Founder-Editor: Late S. M. Ali

Dhaka, Tuesday, May 19, 1998

Run-up to SAARC Summit

The SAARC summit scheduled for July in Colombo may have been predisposed to postponement, if not cancellation, as a repercussion of India's nuclear tests. An apprehension like this is building up in some SAARC capitals. This has been basically triggered by Indian press reports that intelligence agencies could advise Vajpayee against travelling to Colombo for the summit. But host Sri Lanka is going ahead with the preparations hoping that further escalation of tension would be averted to clear the course for the summit.

There is little doubt that India's underground atomic explosions have bred the frightful prospects for Pakistan to follow suit. A nuclear arms race is a palpable possibility on the very soil of South Asia which only in 1985 got wedded to SAARC as healthy underpinnings for durable peace and cooperation in the region. The fear is that even China might be pulled into the vortex of

extended nuclear rivalries.

Even though the SAARC's cycle of summitry had once received a setback from the demolition of Babri Mosque it survived the jolt in record short time to prove its resilience. The challenge facing it is bigger now being that of nuclear belligerence but this is all the more reason why we believe the SAARC summit should be held on time in Colombo. In fact, we would have liked an emergency meeting of SAARC on a nearer date to head off all the fallout that threaten to put the SAARC's cooperation agenda in jeopardy. Could we have a provision in the SAARC charter to cover such a contingency which might keep arising out of increasing volatility in the regional political environment?

Sri Lanka for sure will not spare any effort to beef up Vajpayee's security at the summit, specially when the rule is if any one member of SAARC fails to attend it the summit cannot take place. As and when the Indian PM goes to the summit he will be expected to deliberate on how, in spite of the nuclear tests, cooperation within SAARC could remain unaffected and be advanced. Let him also hear out other SAARC members on the question so that the new bull that has apparently entered the china shop is caught by the horn.

We want the Colombo summit to be held not only as scheduled but also to be unspoiled by an all-out verbal warfare between India and Pakistan. We need to urgently work out a collective position for the WTO negotiations and make SAFTA into a reality by 2001 AD.

The Maiden Win

We are delighted. After 21 abortive attempts, Bangladesh have finally landed their first victory in one day international cricket. Our hearty congratulations to the players, coach, manager and officials. Their collective labour, single-mindedness have finally blossomed in the shape of a memorable maiden victory. What is remarkable they have done it with so much panache and élan.

With man of the match Rafiq and Athar laying a perfect foundation and the middle order showing no unnecessary bout of nerves, Bangladesh really made light work of their arch-rivals Kenya . Victory target of 236 was achieved with over two overs to spare and six wickets in hand. In fact it was a cakewalk for Bangladesh on Sunday night. What gladdens our heart most is that at last Bangladesh's performance seems to have been characterised by a degree of consistency. What the cricketers had gained in the match against India in the Independence Cup in Dhaka barring a highly deflated performance in the next match against Pakistan, served as a benchmark for a refreshing return against India the other day at Mohali. Bangladesh were defeated but not disgraced. They lost but not without a fight. Against Kenya, they started from where they had left off. It was such a thoroughly mature, professional piece of performance that more than once it seemed Bangladesh as a team has outgrown the need of proving their mettle against rivals like Kenya.

This is where we need to pull the brakes and take a few things into consideration. One day cricket is basically a day's performance. The fact that we beat Kenya on May 17, 1998 to open our account of wins in one day internationals is only a statistical landmark. We have to go out there every time and prove it over and again. An inspired Kenya, for that matter any team with razor sharp fielding and an attitude, could have stretched Bangladesh to their limits. We are sure Mr Greenidge has the right mixture of experience and intelligence to keep our players relentlessly focused on these things. At a time when the world is warming up to a new spate of arms race and life appears a monotonous exercise in the no-go reality of home front, the victory has come as a fresh whiff of soothing and soul stirring breeze. We look forward wistfully to more such whiffs of fresh air.

We are Aghast

It has been a year since the government committed itself to the treatment and social rehabilitation of nine acid burn victims in a workshop arranged by Naripakkho — a women's rights organisation but nothing as a national daily reported recently, has been done so far. And from signs available those promises will remain as pie in the sky for this unfortunate nine. While one of the group gives voluntary service to the organisation that assembled them, the rest with the exception of one, are rotting in social isolation.

