

The Primary Source

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Time For Change In the Philippines

Eric J. Labs, A'88

President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos is under siege. His country is inflicted with a broad range of difficulties: economic degeneration, rural poverty, governmental corruption, and, unfortunately, an increasingly bold and powerful communist insurgency.

What is worse, however, is that Marcos stubbornly refuses to grapple with these problems despite the fact that they pose a very real threat to himself.

For the United States the stakes could not be higher. The Philippines hosts the Clark Air Force Base and the huge Subic Bay Naval Base, linchpins to our Pacific and Indian strategy.

Their sudden loss could force an American retreat all the way back to Hawaii, thus leaving the Far East open to the Soviet Union's vast Pacific fleet.

As a result, President Reagan must reorder his policy of friendly diplomacy and non-interference to a more active use of political, economic, and military leverage.

Ideally, Marcos should resign. However, since this end is highly unlikely, continued American support, and economic and military aid, must be made conditional on reform. Marcos is aware that U.S. backing is crucial to his survival and, despite his threats to renegotiate the terms of lease on the military bases, will not risk the permanent alienation of his principal ally.

It appears that only change—even if brought about by U.S. pressure—will perhaps spare the Philippines from the chaotic tyranny that has

THE BEST WAY
TO HANDLE IT?



beset other Asian nations.

The place to start is in the Philippine military. Paralyzed by corruption and top-heavy with (incompetent) generals, the army cannot effectively wage war against the Communists.

U.S. News and World Report revealed that "soldiers in the field lack complete uniforms, particularly boots. Units sometimes lack radios and maps. Equipment is idled for lack of

parts. Poorly paid soldiers are accused of looting." (April 15, 1985)

Despite this flood of bad news, Marcos has a comparatively easy choice. The solution to the military's problem lies in the permanent appointment of Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos to Chief of Staff of the armed forces.

He is a respected West-Point trained professional, anxious to make reforms. Currently, he serves

only as the acting chief of staff, standing in for General Fabian Ver, a Marcos crony. He has been implicated in the murder of Benigno Aquino. (Marcos promised to return Ver to his position if acquitted, the likely judgment.)

Through military aid leverage, Reagan can persuade Marcos to "retire" Vertosome "advisory" position and let Ramos clean up the

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THE SENATE'S BOYCOTTED BOYCOTT

Jonathan Tarr, A'88

Tufts Community Union (TCU) Senate President Michael Obadia called the so-called boycott of September 19 a success at the Senate meeting on September 22, in spite of

the fact that only about one-quarter of the undergraduate population chose to attend the outdoor rally and sign a petition calling for full divestment.

Beyond this, a much smaller number of students heeded the other calls of the Senate. These calls were made

at an "emergency" session of the Senate on September 16, during which a resolution passed 16-0-1 calling for "a boycott of Tufts University Services" including classes, dining halls, and the University Store.

The boycott resolution, according to *The Tufts Daily* of September 17, "also [called] for 'other symbolic acts' by students: the turning in of Tufts identification cards as a display of student solidarity; avoidance of dorms; and the signing of a large banner which [read] 'Inalienable Rights: End Apartheid.'"

The Senate also decided to organize an "educational rally on the academic quad with speakers" along with a letter writing campaign to Trustees, Congress, parents and alumni.

On September 19, most students chose to boycott the boycott as well as the other Senate proposals. According to *The Tufts Observer* of September 20, "approximately 1,000 people throughout the day attended [the rally]," which "bouyed by beautiful weather, never exceeded attendance over 500 at any one point." In addition, between 900 and 1,000 signa-

tures were collected on a petition calling for complete divestment.

Senate President Obadia stated that "It is clear that a significant number of people did not boycott either classes or dining halls." Beyond this, it seems that just about no one boycotted dormitories or turned in their Tufts identification cards.

Obadia stated before the "boycott" that "[it] will give students a chance to show campus wide support of divestment. . . Our hope is to achieve campus wide participation." Thus the Senate's wish was not to educate the student body about alternative approaches to ending apartheid, but instead to present their view: full divestment is the only alternative.

The "educational rally" was not educational because it simply presented one view. In contacting speakers, the Senate, an elected board supposedly representing all students and all views, chose only to present the views of its members.

