

# The Primary Source

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 3

TUFTS UNIVERSITY

MARCH 1988

## BLACK BY POPULAR DEMAND?

Micheal Flaherty A'90

Perhaps the most disappointing failure of the selfish and self-centered Sixties generation is that concerning race. The pseudo-brotherhood of the Sixties did not culminate in egalitarianism, but rather in black separation. This separatist attitude is painfully obvious on the Tufts campus, manifesting itself in organizations such as the heralded "Black Sophomore Class" and fraternities exclusively for "black" students. The racist malapropism "Black by Popular Demand" is perversely displayed on T-Shirts as if to challenge students who are not black.

The reason for such a pernicious attitude, according to black students, is to generate solidarity amongst themselves as well as to remind them of their identity. Such exclusionary tactics are a definite obstacle on the path to true human integration, indifference to race, color, and creed.

In a country which strives toward the ideal of common humanity, there is absolutely no justification for separatism of any type. Surely everyone should remember their ancestry, but they should be cautious not to stress their differences so seriously. They should regard their heritage as but one of the many that compose this nation, neither of which are any better than any other. They should think of themselves as an American First, and an individual of a certain "ethnicity" second.

Students should cease in identifying themselves in limiting adjectives such as "black." In a recent article in the Lincoln Review, Benjamin Alexander



criticizes this very term on the grounds that it is an improper and simply incorrect nomenclature:

No matter how the "cookie crumbles" there are no white or black people; we are all people of color since our physical differences are the result of environmental needs that (over millions of years) caused mutations or genetic changes, they do not provide us with an appropriate or scientifically correct rationale for calling ourselves black or white. Again, every American has melamin and melamin is color.

This is the focal point of Mr. Alexander's article, appropriately titled "Are We Black?" In this article he implores persons of color to refer to themselves as an "American of African heritage," rather than a

"black American." Mr. Alexander also reminds his audience that "Africans were not the first people to be enslaved; slavery was invented by white ethnic groups thousands of years ago, to enslave members of the white groups."

Mr. Alexander's insight reveals another important point: black people are certainly not the sole recipients of social injustices, slavery included. Because of this, they should not consider themselves unique in the fact that they have been historically discriminated against. Nor should they consider themselves more "eligible" for retroactive programs to compensate for previous injustices. Pro-

grams such as affirmative action do more than recognize the dangerous aspects of separatism; they institutionalize it.

Perhaps the most disheartening aspect of "Black Power" is its often tendency not only to misinform, but to blatantly lie. A classic example of this occurred recently in the Tufts Daily (*Worker*)

In a section dedicated to famous "Blacks" of the past, Cleopatra, Hannibal, and Beethoven were all listed as famous blacks.

My naivete compelled me to double-check on this one. In my research I came across this issue in a

continued on page 2

## Some Thoughts Concerning Peace

James Robbins

In the recent Republican Presidential debate in New Hampshire, Vice President George Bush used the expression "Give Peace a Chance" in references to the INF treaty and Afghanistan. Congressman Jack Kemp countered that Bush ought to be embarrassed to use such a phrase, as indeed he should be.

"Peace" has been bandied about in this country for most of the decade, a fact which one might find surprising given that the US has used less

force in international politics this decade than in any other since the Thirties. However, it is archaic to view the concept of peace in such narrow terms. These days peace means much more than the absence of war.

Two things strike one in the current debate. The first is the tone surrounding peace, the sense that it is a moral imperative. Whenever peace is mentioned, it is assumed to be an unqualified good. The second is the assumption that those who oppose peace endorse conflict.

This was exemplified recently when

the Reagan Administration criticized Senator Dodd for his insistence on peace in Central America. The Senator held a press conference and offered the simple response: "The Administration doesn't want peace." Period. No more needed to be said.

This statement encapsulated the entire argument. Peace, self-evidently good, is not wanted by Reagan, who must then be bad, and who wants war. The travesty is that this was the first time Reagan had attempted to stand up to peace rhetorically; the usual practice has been to internalize the term, to speak of furthering the "process of peace" in Central America.

My question is, how much longer can this nonsense continue?

It is time to declare in the most emphatic terms that peace is *not* an unqualified good, and that those who oppose it are not the champions of violence.

One asks: how can peace be bad? Take a look sometime at the course offerings from the Peace and Justice Studies Program and the answer is clear. One will see a cross-section of

the usual ideas of contemporary trash-think, much of which is a reactionary rehash of decades old (or older) collectivist dogma. Peace is not something which comes between nations, but between races, classes, ultimately between individuals. It is accomplished by attacking the system which breeds violence, and which has institutionalized it.

In what forms has it been institutionalized? One form is Capitalism, rooted in Free trade, which Marx called "the single unconscionable freedom." Racism and sexism are other forms of institutional violence, and are so pervasive that they affect everyone in the society, without regard to specific actions which they or have not taken whether they like it or not.

The logic is as follows: All whites are racists, because they grew up in a racist society. Because they are racists, they are committing violence against blacks and other minorities. Peace will arrive when the racist system has been overthrown, ending the warfare, etc.

continued on page 8

### INDEX

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Affirmative Action Fallacies by Douglas Rivelli..... | Page 7 |
| Book Reviews by Frank Zappia.....                    | Page 4 |
| Joe McCarthy Revisited by Bernard Finel.....         | Page 5 |
| Month in Review.....                                 | Page 8 |
| Notable and Quotable.....                            | Page 3 |
| On the Media by Scott Baker.....                     | Page 6 |
| On the Right by Willaim F. Buckley.....              | Page 4 |
| Some thoughts on peace by James Robbins.....         | Page 1 |

# THE PRIMARY SOURCE

The conservative journal of student opinion at Tufts University

**Waldemar Opalka**.....Editor-in-Chief

**Jonathan Tarr**.....Associate Editor  
**Eric J. Labs**.....Executive Editor  
**Martin Menke**.....Assistant Editor  
**Dave Neuman**.....Assistant Editor  
**Michael Flaherty**.....Production Editor

**STAFF:** Scott Baker, James Burke, Steve Cicia, Bernard Finel, J.J. Kwashnak, Andrew Zappia, James Robbins, Dave Schwartz, John Tuerck, Alexander Werner.

**FOUNDERS:** Brian Kelley, Dan Marcus.  
 Mail correspondence to *The Primary Source*, via U.S. mail to Student Activities Office, Tufts University, Medford MA. 02155, or via Campus Mail.

*The Primary Source* is a recognized student organization at Tufts University, registered in the Student Activities Office.



