

WORDS OF OUR BELOVED PROPHET



Last Sunday, our Beloved Prophet talked in front of a few raelians and non-raelians who gathered to receive His teachings in Miami. Here is a summary of this very inspiring speech:

Today, I just want to bring a message of Love as the planet needs it more than ever.

I want you to think love. The more violence, war and nationalism surround us, the more we must have thoughts of love.

You may say, who am I to think I can change the world? You must know that you can make a difference with your thoughts. If you meditate for peace, even alone in your home, your telepathic waves are changing the world. Meditations on peace and love make a difference. First it changes you inside, you feel better when you meditate that way, then the people around start to feel better as well and then they change the people around them.

Some say that our world is becoming more violent. This isn't true. We are going back to a new peace and love generation. At the time of Jesus, it was much more violent and bloody than now. They were incredibly violent. Today no one is nailed on a cross anymore. So we slowly evolve towards a more peaceful society. Of course, we still have Bush and people like him who are killing, but it is going in the right direction and we contribute to that.

We are lucky to live now and tomorrow will even be better. Repeat this sentence often: tomorrow is always better than yesterday. If you are among those who think that yesterday was better, it means you are aging. Only old people say that. Yesterday there was no phone, no electricity, no social security, how can we call it the old good time? Today you enjoy your cell phone, you computer. My old toy in wood was nice but the computers of today are way better than my old wood toys.

Tomorrow will be better, more advanced and eternal life is coming. We are at a turning point. Technology helps love. It is easy to say "love your neighbors" and feel good about it. It is ok, but the real love gives and cures. It comes from the scientists. When a kid is

sick, the parents go to the hospital. Doctors are giving a few more years to an old lady by giving her kidneys so that she can see her grand children a little longer. This is love.

Tomorrow is better than yesterday.

Before religions were saying tomorrow will be better once you are dead, you will be in heaven.

Now we say tomorrow will be better because it will be heaven here on earth.

Everybody could live forever if the technology is used by the right people.

So think about love and peace, because the technology today is used by the wrong people, making war in the name of god or allah. Technology must be used to save life.

Don't think you are nothing, think about love and peace. Your brain waves will influence your surrounding.

Even Bush could be influenced. He is slowly realizing that killing may not be the solution and introduces a little more diplomacy. After killing thousands of people, Americans are now hated everywhere and they have to hide when they travel and disguise themselves into Canadians !

America needs a Gandhi.

Try to imagine if on September 11, 2001, Gandhi had been the president of the United States, what would have happened?

Jesus, Gandhi, they were love.

If you hate, you create more violence.

It will take generations to solve the problems between Americans and Muslims who hate each other now. Some are saying we should remove violent games. Games are nothing compared to the war displayed every day on television. Children are reproducing what they see on television in the streets. Hopefully, education of the children on both sides, in America and in the Muslim countries, will solve the problem.

We should apply the teachings of Jesus who was saying to look at our own fault and look at the qualities of the others instead of focusing on our own qualities and the flaws of the others. He also said to turn the left cheek when hit on the right one. It means that there shouldn't be any reply to violence. It is the only way to save the world. There are no intermediate solutions.

We must meditate. Some call it prayer, but it is actually meditation.

Your thoughts shape the world every second.

Think that you can change the world with your thoughts and you will feel better. We must do it every second of our life if we want to have the Elohim come and help us. But we must work every second, thinking about peace and love. If you stop these thoughts, then you revert and go down to violence.

The first step is to think about love and then, if you never stop, you become love. That's what we teach at seminars. If you come to our festivals, you will become love. It is the goal of a lifetime. You will not think about love anymore because it is what you are.

WARD CHURCHILL NEW HONORARY GUIDE

Ward Churchill, a University of Colorado professor, who is under fire for saying that World Trade Center victims were not innocents and has refused to apologize for his remarks has been awarded the title of honorary guide of the Raelian Movement by our Beloved Prophet today.



His work in defense of human rights is remarkable and you will find two essays of his at the end of this newsletter. Son of a native American, he is very active in the defense of these peoples and you will appreciate his clever thoughts on this subject in one of his essays. What made him the center of Fox News fury is his statement about the fact that the September 11, 2001 attacks had been provoked by US foreign policy like the Prophet RAEL has been saying all along. In his essay, *Some People Push Back*, written shortly after 9/11, Churchill said the hijackers had mounted "counter attacks" in the face of hostile US policy in the Middle East and a campaign of "genocide" against Iraq through the trade sanctions imposed after the first Gulf war. This is common sense and this view is shared by a majority on this planet but it is still considered as an offence to say so in the US. The 60000 members of the Raelian Movement are sending their support to Ward Churchill and their warm welcome as their new honorary guide.

LEGAL ACTION IN SWITZERLAND

We have learned from official sources that the Raelian Movement is on a black list shared by all the Swiss banks. This is the same list where they have drug dealers, international criminals, money laundrers!!! This explains why we have been refused from all the Swiss banks.... Our Beloved Prophet is asking our legal department to immediately take the appropriate measures in order to be removed from this list. We are only on this list because of religious discrimination as we have never been condemned for anything !