No speakers discussed the Sullivan principles or constructive engagement as viable alternatives

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The Primary Source

The conservative student journal of opinion at Tufts University

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From The Editor

SENATORS ATTEMPT TO VIOLATE STUDENT'S RIGHTS

The student senators who supported the pro-divestment, anti-apartheid rally have gone "beserk." Many senators can no longer see both sides of a complex issue. The Tufts Community Union Senate commissioned a report on the apartheid/divestiture issue, which needless to say supported Tufts' total divestment. My personal readings and studies showed a strong case supporting the opposite view.

But the senator's views are *not* on trial here. The senators who infringed upon my personal rights are. Whether or not they regret their original "call to arms" is irrelevant. The Senate asked teachers to cancel classes. Yes, cancel classes so that students could attend an all day rally supporting Tufts divestiture. What possible right did they think they have?

In fairness to the senators, not all of them supported the rally (almost all is a better description). Also, the letter addressed to the faculty which asked them to "cancel Thursday classes" was signed only by Michael Obadia, President of the Senate. However, the letter used the word "we," signifying that the entire rally supporting body of senators agreed with him.

The Senate has moved to give themselves a reputation that is only fitting for groups which use force to convey their thoughts. They are no better than the students who would not let the CIA recruiter speak last year. Their attempt to cancel classes makes them worse than the students who disrupted campus activity last year with the sit-in at Ballou Hall.

A nice rally on a warm, pleasant day where no one was disrupted

would have been wonderful. But I guess they had a point to prove. Certainly, they will not prove another point to me by resigning from their positions. We elected them to improve Tufts, not to make a mockery of our decision-making capacities.

For a while their action will go unnoticed... But some of the senators will run for reelection in the spring, and students will remember that their classes were cancelled.

I can offer only one more suggestion to the senators who supported the cancellation of classes. Read the demonstration policy on page 51 of the *Pachyderm*. Did your rally break any of the rules?

GUIDELINES

The small number of faculty who cancelled classes on September 19 so that their students could attend the entire Senate sponsored rally for divestment from companies which operate in South Africa are required to re-schedule that lost time. But this is not fair to any student that wanted to attend class during the rally. The students precious time was squandered if he or she did not want to attend the partisan demonstration.

No matter how "moral" the issue, teachers should not infringe upon a student's time for political reasons. Hell would have broken loose if conservative faculty members cancelled their classes for a

day so that students could listen to an assortment of speakers praising Star Wars. Professors, let your political views remain outside of the classroom.

President Mayer must adopt a policy which would discourage, or better yet, prohibit faculty from acting in such a disrespectful manner.

I applaud those faculty members that did not cancel their classes. You are a credit to Tufts University. And even though many of you sympathized with the protest, you realized that there are appropriate arenas for all types of education. Thank you for letting students choose their own arena.



Letters

Brian,

You still have the best movie taste on campus. I agree completely with your judgment about *Back to the Future*; also *Kiss of the Spider Woman*.

Sol Gittleman, Provost

To the editor:

I sincerely admire the students publishing *The Primary Source*. They show imagination and dedication to a cause — this is impressive.

'We Finally Did It' (September) suggests a long-overdue swing to the right at Tufts resulted from this imagination and dedication. The evidence

for this swing — a lack of opposition response to the paper — infers a conservative conformity has swept the campus, leaving liberal activists scattered in the dust. Yet after reading several issues of *The Primary Source*, I can understand why liberals avoid responding to your publication.

College is a place, as you suggest, to share ideas. Yet sharing implies an equality of sorts, sharing implies respect. I believe that the writers of *The Primary Source* wish to share and exchange ideas. But it is this need to be right, this need to have the last word, this infantile egocentrism — that shatters the noble notion of idea-sharing. If the paper truly desires more feedback from liberal corners,

why not drop the sarcasm and cynicism? When George Will or Cal Thomas of the Moral Majority contributes to the *Boston Globe*, neither is tailed by editorialists anxious to show sharp wit, intent on crushing their opinions the day they are printed.

Politically, and as human beings, you and I face a choice. Do we stay in separate camps, blanketed by comforting ideologies, taking cheap shots at one another, or do we appreciate our differences and risk working things out? Do we respect each other's opinions, or carelessly deride the opposition with a self-righteousness bordering on contempt?

