S. African blames outsiders

HILARY M. LOUW

READER'S REPLY

In response to the Viewpoints article by Jennifer S. Whitaker on July 31, I maintain that if South Africa is burning it is because there is too much fiddling by too many people in this country who are in no position to judge South Africa.

The violence in South Africa is not due to President Reagan's policy of friendly persuasion — it is due to interference by the United States and other countries meddling in the affairs of South Africa. The blacks are not "turning out" for funerals — thousands are being intimidated by teen-age hooligans to attend, to put on a good show for the media.

To refer to South Africa as the "blacks' country" is ridiculous. Ms. Whitaker and others should study South African history. They would learn that when the Dutch settled in the Cape in 1652, there were no blacks there, only Hottentots and Bushmen, both nomadic tribes. The ancestors of the blacks now living in South Africa came down from the north in the 18th century.

Young blacks are indeed responsible for violence in the country. They are influenced by agitators who are trained by the Soviets and other Eastern bloc countries and are told to create unrest.

It is impertinent indeed to refer to "Mr. & Mrs. Middle-of-the-Road Black" in South Africa as collaborators. These are the people who want to get on with their lives in a peaceful manner, and are the backbone of the black community.

The South African government is more than willing to discuss problems and negotiate with credible black leaders. Nelson Mandela is not a credible leader. He is a member of the African National Congress, a terrorist organization, and was jailed for his murderous, violent ideals. The government offered to release him months ago, but he is still dedicated to violence. He is remembered by blacks in South Africa only because of constant irresponsible media focus outside South Africa.

Why should the South Africans hand over power to the blacks. Since the "winds of change," millions of blacks in so-called independent Africa have suffered at the hands of their black rulers. Blacks in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia would welcome back with open arms the fairer government of Ian Smith, and are being murdered for openly saying so.

It is not surprising the French government has proposed sanctions and recalled it's ambassador to South Africa. France is governed by Socialists with pro-Communist leanings. I doubt whether the public and more especially the business leaders agree with their government's actions.

As a matter of interest, there are more black policemen than white in the South African police force. Another fact the media fail to make clear is that South Africa does not have a national guard and therefore the South African Defense Force is called in to assist the police to control orchestrated violence. The defense force, navy and air force are, by the way, "integrated."

"Apartheid" is an Afrikaans word — translated it means segregation. Since Americans do not speak Afrikaans, it would make better sense if they used the English translation. I am a South African and proud of it. My ancestors were British and settled in South Africa in the 19th century. I know my ancestors did not kill Africans on sight, nor did they steal land from them — the Dutch, German and French settlers were not guilty of this either. Had our ancestors followed the example of the U.S. pioneers, we too would have only a small "native" problem.

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