NEWS AND VIEWS

(Also seen everyday on <http://www.raeliannews.org>)

PUBERTY CONTROL

Scientists from the University of Pittsburgh have found a molecule that triggers the start of puberty in children. They call it the kisspeptin.

They are thinking of using it to treat children who have late or early puberty.

Rael declared this week:

As long as traditionalists don't use it to "normalize" the puberty medically, by for instance, giving medications to young people to force them to have puberty at a "politically correct age" there is no problem ...We see that right now with medicine given to millions of kids for what is called "hyperactivity", in fact normalizing children who are just different and usually more intelligent than others... These "normalizers" may well decide to medicate young people in order for them to have puberty at a legal age for sexuality like for instance at the age of 18... Geniuses are usually hyperactive and sometime have puberty at very early age ...and what's wrong with that? Normalizing people is destroying differences and killing the talents of the most valuable people for the future of humanity, geniuses, artists and leaders. Mozart, Einstein, Diderot, Arthur Miller, Baudelaire, Van Gogh and many other geniuses would have been given medicine for hyperactivity and to avoid their very early puberty, which would also have destroyed all their talents as they are intimately connected with "abnormal" behavior and sexuality. By normalizing everybody we wouldn't have anymore the geniuses who are the inspiration and source of progress of humanity.

Could the use of gadget like Pocket PC that can do email, phone and games give you more arthritis? This is what some serious US and UK doctors are saying, hinting that repetitive use could cause arthritis or harm tendons in the thumb. But they also add that no one has come forward with anything like that yet.... What are we talking about?

Here are the comments of RAEL on the subject :

What about the effect of kneeling in church which can damage permanently the knees ? or praying which can damage the fingers joints ? Or believing in god which can damage the brain itself ? These people are so funny...of course every activity train different part of the body and having trained thumbs is very good. May be some old people will have pain in their joints using these devices that's why it is important to use new technologies as young as possible.

NICE STEPS IN THE ELOHIMIZATION PROCESSES



Kim Jong-Hwan, the director of the ITRC-Intelligent Robot Research Center, has developed a software, a series of "artificial chromosomes" that, he says, will allow robots to feel lusty, and could eventually lead to them reproducing. He says the software, which will be installed in a robot within the next three months, will give the machines the ability to feel, reason and desire. He also said: "Christians may not like it, but we must consider this the origin of an artificial species. Until now, most researchers in this field have focused only on the functionality of

the machines, but we think in terms of the essence of the creatures." That "essence" is a computer code, which determines a robot's propensity to "feel" happy, sad, angry, sleepy, hungry or afraid. Kim says this software is modeled on human DNA, though equivalent to a single strand of genetic code rather than the complex double helix of a real chromosome.

The raelian philosophy considers every living entity on earth as a sophisticated robot with a highly advanced program called the DNA that enables it to communicate, reproduce, create, feel... Emotions are thus coded and can lead to the worst if it is not under the surveillance of the ultimate program that is the conscience, a few thousands neurons located behind the frontal bone, only programmed in the human beings.

Once this ultimate software that is the conscience is installed in a robot, whether this robot is made of organic materials or inorganic ones, we will have reached the full circle of life creation, what the Elohim did when they created us in their image.... Our scientists are in the process of elohimization.

A good article was published this week also on parallel studies leading to the creation of the first biological artificial entity. You may see it on Popular Science at <http://www.popsci.com/popsci/medicine/article/0,20967,1014147,00.html>

The story is about Dr. Rasmussen from Los Alamos one of the most advanced scientists in the field of life creation. His goal is to create a brand-new creature that reproduces. 100 other laboratories in the world are working on it as well. What they are trying to prove is that it is possible to have a rough creature arising from an appropriate chemical mixture, like the evolution theory stipulates. However what they actually prove is that, given the right chemical mixture, men can create life in a laboratory. As the more they mix, they more they see that life needs a little help to start, a little intelligence to be well designed and a little humor to be fun....

Our support was sent this week to these two scientists for their major contribution to the elohimization year J

LAPTOPS FOR CHILDREN

Nicholas Negroponte, chairman and founder of MIT's Media Labs, says he is developing a laptop PC that will go on sale for less than \$100. Such a tool could greatly accelerate the development of poor countries where kids could be given a laptop at school and take it home where the whole family can benefit from it. China is already banking on it, as a replacement of the old textbooks. Of course this will have a major impact in the development of Africa as the Prophet RAEL has been explaining in His program for Africa during the last decade and more recently during the African festival in Accra Ghana.

Here is what He added this week:

A similar computer made in Africa for itself and may be with local materials could be even cheaper and could be called "afro pc"... And all African governments should spend money on that instead of buying weapons...and making its politicians billionaires with briberies.

SLAVERY : A BANK READY TO REPAIR

Black Americans have been very active in the Chicago area where they asked the city to deal only with institutions who haven't been involved in slavery in the past. This is what pushed the JP Morgan Chase Bank, the nation's second-largest bank, to make research on this subject and found out that 2 of its founding banks owned slaves at a time. Last January, they apologized for contributing to "a brutal and unjust institution" and said it was setting up a scholarship fund in Louisiana to try to make amends.