Your voices, conservative voices, drift closer these days — I can't ignore

them. But sometimes I wish those voices weren't so loud, so careless, so callous.

And sometimes, wandering through this shaky, patriotic wilderness — stumbling over misplaced stars and stripes — I'm left feeling strangely isolated from your 'new' conservative America. It's an inexplicable alienation — a feeling of shared values gone awry, a feeling of hearts lost to recent history. It's a bizarre sense that not very long ago, not very far away, I'm quite sure I lived in a different America — and I'm quite sure you lived there too.

Sincerely,
Jim Morelli

The Senate's Boycotted Boycott

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though many people hold those opinions — merely because the Senate disagrees with these alternatives.

Whether these are viable alternatives is not the issue; the issue is the Senate reneged on its responsibility to present alternative views to the student body. If the Senate's wish was to initiate discussion, many of the speakers hindered rather than helped.

The Reverend Ellis Hegler stated emphatically that "the blood flows red in South Africa" and his emotional frenzy excited some, but turned off many. No one at the rally doubted the horror and injustice of apartheid, yet through all his rhetoric, that is basically all Hegler

mentioned.

In addition to Hegler, the comparison of President Mayer to Jerry Falwell by Boston City Councilman Charles Yancy did little to keep students who came to hear rational arguments and to be educated. The Senate failed to realize that not all students feel as strongly about divestment as it does, not because of misconceptions about apartheid, but because of lack of knowledge of the other alternatives.

Many students, including myself, troubled by apartheid attended the rally in hope of hearing alternative views, but instead were turned off by the rhetoric and ranting of an obvious fact: apartheid is terrible. Despite the low response to the Senate resolu-

tion, Obadia said that, "the rally communicated the Tufts student body's position to other campuses and to the outside community." I would like to know what he views the position of the Tufts community to be.

If Obadia is stating that the rally proved students support for divestment then he has no facts to back that up, and is trying to deceive those students who are still unsure about their own positions.

The rally showed that the position of the Tufts community is horror towards apartheid — that is all. I do not think anyone ever doubted that fact.

The failure of the rally and boycott was that the Senate tried to exercise power and influence it does not have. The Senate tried to lead instead of

represent, but most students refused to follow. The Senate clearly attempted not to educate the community about divestment as an option, but instead to present divestment as the only option.

The boycott resolution with its "emergency" session and publicity were a big ego trip for the Senators, who wished to show the administration how much power they had. The Senate thought it had the student body blindly behind it, and that it had the power to shut down the campus.

In the words of Senator Dave Barasso after the "emergency" session, "The boycott is for us to show a little backbone." It appears that this backbone is awfully weak.

EAST GERMANY AND THE HOLOCAUST

Oakes Spalding

The *New York Times* reports that tens of thousands of East Germans took part in a ceremony commemorating the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp on April 11, 1945. East German government speakers used the ceremony as a forum to denounce "aggressive American imperialism," making thinly veiled comparisons between the Nazis and so called American-inspired "Neo-Fascist and revanchist forces."

There was no mention of the thousands of Jews who died at Buchenwald. Indeed, there is little mention of them in the museum at the camp, and the forty page museum guidebook briefly mentions the killing of Jews only three times. The "terror" of the camps, according to the guidebook was "centered on the Communists and militant Social Democrats who

were the hard core of the resistance."

There was also no mention at the ceremony of how Buchenwald and other camps were reopened by the occupying Soviet forces in 1945 and continued to be operated by the Soviets until 1950 as camps for German political prisoners. These prisoners included not only former Brown Shirts and minor Nazi party officials, but also anti-Nazi intellectuals, members of the Social Democratic, Liberal Democratic and other anti-Nazi political parties, and any others who were perceived to represent a threat to the Soviet imposition of one party Communist rule.

Incredibly, the occupying Soviets did not improve the mortality rate in many of the camps. In Soviet operated Buchenwald the 1945-1946 mortality rate was 72%.

Such rewriting and whitewashing of history at the Buchenwald ceremony is further evidence not only of the official government policy of anti-semitism (particularly

sickening in this case), but also of how the Communist governments of Eastern Europe routinely clamp down on the truth, just as they clamp down on the yearnings of

their people to be free.

Oakes Spalding graduated from Tufts in 1985 and is now studying in London, England.