More often than not there are donkey's years between a government decision and its implementation. But this beats all other instances of procrastination for its sheer cruelty and insensitivity. Apparently there was nothing wrong with the initiative. The decision was promptly taken. Even the foreign agency to fund the project was not elusive. But nothing happened. So what went wrong?

Reportedly the original project underwent some 'strategic considerations' and although mouthful of provisions were incorporated in it, the more important thing — the coordinated effort for timely implementation of the decision — got lost.

This is most unfortunate. Not only the treatment and rehabilitation of these girls have been inordinately delayed but also those who had committed these monstrous crimes against them are roaming freely as hardly anything has been done to bring them to book. We feel the authorities are sending wrong signals to the victims as well as criminals. We urge them to take stock of the situation and do whatever it takes to make sure that not only those nine girls but all the acid burn victims get proper treatment and are socially rehabilitated sooner than later.

India's Nuclear Tests

The sad truth is that an arms race has already commenced and the chill of a regional cold war now blows across us. It would seem that in view of this, India's chances of occupying a permanent seat in the Security Council would have substantially receded.

time of its occurrence. My reaction to India's recent nuand embarrassment, albeit at a personal level.

Indian authorities and yet these

have immeasurably polluted

the subcontinental atmosphere.

Even on the ground, there are

now reports of strange illnesses

occurring among many in the

poor little miserable hamlet of

Pokhran, where the tests were

there were times when one saw

genuine possibilities of cooper-

ation developing in the region.

The nuclear tests prove that

this was but a mirage. Gone

with the blast winds are imme-

diate possibilities of developing

any meaningful SAARC pro-

grammes, subregional coopera-

tion and common strategies for

poverty alleviation. These con-

clusions may sound stark but

ated by the Pokhran tests.

such indeed is the situation cre-

need for these tests. India has

been in the state of nuclear pre-

paredness for quite a while. The

previous Indian governments

had stopped short of conducting

the tests in consideration of not

And yet there was no real

Before there horrid tests.

conducted.

clear tests was that of sorrow and embarrassment. This de-At the regional level, one has serves an explanation. to state that India's nuclear I was in Washington and had tests have created fresh uncerjust finished attending an intainties and distrust. These ternational conference on have triggered off an unbridled Women's Education and Develnuclear arms race that may opment, when the news of the prove to be disastrous, not only tests came through. The conferin terms of potential physical ence held in the newly-built destruction in the event of a imposing Ronald Reagan Interconflict, but also in ways more national Trade Centre had been real than apparent, in slowing jointly sponsored by USAID, down the process of overall UNICEF and Inter American human and infrastructural de-Development Bank and was atvelopment. tended by about 500 delegates The underground tests from the US and 40 other counvielded no radiation, claim the

dia. Pakistan and Bangladesh. The Chairperson of the Conference was the US First Lady Hillary Clinton who delivered an eloquent address there, noting, interalia, the efforts being made in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan to promote women's education. But there were sombre statistics galore in circulation at the conference on the state of women's education in the South Asian subcontinent with only 36 per cent women's literacy and the projection that the turn of the century will find 250 million illiterate adult

tries, including those from In-

UR instant reaction to a

major incident can be

influenced by the

circumstances we are in, at the

women in that region. This made India, Pakistan and Bangladesh constitute the most illiterate region in the world. In the conference, we were in the same camp, as it were, in our fight against illiteracy, our common enemy.

The nuclear tests came with the shocking realization, even as the conference dispersed, that in reality our camps were different. Hence the sadness

commencing open and unbridled nuclear race in this region. The BJP-led Indian government has chosen to ignore that consideration, and has now dragged, what lately had seemed like a reluctant China, into the

Pakistan's reaction is of course not far to seek. The Nawaz Sharif government will be tempted to yield to the growing public pressure to follow suit. The United States and the West will, in varying degrees, use the threat of sanctions to dissuade Pakistan form doing

lead a Coalition, but what with Jaylalita and other problems, not quite firmly on the saddle. In order to keep the coalition together the BJP has had to put away its election manifesto in the drawer and be content with a National Agenda for Governance drawn up with the advice and consent of the coalition

partners. It is now known that within three weeks of coming to power. Prime Minister Vajpayee gave the green signal for the tests. The BJP must have judged that the nuclear blasts will further



Frankly Speaking...

by Faruq Choudhury

so. It will be for the Nawaz Sharif government to weigh all the pros and cons. Be that as it may, the sad truth is that an arms race has already commenced and the chill of a regional cold war now blows across us. It would seem that in view of this, India's chances of occupying a permanent seat in the Security Council would have substantially receded.