"We apologize to the African American community, particularly those who are descendants of slaves, and to the rest of the American public for the role that Citizens Bank and Canal Bank played," the Executives said in their statement. "The slavery era was a tragic time in U.S. history and in our company's history."

J.P. Morgan said it was setting up a program called Smart Start Louisiana. The bank will provide \$5 million over five years for full-tuition undergraduate scholarships for black students from Louisiana to attend college in their home state.

Let's hope they are not the only one to repair...

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

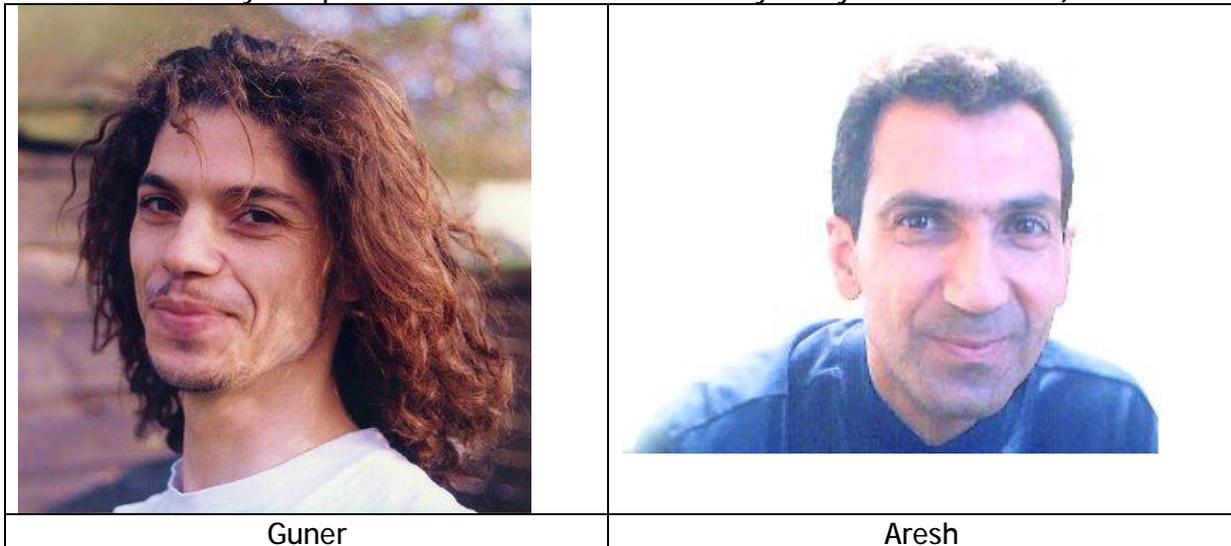
New nominations in the Middle East

By Leon Mellul

Following the Tsunami wave of e-mail from Turkey, I would like to congratulate my assistant for that country, **Guner Behich** who have done an excellent work in replying over a thousand e-mails and keeps replying every day... Guner who lives in England is the new responsible for Turkey until we will find the right person living in the country who will be under his supervision.

The other nomination is the one of **Aresh Izadi**, new responsible for Iran. Aresh who lives in Toronto have always been involved in the Iranian team helping and devoting himself for his country of origin for over 15 years now. Congratulations dear Aresh :-)

I would like to thank Mehran who have been acting as responsible for Iran for so many years. He have done a wonderful work to build up the Iranian team with Aresh and many others of our members. Mehran who lives in the United States is quiet busy in his region as a guide, and with the scientific team. Even with so many tasks and responsibilities, Mehran will always be part of the Iranian team. Thank you my dear Mehran :-)



Congratulations dear Guner and Aresh!

Glenn Carter

Interview published last week in the News Scotman

They came from outer space. The Raelian Movement has its challenges, but it is a vocational thing.

"I had no aspirations to be in charge here. We do not believe in a God, a heaven or a hell. Neither do we believe in evolution. We are created by a race of beings who are not unlike us," explains actor Glenn Carter . . .

Who arrives in the Capital next week to star in a two-week run of Jesus Christ Superstar at the Festival Theatre.

It is an unexpected belief for an actor who has carved a niche for himself playing religious roles.



He has appeared as Jesus in a number of productions of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber's biblical rock opera, as well as playing the Messianic figure at the centre of Whistle Down The Wind and the title role in Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Yet as the British head of the Raelian Movement, Carter follows a cult founded by French journalist Claude Vorilhon in 1973, after he claimed to have met aliens who revealed the truth about the beginnings of the human race to him.

He was told that life was created 25,000 years ago in an alien laboratory and that Jesus was resurrected using an "advanced cloning technique".

Carter's ideology is further supported, he claims, by research he did when he was first cast as Jesus. It included reading parts of the bible and other religious texts as well as exploring alternative beliefs about who Jesus was.

"One of the most revealing things I discovered was that the word God, which we read in the Christian bible, didn't exist in the original Hebrew," he says. "In bibles that we buy in the shops here, it says that God created the world in seven days. In the original Hebrew it doesn't say God. The word Elohim is used. "The Jews, in their wisdom, decided not to allow Elohim to be translated, originally from Hebrew to Greek and then to Latin. So they replaced it by the symbol G dash D [g-d] which, for want of a better phrase, meant 'refer to original text'. "When it was then translated hundreds of years later from Latin and Greek into European languages they didn't know what G-D meant, so they put an o in there.