## FROM THE EDITOR

### The Consequences of Bushwhacking

"Bushwhacking" seems to have taken on a new meaning. Everyone knows that there's no place to go Bushwhacking in Iowa, only cornfields. And that's no fun.

New Hampshire, on the other hand, still has its wild and rugged areas. That uncertain wilderness was no problem for the likes of a skilled and agile mountain man like George Bush. Defying polls, storms, and preachers, the brazen explorer reached the summit of the mountain in a race which only just began. Fortunately, for Bush, the mountain was easier to climb than most had thought.

George Bush's rise to become frontrunner of the Republican Party, once again, has cost much in

terms of party unity. The Republicans are locked in such a tight race amongst themselves that, it may cost them the election. This is happening at a time when the Republicans appear to be more popular with Americans than the Democrats, according to recent polls. Further, these polls imply that the popularity is not an extension of the Reagan "mistaque."

The current orientation of the Republican needs to distance itself from the Reagan era. The Teflon has served the individual well, but not the Reagan supporters who stood by and go blamed for the dirty work.

Bush is part of the Reagan legacy, which leaves him open to

much Democratic scorn, in particular, for infamous Iran-Contra-Noriega...scandal, as well as for problems in the Middle East. These problems were not caused by the Republican Party's politics, but by a misguided and uncontrolled executive policy. Bush is part of this executive policy, and there is no way he can shake it off.

The candidate of choice for a fresh start would seem to be Robert Dole, popular among Democrats and Republicans alike. His strong leadership in the Senate and his avoidance of the Reagan scandals has put him in a prime position to take up a new standard. Further Dole has gone against the wishes of Father Reagan's

economic doctrines on occasion, showing his independent spirit during the budget debates.

Dole is characterized as a "hard" man to work for. Nicknamed the "AyaDoleah," an over-exaggeration we hope, he possesses some authoritarian values needed in the White House after the loose Reagan years. His acrid sense of humor also pleases those of us who view it as a way of putting liberals their place. All this aside, Dole does characterize those leadership qualities which he touts and will be able to use them effectively as this nation's next President.



### Black Separatism

continued from page 1

book by Frank Snowden, a professor at Howard University. He points out that Cleopatra was a Macedonian Greek, and that Hannibal ascended from the Phoenicians. If Phoenicians and Macedonian Greeks were black, so too would be these individuals—but they were not. As far as Beethoven is concerned, well, I still have enough confidence that Tufts admission requirements have not been compromised to the point of where one literally cannot tell the difference between black and white.

Nevertheless, militant students stand by these falsehoods just as vehemently as they do to such segregationist institutions as "The Black Sophomore Class" and Alpha Kappa Alpha, an all black sorority. Such facilities merely reproduce the separate facilities of the Jim Crow South that Martin Luther King, Jr. worked so hard to eradicate.

The attitude of many "black" students is self-defeating. "Blacks"

continue to have sentiments of separatism caused by discrimination, even though such discrimination no longer exists. Consequently, they have perpetually, and even seem masochistically enamored by, the very prejudice which once oppressed them.

Any discriminatory law regarding race has been long since abolished or made unenforceable. There is nothing more that the "white elitist power structure" can do to produce a significant change in the relationship between the two races.

It is now the responsibility of the "black" students to ameliorate this jeopardized relationship. They must begin by abandoning their separate amenities and T-Shirts which promote separation. They must bridge the dangerously and ever widening schism of society, and realize that black is no more beautiful than white or yellow. Hopefully something can be done before relations between races in American entirely deteriorate.

**IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN WRITING FOR THE PRIMARY SOURCE, CALL ERIC AT 628-6474**

**NEXT DEADLINE: MARCH 12**



# THE MONTH IN REVIEW

## Democracy at Yale

According to the Wall Street Journal, the staff of the Yale Law Journal selected, through voting, Richard Nixon as its speaker for the journal's annual banquet. Also-rans included Barbara Jordon, Justice Brennan and Mario Cuomo. The section outraged the editors of the Law Journal and they called an emergency meeting to reconsider the voting procedure to find a way to undo the choice. There is nothing quite like democracy.

## Writing a Communique

A communique from the War Ministry of Chad read: "The destruction of the murderous Matan and Sarra air and ground military complex must be written in golden letters in the great book of victories."

## Wrong Again

Officers of Jadi Umoja, in a recent letter to the Daily, were kind enough to give the Tufts Community their interpretation of the libel laws. In case anyone missed it, the hilarious passage read as follows: "The job of an editor is to edit: to prepare a classified for presentation by arraging, revising, dubbing, and cutting. One of the moral obligations of an editor is to his readers: He/She should not allow anything to be printed that will be detrimental or cause offense to others. If this is not done, the reader has a legal right to sue." That is quite an interpretation of the libel laws. Leaving aside their definition of "detrimental," the authors of those lines really ought to know what they are talking about before they start lecturing to others. "Causing offense" has not been, is not, and shall never be a definition of libel whereby one may sue. Larry Flint has proven that time and again. To some, the very existence of this reputable journal "causes offense to others." Read the First Amendment next time before you write, Jadi Umoja.

## Banning the Ban

An editorial in the Observer (February 12) was critical of allowing Naval ROTC to teach a class on campus, the ostensible reason being that it was a "violation" of a decade old ban. Let us put aside legitimate reasons to believe the original ban was illegal in the first place. The real issue, for the Observer, is not that a university policy was "violated." Hardly. The Observer simply does not like the ROTC with all conservative and military associations that go with it. In the past, the Observer has been quick enough to support protests and sit-ins that were a violation of policy—the difference being its editorial board agreed with those activities. Let's not try and be too blatant with one's inconsistency.

## Reorganizing Senate Treasury

Former TCU Senate Treasurer Jonathan Ginsberg has proposed a constitutional amendment that would add an additional assistant treasurer. It is an excellent move, and The Primary Source heartily endorses it. The Treasury desperately needs additional manpower. In the long run, however, a third assistant treasurer many even become necessary. But, one step at a time.



## Servicing Who?

A few weeks ago, in what is fast becoming an annual event, a memorial service was held in memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. Now there is no question that Reverend King was a great man of the Twentieth Century and certainly one of the greatest orators of all time. He deserves a memorial service. However, why do we hold a memorial for him each year and not George Washington or Abraham Lincoln? If it weren't for the ROTC, Veteran's and Memorial Day would go by unnoticed. The answer lies in the liberal administration's pandering to the black community. If this assertion is mistaken, why are not memorial services held for great individuals of all ethnic minorities? Why not one for Chief Crazy Horse, the greatest American Indian of all? University officials ought to ask themselves why there is this inconsistency.