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On The Right

CASTRO'S TERRIFIC IDEA

—Wm. F. Buckley, Jr.

Fidel Castro, you will have noticed, is on a high, and few highs are higher than Fidel Castro's, because he has inexhaustible energy and is a born moralizer. What he is up to at the present time is especially piquant. He is advising Latin American creditors to repudiate their debt to the United States.

Few ideas have greater appeal than this one. There is nothing so appealing as rationalization. I remember a professor in my youth who one day carefully explained to me that although a believing Christian, he did not need to repent his nonstop fornication because, you see, he was engaged intellectually in endeavors pleasing to the Lord, and his output was irretrievably dependent upon regular sexual release. Uh-huh. Apropos of such reasoning I note that the clinical psychologist Stanton E. Samenow, author of *The Criminal Personality*, remarks in his new book, "From my clinical observation, I have concluded that 'kleptomaniacs' and 'pyromaniacs' are simply people who enjoy stealing for setting fires."

The line Fidel Castro is peddling, in speech after speech, seminar after seminar, goes as follows: The American banks that, during the past decade or so, lent money so heavily to Latin America, in particular to Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina, were in fact engaged in acts of imperialism. Under the circumstances, he explains, smiling, the debts to the American banks really don't count — for the simple reason that you do not need to pay money to bourgeois criminals. Moreover, and efforts to repay those sums means austerity for innocent people. Under the circumstances, Latin American governments have a social responsibility to repudiate their debt. We are talking, ladies and gentlemen, about, oh, \$300 billion.

Now this comes during a season in



which Latin America is gravely suffering. In part for natural reasons, in part for reasons that, paradoxically, had something to do with easy credit during the Seventies. When President Echeverria was inaugurated in 1970, Mexico's debt was approximately \$5 billion. Ninety-five billion dollars later, Mexico is impoverished. Unemployment has risen, the population has grown, inflation is disastrous: and the plight of the working man is acute. Granted the stunning scale of official Mexican graft and ineptitude, still it is mind-boggling that so many dollars should have caused so much harm.

The experience — in Mexico, in Brazil, in Argentina — tends to bear out the scholarly researches of such as Thomas Sowell, Charles Murray, George Gilder, and Tom Bethell. These scholars say it in various ways, but most directly it is Tom Bethell who concludes that the entire post-war venture of aid to other countries,

whether extended by governments or by banks, has had negative effects. The key to economic progress is the absolute sanctity of property. Property is the universal victim of politics. Lord Keynes reminded us that it is only government that can debauch the currency. Nothing that a Mexican entrepreneur can do is proof against inflation, taxation, or even expropriation. Money flowing in from whatever quarter tends to excite those instincts in government most hostile to economic stability, and to growth. So that what Fidel Castro tells us, although it is entirely wrongheaded and, in his hands, merely the extrusion of Marxist dogma, is in a paradoxical sense correct: American money has contributed to the despoliation of Latin America.

There is a sense in which what Castro is saying is redundant. Peru has already suggested the line most Latin American countries are inclined to take: namely, limiting pay-

ments to a (small) percentage of exports. Alan Garcia, the new president of Peru, has told the United States that he intends to repay Peruvian loans with 10 percent of export sales. It must be a wonderful feeling to become the president of an independent country. You tell your banker what payments you will make, and when.

There are consequences in all of this, of course. They are that it becomes impossible to borrow any more money. What if Peru decided tomorrow that it needed \$100 million with which to construct a dam?

Exactly. No banker is likely to step forward. And in the absence of easy credit, Peru may consider alternative means of stimulating production. Meanwhile, Professor Castro can continue to keep his deteriorating economy from utterly impoverishing his people by simply spending Soviet money, which subsidizes much of Cuba, and all of Castro.

TIME FOR CHANGE IN PHILIPPINES

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military.

The issue here is a crucial one. The army is still a central element to combat insurgent guerillas, the Maoist New People's Army (NPA) and Khomeni-inspired moslem extremists.

These organizations are clearly undesirable alternatives to Marcos. The guerillas move freely — and sometimes viciously — in the countryside. On one of their "tax-collecting" campaigns, "a poor woman shop-keeper who refused to pay a 1-peso levy in February was gunned down in cold blood." (*U.S. News*, April 15) The hard-core of the movement espouses the hard-line of Mao Tse-tung.