"But Elohim, translated directly from Hebrew to English, means 'those who came from the sky', so it was a huge discovery to find that God was a plural in the Jewish bible not a singular."

Although Elohim is accepted as a plural, not all academics agree on the translation Carter cites, many suggesting it to be no more than the first person plural, as in the Royal 'we'.

Carter's Raelian background is also, perhaps, the reason why the actor is not over-awed by the religious significance the man he is playing holds for millions of Christians around the world.

"As an atheist who believes in Jesus as a historical prophet, playing him on stage is just like playing any other role.

"You have to put your whole self into any role. You can't remain balanced in your head if you start thinking Jesus is a special part. I don't, as an actor, carry around 2000 years of Christian history - I don't bear the responsibility of playing an iconic character, I just play the person. It's the same as if I was playing a murderer. I wouldn't have to experience murdering someone to associate myself with people who have murdered. You have to be able to put yourself in the situation of the character and not carry around that weight of: 'Wow this a hugely important part for many people.' "

Carter follows in a long trend of casting larger-than-life actors in the role of Jesus. Ever since HB Warner in Cecil B DeMille's 1927 movie *The King of Kings*, each generation has had its own iconic saviour.

In the 50s it was the Donald C Kluge, the non-speaking, uncredited Jesus in the biblical epic *The Robe*. A decade later it was Jeffrey Hunter in the 1961 remake of *King of Kings*, while in the 1973 movie *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Ted Neely gave the role a psychedelic twist. Robert Powell followed as a more reverential Jesus of Nazareth in 1977 before Willem Dafoe more controversially donned the mantle 11 years later in *The Last Temptation of Christ*. Most recently Jim Caviezel made a bloodied and somewhat gory messiah in Mel Gibson's *Passion Of The Christ*. All have their own fanbase, as does Carter, who has now played the role on and off for nine years.

"I played it for six months in 1997," recalls the softly spoken 40-year-old, whose long, wavy curls make him a natural choice for the part. "That production was very brutal, it was more like the Mel Gibson film. The way they have staged it this time is slightly more geared towards families, it's less focused on the brutality of the way Jesus died and more on the way that he lived."

Jesus Christ Superstar exploded onto the musical scene in 1971 - stunning audiences and changing the face of musical theatre forever. It tells the story of the last seven days in the life of Jesus through a ground-breaking score that features some of musical theatre's most captivating songs, including Gethsemane - "The greatest musical number ever written for a male lead," insists Carter - and, of course the playground favourite, Superstar.

And while Carter has also appeared in Les Misérables, Grease and Chess, it's to the role of Jesus he continues to return - although perhaps not for much longer, as he reveals that the physical demands of the show are taking their toll.

"The other productions of Jesus Christ Superstar I have done were physically harder than this one. When I was asked to play this part again the only thing that came close to stopping me doing it was the physical toll it takes because I get flung onto the floor a lot. "I constantly have a bad back, bad knees. Doing it once isn't difficult, but doing it now close to 180 times and being thrown to the floor ten times a show . . . you get a lot of impact on your body. It's the nature of the part."

Carter admits that there's now a limit to length of time he's willing to take on such a demanding role - a good reason not to miss Jesus Christ Superstar at the Festival Theatre over the next two weeks.

- Jesus Christ Superstar, Edinburgh Festival Theatre, Nicolson Street, Tuesday-February 19 (not Sundays), 7.30pm (Thursday and Saturday matinees 2.30pm), £10-£29.50, 0131-529 6000

ESSAYS BY WARD CHURCHILL

Source: <http://www.dickshovel.com/crimes.html>

Churchill's statement
January 31, 2005

The following is a statement from Ward Churchill:

In the last few days there has been widespread and grossly inaccurate media coverage concerning my analysis of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, coverage that has resulted in defamation of my character and threats against my life. What I actually said has been lost, indeed turned into the opposite of itself, and I hope the following facts will be reported at least to the same extent that the fabrications have been.

* The piece circulating on the internet was developed into a book, *On the Justice of Roosting Chickens*. Most of the book is a detailed chronology of U.S. military interventions since 1776 and U.S. violations of international law since World War II. My point is that we cannot allow the U.S. government, acting in our name, to engage in massive violations of international law and fundamental human rights and not expect to reap the consequences.

* I am not a "defender" of the September 11 attacks, but simply pointing out that if U.S. foreign policy results in massive death and destruction abroad, we cannot feign innocence when some of that destruction is returned. I have never said that people "should" engage in armed attacks on the United States, but that such attacks are a natural and unavoidable consequence of unlawful U.S. policy. As Martin Luther King, quoting Robert F. Kennedy, said, "Those who make peaceful change impossible make violent change inevitable."

* This is not to say that I advocate violence; as a U.S. soldier in Vietnam I witnessed and participated in more violence than I ever wish to see. What I am saying is that if we want an end to violence, especially that perpetrated against civilians, we must take the responsibility for halting the slaughter perpetrated by the United States around the world. My feelings are reflected in Dr. King's April 1967 Riverside speech, where, when asked about the wave of urban rebellions in U.S. cities, he said, "I could never again raise my voice against the violence of the oppressed . . . without having first spoken clearly to the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today my own government."