## Angela Davis I

Angela Davis lectured at Tufts a few weeks ago. She is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.A. The Daily's article reporting on her lecture the following Monday was a travesty of journalism—it belonged on the editorial page, not the features section. Consider Miss. Davis at some of her more lucid moments: Robert Bork is the equivalent of a Klu Klux Klan member; Cuba is a progressive democracy; the United States is an oppressive and imperialist dictatorship; American needs socialism. No comment on these profound and scholarly statements seems necessary.

## Angela Davis II

Angela Davis was brought to Tufts as part of Black History Month, the assumption being that she is an outstanding member of the Black Community. Hardly. She is a polarizer and a criminal. Why was she chosen instead of Barbara Jordan or Rosa Parks or William Gray or Andrew Young? Any one of them would have been infinitely preferable to Miss Davis and all the whackos that came out of the woodwork to see her.

## Harassment? Really?

They have got to be kidding this time. We're sure you did not miss them, but there has been a great deal of publicity put out by the Dean of Students Official defining "Sexual Harassment." Included in the lengthy definition is the word "compliments." That's right, you cannot compliment a woman (or man, for that matter, lest we be labelled sexist) anymore. This will certainly put damper on meeting new people. After all the best way to start a conversation is to compliment them. But they must know what they are doing. Insults seems to be the only thing left.

## Angela Davis III

Miss. Davis has mellowed a bit. She has endorsed Jesse Jackson for President, claiming he was this country's best hope for undoing Reaganism. Leaving aside the fact that most Americans do not want to undo "Reaganism," consider another double-standard proffered by Miss. Davis and the liberal community. What political future would there have been for a white, male politician who used the words "Hymie" and "Hymietown." None and they know it. Not so Jesse Jackson. But his supporters scream that he was sorry and it was four years ago. That is true. But a white man could not have said those things four years ago, be running for President today and have the forgiveness of the liberal-left like Jackson can, particularly if the white had been a conservative Republican. Now why do you think there is that double-standard?

## LaRouche Stumping

According to the Boston Globe, Lyndon LaRouche was stumping their Manchester New Hampshire during the recent primary there. His motorcade consisted of: a car loaded with machine-gun toting men, an armored personal carrier, and two real surplus tanks in tow. No, we are not kidding. If you disbelieve this one, take it up with the Boston Globe.

# ON THE RIGHT

## Senator Helms is Luckily in the Way

William F. Buckley, Jr.

It is fashionable to make fun of Senator Jesse Helms, and fashion rules with a heavy hand before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that is hearing the case for ratification of the INF treaty. Jesse Helms began being obstreperous to some of his colleagues when he looked up with that baby face, his glasses at the far end of his nose, and said, "We're not talkin' 'bout reducing nuclear weapons. There aren't any reductions in the treaty." Senator Helms was making the neat point on which George Bush had stumbled at Dartmouth a couple of weeks before: what is in prospect is the dismantlement of the SS-20s and the Pershings. The warheads will be stored somewhere or another. Our Side takes the position that the Soviets were prepared to destroy the warheads themselves but that in order to arrive at that agreement, it would be necessary to establish stricter verification procedures. And if we did that, Soviet scientists would have an inside look at our nuclear technology.

That's the kind of argument we simply have to accept at face value, those of us who do not know what refinements in nuclear technology we have developed over those the Soviet Union has developed. But the Helms-watchers see the Senator as engaged in a destructive mission. He is opposed to the treaty, and, it is said, he plans to try to defeat it by fair means or foul. For instance (his critics say) there is the question of exactly how many SS-20s the Soviet Union has. There is the official number (715), and—Senator Helms suggests—there is an unofficial number. It is difficult to understand why the Soviets would need to secrete an SS-20. All they need to do is to remove two warheads from the existing model of an SS-20 and call it an SS-25, against which there is no provision in the treaty. Senator Helms suggested that intelligence services knew of a secret horde of them. When such things are said his colleagues and the press look

skyward in their misery. One reflects that most senators did so also in 1962, when Senator Kenneth Keating hectoring his colleagues about the existence of secret missiles planted in Cuba by the Soviet Union.

Senator Helms faces problems made up in part by the plight in which critics of the treaty find themselves. It is as simple as to ask oneself this: Imagine that the treaty were rejected in July—is it anywhere supposed that in August the deployment schedule for out intermediate-range missiles in Europe would proceed?

The INF agreement became a treaty, in effect, the day it was enunciated. What happened almost instantly was a restructuring of political loci in Europe. The Right became a little less resolute, the center moved critically to the left, and the Left hardened its general pacifist position. When

Woodrow Wilson came back from Paris with the League of Nations agreement in his pocket, he could be defeated by a Senate that expressed a general isolationism. But Ronald Reagan is not dealing with the nature of U.S. participation in foreign undertakings. It is Europe that the INF is most directly about, and the Europeans are not about to permit the U.S. to tell them they cannot have what the majority desires: an apparent step toward the reduction of the nuclear threat.

Jean Kirkpatrick has suggested the need for one amendment, namely, a declaration that the treaty would be null and void if the Soviet union were detected violating it. (One wonders what treaties between us would be extant if the rule were applied retroactively.) But the Administration wants nothing that would require returning

to the negotiating table.

Why? Because there is a passion out there to get on with the general disarmament project, as it is viewed. Scheduled next is START, which would impoverish our nuclear supply. That's okay provided there were no relative advantage own by the enemy. But existing blueprints call for a sharp reduction in our submarine nuclear fleet, which is uniquely invulnerable to first-strike capabilities. What, Mr. Helms is saying in effect, is the great hurry?

But he is treated like the preacher who goes on and on with an endless sermon while the bride and groom are standing, hands touching, in ardent desire to consummate their marriage. Senator Helms is there saying: Let's cool it. He is performing a valuable service.

## BOOK REVIEW

Andrew Zappia A'91

*Mongoose, R.I.P.*, by William F. Buckley, Jr., (Random House, 320 pp., Hardcover \$17.95).

For all those lonely nights we all sit up worrying about a communist conspiracy and/or the next course being offered by the Peace and Justice Studies Program, we can find solace by immersing ourselves in Buckley's newest Blackford Oakes novel, *Mongoose, R.I.P.* Once again WFB has taken a chapter out of Cold War history and weaved within it a chilling and suspenseful tail of America's James Bond, Blackford Oakes. This novel is a continuation of *See You Later Alligator*, and both works center on the Cuba of Fidel Castro.

