



Tony Brown's COMMENTS

Terrorists Bomb Constitution

"There's a bomb set to go off at 8:30. You'd better get them niggers out of there," the anonymous caller said to the manager of the Capri Theatre in Montgomery, Alabama.

The terrorist called at 8:15 p.m., 15 minutes before his threatened deadline, on the last day of Black History Month in 1985 and 10 days before the anniversary of the famous March On Selma, "Bloody Sunday" it came to be called, in nearby Alabama 20 years ago.

Hundreds who had gathered to watch "The Longest Struggle," a movie I produced on the 75-year history of the NAACP, were evacuated. But before the audience was driven to the streets, the first 35 minutes of the movie showed how whites had originated the idea of the NAACP that led to a bi-racial group founding our nation's oldest civil rights organization in January of 1909 to halt the almost daily lynchings of Blacks in America.

However, the terrorist unilaterally cancelled the fundamental guarantees of the Constitution of the United States, as amended, to freedom of speech, press and assembly. And these are among the very rights that the NAACP has secured for all Americans, including the hundreds of supporters of the Metro-Montgomery NAACP Branch who were denied them on February 28, 1985.

Was this cowardly act connected to Selma's "Bloody Sunday" 20 years ago? Mrs. Lillian Jackson, president of the Montgomery Branch of the NAACP, thinks so. "That type of threat coincides with any activity that works towards securing human dignity and justice for all Americans. A spate of these acts occur annually around the anniversary of the Selma March."

Earl T. Shinoster, regional director for this area, wants Alabama's Gov. George Wallace to use the power of his office to return the Constitutional guarantees to all of Alabama.

With "deep regret and personal indignation," Shinoster said to Governor Wallace in a telegram, "I inform you of

"Raleigh's Dream" Coming Friday

—Join Sir Walter Raleigh, Virginia Dare and Manteo for a journey into North Carolina's beginnings on Friday, March 8 at 8:15 p.m. with Spirit Square and the North Carolina Opera's production of "Raleigh's Dream."

Tickets are \$8 and are available at the Spirit Square Box Office, 318 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Tickets can be or-

dered by phone, in person or by mail. All major credit cards are accepted. Tick-

ets will be held for five days without payment. To order tickets call the Box Office at (704) 376-8883.

"Raleigh's Dream" was commissioned and completed by Ian Hamilton and is an official part of the 400th Anniversary Celebration in North Carolina. Hamilton was the Mary

the interruption and cancellation of the Metro-Montgomery Branch NAACP premiere showing of Tony Brown's movie "The Longest Struggle" due to repeated bomb threats."

"This marks a sad day in the continuing sorry history of race relations in Alabama and America. Governor Wallace, we are not afraid; however, we cannot take lightly the threat of harm to citizens of this community or the wishes of the theatre company." He ended his message by requesting the governor's assistance in "rescheduling of the film 'The Longest Struggle' to be shown at the Alabama State General Assembly. We make this request in full knowledge and respect for your personal commitment to human justice for all Americans."

If you wish to file your support to ask Governor Wallace to schedule "The Longest Struggle" in the legislative chambers for the Alabama State General Assembly, please write him at the State Capital, Montgomery, Alabama 36130 or call at (205) 261-3587.

It is most ironic that Mrs. Frances Hooks, wife of Benjamin Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP, when she first saw "The Longest Struggle," said: "This is a film that every Black person should see."

This 90-minute docudrama ("The movie Hollywood would never make," I'm quoted as saying), has already premiered in Oakland and Nashville, and is scheduled in scores of cities in the coming months as fund raisers. It will also be shown in Montgomery, Alabama — a city where the mayor refuses to meet with NAACP leaders — when the Constitution runs tyranny out of town.

The movie's theme is very appropriate in this case. It documents the NAACP's story of the Black and White Americans who kept faith in a failing democracy at a time when the North and the South moved dangerously close to anarchy.

TONY BROWN'S JOURNAL TV series can be seen on public television Sunday, on channel 42 at 5 p.m. It can also be seen on channel 58, Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Please consult listings.

Duke Biddle Chair of Music at Duke University from

The North Carolina Opera is the touring arm of

1962 to 1978. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland and has lived most of his life in London.

the Charlotte Opera. It was founded in 1978 as an educational music-theater company and is now the largest musical theater touring company in the Southeast.

series of colonial cooking demonstrations which will be held the second Sunday in each month—except April.

Volunteers Demonstrate Hearth Cooking

On Sunday, March 10, from 2-4 p.m., volunteers at the Hezekiah Alexander Homesite, 3500 Shamrock Drive, will demonstrate

open-hearth cooking in the restored log kitchen of the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander House.

This will be the first in a

Patchwork Players To Delight Young Audience

The Harbison Foundation in co-sponsorship with the Harbison West Elementary School will present The Patchwork Players, an educational Children's Theatre Company, on Thursday, March 14 at 9:30 a.m. The company will perform "Around The World With Jennifer Gee" at the Harbison West Elementary School on Crossbow Road in Columbia.

The play is about two best friends, Jennifer Gee and Timothy Tree. Jennifer's mother has gone on a business trip around the world and Jennifer is very upset about her absence. Timothy tries to cheer up. Having no luck, he finds a trunk Jennifer's mom has sent them filled with goodies from all of the places her mother has been. The two friends begin to act out different stories from around the world and with Timothy's encouragement Jennifer finally becomes happy again. A Mexican hat dance and the Emperors New Clothes are two of the stories featured.

Angie Branham plays Jennifer Gee. Ms. Branham is a graduate of the Columbia College Drama Department. As well as being a principal performer,

Angie is the Tour Manager for The Patchwork Players.

Andy McAllister received his BFA from the University of South Carolina. He served an apprenticeship with the Williams-town Theatre Festival. He is in his second season with The Patchwork Players.

The Patchwork Players is in residence at Columbia College. Genie Eaker Martin is founder and managing director. The script

is written by Catherine Eaker, professor of speech and drama at Columbia College. Original music and lyrics are by Jack Turner, an associate member of The Patchwork Players.

The one-hour program costs \$1.75 for those not affiliated with Harbison West Elementary School. Group rates are available for 10 or more and advance reservations are required by March 13.

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