* In 1996 Madeleine Albright, then Ambassador to the UN and soon to be U.S. Secretary of State, did not dispute that 500,000 Iraqi children had died as a result of economic sanctions, but stated on national television that "we" had decided it was "worth the cost." I mourn the victims of the September 11 attacks, just as I mourn the deaths of those Iraqi children, the more than 3 million people killed in the war in Indochina, those who died in the U.S. invasions of Grenada, Panama and elsewhere in Central America, the victims of the transatlantic slave trade, and the indigenous peoples still subjected to genocidal policies. If we respond with callous disregard to the deaths of others, we can only expect equal callousness to American deaths.

* Finally, I have never characterized all the September 11 victims as "Nazis." What I said was that the "technocrats of empire" working in the World Trade Center were the equivalent of "little Eichmanns." Adolf Eichmann was not charged with direct killing but with ensuring the smooth running of the infrastructure that enabled the Nazi genocide. Similarly, German industrialists were legitimately targeted by the Allies.

* It is not disputed that the Pentagon was a military target, or that a CIA office was situated in the World Trade Center. Following the logic by which U.S. Defense Department spokespersons have consistently sought to justify target selection in places like Baghdad, this placement of an element of the American "command and control infrastructure" in an ostensibly civilian facility converted the Trade Center itself into a "legitimate" target. Again following U.S. military doctrine, as announced in briefing after briefing, those who did not work for the CIA but were nonetheless

killed in the attack amounted to no more than "collateral damage." If the U.S. public is prepared to accept these "standards" when they are routinely applied to other people, they should not be surprised when the same standards are applied to them.

* It should be emphasized that I applied the "little Eichmanns" characterization only to those described as "technicians." Thus, it was obviously not directed to the children, janitors, food service workers, firemen and random passers-by killed in the 9-1-1 attack. According to Pentagon logic, they were simply part of the collateral damage. Ugly? Yes. Hurtful? Yes. And that's my point. It's no less ugly, painful or dehumanizing a description when applied to Iraqis, Palestinians, or anyone else. If we ourselves do not want to be treated in this fashion, we must refuse to allow others to be similarly devalued and dehumanized in our name.

* The bottom line of my argument is that the best and perhaps only way to prevent 9-1-1-style attacks on the U.S. is for American citizens to compel their government to comply with the rule of law. The lesson of Nuremberg is that this is not only our right, but our obligation. To the extent we shirk this responsibility, we, like the "Good Germans" of the 1930s and '40s, are complicit in its actions and have no legitimate basis for complaint when we suffer the consequences. This, of course, includes me, personally, as well as my family, no less than anyone else.

* These points are clearly stated and documented in my book, *On the Justice of Roosting Chickens*, which recently won Honorary Mention for the Gustavus Myer Human Rights Award. for best writing on human rights. Some people will, of course, disagree with my analysis, but it presents questions that must be addressed in academic and public debate if we are to find a real solution to the violence that pervades today's world. The gross distortions of what I actually said can only be viewed as an attempt to distract the public from the real issues at hand and to further stifle freedom of speech and academic debate in this country.

Ward Churchill
Boulder, Colorado
January 31, 2005

Crimes Against Humanity

by Ward Churchill

NOTE:

This article was originally written as an official paper of the Autonomous Confederation - American Indian Movement. It was passed along to me by AIM Colorado...a member of the Autonomous Confederation.

During the past couple of seasons, there has been an increasing wave of controversy regarding the names of professional sports teams like the Atlanta "Braves," Cleveland "Indians," Washington "Redskins," and Kansas City "Chiefs." The issue extends to the

names of college teams like Florida State University "seminoles," University of Illinois "Fighting Illini," and so on, right on down to high school outfits like the Lamar (Colorado) "Savages." Also involved have been team adoption of "mascots," replete with feathers, buckskins, beads, spears and "warpaint" (some fans have opted to adorn themselves in the same fashion), and nifty little "pep" gestures like the "Indian Chant" and "Tomahawk Chop."

A substantial number of American Indians have protested that use of native names, images and symbols as sports team mascots and the like is, by definition, a virulently racist practice. Given the historical relationship between Indians and non-Indians during what has been called the "Conquest of America," American Indian Movement leader (and American Indian Anti-Defamation Council founder) Russell Means has compared the practice to contemporary Germans naming their soccer teams the "Jews," Hebrews," and "Yids," while adorning their uniforms with grotesque caricatures of Jewish faces taken from the Nazis' anti-Semitic propaganda of the 1930's. Numerous demonstrations have occurred in conjunction with games - most notably during the November 15, 1992 match-up between the Chiefs and Redskins in Kansas City - by angry Indians and their supporters.

In response, a number of players - especially African Americans and other minority athletes - have been trotted out by professional team owners like Ted Turner, as well as university and public school officials, to announce that they mean not to insult but to honor native people. They have been joined by the television networks and most major newspapers, all of which have editorialized that Indian discomfort with the situation is "no big deal," insisting that the whole thing is just "good, clean fun." The country needs more such fun, they've argued, and a "few disgruntled Native Americans" have no right to undermine the nation's enjoyment of its leisure time by complaining. This is especially the case, some have argued, "in hard times like these." It has even been contended that Indian outrage at being systematically degraded - rather than the degradation itself - creates "a serious barrier to the sort of intergroup communication so necessary in a multicultural society such as ours."