For all those unfamiliar with Blackford Oakes a brief explanation is due. In 1976 William F. Buckley began his series of spy novels. These tales, of which there have been eight, are stories of the exploits of Blackford Oakes, a Yale graduate and World War II fighter pilot, who is the CIA's clutch operative, between 1954 and 1963. Blackford is not one of those flawless heroes who always wins the day.

No, he is a man full of weaknesses who somehow finds the courage to follow his directives. The Oakes novels have been written in chronological sequence and upon reading them one gains a good understanding of both the history of the period and the life of Blacky.

Through his consistent use of Oakes and other characters such as Sally Par-

tridge (Blackford's girlfriend) and Rufus the old spymaster, WFB develops an intimacy with his characters that is difficult to surpass.

The action of *Mongoose* takes place in 1963. Blackford has just returned from a mission in the Soviet Union only to be called to the White House by Jack and Robert Kennedy. President Kennedy and the Attorney General are concerned about the activities of Castro; well, let's be frank, they want him dead. So was born Operation Mongoose.

Blackford's responsibility is to get an agent in Castro's cabinet, called Lash, to cooperate with the CIA effort. The other arm of the operation is run by "Wild Bill" Hicock. Throughout the novel Hicock devises plan after plan to kill Castro. But ultimately the success of the mission is in the hands of Mr. Lash.

Castro gets wind of the operation

and he decides that he wants Kennedy dead. This is where the real deceit begins.

Not until well into the novel does the reader learn that Khrushchev too, has his own designs. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Soviet strongman, by accident of course, leaves a nice shiny SS-4 in San Cristobal. Castro gets control of this Soviet hardware and decides that if agents can not kill Kennedy, the SS-4 will. Blackford faces the most agonizing of choices, either to save the life of his boss or of the millions of people in a Texas city. The action in this novel is swift and furious.

This novel is Buckley at his best. He delicately balances fact with fantasy to create a spellbinding twist on history. His gentle blend of humor and subtle gravity makes even the most conservative reader question the values of

continued on page 7



# JOE McCARTHY REVISITED

Bernard Finel A'89

It is a most unfortunate quirk of history that the period of anti-communist hysteria in this country came to be known as McCarthyism. The reason is that because of this term, Senator Joe McCarthy has been linked with numerous events which were actually the result of McCarthyism not McCarthy. But in the worst McCarthyist tradition, Senator McCarthy has been attacked by the very "guilt by association" which his critics saw as the major flaw in his method.

McCarthy was not responsible for the prosecution of the "Hollywood Ten," nor was he involved in the Alger Hill case. He did not cause the prosecution of Communist leaders under the Smith Act. He did not have anything to do with the arrest of the Rosenbergs. He did not bring about the loyalty hearing of J. Robert Oppenheimer. All these "classic" examples of McCarthyism had nothing to do with McCarthy.

McCarthy was a member of the anti-communist movement. He was neither its creator nor even its leader. And his actions personally are much less ominous than the term McCarthyism connotes. He was, for a time, made the focal point of the anti-anti-communist movement because he was an easy opponent to defeat. Rash and prone to "shooting from the hip," McCarthy was the perfect tool to discredit the anti-communist movement. His opponents were politically adept enough to realize this and to capitalize on it.

The unfair linking of McCarthy with McCarthyism has caused several false myths. These I hope to deal with by briefly looking at the history of McCarthy's rise and fall.

Senator Joe McCarthy was launched into national prominence with a speech on February 9, 1950, in Wheeling, West Virginia. In that speech, McCarthy, speaking largely extemporaneously declared that he possessed a list of individuals whom the State Department's security system has failed to clear, and who despite that were still employed there for some time afterwards.

In this were come to one of the more popular myths of McCarthy, namely that he picked on innocent people, defining who was and who was not a security risk. This could not be further from the truth.

McCarthy used as his guide, to determine whether someone was a security risk, affiliation with a number of "communist front" groups. McCarthy neither made up this test, nor did he define which groups were "communist fronts." The communist fronts were actually determined by two sources, the House Un-American Activities Committee, and the United States Attorney General.

Other famous "victims" of McCarthy included Philip Jessup and Harry Dexter White, later found by the McCarran committee to be communist sympathizers or even perhaps agents; both men were involved in U.S. policy-making towards China. Owen Lattimore, named by McCarthy as "one of the top Communist agents in the country," was later named by the McCarran Committee as a



"conscious, articulate instrument of the Soviet international conspiracy."

Mrs. Annie Lee Moss was another person whose accusation by McCarthy caused a great deal of criticism, yet several years later when the Subversive Activities Control Board re-examined the case it was found that she had been "an active member of the Communist Party."

It is simply not true that McCarthy's "victims" were merely innocent bystanders, it is just that to portray them as such was convenient way for McCarthy's critics to score points.

Some may look at this and say "so what?" They would argue that people have every right to be communist or pro-communist. I agree and so would Senator McCarthy. He did not wish to deny these people their rights to have left-wing political views, but he was against attempting to hide this fact and to work for the government. McCarthy merely wanted people to accept the responsibility for their views.

McCarthy did not, as has been stated by popular myth, want to censor communist views, he merely wanted people who held them to admit them.

This leads to the next myth, namely, that McCarthy wrongfully sought to drive people from government who held left-wing views. That he sought to drive these people from policy-making and sensitive security positions is true, that he was wrong to do so is false on both logical and practical grounds.

In the period of the early 1950s, the American population was violently anti-communist. They were not made thus by Senator McCarthy, but rather by world events. By the time McCarthy made his Wheelings speech there had already been the communist coup in Czechoslovakia, the Berlin blockade, China had fallen to Mao's communist forces, Russia had the bomb, and Klaus Fuchs had been arrested for atomic espionage. Americans were scared and wanted action.

To suggest that people with com-

munist sympathies should have been allowed to remain in decision-making positions in the State Department is ludicrous and would defeat the basic purpose of our democracy. How can it be justified that people whose ideas were rejected by the overwhelming majority of the population should be allowed to make policy in the name of that majority?

Following that line of argument, a newly elected president should not be allowed to choose men to serve in his cabinet who had similar political views, after all, rejecting others would be political discrimination.

Candidates for office should probably also, following this logic, not be allowed to make any statements about their political views lest it influence the voters. McCarthy sought to make the unelected policy-makers in the State Department and elsewhere in the federal bureaucracy responsive to the public just as any elected official would be.

The fact is also that people simply agreed with McCarthy and other anti-communist leaders like him. Consider the 1952 Senatorial Campaign. To see the reason why, we must go back to 1950 and the Tydings Committee.

