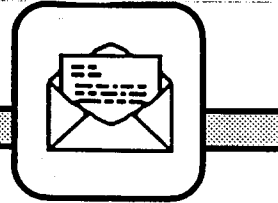


## Guest View



# Big buzz, with little sting

By Albert Woodson  
Contributing Writer

As a young boy growing up in Nelson County, I soon learned that if you whack a hornet's nest with a stick, you greatly increase your chances of getting stung. My article "Chatter from the Left" (The Recorder, July 22), was apparently a verbal caning of the liberal bias and brought forth a big buzzing response from irate liberals, with little or no sting. You can't hunt bear with a peashooter. I can handle criticism, I'm an old sea-dawg with a tough hide, and I've been savaged by experts!

My critics, John Hutchinson and Alan Ash, both avoid addressing the issues I set forth in my article but instead they did what liberals do, avoided any discussion of substance. They didn't like the message, so they attacked the messenger and, like most liberals, unable to address the issues with any argument of merit, they resorted to flimsy and meaningless protestations.

Hutchinson's analysis, "Can the Right claim Jefferson?" (The Recorder, July 29), rambles all over the place — he quotes Seltzer, with whom I disagree; he quotes me, with whom I agree; and he goes on to quote Oliver North, George Mason and Tho-

mas Jefferson, with all of whom I agree.

Hutchinson then goes on to launch a tirade against North and the "new" Republican party, none of which makes any sense. He goes from North's stump speeches to an Ollie takeover of the country and elimination of the Constitution; an astounding leap in logic, even for a liberal! Hutchinson may have one good idea, however, that of "storming the Capitol now!"

Ash, in his letter to the editor (The Recorder, July 29), is honest and straightforward; he starts throwing stones right away. I'm perplexed however, about his remarks about "freedom fighters and guerillas." Does he infer that guerillas could not possibly fight for freedom or does he mean that the "Contra Freedom Fighters" were the bad guys and the "Sandinista Communists" were the good guys? It's just my guess, of course, but I think he means just that.

When Daniel Ortega established the communist dictatorship in Nicaragua (with the help and aid of President Carter and members of the U.S. Congress), he promptly shut down the Catholic radio, censored "La Prensa," the country's largest newspaper, established a secret police and began seizing private prop-

erty, killing, jailing and exiling his opponents. Some good guys!

The "Contras" were not exactly "Lilly White" either and came in for a number of unproved accusations of rape and pillage, but they stood and fought for freedom and won!

Ash is right about one thing — there is a "sucker born every minute," just ask anyone who voted for President Clinton (and her husband) in the last presidential election!

I have a confession to make, after much reflection, I think I came down too hard on "compromise." To eliminate it is just not realistic, but it's just upsetting to see Republican lawmakers who express total opposition to this-or-that law only to compromise with the opposition if the law is phased in over a period of four or five years. To me that's not compromise but, a cave-in. And too, it's somewhat frustrating to observe "moderate" Republicans who are just too timid to be bold. When I was growing up I remember my mother saying to me, "If you just practice humility, patience and moderation, you will do well in life." I wasn't much on humility and patience, but did pretty good in moderation. I did my school work in moderation; I did my homework in moderation

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and when I got my first job, at 14, I worked in moderation. It wasn't until I joined the military, that I was jolted out of the moderation mode and shifted into a "do your best" mode; therefore, I'll stick with my opposition to moderation.

In addition to Ash and Hutchinson, I'm sure there are other liberals out there who also missed the point of "Chatter from the Left." To all, I will again explain. The point was about the moral decay in America. The liberal intelligentsia, who dominate the media and academia, embrace the doctrine of utilitarianism like it's something wonderful. In my view, it's the liberal recipe and excuse for all kinds of immoral actions from sexual deviation to oppressive controls and excessive government under the guise of creating the "greatest happiness for the greatest number."

The results of implementation are more permissiveness, more crime, more illegitimate births, more abortions, more divorces, more sexual deviation, more children living in single parent homes and more welfare programs, a higher national debt and higher taxes. All borne on the backs of taxpayers at the bottom of the "power-chain." The real crime is that we have allowed our situation to reach this point — our injury is self-inflicted! Our moral beliefs, our behavior, our self-expression, our personal choices and our self-control we've allowed to be changed for the worse, all at the constant urging and influence of the Left.

The good news is that we, as a self-governing society, can turn this around. We should be concerned about the incredible police power of the federal government and its policies of property confiscation, shutdowns of free enterprises and elimination of personal privacy and liberty. We should seek a strong presence of

moral and family values, smaller government, lower taxes, greater individual freedom and restoration of "honest" government. That's what I meant by a "new foundation."

Hutchinson did say something in his article that I really did like; he created a new label "The New Republican Party." That inspires me to create more. In Virginia, we now have the "New Republican Party" of George Allen, Bob Goodlatte and North, winners all! We also have the "Socialist Democratic Party" of Clinton and Chuck Robb, womanizers both; the "Royal Independent Party" of feudal lords John Warner and G. Marshall Coleman, turncoats both; and the "Peoples Republic Independent Party" of Doug Wilder, ultimate single ego. What choices we have! Archie Bunker would be proud!

The natural rights of man, God's gift, still lives as a beacon of moral guidance for all mankind. The last I heard the Constitution was safe and Jefferson was resting peacefully at Monticello, not stolen by the Right or Left. Readers may have noticed that so far in this piece I've only quoted my mother, therefore, I feel I'm entitled to one more quote. Here it is:

"To fully acknowledge your contributions to our country would be extremely difficult even for those who know you well, because your own standards of conduct and performance are higher than those which others apply. You are a man who has devoted your life in the most unselfish manner to building our nation. As a heroic soldier in the field, as a military planner and as an aide to me on some of the most important issues of our time, you have proven yourself to be an outstanding American patriot."

The author: President Ronald Reagan to Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, The White House, Nov. 4, 1985.

What's that buzzing sound I hear?