Okay. let's communicate. We are frankly dubious that those advancing such positions really believe their own rhetoric but, just for the sake of argument, let's accept the premise that they are sincere. If what they say is true, then isn't it time we spread such "inoffensiveness" and "good cheer" around among all the groups so that everybody can participate equally in fostering the national round of laughs they call for? Sure it is - the country can't have too much fun or "intergroup" involvement - so the more, the merrier. Simple consistency demands that anyone who thinks the Tomahawk Chop is a swell pastime must be just as hearty in their endorsement of the following ideas - by the logic used to defend the defamation of American Indians - should help us all really start yukking it up.

First, as a counterpart to the Redskins, we need an NFL team called "Niggers" to honor Afro-Americans. Half-time festivities for fans might include a simulated stewing of the opposing coach in a large pot while players and cheerleaders dance around it, garbed in leopard skins and wearing fake bones in their noses. This concept obviously goes along with the kind of gaiety attending the Chop, but also with the actions of the Kansas Chiefs, whose team members - prominently including black members - lately

appeared on a poster ,looking "fierce" and "savage" by way of wearing Indian regalia. Just a bit of harmless "morale boosting," says the Chief's front office. You bet.

So that the newly-formed Niggers sports club won't end up too out of sync while expressing the "spirit" and "identity" of Afro-Americans in the above fashion, a baseball franchise - let's call this one the "Sambos" - should be formed. How about a basketball team called the "spearchuckers/" A hockey team called the "Jungle Bunnies/" Maybe the "essence of these teams could be depicted by images of tiny black faces adorned with huge pairs of lips. The players could appear on TV every week or so gnawing on chicken legs and spitting watermelon seeds at one another. Catchy, eh? Well, there's "nothing to be upset about," according to those who love wearing "war bonnets" to the Super Bowl or having "Chief Illiniwik" dance around the sports arenas of Urbana, Illinois.

And why stop there? There are plenty of other groups to include. "Hispanics?" They can be "represented" by the Galveston "Greasers" and the San Diego "Spics," at least until the Wisconsin "Wetbacks" and Baltimore "Beaners" get off the ground. Asian Americans? How about the "slopes," "Dinks," "Gooks," and "Zipperheads?" Owners of the latter teams might get their logo ideas from editorial page cartoons printed in the nation's newspapers during World War II: slanteyes, buck teeth, big glasses, but nothing racially insulting or derogatory, according to the editors and artists involved at the time. Indeed, this Second World War-vintage stuff can be seen as just another barrel of laughs at least by what current editors say are their "local standards" concerning American Indians.

Let's see. Who's been left out Teams like the Kansas City "Kikes," Hanover "Honkies," San Leandro "Shylock," Daytona "Dagos," and Pittsburg "Polacks" will fill a certain social void among white folk. Have a religious belief? Let's all go for the gusto and gear up the Milwaukee "Mackerel Snappers" and Hollywood "Holy Rollers." The Fighting Irish of Notre Dame can be rechristened the "Drunken Irish" or "Papist Pigs." Issues of gender and sexual preference can be addressed through creation of teams like the St. Louis "Sluts," Boston "Bimbos," Detroit "Dykes," and the Fresno "Fags." How about the Gainesville "Gimps" and the richmond "Retards," so the physically and mentally impaired won't be excluded from our fun and games?

Now, don't go getting "overly sensitive" out there. None of this is dreaming or insulting, at least not when it's being done to Indians. Just ask the folks who are doing it, or their apologists like Andy Rooney in the national media. They'll tell you - as in fact they have been telling you - that there's no been no harm done, regardless of what their victims think, feel, or say. The situation is exactly the same as when those with precisely the same mentality used to insist that Step 'n' Fetchit was okay, or Rochester on the Jack Benny show, or Amos and Andy, Charlie Chan, the Frito Bandito, or any other cutesy symbols making up the lexicon of American racism. Have we communicated yet? Let's get just a little bit real here. The notion of "fun" embodied in rituals like the Tomahawk Chop must be understood for what it is. There's not a single non-Indian example used above which can be considered socially acceptable in even the most marginal sense. The reasons are obvious enough. So why is it different where American Indians are concerned? One can only conclude that, in contrast to the other groups at issue, Indians are (falsely) perceived as being too few, and therefore too weak, to defend themselves effectively against racist and otherwise offensive behavior.

Fortunately, there are some glimmers of hope. A few teams and their fans have gotten the message and have responded appropriately. Stanford University, which opted to drop the name "Indians" from, has experienced no resulting drop in attendance. Meanwhile, the local newspaper in Portland, Oregon recently decided its long-standing editorial policy prohibiting use of racial epithets should include derogatory teams names. The Redskins, for instance, are now referred to as "the Washington team," and will continued to be described in this way until the franchise adopts an inoffensive moniker (newspaper sales in Portland have suffered no decline as a result). Such examples are to be applauded and encouraged. They stand as figurative beacons in the night, proving beyond all doubt that it is quite possible to indulge in the pleasure of athletics without accepting blatant racism into the bargain.