The Tydings Committee was set up to investigate the charges McCarthy had made on the Senate floor. But instead of investigating the people McCarthy accused, which would have been the best way to discover the validity of McCarthy's charges, the committee thrust the burden of proof on Senator McCarthy. McCarthy had previously admitted that he did not have complete information.

The State Department, and the executive branch in general were less than willing to cooperate with Senator McCarthy for obvious reasons. All his information came from leaks and informants in the State Department. He was in no position to provide absolute proof.

He was in a position however to suggest possible areas of investigation. The committee took the easy way out, refused to investigate, and ruled that McCarthy's charges were a "fraud and a hoax." During the proceedings the

committee chairman, Senator Tydings, acted as a prosecuting judge and attempted to discredit McCarthy.

In 1952, both Tydings and McCarthy were up for re-election. McCarthy campaigned against Tydings' re-election, as Tydings had essentially done in his conduct of the hearings. The result: Tydings was defeated, McCarthy re-elected. How can it be misunderstood that McCarthy acted with popular consent?

Many people have interpreted this event as showing the evils of McCarthy. Tydings had spoken out and had been punished for it. But it was the people of Tydings home state who made the final decision, not McCarthy.

To look back thirty-five years later and say that the people were ignorant or wrong is an act of utter conceit, and can only be explained by the fact that deliberate falsehoods have been spread concerning the incident.

McCarthy's downfall two years later, in fact, came not because the charges were untrue, but rather because of an issue of little relevance. Let us now look at the Army-McCarthy hearings which precipitated his censure by the U.S. Senate.

McCarthy had been suspicious of activity at Fort Monmouth. After investigating the situation there he became concerned with a certain Dr. Irving Peress, an Army dentist, who despite open communist sympathies, had been promoted and later given an honorable discharge. The issue may seem minor, but to McCarthy it was proof that the security system at Monmouth was inadequate.

The Army counter-charged on the grounds that Senator McCarthy and some of his staff, specifically counsel Roy Cohn, had tried to secure special treatment for another McCarthy staffer, G. David Schine, who had recently been inducted.

Both charges were petty, but clearly McCarthy's charges can, at least, be reasonably considered to be part of an investigation of the Army security system. The Army charges can only

continued on page 6

# Is the Media Making News or Reporting It?

Scott Baker

The confrontation between Vice President George Bush and CBS anchorman Dan Rather on February 1's edition of the CBS Evening News raised a major question far removed from that of either participants' conduct: is the news media abandoning its role as an objective purveyor of information to become a decidedly liberal influence on the American political culture?

It is an issue which has recently received increased attention, with journalists claiming they are merely engaging in aggressive investigative reporting and that charges of being bias originate with those most threatened by the truth. There has always been a fine line between reporting and distorting, but the current display of "media bashing" is not without justification.

One could use the 1988 Presidential campaign to supply more than enough evidence for convicting the Fourth Estate of journalistic irresponsibility. Issues are obscured while inconsequential themes widely heralded (e.g. Bush's "wimp factor" or whether Dole is "one of us"). Air time for Presidential aspirants on local and national broadcasts runs no more than ten minutes combined, providing each office-seeker with little opportunity to articulate policy positions.

The unfortunate result is the candidates--both Democratic and Republican--are unable to get their platforms across to the American electorate, forcing the latter to vote not so much by informed judgement as on public perception, a perception created by the media.

Two men suffering from this adverse coverage are Senator Gary Hart and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

By now Gary Hart's tryst with Donna Rice is accepted as fact (save for a handful of fanatical supporters who continue to proclaim his innocence); the former Colorado Senator admitted on *Nightline* to making grave mistakes and has in consequence paid a high price for these indiscretions. Hart's re-entry into the race--though ill-judged and lacking serious forethought--was an unprecedented event that could conceivably have become a political wildcard during the



primaries.

However, rather than analyze this incident for its potential implications, the press decided to greet his announcement with derision. *Time* magazine caricatured a Santa-suited Hart on its front cover with the headline "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." Network television has not been any less harsh, each appearance witnessing the former Senator repeatedly badgered about last summer's affair with Rice.

Why beat a dead horse? Voters have long since decided for themselves whether Hart's sexual misconduct should deprive him of the Presidency; what they really need to make a reasoned decision is a clarification of his "New Ideas," a service the media failed to provide. Though many factors contributed to his defeat, Hart's dismal showing in Iowa and New Hampshire can in part be blamed on journalistic unfairness.

Another candidate victimized by the prejudices of our press corps was Alexander Haig. Granted, his straightforward manner often seemed abrasive and his military record led to unjust rumors of war-mongering, yet the political experience this one in-

dividual has obtained since 1947 is unequalled by any other office seeker.

Yet, instead of being allowed a fair chance to present his views, the media crippled and as of February 11 permanently derailed any possibility of Haig being elected. The means: constant referral to one incident which occurred in 1981 during the attempted assassination of President Reagan.

Confusion reigned in the Pentagon, and neither Vice President Bush nor Speaker of the House "Tip" O'Neill were in Washington. Appearing before a crowded room of reporters, Haig tried to reassure those concerned that the situation was under control by declaring: "I am in control here at the White House pending the return of the Vice President"; however, this latter portion was conveniently omitted from most coverage.

What occurred was not a usurpation of power but a reasoned exercise in crisis management. Through selective editing, though, Haig has been portrayed as a dangerous egomaniac and subsequently a promising political career was ruined.

Alexander Haig is only one of many who suffer from such practices.

Television news provides a great disservice to government officials when network anchormen do the summarizing of political speeches. We receive not the candidate's exact words, inflections or mannerism but the interpretation of same by an often biased commentator; in effect, what the viewer absorbs are the third-hand preconceptions of an individual rather than first-hand impressions.

Misrepresentation and lack of objectivity could be excused if these were the media's only vices, but the past few years have also seen an abandonment of integrity: NBC's secret interview with international terrorist/child murderer Abul Nidal; ABC's shameful exhibition interviewing a kidnapped 747 crew in Beirut during the 1985 TWA hijacking; or Washington Post Executive Editor Ben Bradlee's callous description of the Iran-Contra as "the most fun we've had since Watergate."

It is a sad but all too true state of affairs that these are not isolated episodes but a general trend away from professionalism towards irresponsible sensationalism.

Mr. Baker is a graduate student in the History Department.

## Joe McCarthy Revisited

continued from page 5

be construed as a personal attack designed to relieve pressure coming from McCarthy.

The hearing degenerated into a battle of personalities. McCarthy, with his quick temper, his tendency under pressure to make rash and exaggerated claims, and his essentially grating and difficult personality, was doomed to emerge from the hearing negatively.