While the committed Maoists and other extremists must be crushed in combat, the back of the rebellion can be broken by economic reform. The NPA has grown in recent years

because they represent the only alternative to Marcos' rule, Parliamentary opposition leader Jovito Salonga explains:

Social injustice, corruption and abuse of power is what it's about. Eighty-five percent of all Philippine children suffer some sort of malnutrition. The rich-poor gap is so huge that about 80 families control most of the country's wealth. To the peasant who can't get any lower, the NPA seems a good alternative. (*Ibid.*)

Obviously, economic aid is needed to help improve the lot of the peasantry. However, it should be linked to gradual reform and movement towards fair elections slated for 1986 and 1987.

Most of the NPA was built on poverty. Although Soviet influence has been documented, the NPA could not have reached its current strength

without internal turmoil. By removing the economic affliction, the army can defeat the more militant rebels.

At this juncture, there exists no clear alternative to Marcos other than a Communist junta. Nevertheless, if the above policy does not work or Marcos does not learn to play ball, the U.S. needs an alternative.

Cultivating moderates in the government and reformists like Ramos in the military is a logical extension of the above argument. U.S. recognition of the legitimate moderate opposition forces could be decisive in their role to gain a greater say in Philippines' future.

Currently, the moderates are poorly organized, constrained by internal and personality differences. Signs of approval from America might strengthen their hand, perhaps facilitating a more united front. Also, this action will undercut the Communist insurgents and make the

message to Marcos crystal clear.

It is worth noting that traditional U.S. influence in the Philippines has contributed a great force for its future. Historically, American military forces liberated the islands from Spanish rule in 1898. The American administration instituted various reforms and improvements in education, poverty, and provided more local autonomy.

1947, the U.S. granted the Philippines complete political independence.

One thing is clear: the situation as it exists today cannot continue. The U.S. must persuade Marcos to change or the U.S. must be prepared to change — and remove — Marcos.

This policy was so successful that in World War II the Filipinos fought with the United States and against Japan, a fellow Asian nation. And in

INSIDER'S EXPERIENCE IN GUATEMALA

Renee Rheinbolt, J'89

What is really happening in Guatemala? Well, let me tell you. To begin with, Guatemala borders Mexico and Belize on its northern edge, and El Salvador and Honduras on its southern edge.

Guatemala is a beautiful country with a great variety of terrain. The population of the country is 8 million: forty-five percent are of Spanish descent — the Ladinos, and the other fifty-five percent are Mayan Indians.

Guatemala has been my home for twelve years; the time there has been a tremendous enriching and educational opportunity. I lived in the capital, Guatemala City; in Quetzaltenango, a city of 100,000; in a small village; and with an Indian family two hours from the nearest road.

During this time I had the opportunity to travel around the country. Most importantly I have become good friends with people from every level of society, from the poorest Indian to the richest Ladino, and even with those of the rapidly growing middle class.

The above information is the background for the experiences I want to share concerning the political situation of Guatemala.

