

CIA

(Continued from Page 13) deaths and destruction can't go over too well with them.

It makes as much sense for Muslims to buy that line today as it would have been for us to have bought Bull Connors's line that Martin Luther King was responsible for his use of fire hoses and dogs against the April 1963 peaceful school children marchers in Birmingham.

The whole world saw the television and still pictures of the breakup of that peaceful march by police who used dogs and batons and firemen with 100 pounds per square inch fire hoses rolling kids down the street.

They made President Kennedy's administration worry about the impact those

images were having on this country's overseas image and brought prominent Blacks on the sidelines into the Movement for good.

A picture is worth a thousand words. Pictures worked for the Movement in the 50s and 60s and our Afghanistan war is making pictures work for the radical Muslims. When there is a conflict between what is told and what is seen, seeing wins out.

In response to the horrific World Trade Center and Pentagon disasters it would have been better if the administration had followed an Israeli action that we had officially deplored.

Israel has adopted a policy of going after and assassinating Palestinian organization

leaders who are responsible for planning or executing terrorist actions against them.

That action is deplored but it certainly limits the unintended negative consequences of retaliation against terrorist actions.

Only a limited number of innocent lives are lost and there is no destruction of uninvolved property.

For such an action, the Central Intelligence Agency should be the lead agency and their directions should be to "go and find and eliminate (on the spot, if necessary) Osama bin Laden, his key associates, and others that had a prime role in the terrorist actions against this country."

Furthermore, that should

be a standing order for the CIA.

They are to go to any country and find and eliminate-on the spot, if necessary-those who plan or conduct terrorist actions against us both within and without this country's borders.

Of course, such a policy would be condemned both within and without this country. I don't like it myself.

However, that type of action where few innocent poor people are victims is head and shoulders above war on an ephemeral organization in a country that is a country in name only.

We are seeing the results of that approach. In the long term, it is creating more problems than solving.

Population

(Continued from Page 16)

to global warming and its severe environmental and social consequences.

The atmosphere is expected to heat up by as much as 5.8 degrees Celsius, while sea levels will rise by about half a meter over the this century.

Since 1900, industrialization has introduced almost 100,000 chemicals into the environment and most of these have not been studied for their health hazards, the report says.

Even so, it says solutions to the intricate relationship between population, development and environment are easy to meet in a world that boasts a \$30 trillion million economy, given the necessary political will and leadership.

All that is required is the implementation of agreed actions to reduce poverty, empower women and promote social development, it says.

It says the World Summit on Sustainable Development taking place in Johannesburg next year presents an excellent opportunity to resolve the contradictions between population, development and environment.

Cipro

(Continued from Page 13)

have successfully slowed efforts to expand generic production and even blocked setting up an international database that would allow governments and patients to compare prices.

As trade negotiators meet this week in Qatar, the U.S. should heed the lessons of the anthrax outbreak, which has brought home the necessity of having affordable drugs available.

Developing countries have proposed a joint declaration for the summit, stating that nothing in existing trade agreements

"shall prevent members from taking measures to protect public health." The U.S. is blocking the declaration, with European countries, necessary to defend public health and human security. The U.S. needs to change its stance.

We should listen to these countries and pledge to do what is right whether the threat be from bio-terrorism or from AIDS.

Salih Booker is the executive director of Africa Action (www.africapolicy.org), the oldest U.S.-based Africa advocacy group, with offices in New York City and Washington, D.C.

Tragedy

(Continued from Page 12)

come a shock to economic demand.

Because of the House of Representatives' folly in passing a bill which favored the wealthy and corporations at the expense of those in the greatest need, it's now up to the Senate to lead Congress back to reality.

That means, among other things, temporarily altering provisions of the welfare law for the duration of the official recession, such as shelving the time-limits deadline for those on the welfare rolls and, in order to avoid processing new claims, not charging states interest if they need to borrow to fill their

contingency funds.

It also means restoring full access to the safety net for legal immigrants and easing access to Food Stamps for those who need them.

There are other things Congress could do as well to produce an economic stimulus package that gets help fast to the growing millions of Americans who need it.

Equally important, such action on the home front would send a resounding signal that, amid all the rhetoric of patriotism and unity, our leaders understand that actions speak louder than words.



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