India has chosen to ignore world reaction against the tests, and media reports indicate that the outpourings of the joy of the Indian public remain unabated One must here note the timing of the Indian tests. The postelection scenario saw the BJP

fan the nationalistic passions of the populace and will at once find popularity. Human history is replete with instances of strident nationalism finding quick favour with the masses.

In the earlier part of the century we have seen this tragically happen in Europe and in the latter, in our region. The spine-chilling fear now of course is that in certain situations, in the language of the Indian Prime Minister, there will be no hesitation in using missiles with nuclear war-heads.

Riding on the crest of a popular wave the BJP may, at a time of its choosing, go again to the Indian electorate to seek a fresh

mandate. Fresh elections may indeed give the BJP and the al lies the single majority they so dearly pine for. In that event the BJP manifesto can be pulled out of the drawer and given a free run, that the BJP and their allies hope, will take the Indian nation towards the concept of 'Sanatana Dharma' which, as the BJP manifesto says 'is synonymous with Indian national-

The decision by the Indian government to go for the tests should not be viewed as having been taken in isolation. It is in fact the outcome of a thought process that has been clearly spelt out in the BJP manifesto. The manifesto states that the 'fivefold concept of 'Suchita' (probity in public life), Suraksha' (Security). Swadeshi' (economic nationalism), 'Samajik samarasata' (social harmony) and 'Hinduvta' (Cultural nationalism) will constitute the core content and ideological pillars of the BJP". Viewed in this context, the series of nuclear tests only strengthen the 'Suraksha' or the Security pillars of the BJP's ideological pentagon.

The BJP manifesto mentions about the military expansion and modernization by. 'some of our neighbours' (that is. China and Pakistan) and the growing pressure and power of foreign navies in the Indian Ocean' (that of course includes the Bay of Bengal). "These" declares the manifesto, "must be neutralised". BJP therefore is "committed to", "re-evaluate the country's nuclear policy and exercise the option to induct nuclear weapons", "to expedite the development of the Agni series of ballistic missiles with a view to increasing their range and accuracy" and among taking other steps, "to enhance the traditional and technical capabilities of our external intelligence"

The Pokhran nuclear tests are therefore the outcome of a philosophy and thought process that may substantially alter the political and security landscape of our region. It is too early to hope, that India and Pakistan will now sit down at the table and quietly sign the NPJ and CTBT. Things may indeed get

worse before they get any better. This situation brings up new challenges for Bangladesh's policy makers. Our first task is to ensure that the new situation does not, in any way, impinge upon our freedom of action, security, independence and sovereignty. Second, we must ensure that the pace of our own development does not slacken due to all the nuclear excitement around us. Third, ever since its birth, Bangladesh has tried to play a constructive and positive regional role.

Our contribution to the "wind of change" that had been blowing in our area had been considerable. Bangladesh has all along pleaded for a nuclearfree zone in South Asia and the Indian Ocean. This has now been irretrievably lost. Moreover. China, which in the recent past had been apparently taking a somewhat detached view of the subcontinent, has now been drawn in. This has brought about a change in the geo-political scenario. Pokhran tests have no doubt put the clock of cooperation back. It is in our interest now to try and see that it nevertheless ticks on.

An Apology would Improve Our Relationship with Pakistan

by Abdul Hannan

The International Criminal Court, expected to be set up at the forthcoming UN conference on crime in June in

Rome, will be the most right forum to raise the issue of atrocities by Pakistan Army. Meanwhile, Bangladesh

should make necessary preparations to frame a charge sheet against the listed accused. The Government

ANGLADESH High Commissioner in Pakistan was recently summoned to Pakistan Foreign Office and told about Pakistan's displeasure at what was described as 'anti Pakistan propaganda' in recent times and 'historical inaccuracy about the number of people killed and women violated by Pakistan occupation forces in Bangladesh in 1971. The reaction of Bangladesh was instant, forthright and robust. Pakistan High Commissioner in Bangladesh was summoned to the Foreign Office and told that

