

# Comment

## The very best and worst of 1985

**J**oining the Oscar, Emmy, Actra, Juno Awards and the Nobel Prize, herewith the 1985 Margolis Awards for International Affairs:

Honors:

**CHARITY:** (1) The French group, Medecins Sans Frontieres, whose brave personnel are risking their lives in Afghanistan to treat that nation's bleeding people. A further award to them for having just been thrown out of Ethiopia for protesting against that country's forcing one million of its people into work camps.

(2) The dear old Salvation Army and the International Red Cross, both non-ideological, effective helpers of the suffering who don't spend most of their money on administration.

**POLITICAL GUTS:** (1) Ronald Reagan, for showing what leadership means by doing the unpopular but necessary; for saying no to liberal/left domestic pressure groups; for telling the Soviets to pull in their horns.

(2) Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of South Africa for daring to advocate black-white co-operation and sharing of power; and for denouncing violence and left-wing radicalism of other black movements.

**SAVING THEIR NATIONS:** A joint award to Presidents Alan Garcia of Peru and Raoul Alfonsin of Argentina. These two democratically elected statesmen inherited nations debauched by decades of fiscal and political madness. Garcia and Alfonsin, showing maturity, common sense and daring rare in Latin America, have averted disaster and restored their countries' fiscal, moral and political health.

**PEACEMAKERS:** To President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan and to PM Rajiv Gandhi of India for embracing and showing their oft-warring nations that peace can be achieved. A brave act by both statesmen.

Dishonors:

**BIGGEST BUTCHER:** Mr. Gorbachev's Red Army in Afghanistan for having created four million suffering refugees, for having waged a war of genocide against the Afghan people and for showering explosive toys on Afghan children.

**DISGRACE TO ISLAM:** (1) Imam Khomeini of Iran and President Hussein of Iraq for relentlessly refusing to make peace after five years of war, so causing the senseless deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iranians and Iraqis.

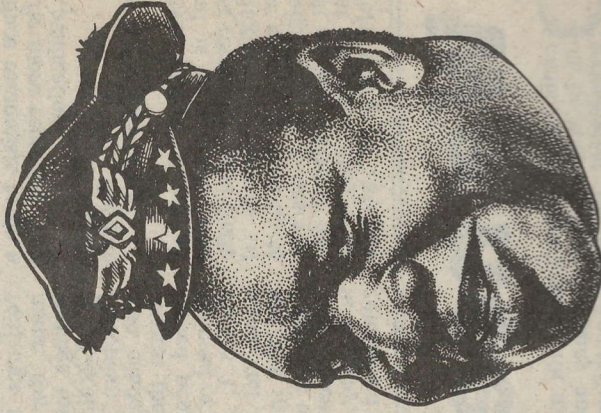
(2) Shame on immensely rich Saudi Arabia, the self-proclaimed champion of Islam, for not using some of its oil billions to provide blankets and food for four million



AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI



RONALD REAGAN



IDI AMIN



ERIC MARGOLIS

**BIGGEST HYPOCRITE:** The World Council of Churches for pious cant about the plight of black South Africans, for sending money to arm Marxist terrorist groups, while ignoring genocide and torture in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uganda and Cambodia.

**MOST LUDICROUS AWARD:** To the Nobel Prize Committee, that ever-left Norwegian group, for giving this year's prize to two doctors, one a misguided American liberal, the second, a Soviet party functionary, both working to further Soviet disarmament propaganda.

**MOST WRETCHED RULERS:** Uganda's ex-dictator, Milton Obote, for slaughtering hundreds of thousands of his miserable people; Liberia's President, Samuel K. Doe, for being horrible; Gen. Ne Win who has turned beautiful Burma into a socialist basket case; President Ceausescu for reducing Romanians to one 40-watt bulb per room and no heat; Vietnam's Politburo for keeping its nation a militarized prison camp; Lebanon's bloodthirsty tribal chiefs.

**MAKING AMENDS:** To irrepressible Idi Amin Dada for having his wife sewed up again after she was chopped into pieces by her lover.

starving Muslim Afghans. The Jews would never allow their people to starve.

**MOST CHUTZPAH:** Vice Premier Shamir of Israel for loudly denouncing "terrorists" and saying Israel would never negotiate with such people. This from the former head of the terrorist Stern Gang, whose men murdered hundreds of Arabs and Britons, blew up the King David Hotel and staged the Deir Yassin massacre.

**BIGGEST LIAR:** Farouk Khadoumi of the PLO for claiming that Leon Klinghoffer, murdered during the hijacking of the cruise ship *Achille Lauro*, was actually pushed over the side by his wife.