Nuremburg Precedents

On October 16, 1946, a man named Julius Stricher mounted the steps of a gallows. Moments later he was dead, the sentence of an international tribunal composed of representatives of the United States, France, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union having been imposed. Streicher's body was then cremated, and - so horrendous were his crimes thought to have been - his ashes dumped into an unspecified German river so that "no one should ever know a particular place to go for reasons of mourning his memory."

Julius Streicher had been convicted at Nuremberg, Germany of what were termed "Crimes Against Humanity." The lead prosecutor in his case Justice Robert Jackson of the United States Supreme Court had not argued that the defendant had killed anyone, nor that he had personally committed any especially violent act. Nor was it contended that Streicher had held any particularly important position in the German government during the period in which the so called Third Reich had exterminated some 6,000,000 Jews, as well as several million Gypsies, Poles, Slavs, homosexuals, and other untermenschen (subhumans).

The sole offense for which the accused was ordered put to death was in having served as publisher/editor of a Bavarian tabloid entitled *Der Sturmer* during the early-to-mid 1930s, years before the Nazi genocide actually began. In this capacity, he had penned a long series of virulently anti-Semitic editorials and "news."

Stories, usually accompanied by cartoons and other images graphically depicting Jews in extraordinarily derogatory fashion. This, the prosecution asserted, had done much to "dehumanize" the targets of his distortion in the mind of the German public. In turn, such dehumanization had made it possible or at least easier for average Germans to later indulge in the outright liquidation of Jewish "vermin." The tribunal agreed, holding that Streicher was therefore complicit in genocide and deserving of death by hanging.

During his remarks to the Nuremburg tribunal, Justice Jackson observed that, in implementing its sentences, the participating powers were morally and legally binding themselves to adhere forever after to the same standards of conduct that were being applied to Streicher and the other Nazi leaders. In the alternative, he said, the victorious allies would have committed "pure murder" at Nuremberg no different in substance from

that carried out by those they presumed to judge rather than establishing the "permanent benchmark for justice" which was intended.

Yet in the United States of Robert Jackson, the indigenous American Indian population had already been reduced, in a process which is ongoing to this day, from perhaps 12.5 million in the year 1500 to fewer than 250,000 by the beginning of the 20th century. This was accomplished, according to official sources, "largely through the cruelty of Euro American settlers," and an informal but clear governmental policy which had made it an articulated goal to "exterminate these red vermin" or at least whole segments of them.

Bounties had been placed on the scalps of Indians any Indians in places as diverse as Georgia, Kentucky, Texas, the Dakotas, Oregon, and California and had been maintained until resident Indian populations were decimated or disappeared altogether. Entire peoples such as the Cherokee had been reduced to half their size through a policy of forced removal from their homelands east of the Mississippi River to what were then considered less preferable areas in the West.

Others, such as the Navajo, suffered the same fate while under military guard for years on end. The United States Army had also perpetrated a long series of wholesale massacres of Indians at places like Horseshoe Bend, Bear River, Sand Creek, the Washita River, the Marias River, Camp Robinson and Wounded Knee.

Through it all, hundreds of popular novels - each competing with the next to make Indians appear more grotesque, menacing, and inhuman - were sold in the tens of millions of copies in the U.S. Plainly, the Euro American public was being conditioned to see Indians in such a way so as to allow their eradication to continue. And continue it did until the Manifest Destiny of the U.S a direct precursor to what Hitler would subsequently call Lebensraumpolitik (the politics of living space) was consummated.

By 1900, the national project of "clearing" Native Americans from their land and replacing them with "superior" Anglo American settlers was complete; the indigenous population had been reduced by as much as 98 percent while approximately 97.5 percent of their original territory had "passed" to the invaders. The survivors had been concentrated, out of sight and mind of the public, on scattered "reservations," all of them under the self-assigned "plenary" (full) power of the federal government. There was, of course, no Nuremberg-style tribunal passing judgment on those who had fostered such circumstances in North America. No U.S. official or private citizen was ever imprisoned never mind hanged for implementing or propagandizing what had been done. Nor had the process of genocide afflicting Indians been completed. Instead, it merely changed form.

Between the 1880s and the 1980s, nearly half of all Native American children were coercively transferred from their own families, communities, and cultures to those of the conquering society. This was done through compulsory attendance at remote boarding schools, often hundreds of miles from their homes, where native children were kept for years on end while being systematically "deculturated" (indoctrinated to think and act in the manner of Euro Americans rather than as Indians). It was also accomplished through a pervasive foster home and adoption program including - blind adoptions, where children would be permanently denied information as to who they were/are and where they'd come from - placing native youths in non-Indian homes.

The express purpose of all this was to facilitate a U.S. governmental policy to bring about the "assimilation" (dissolution) of indigenous societies. In other words, Indian cultures as such were to be caused to disappear. Such policy objectives are directly contrary to the United Nations 1948 Convention on Punishment and Prevention of the Crime of Genocide, an element of international law arising from the Nuremberg proceedings. The forced "transfer of the children" of a targeted "racial, ethnical, or religious group" is explicitly prohibited as a genocidal activity under the Convention's second article.

