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## Reagan Inviting War?

The ominous headlines have read: U.S. PLANES ATTACKED BY LIBYANS... U.S. PLANE FIRED ON BY NORTH KOREA... REAGAN DEPLOYS NEUTRON BOMB... U.S. REMAINS 'NEUTRAL' ON SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION OF ANGOLA... REAGAN SUPPORTS 'MX' MISSILE...

These eerie headlines which have stretched across the front pages of our newspapers these past few weeks, must raise in the minds of every peace-loving American the obvious question: Is Regan Inviting War?!

While neither time nor space will permit an in-depth analysis of each aforementioned issue, suffice it here to say that the tenor of Reagan's conservative "Cowboy" foreign policy is destined to create a plethora of international crises in the years to come.

First, let us look at the Libyan incident... Though the fact of this "dogfight" are still in dispute, essentially what transpired was that two Libyan jets were shot down by American pilots, who were allegedly on a "routine" patrol protecting a U.S. Naval exercise in the Mediterranean Sea. Libya claims that the naval exercise was taking place in its territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra. Reagan's people argue that the U.S. warships were in "international" waters, and therefore, not in violation of Libyan territorial sovereignty.

Thus, the threshold question in the Libyan dogfight is not what happened, but why? Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi has been targeted as an "international menace" by the U.S. policy-makers for quite some time. Branded as a "terrorist" for his support of third world liberation movements...

### Chrispus Attucks

## A Black Patriot

Crispus Attucks was the first American to give up his life in the fight for independence. He and four other men were shot and killed by British redcoats in the Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770.

The colonies were in a rebellious mood at the time over the issue of taxation without representation, and the bloody episode set them relentlessly on a course toward revolution.

Summing it up later, Daniel Webster said: "From that moment, we may date the severance of the British Empire."

Attucks, who was 47 on that fateful night, was a former slave born in Framingham, Mass. Twenty years earlier, he had run away from his master and gone away to sea. Beyond that, very little is known of him.

He was on the Boston docks the night of March 5, a night marked by clashes between the redcoats and the resentful citizenry.

The streets of the city were teeming with colonials, many of them spoiling for a fight. One, a youth, goaded a sentry who clubbed him with the butt of his musket. Reports of the assault raced through the city and reached Attucks and a group of sailors gathered near the docks.

Brandishing a heavy cordwood stick, Attucks led a hooting, jeering band through the narrow streets toward a square near the Customs House where the incident had occurred. When Attucks and

throughout the world. Reports in NEWSWEEK, THE NEW YORK TIMES and WASHINGTON POST underscore this point by quoting sources in the Pentagon, the CIA and the White House as saying the "Dogfight" was just part of an overall strategy to not just discredit Qaddafi, but to lead to his ultimate removal from power in Libya!! In other words, a pretext... a "Set-UP"...

Clearly, this is a dangerous policy to pursue, and smacks of a return to the old "gunboat diplomacy" of the 1950's and '60's.

Americans of all races and political persuasions must unite in opposition to this reversion to the "Policeman of the World" madness that has guided U.S. foreign policy for most of this nation's history. The Libyan "dogfight" cannot be viewed as an isolated happening, but rather in the same context as the Korean incident, the non-response to South Africa's invasion of Angola, and the sinful increase in defense spending. American policy makers are proceeding down the same path that led to this country being labeled as the "primary exporter of racism and imperialism" in the world.

Surely, the Reagan Administration must realize that this is 1981, not 1951-- when most of the world's black, brown and yellow peoples were in colonial subjugation. Surely, Reagan et al. must know that today's African, Asian and South African peoples will not tolerate a return to the "good ol' days" of Yankee exploitation.

Just maybe--that is what Reagan is counting on. Maybe, old Ronnie is hoping that his instigation of certain incidents will create a crisis serious enough to gear up America's war machinery once again. I mean, history shows us that after ever major economic recession in the U.S., a war has followed. A war would create jobs, stimulate the economy, etc. Maybe all of this is part of Reagan's heretofore undisclosed economic recovery plan!!

If so, it is a dangerous and ludicrous policy to pursue. And those of us concerned with our survival, and that of the world's, had better act now to insure that Reagan's plans stay on the drawing board. Our very lives may depend on it...