When McCarthy launched a badly considered attack on a young associate of the Army counsel Joseph Welch, McCarthy was seen by millions of Americans as a vindictive bully. The anti-McCarthy forces rallied around the hearings and soon afterward voted to censure McCarthy.

He was politically dead.

Strangely enough, when top secret operations were moved from Fort Monmouth to Fort Huachuca, Arizona, because of security problems, no one seems to have viewed it as a vindication of McCarthy's charges. It was too late for vindication, and anyway McCarthy's enemies were more interested in his demise than in the truth of his charges.

So what can we say of Senator McCarthy?

Well, he was a man who deeply loved his country, a man who believed, as did his constituency, that communism was a threat to the United States, and that people sympathetic to communism should not be making

policy.

He focused attention on the failing of the security system then in use in the government, and in that way drew the wrath of the Roosevelt/Truman Democrats who had instituted these measures.

He was also a vindictive man, with a quick temper, and the disposition of a street bully. As a person McCarthy left a lot to be desired, but as an elected representative of the people he cannot be faulted. Even if his sole motivation in pursuing communists was to further his political goals, then we are saying that he was trying his best to please the a majority of the people. Is that not what democracy is all about?



# The "Why Notes" of Affirmative Action

Douglas Rivelli A'91

Rarely does a day pass in which a minority group is not fighting for "a fair shake in life." Since the days of Martin Luther King, groups that were once oppressed have demanded retribution in the form of affirmative action. Year in and year out, taking few breaks, minorities stage protests, demonstrations, and marches to alert society of their needs. They implore the people who once oppressed them to open their eyes, see the injustices that were done, and make amends.

In reality, it is the minorities who need to open their eyes and see not only that the white men have done to repair the damage of oppression, but also the dangers of the affirmative action programs they demand.

Affirmative action programs in the marketplace are equal rights legislation that have gone awry; they pose serious dangers to the American economy.

The hiring of minorities who are less qualified than their white counterparts, a common necessity to meet quotas, lowers overall productivity, causing prices to rise, thereby stifling the economy.

A worker who does not have the ability to efficiently carry out his assigned task quickly becomes an economic burden to a company. If these companies are forced to continue to hire unqualified minorities, they run the risk of plunging into bankruptcy, a situation that hurts all parties concerned. As more companies fall prey to the hardships of inefficiency, they will be forced to raise the prices to meet their costs; an action that is not only detrimental to the consumer, but also the economic climate of the marketplace.

Unfortunately, many of these companies are forced to hire minorities. Current federal regulations stipulate that 10 percent of public-works contracts be awarded to companies controlled by minorities. Firms are also threatened by loss of federal aid or lawsuits if they fail to hire these people. Such regulations unfairly bolster the benefits of minorities at the expense of American industries. Not only have minorities enjoyed equality in employment situations, but many, due to their color, even have an advantage. It is plainly evident that affirmative action fails to benefit any portion of the economy, and clearly harms it.

Furthermore, the reverse discrimination that is born from this program directly contradicts the philosophy of equality for all. They don't seem to mind if whites are the subject of discrimination, as long as their own people are not harmed.

This attitude was evident in the Supreme Court case of *MacDonald v. Santa Fe Trail Transportation Company*. Three employees, two white men and one black man, were illegally misappropriating company funds. The two white men involved were dismissed from their jobs, but the black man was subjected to verbal punishment.

One of the employees who was fired, Mr. MacDonald, filed a suit against the company, charging that his dismissal was discriminatory because the black man retained employment due to his color.

Many blacks were outraged at the

suit, claiming that the white men were not dismissed as a result of their color. Those who opposed the law suit were only concerned with discrimination against their own people, not discrimination against other groups.

Minorities fail to understand that this attitude is detrimental to the fight for equality for all. If they truly desire to be treated as equals, then programs that give minorities unfair advantages in the job market fail to accomplish this task. The lack of foresight as to the effects of equal rights legislation serves, in many ways, to hurt the nation as a whole.

A further reason why affirmative action programs are unnecessary is that many laws ensuring equality in society are presently in operation.

Minorities need only to look at the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, granting them basic rights of equality. These amendments guarantee equal protection under the law, the right to vote, and the right to get paid for services rendered. Some may argue that these are merely token laws that are not properly enforced, but in fact they are effective, working pieces of legislation.

Furthermore, minorities receive equal benefits from witness protection programs, jury trials, and all other legal programs. It is only in rare, isolated cases that these rights are suspended.

Numerous other equal rights laws,

which successfully prevent discrimination, are in operation. The Voting Rights Act, Housing Act, Education Amendment, Rehabilitation Act, and Institutionalized Persons Act all guarantee minorities equality in society. The success of these acts effectively dismissed the argument that America has failed to stop discrimination. Even more exemplary of America's attempts to remedy discrimination was the development of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was great success for minorities, a success that these people have since forgotten. This act prohibits discrimination in public places, such as restaurants, hotels, stores, etc. In addition, it prohibits employers from discriminating in the process of hiring, firing, or assigning salary levels.

Furthermore, organizations that fail to abide by the law are subject to severe financial penalties. The Civil Rights Act has served to equalize the

status between minorities and whites. Again, those who believe that the enforcement of this act is minimal need to take a closer look. No longer are minorities disqualified from renting a room or entering a public facility due to race. It is absurd to think otherwise.

The minorities' continued fight for equality needs to end; they are already given many opportunities to fit into society as an equal race. The continuation of protests and demands is worthless; how can one be granted something they already possess?

Each demonstration simply reinforces my belief that minorities protest simply to gain sympathy for their past hardships, and to condemn the white man for what they did over 100 years ago. It seems that little good can ever come from such actions. I can wholly sympathize with the desire for total equality, but this has been achieved, and they should be thankful, not bitter, with their current position in society.

