

## Black ministers tell the *Post*: 'Repent!'

by Don Baier

A consensus may well be developing that the U.S. capital would be a great deal better off without that beacon of liberal journalism, the *Washington Post*. It was only last December that Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger accused the *Post* of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy," matching the definition of treason provided by the U.S. Constitution, after the newspaper sought to create an uproar about "militarization of space" by leaking classified material on the Space Shuttle mission. Now a group of black ministers and others, led by Rev. Cleveland Sparrow of the Schiller Institute, has convened what they promise will be a weekly picket line outside the *Post*'s offices, which began Jan. 23.

"D.C. isn't Katie Graham's plantation; Bury the *Post* and save the nation," they chanted. "What newspaper does Moscow like most? It's not *Pravda*, it's the *Washington Post*."

### **Post censors King Day rally**

Reverend Sparrow and his associates are furious that the *Washington Post* completely blacked out all mention of the Schiller Institute's 10,000-person march and demonstration Jan. 15, which appealed to President Reagan for emergency food and economic development assistance to Africa, and a "crash program" approach to realizing his beam defense anti-missile policy to maximize jobs and production.

"This rally of approximately 10,000 people was by far the largest Martin Luther King Day rally in the nation," Reverend Sparrow pointed out—more than 12 times bigger than rallies staged by Jesse Jackson and Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry, lavishly publicized in the *Post* and other liberal national media, and in Jackson's case generously funded by networks of the Anti-Defamation League. The theme of the Schiller Institute rally was making the Inalienable Rights of Man proclaimed in the U.S. Declaration of Independence a living reality for all mankind. "The fact that the *Washington Post*, *New York Times* and the other media chose to totally black out this historic event can only be likened to the press censorship imposed in Nazi Germany or Soviet Russia," said Reverend Sparrow.

Moreover, Reverend Sparrow added, "The *Washington Post*, knowing it would black out the march, printed a 15,000-word slander of the Schiller Institute immediately before the

march. NBC crews filmed the entire six-hour march and rally, stating all the while that they had no intention of airing the footage on the evening news." The *Post* threw most of its mud at *EIR* founder and Contributing Editor Lyndon LaRouche and his wife Helga, the founder of the Schiller Institute, in what it more or less frankly admitted was a journalistic hatchet job ordered to destroy any policy influence the LaRouches might have on the Reagan administration.

Reverend Sparrow and his fellow picketers report they are currently circulating an Open Letter to President Reagan, members of Congress, and the Federal Communications Commission to "take appropriate action" in response to the *Post*'s yellow journalism.

### **Into the streets**

Meanwhile, they have taken to the streets. On the Jan. 23 picket line, Reverend Sparrow addressed *Post* employees and residents of the district with a fire-and-brimstone sermon on the bullhorn, urging the newspaper to repent its evil ways. Noting a point which has frequently occurred to others, Reverend Sparrow observed that the *Post* became truly enthusiastic about Dr. Martin Luther King only after he was assassinated.

Rally participants also hit the *Post*'s complicity in African genocide. Given its unswerving support of the International Monetary Fund and U.S. State Department policy of restricting the continent's economic development, the *Post*'s appetite for mass murder is a matter of record. The *Post* was also chastised for its record in support of Nazi euthanasia of the elderly and its liberal pro-drug record.

Reverend Sparrow, chairman of the D.C. chapter of the Moral Majority, was joined by Rev. George Gary, pastor of the All Nations Baptist Church, Washington, D.C., who frequently punctuated his sentences by pointing toward the *Post* offices, shouting "Shame, Shame, Shame!"

*Post* employees seemed somewhat disconcerted by a pile of decaying matter in the middle of the street bearing a sign identifying it as "Washington Compost." A bumper sticker appeared and was distributed to passersby, bearing a drawing of the same stinking pile, and the legend "The Washington Compost—bury it!"

Reverends Sparrow and Gary called on "all concerned citizens and honest media to join our effort to break the censorship. Proclaim the truth regarding the movement for the Inalienable Rights of Man!"

Reverend Gary was asked if the *Post* could avoid further embarrassment by a change in policy.

"I will call off the dogs," he said, "if the *Post* will repent and print coverage of the Schiller Institute."

No *Washington Post* reporter would admit to covering the picket line. However, a lurking photographer snapped pictures, while a decrepit, filthy derelict, with matted hair and a crutch, was observed taking copious notes.