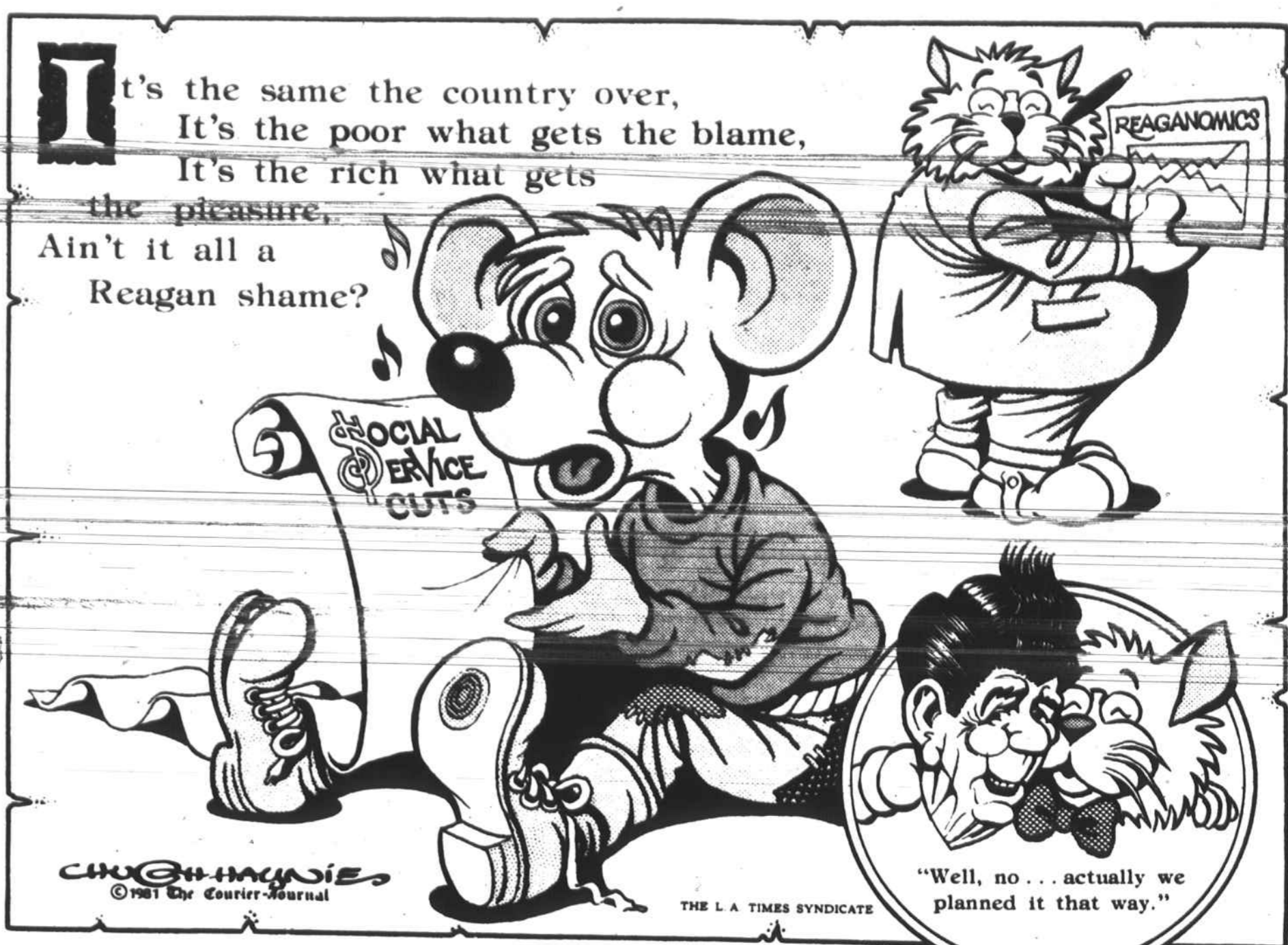
his followers arrived, the sentry already was surrounded by a mob.

Soon afterward, Capt. Thomas Preston and seven subalterns appeared to reinforce their beleaguered comrade.

Standing toward the rear, Attucks shouted to the crowd to stand firm and not be afraid. "They dare not fire," he said. Then he and his men pushed to the front, right against the gleaming points of the soldiers' bayonets.

At that moment, a stick raced through the air and struck a soldier. He raised his musket and fired.