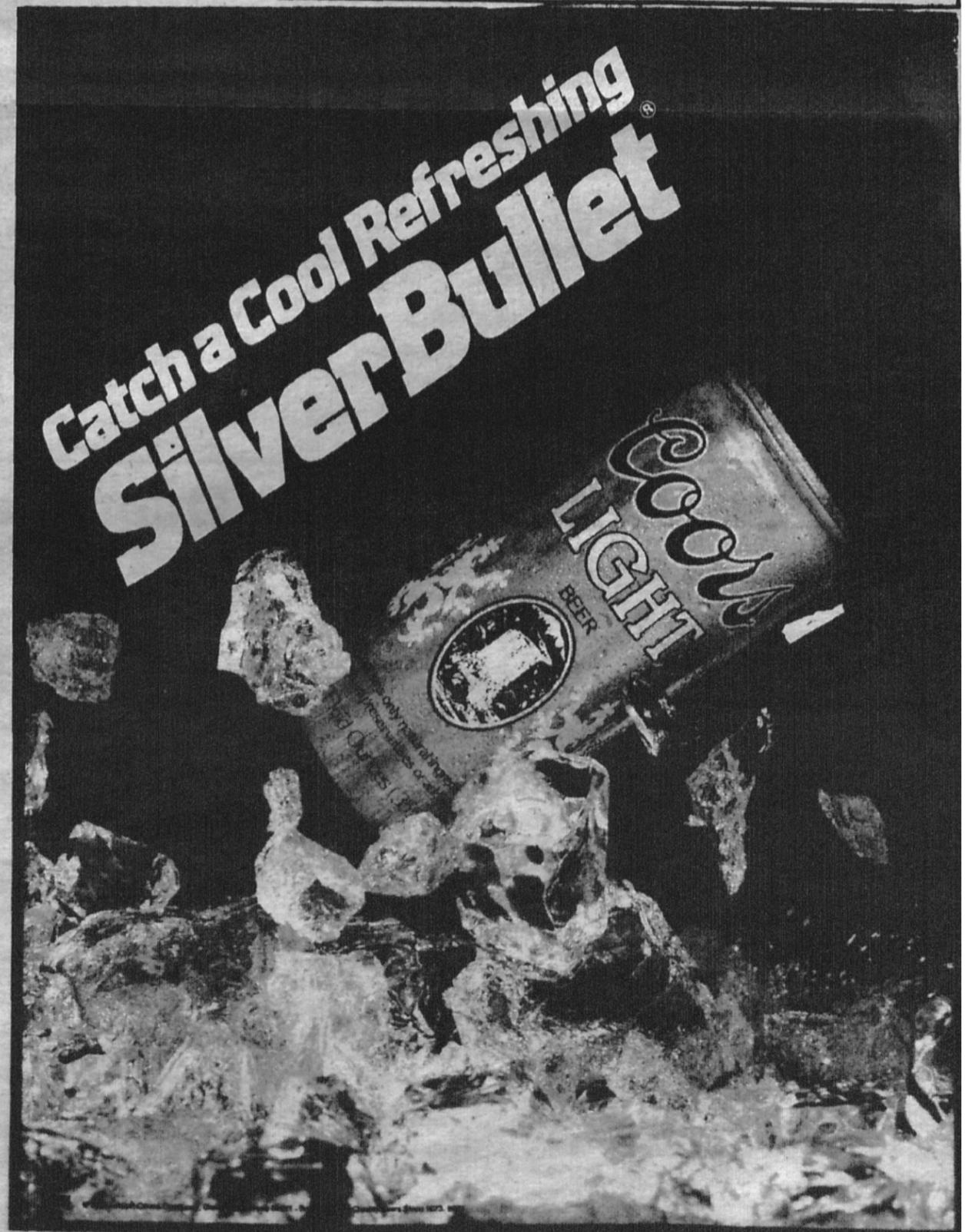
## Mongoose

continued from page 4

the CIA. He breaks down all the usual stereotypes of "Good Guy" and "Bad Guy" to show the ruthlessness at the pinnacle of power. His descriptions of Jack and Robert Kennedy give excellent insight into conflicts and ambitions of one of America's most powerful families.

Buckley's style is sly and witty. One

can almost picture him leaning back in that swivel chair of his, espousing upon the evils of the Red Menace. This historical fable does not just entertain, it makes a cohesive political point that is persuasive. Even the most liberal reader will enjoy his exacting observation and authority over this novel. *Mongoose R.I.P.* is among the best of the Blackford Oakes novels. If you are looking for an excellent spy novel with a political twist, this is the book for you.



# CONCERNING PEACE

continued from page 1

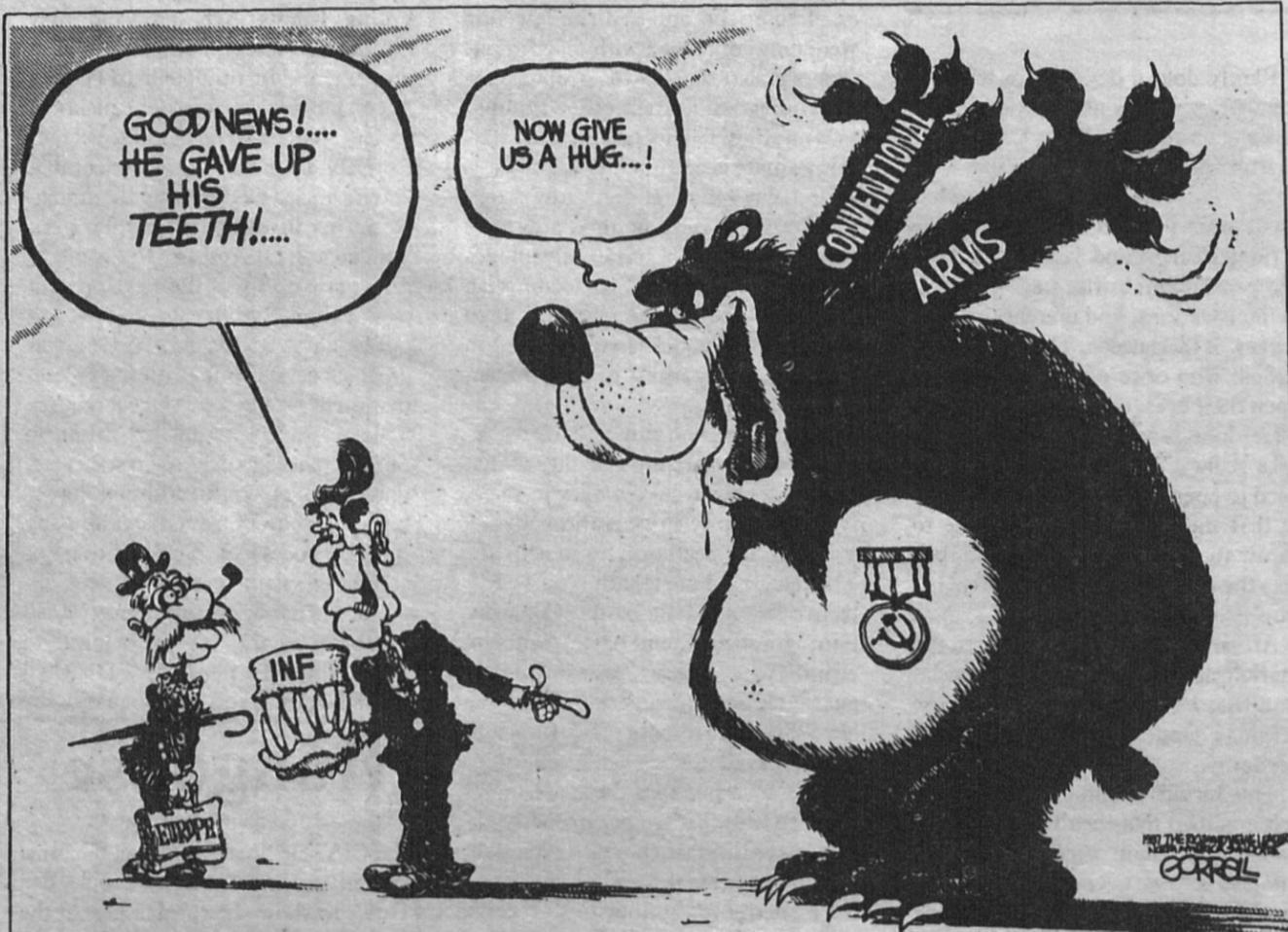
Peace is not something to be attained by individuals acting alone. Only societies--and in the largest sense, the world--can attain peace. Anything less is other-than-peace (i.e. bad), and must be corrected. It's easy to see what these folks are getting at.

