part, it is their contribution which has helped to make our country great. American policy must continue to reflect this tradition. This policy must reflect the spirit of the Nobel Committee's award statement.

"Refugees who dare not return to their native land must be given an opportunity to start a fresh life in their host country. Still more important in the long run is the work of insuring that people are not compelled to save their lives by escaping from their native land with no prospect of ever returning."

America can continue to help alleviate the plight of the world's most unfortunate. Yet America will only do so if its leaders recognize that compassion knows no boundaries and that government must play a vital role in alleviating suffering both a home and abroad.

Fighting An Unwinnable War

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

The Reagan Administration's "window of vulnerability" is a morbid fantasy designed to instill fear while gathering support for one of the most expensive, yet questionable defense projects yet to be presented: the MX missile. While I am among the first to champion the need for a strong America, I believe that if the Administration is truly serious about cutting government spending and waste, it should establish a rational policy of budget cuts, for as it stands now, they are pursuing policies where every dollar they waste on obsolete, nuclear weapons is being subtracted from vitally needed domestic programs: food, housing, health, training, education and other human needs. It is, therefore, essential that defense expenditures not be treated as a "sacred cow."

In recent days, many questions have arisen regarding the Administration's decision to give full support to the MX project. These doubts center around the Administration's claim that in the event the Soviet Union is able to execute a first strike on the United States, destroying most of our missiles based in the west and mid-west, without the MX missile we would be unable to retaliate with a blow strong enough to force the Soviets into complete surrender. However, the MX missiles will do absolutely nothing to strengthen the so-called "window of vulnerability."

The present plan proposed by the Reagan Administration for the MX system is a complete sham. The Administration proposes the building of one hundred MX missiles at a total projected cost of twenty billion dollars. Moreover, the Reagan Administration would place the MX missile in existing silos which would be "hardened" to withstand the impact of a nuclear near miss. I submit

that in unclear terms, there is no such thing as a near miss.

A single, one megaton warhead which explodes on impact would make a crater in the earth 200 feet deep and 1,000 feet wide. At ground zero, the temperatures would approximate those on the surface of the sun. For a two mile radius around the crater, the force of the blast would incinerate all living things and level all buildings. Further, common sense would dictate that if the Soviets have the ability to precisely target their warheads, then there is the added threat of our own warheads exploding in their silos.

There are alternatives to pouring billions of tax dollars into systems which are ill-thought out and obsolete before they are even off the ground. Our present fleet of B-52 bombers could be equipped with cruise missiles and hardened with electronic equipment which could produce confusing effects on enemy radar screens. This would be one step in the direction of a more sane maximization of our defense resources.

If the MX missiles are actually built (even though they are indeed obsolete), what then? The answer is obvious. Using the fear tactics of bygone era, the call will go for yet another round of whopping defense spending. It is a simple game. The fear of falling behind the Russians in defense capability will be used as incentive to spend enormous sums of tax dollars for more weapons which, themselves, will be obsolete. You get the idea. An end must be brought to this vicious cycle of spending, spending and more spending to ease the fear of Russian superiority. The Administration can take the lead on this by rational planning and by giving careful

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