Bangladesh may forgive Islamabad if it sought apology for '71 genocide. The Foreign Office reiterated the number of casualties in the genocide. The leadership of our Foreign Office at the appropriate level deserves our thanks and appreciation for coming out with a bold and correct response — a welcome departure

from the hitherto weak-kneed, hesitant and inhibited foreign policy responses. It is clear, at 25 our diplomacy has come of age, grown in maturity and selfconfidence. It has opted for national pride, honour and selfinterest without being mired in the debate over conflicting claims of ethics and opportunism and real politic in diplomacy. In a similar vein in the recent past, the Foreign Secretary took up issues, short of a reprimand, with the local US Embassy over the propriety of addressing a Press conference in Dhaka to publicise a report by the US State Department on unsubstantiated charges of hu-

To revert back to the subject of discussion from digressing. there is no propaganda or historical inaccuracy about what happened in Bangladesh in 1971. While celebrating the anniversary of Bangladesh independence, the writings and reports about atrocities of Pakistan Army and the sufferings and sacrifice

man rights violations in

Bangladesh.

of people, were spontaneous outpourings of deep sorrow, anguish and frustration suppressed during the last 23 years. It was an occasion for catharsis and renewal to disburthen the tormenting trammels of trau matic experience and sad memories of 1971 and to gather strength to breath fresh life. What happened in 1971 in

East Pakistan was real. The senseless and savage killing of innocent civilians still haunts the memory of each and every individual who has survived the nightmare. There is not a single home or family which does not carry the deep scar of bereavement over the loss of a son or a daughter, husband or wife, father or a mother. People are still being haunted by the midnight knocks in homes in cities and countryside when intellectuals and students and innocent unarmed civilian men. women and children were taken out blindfold and handcuffed to death camps and ditches to be shot and killed.

The Mylai massacre of 600 north Vietnamese civilians which earned international notoriety pales into insignificance when compared with the Jinzira massacre of April 3. 1971 in which 2000 innocent civilians, mostly fleeing to the countryside from the blood curdling horrors of Dhaka city. were trapped, shot and killed as sitting ducks by trigger happy Pakistan army. Their only fault was they were Bengalees

despite being Pakistanis. Yet, these were not ordinary killings and murders but premeditated, organised and cold blooded massive human rights violations reminiscent of mass slaughter, carnage and genocide let loose by a xenophobic frenzy

owes it to surviving members of the victims of the crime. of racial hatred and extermination campaigns manifest in ethnic cleansing of Bosnian Muslims by the Serbs, Jewish holocaust in Nazi concentration camps, the Cambodian killing fields unleashed by the infamous Pol Pot and the genocide in Rwanda. About 6 million Jews perished in the holocaust, close to 2 million Cambodians were killed by the Khemer Rouge, about half a million Bosnian Muslims lost their lives in the hand of Ratco Mladic and Radovan Karadzic's Army, about a million were killed in Rwanda, 3 million people were killed and two thousand women were violated in East Pakistan. There is no historical inaccuracy about

The defenders and perpetrators of the crimes will continue to dispute about the accuracy of the numbers. The sterile debate about the number will go on and on and is pointless. But what is certain and beyond dispute and admitted universally is that these were all cases of wanton genocide. The perpetrators committed the most heinous crime against humanity.

What happened in 1971 in East Pakistan was a horrendous crime. It was appalling. The atrocities and misdeeds of the Pakistan Army will not go away by leveling them as a mere propaganda or inaccurate. The consequences remain. It is important for the descendants of the victims of the crime to hear an expression of genuine regret. The Pakistan authorities should break their silence about the ignominious role of Pakistan Army and not touch the raw nerve and festering wounds of the relatives of the victims by denying the crime

They have a shared responsibility to make amends for the past by apologising to Bangladesh. They must not shy away from looking facts in the face if they want to see the demons of their past and the ghost of their guilt

Well placed Pakistan leaders including Prime Minister Newaz Sharif, former President Ziaul Haq and Air Marshall Asghar Khan have made makeshift, half-hearted and feeble references about the role of Pakistan Army but fell short of unequivocal and categorical re-

Yet there is nothing belittling in expressing regret and apology for past follies and misdeeds. Many important leaders and countries have expressed regrets and apology for dishonourable chapters of their past history. Germany has apologised for the holocaust of Jews by the Nazis. The Japanese Prime Minister in 1995 publicly apologised for excesses committed by the Japanese Army during the Second World War. President Clinton in course of his recent visit to African countries expressed regret over the black slave trade, mollycoddling of some African dictators and for not doing enough to stop Rwandan genocide. President Jack Chirac of France did something similar when in 1995 he acknowledged France's role in the deportation and murder of country's Jews during the second world war. Last year Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed regrets over British role in the Irish potato famine of the mid 19th century The Vatican report recently approved by Pope Paul II at last recognised the historic guilt of the Catholic church for the

spread of anti-semitism in Europe. The regrets and expression of apology have not diminished their stature or authority but have enhanced their image and prestige and shown the breadth of their vision. Recognition of their guilt was recognition of the magnificence of humanity. Repentance and an apology by Pakistan will improve and deepen the bilateral relation, help her come to terms with its past and achieve atonement for its guilt. Pakistan, without prevaricating, should make a meaningful apology.