Article II of the Genocide Convention also expressly prohibits involuntary sterilization as a means of "preventing births among" a targeted population. Yet, in 1975, it was conceded by the U.S. government that its Indian Health Service (IHS) then a subpart of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), was even then conducting a secret program of involuntary sterilization that had affected approximately 40 percent of all Indian women. The program was allegedly discontinued, and the IHS was transferred to the Public Health Service, but no one was punished. In 1990, it came out that the IHS was inoculating, Inuit children in Alaska with Hepatitis-B vaccine. The vaccine had already been banned by the World Health Organization as having demonstrated a correlation with the HIV-Syndrome which is itself correlated to AIDS. As this is written [March, 1993], a "field test" of Hepatitis-A vaccine, also HIV-correlated, is being conducted on Indian reservations in the northern plains region.

The Genocide Convention makes it a crime against "humanity" to create conditions leading to the destruction of an identifiable human group, as such. Yet the BIA has utilized the government's plenary prerogatives to negotiate mineral leases "on behalf of" Indian peoples paying a fraction of standard royalty rates. The result has been "super profits" for a number of preferred U.S. corporations. Meanwhile, Indians, whose reservations ironically turned out to be in some of the most mineral-rich areas of North America, which makes us, the nominally wealthiest segment of the continent's population, live in dire poverty.

By the government's own data in the mid-1980s, Indians received the lowest annual and lifetime per capita incomes of any aggregate population group in the United States. Concomitantly, we suffer the highest rate of infant mortality, death by exposure and malnutrition, disease, and the like. Under such circumstances, alcoholism and other escapist forms of substance abuse are endemic in the Indian community, a situation which leads both to a general physical debilitation of the population and a catastrophic accident rate. Teen suicide among Indians is several times the national average

The average life expectancy of a reservation-based Native American man is barely 45 years; women can expect to live less than three years longer.

Such itemizations could be continued at great length, including matters like the radioactive contamination of large portions of contemporary Indian Country, the forced relocation of traditional Navajos, and so on. But the point should be made: Genocide, as defined in international law, is a continuing fact of day-to-day life (and death) for North America's native peoples. Yet there has been and is only the barest flicker of public concern about or even consciousness of, this reality. Absent any serious expression of public outrage, no one is punished and the process continues.

A salient reason for public acquiescence before the ongoing holocaust in Native North America has been a continuation of the popular legacy, often through more effective media. Since 1925, Hollywood has released more than 2,000 films, many of them rerun frequently on television, portraying Indians as strange, perverted, ridiculous, and often dangerous things of the past. Moreover, we are habitually presented to mass audiences one-dimensionally, devoid of recognizable human motivations and emotions: Indians thus serve as props, little more. We have thus been thoroughly and systematically dehumanized.

Nor is this the extent of it. Everywhere we are used as logos, as mascots, as jokes: "Big Chief" writing tablets, "Red Man" chewing tobacco, "Winnebago," campers., "Navajo" and "Cherokee" and "Pontiac" and "Cadillac" pickups and automobiles. There are the Cleveland "Indians," the Kansas City "Chiefs," the Atlanta "Braves" and the Washington "Redskins" professional sports teams not to mention those in thousands of colleges, high schools, and elementary schools across the country each with their own degrading caricatures and parodies of Indians and or things Indian. Pop fiction continues in the same vein including an unending stream of New Age manuals purporting to expose the inner works of indigenous spirituality in everything from pseudo-philosophical to do-it-yourself styles. Blond yuppies from Beverly Hills amble about the country claiming to be reincarnated 17th century Cheyenne Ushamans ready to perform previously secret ceremonies.

In effect, a concerted, sustained, and in some ways accelerating effort has gone into making Indians unreal. It is thus of obvious importance that the American public begin to think about the implications of such things the next time they witness a gaggle of face-painted and war-bonneted buffoons doing the "Tomahawk Chop" at a baseball or football game. It is necessary that they think about the implications of the grade-school teacher adorning their child in turkey feathers to commemorate Thanksgiving. Think about the significance of John Wayne or Charlston Heston killing a dozen "savages" with a single bullet the next time a western comes on TV. Think about why Land-o-Lakes finds it appropriate to market its butter with the stereotyped image of an "Indian princess" on the wrapper. Think about what it means when non-Indian academics profess as they often do to "know more about Indians than Indians do themselves." Think about the significance of charlatans like Carlos Castaneda and Jamake Highwater and Mary Summer Rain and Lynn Andrews churning out "Indian" bestsellers one after the other, while Indians typically can't get into print.

Think about the real situation of American Indians. Think about Julius Streicher. Remember Justice Jackson's admonition. Understand that the treatment of Indians in American popular culture is not "cute" or "amusing," or just "good, clean fun."

Know that it causes real pain and real suffering to real people. Know that it threatens our very survival. And know that this is just as much a crime against humanity as anything the Nazis ever did. It is likely the indigenous people of the United States will never demand that those guilty of such criminal activity be punished for their deeds. But the least we have to expect - indeed to demand is that such practices finally be brought to a halt.