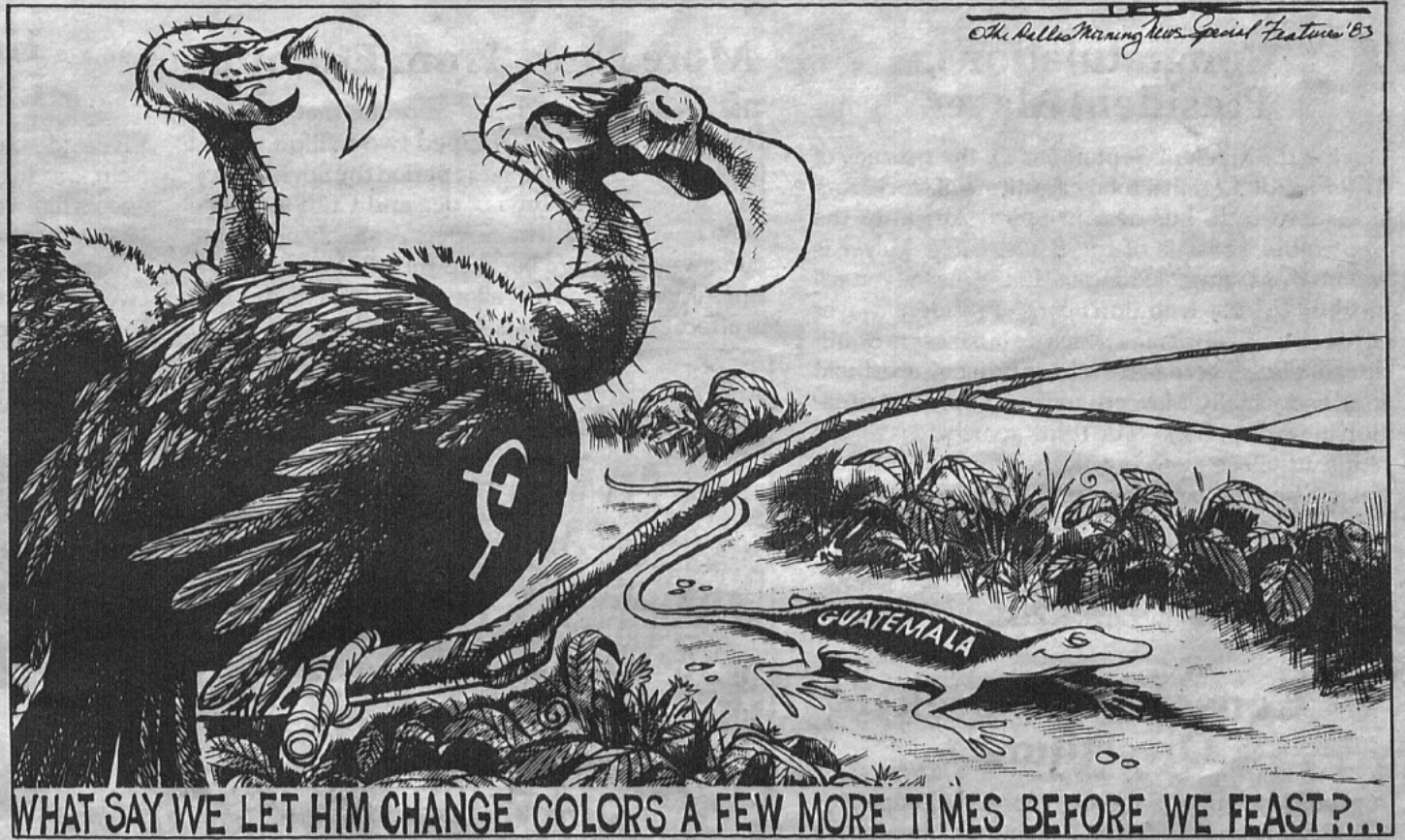
It is very sad for me to see how many Americans have been misled by the media and other sources regarding the predicament Guatemala and other Central American countries are in. Everyone should go down there and see the true situation for themselves.

The media gives the impression that in Guatemala there are killings and battles on every corner. In twelve years I have never encountered any bloody incidents.

Do not get the impression that Guatemala is engulfed in tranquility; that is far from the truth. For many years now the communists, by guerrilla warfare, have been trying to take over Guatemala and its government. The fighting has mostly taken place in the rugged mountains of western Guatemala, away from the major roads and cities.

The guerrillas also use a variety of techniques in their attempts to overthrow the Guatemalan government: kidnappings, assassinations, burning of property, blowing up bridges, etc.

Guatemalans have not and will not give in. They see through the promises that the communists make; they have seen the future in Nicaragua, and do not want any part



of it.

Some people are thinking "She means the upper-class oppose communism and has forgotten to mention the repressed lower class." Incorrect. The Indians of Guatemala are very capitalistic, more so than the average Ladino. They are very much like the Puritans that founded Boston.

They live out the Puritan work ethic of working hard but living simply. I have been to many two room, adobe houses that have chickens, pigs, dogs, and several children running all over the place. But under one of the straw-filled mattresses there could be several hundred dollars. The Indians do not want government control of the free market.

Conversely, the wealthy Guatemalans also oppose a communist government. When I think of this aspect of the conflict, a family that is very close to mine immediately comes to my mind.

These people owned a small coffee farm on the coastal plain. The father was always improving the farm, mainly by having good conditions and relationships with the workers, and attempting to develop the best coffee bean possible.

About four years ago, the guerrillas started to send life-threatening notes and telephone calls to this family, putting them in constant fear for their lives. This created incredible stress on the family that has five children above the age of 20.

