

Unity With One Purpose – to Protect the Nation

by Janet Jagan

What are we to make of the awful happenings in Guyana? They are so horrible that, like the frequent crazy shootings in US Universities, they hit the international TV media, like BBC and CNN as freakish events that make them newsworthy.

The mindless killings are freakish; they are way out of the normal behaviour of murderers who kill for a reason – hit men in the Mafia, brutal thieves, mentally sick killers, sexual maniacs or perverts, revenge in love or money or drug matters, and so on.

Guyana's murderers must have a reason for their cold blooded killings. There is now a long list to prove their lust for blood and total indifference to human suffering. PPP General Secretary Donald Ramotar has said these killings are intended to engender terror and fear in our society.

There are a few people who dare to put forward

monstrous reasons like a guerilla movement based on "marginalization" of the Black community. That reason, pushed by unrepentant racists and their vile media backers, is just "way out" and does not deal with reality.

However, the problem we face on the sham allegation of marginalization is the word "perception", which is what the wayward and dangerous media engage in. One reads too many deliberate letters acting on this divisive subject which plays a role in some of the horrendous incidents that have caused so much pain to the nation as a whole and so much misery to those who suffer the losses arising from the killings.

The reality is that there is no "marginalization" in Guyana. The great strides in social reforms have brought relief to a large percentage of the populations and relate's in no way to advantages for one race or not being spread evenly.

I challenge anyone making those charges to visit

1) Our medical institutions where care givers and patients comprise all races in Guyana (2) Our schools and our University, where the teachers and the students comprise all races of the nation (3) Our housing schemes, which, unlike the

USA, are made up of a mixture of races on a fair basis. For that matter, the US school system still remains segregated (4) Employment. It would take a madman to say that Afro Guyanese are discriminated in this area. In all the PPP/C efforts in social development, from the top to the lowest levels, there is an equitable placement of all

racial groups.

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The lords of the dysfunctional and hate-driven media always warn – don't go into the past. But



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the past sometimes holds the clues to the present mysteries. In the book "US Intervention in British Guiana – A Cold War Story" by Stephen G. Robe, the author concludes his examination of the 60's with these words:

"Although scholarly concerns are important to address, the significant issue to reflect on is the consequences of US intervention in British Guiana. In Arthur Schlesinger Jr's words, a "great injustice was done to Cheddi Jagan." The injustices included destroying a popularly elected government, undermining democratic

electoral procedures, wrecking the economy of a poor nation, and inciting racial warfare. Forbes Burnham embraced by the United States made Guyana a dangerous, brutal place and a daily nightmare for the majority Indian population. Guyana remains a devastated country with a racially polarized population. In contemporary terms, Guyana might be dubbed "collateral damage," the sad but inevitable consequence that ensues in the fog of war".

The book, published in 2005 by a professor of history at the University of Texas, could be explaining the framework of today's agony in Guyana.

What is needed now in Guyana is a form of unity of one purpose – to bring the nation together to get rid of the dangers that face every citizen. What is also needed is for the media to stop its divisive operations and behave like medias in all countries when a nation is under siege!