While a public apology may help reconciliation between the two countries, it is doubtful if it will provide solace and comfort to the bereaved families and heal wounds of their personal tragedies unless the perpetrators of the crime are brought to justice. There is deep shock and frustration that the perpetrators who had been able to commit the most heinous crime against humanity were allowed to go scot free as the national criminal jurisdiction was unable to prosecute and punish the offenders. The relatives of the victims were denied of any sense of justice done to them.

Crimes such as genocide, torture and rape are concerns of the world community and not just the only country immediately affected. Since Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes Tribunal after World War II, the UN Security Council set up adhoc crime tribunals to investigate and prosecute crimes committed in

Bosnia and Rwanda. The full truth about the atrocities in East Pakistan in 1971 must be told and full justice dispensed with through an international tribunal. It is not too late. Only recently a career French civil servant Maurice Pappon at the age of 75 found accused of complicity in handing over Jews to Germans in occupied France was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. The International Criminal

Court, expected to be set up at the forthcoming UN conference on crime in June in Rome, will be the most right forum to raise the issue of atrocities by Pakistan Army. Meamwhile, Bangladesh should make necessary preparations to frame a charge sheet against the listed accused. The Government owes it to surviving members of the victims of the crime. General Niazi, the evil monster and the pack of his ugly cohorts including Rao Forman Ali and Pirzada and others who masterminded and executed the sinister blueprint to decimate and wipe out Bengalees from the face of East Pakistan are still at large and romping as self-styled authors rewriting at will the history of Bangladesh war. They should be held accountable for the crime and brought for trial in the proposed International Criminal Court. But do we have the political will to bring them to the course of justice? Would you believe it that Niazi's book 'Betrayal of East Pakistan' containing vulgar self righteousness and diabolical distortion of liberation war has a reprint in Bangladesh? What a cynical insensitivity? What profane disregard to the martyrs' memorial?

The author is a freelance journalist.

A reaction of the students

Sir, I am a 16-year-old boy. I was there at a press conference which was recently arranged by our fellow students on violation against women and children. It was my first experience of a press conference as well as their who participated directly. I thank the press who covered the conference. It was really nice of them to do so. It went pretty well. But I am sorry that something we did not relish and were

First let us start with our own faults. I know my friends were not that organized in answering the questions. We all got to understand that they were really new in this and never faced a press ever before. They were nervous and sometime confused during answering the questions asked by journalists and I think the well experienced press should have understood their position. But I am sorry to say that some of them did not and I think it was really wrong.

Do you think that someone from a section of the press should have made this comment at the beginning of the conference that "Do not speak in Gulshans' Bangla." I think it was not very encouraging one. And all of us were deeply shocked by this behaviour of our elders. Do you think it was

right of them? Then they asked, "Why did not you raise your voice against these things when Tania was violated." Let me ask you readers — when you are going by the road and see an accident do you react in the same way as when it happens to someone of your family. No I don't think you do.

However, our friends apologized about the fact that we did not react about Tania in the way we did for Shazneen. But it's normal human behaviour. I want to ask the press a simple question: what did you do as citizen of Bangladesh to protest these violent acts?

You wanted to pin us down in the press conference that we are doing it only for Shazneen. Do you think we are going to get her back doing this? We are doing it because we do not want anyone to be Shazneen or Tania to be headlined in the front page of your paper.

Aneek Rashed Khan Class: IX Group: I Scholastica, Dhaka

Hussain (A.S.), the greatest martyr of Islam

Sir, I thank you very much for publishing my above article in your esteemed daily. In his comments about my above article Mr S K S Islam has said that Hazrat Ali's nomination by our Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.M.) is not authenticated and all companions of the Holy Prophet (S.M.) are above criticism.