Call it socialism, communism, Progressive Thinking (there's a laugh), collectivism, McGovernism or what have you, the goal is the same today as it was in the Spartan total state of Lycurgus. The peaceniks want order, sameness, equality of condition. They want to stamp out the chaos which is a free society of individuals living by personal ethics and making their own choices, want to destroy the agent of change which is the free market system. They seek the peace of the graveyard, the order of the machine.

When politicians speak of the quest for peace, few of them probably know what that means. Look across the world--where is peace being built? In Nicaragua, by the Sandinistas; in Afghanistan by the PDPA; in Mozambique; in Ethiopia; in South Yemen; in South-East Asia; in Eastern Europe; and maybe soon in Western Europe. This is the face of peace--secret police, controlled means of expression, forced resettlement, labor camps, refugees, and a secure Party apparatus to make certain peace prevails.

If the threat of peace is to be made clear, it must be recognized for what it is, and then set against its opposite. The concept which springs immediately to mind is freedom. The thought serves as a psychological balm. There is no reason for the foes of peace to equivocate, because freedom is more important than peace and always will be. The benefits are obvious, and lie at the root of the American national identity. And it is no accident that freedom is the very thing being fought for in the countries which are suffering under the reign of peace.

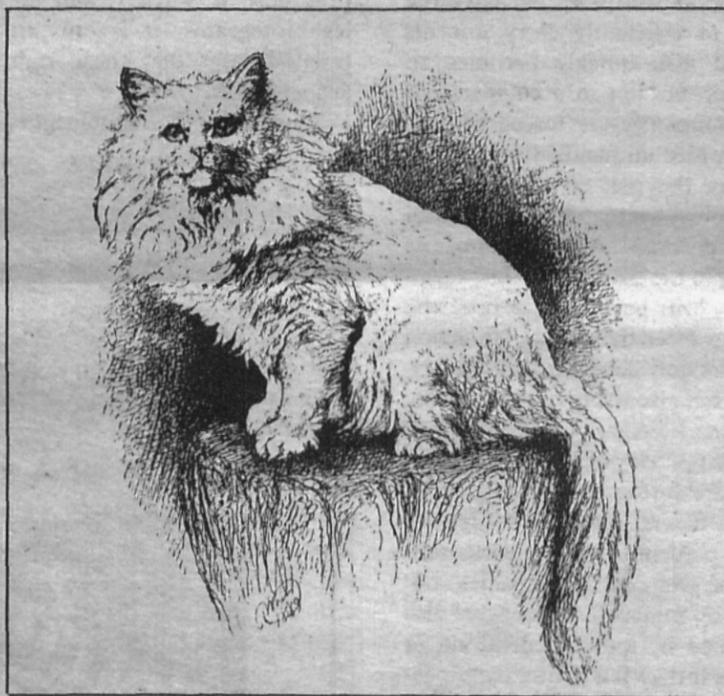
Freedom makes a great rhetorical tool too. Why speak of the Arias Peace Plan when we can implement the



Reagan Freedom Plan? Why have a "peace process" when one can have a freedom process? Why not a Freedom and Justice Program? Simply replace the word freedom for peace and see how attractive left-wing bromides become.

There was a time when peace had a different meaning. It referred to a sense of personal serenity, to dealing with one's own problems, and living in harmony with one's fellows safe from external coercion.

Two hundred years ago, during America's fight for independence, Samuel Cooper wrote, "Peace, peace, we ardently wish; but not upon terms dishonorable to ourselves, or dangerous to our liberties; and our enemies seem not yet prepared to allow it upon any other." The words ring as true today as they did during the revolution. Let us never forget that there can be no peace without freedom.



## Notable and Quotable

*Gun control means being able to hit your target.*

—David Everitt and Harold Schector

*"Sincere diplomacy is no more possible than dry water or wooden iron."*

—Josef Stalin

*For everything you have missed you have gained something else.*

—Emerson

*"College professor—someone who talks in other people's sleep."*

—Bergen Evans

*The meek shall inherit the earth—but not its mineral rights!*

—J. Paul Getty

*"You can get much farther with a kind word and a gun than you can with a kind word alone."*

—Al Capone

*A wiseman's heart directs him toward the right, but the foolish man's heart directs him toward the left.*

—Ecclesiastes 10:2

*"We are all born mad. Some remain so."*

—Samuel Beckett

*"The evil of capitalism is its unequal distribution of wealth. The virtue of socialism is its equal distribution of poverty."*

—Winston Churchill

*Anyone going 55 mph on highways is a danger to safe motoring.*

—Malcolm S. Forbes

*To effectively defend the interests of the working people, maintain peace, and realize the Socialist ideals of the working class, it is indispensable to wage a resolute struggle against anti-communism—that poisoned weapon which the bourgeoisie uses to fence the masses from socialism.*

—The Kremlin

*Life can't be all bad when for ten dollars you can buy all of the Beethoven sonatas and listen to them for ten years.*

—William F. Buckley

*"If you want to get ahead in the world, get a lawyer—not a book."*

—Fran Lebowitz on self-help books

*"I drink to make other people more interesting."*

—George Jean Nathan