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### Part I

## The Politics of Prayer



Rev. Warner R. Durnell



Father Michael B. Curry

After two months of silence last year, the mighty Oregon volcano, Mt. St. Helena, once again erupted, spewing forth volcanic ash and gas into the countryside and atmosphere of the north west U.S. At about the same time there was another eruption: This eruption, however, was in a collision between religion and politics.

In 1962 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in a decision on the case of "Engel vs. Vitale" that officially sanctioned and encouraged prayer in the public schools violated both the Establishment of Religion and the Free Exercise of Religion sections of the American Constitution. Since that time, the volcanic ash of this issue has remained within the volcano, except for a few rumblings and noises here and there. But during the 1980 Presidential campaign, various right wing, conservative religious forces began to make the volcano erupt. Now the ash of this issue is all over the land.

The Rev. Jerry Falwell of the 'Moral Majority' advertised the issue of voluntary school prayer as one of the planks in his so called 'Christian Bill of Rights.' Another right wing group sent a mailing to a large number of Christian pastors in the country calling on them to address the "Moral and Religious Issues" in the 1980 campaign. Of course, the issue of voluntary school prayer was on the list. It should be noted that many of these same groups and movements which advocate for voluntary school prayer also advocate for an end to busing to achieve racial desegregation, an end to affirmative action programs to bring minorities and women into the mainstream of American life, and an end or drastic reduction in government social programs like Food Stamps, School Lunch Program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, to name a few. A word from Jesus might well apply here: "Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing."

Before anything else can be said about the issue of prayer in the schools, it must be clear that the issue has been raised primarily by forces and groups whose positions, labeled "Christian or Conservative Christian," frequently stand over and against the needs and concerns of black, poor and other dispossessed people in our country. That, at least, is how we see it.

But in all modesty, we must ask: "Are they right on this issue? If we disagree with them on almost everything, must we agree with them on this?" That is the problem we face as Christians. We certainly support and favor prayer, as our article suggested last week (see "Does it Pay to Pray?"). We believe that the Scriptures affirm and teach the power and efficacy of faithful prayer, which accords with the righteous will of Almighty God (see Psalms 6:9, 65:2; Proverbs 15:8; Matthew 21:22, Romans 12:12, James 5:16). And Jesus even taught us how to pray saying, "Our Father..." But does this mean that we should advocate prayer in the public schools?

In a pluralistic society where differing races, cultures, religious faiths and ethnic groups are suppose to peacefully coexist together for the good of all, should the public schools be used for the purposes of religion? Is it more important for children to learn tolerance of other people's beliefs or to learn to assume that their way of faith must be followed by all? Is it right that children from Christian backgrounds, children from Islamic backgrounds, children from Jewish backgrounds and children from non religious backgrounds should be brought together in public schools to learn, and also to pray?

The issue is complex and difficult. We have decided, therefore, to address it in a three part series. You have just read part one which asked the question. In part two, we shall move toward an answer. In part three, we shall dare to venture an answer.

### Where To Vote

The candidates have filed and the 1981 election races for mayor and the eight aldermanic seats are again up for grabs. As the result of ward alignment, there have been some precinct changes made by the city/county election board, but the precinct locations are the same.

Residents of Winston-Salem should have registered by August 24 to be eligible for voting in the primary on September 22. The following is a list of the precincts broken down by ward lines. Any residents whose precinct location has changed will be notified by mail as to their new location.

#### North Ward

- 20-1 Piney Grove Recreation Center.
- 20-2 Kimberly Terrace.
- 20-3 Martin Luther King Recreation Center.
- 20-4 Memorial Coliseum
- 20-5 Paisley High School.
- 20-6 Forest Hill Fire Station

#### East Ward

- 40-2 Fourteenth Street Recreation Center.
- 40-3 Kennedy High School.
- 40-4 Skyland Intermediate School.
- 40-5 Anderson High School.
- 40-6 Happy Hill Recreation Center.

#### Southeast Ward

- 50-1 Grace United Methodist Church.
- 50-2 Forest Park Elementary School.
- 50-3 Trinity Moravian Church.
- 50-4 Hill High School.
- 50-5 Easton Intermediate School.
- 50-6 Covenant Presbyterian Church.

#### South Ward

- 60-1 Christ Moravian Church.
- 60-2 Bible Wesleyan Church.
- 60-3 Latham Elementary School.
- 60-4 Bishop McGuinness High School.
- 60-5 Parkland Senior High School.
- 60-6 Philo Junior High School.
- 60-7 Bolton Pool.

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