In this connection I request Mr Islam to go through the book of Moulana Abul Ala Moudoudi named Khilafat-o-Malukiat. Late Justice Syed Amir Ali's book The spirit of Islam , Dr Ajaz Hussain Jafri's book The . Tragedy of Karbala and Dr Syed Mohammad Tijani Samavi's book Pher Main Hidayat Pa Giya, as well as hundreds of Hadises written by great scholars and muhadesses.

I have a question to Mr Islam that if all the companions of our Holy Prophet (S.M.) are above criticism then for whom "Surah Monafiqun" was revealed by Allah the Almighty in the Holy Quran.

My write-up about Imam Hussain (A.S.) is absolutely based on historical facts. I did not mean to hurt anyone's feeling or sentiments at all. However, if someone is hurt, I sincerely regret for that because whatever I have written is based upon the books I have mentioned in this letter.

M M Faiz Shirazi 3/C Purana Paltan Dhaka-1000

Free economic zones

Sir, The government is trying hard to boost Foreign Direct Investment in our country by establishing EPZs and providing various kinds of facilities to the foreign investors thereof. But any positive response so far is yet to receive from their part.

The government can create Free Economic Zones in prospective areas like Chittagong, Dhaka and Mongla of Khulna district where the investors may invest freely without seeking permission to government agencies. For this purpose, the government can aguire land and hand over the same to the private entrepreneurs on demand. The foreign entrepreneurs will build up all infrastructural facilities in the zones. As it is a free economic zone the investors will freely import raw materials and export finished goods to other countries.

Moreover, a "Complain Cell" may be set up under BOI so that the foreigners can complain facing any problem in investment here.

Md Idris Ali Joarder Sub-Manager, Arab Bangladesh Bank Ltd., Satkhira Branch, Satkhira.

Gas! Gas!

Sir, The daily Indian Express of December 6, 1997 in its inside page dedicated to international news reporting, says that India will get gas from Bangladesh via Assam for which a 300-mile-long gas pipeline is at a progressive stage on the drawing board. This gas import will be economical for

Our patriotic politicians make us believe that we are floating on gas and we will gain immensely by exporting gas to India. If that is even true (knowledgeable people have contradicted it with logical and statistical arguments), may I as a very ordinary Bangalee (Bangladeshi?), ask why I should be paying for domestic gas at a further increased rate of

60 per cent? As a citizen of a country floating on gas I expect to be privileged by paying for gas at a very nominal rate or even getting it free of charge, just like some of the oil-rich Middle East countries, not collecting income tax, etc.

Zia Farazi East Nasirabad Chittagong

Buchwald's COLUMN

A Little of the Top

THEN the history of the Paula Jones case is written, it will be decided that one of the most important factors I didn't realize this until I was seated in a unisex

beauty parlour after Paula's lawsuit was thrown out, and Jerry Goelzer said, "Every woman Starr sub-poenaed was more concerned about her hair than her legal rights. I had three customers last week who pleaded, "Jerry, make me look like the grand jury will believe me.'

"I gave each of them a soft texture and a warm blond colour. One called me the next night and said a federal marshal had asked for a date. I was impressed. "You can't have justice if you don't have a

trustworthy hairdo. Jerry said, "That's how people decide guilt or innocence. Monica Lewinsky was in real hot water until she changed hair

stylists at the Watergate." A customer getting a shampoo said, "Someone really did a job on Linda Tripp. Everyone thought the mike was buried in her blow dry. But when she changed stylists we all started look-

ing for the tape under her elbow. Jerry said, "Every woman called in front of the grand jury knew her ordeal would take place either on the courtroom steps or her front lawn. They were aware that if they looked too sexy they would be criticized by the TV-viewing public. At the same

time, if they appeared too dowdy, no one would believe the president gave them a bad time. The manicure lady said, "That was Paula Jones' problem. She didn't know what to do with her hair, or even how to part it,

and that is why the judge threw the case out." I said. "I heard the reason for it is that she had so many people advising her on what to do with her tresses she could never get a straight. She should not have changed lawyers - she should have changed beauty salons.

Kathleen Willey's name came up. "Do you think she's telling the truth?" I asked. Jerry said, "She looked truthful on '60 Minutes," but if she goes on Barbara Walters I would take a bit off the top.

Even though Jones lost big. I think she has dramatized once and for all the importance of the right harido when attacking the president of the United States. They have a saying at Pepperdine Law School: "If someone combs her own hair before facing Starr grand jury, she has a fool for a hairdresser.

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