Two years later, the communist

guerrillas burned down their small farm and killed the administrator. All the laborers lost their jobs and livelihoods. The family was left with nothing. Unfortunately, this kind of situation is repeated constantly.

At first, I could not understand why the guerrillas would try to destroy people who were loved by their workers, but ignore those who do abuse their rights as employers.

However, the communists want to inspire rebellion by creating unemployment and discontent. Workers who are satisfied with their

lives make poor revolutionaries. It is illogical to destroy workers' jobs and leave them with nothing.

In addition, other destructive things that the guerrillas do that hurt the common people include blowing up major bridges. This can only restrict travel and the free market.

What I have shared with you has been from the heart; but I want to leave you with one point: above all else, the vast majority of the Guatemalan people oppose communism and the insurgency.

NEW LIBERALISM — A THREAT

Waldemar Opalka, A'88

If all mankind minus one were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind.

— John Stuart Mills

There is a growing movement about to crush the opposition! Literature is burned, political leaders are intimidated and opposition sympathisers are bullied. A tense situation is developing, which is reshaping the *status quo*, that will allow censorship of political diversity. This "new beginning" is initiated and acted upon by the Jerry Falwells and Jesse Helms of the left — the "new liberal" leadership. By undermining our current structure of political tolerance they pose a threat to the very existence of democracy.

Although such movements tend to wax and wane, a sudden growth in the movement can be destructive, especially if the political cause becomes trendy to join. Currently this destructiveness is evident on our campus. Last semester, for example, there was a *Primary Source* burning near Eaton Hall. Clearly, the intolerance portrayed by those involved is reprehensible. Yet, nothing was done about it, and the image of *The Primary Source* becomes tarnished.

This problem exacerbates when false, preconceived notions are spread and leads to biased opinions against the paper by individuals who only read selected parts of the *Source*, if they read anything at all.

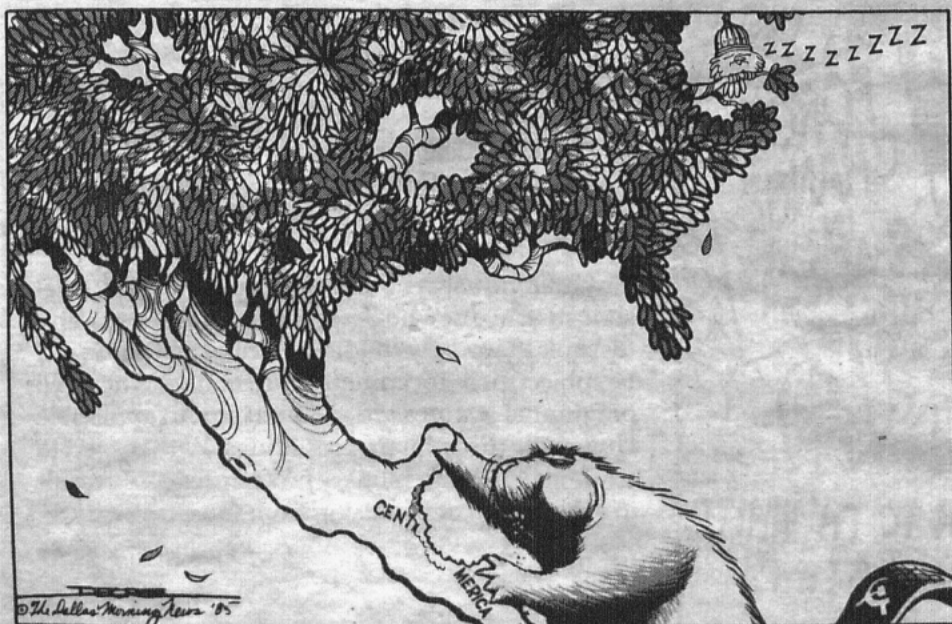
In another recent incident, there was controversy over the publication of Diane Zitner's article on "Live Aid." Although her point of view may not be popular, she does have a right to express it without reprisal. Denying her otherwise is reminiscent of the censorship policies in totalitarian and Fascist regimes. It is unfortunate that Miss Zitner was intimidated by several students who disapprove of her viewpoint.

What is worse, however, is that these individuals were not radicals from whom such bullying would be expected. No! Instead, she was intimidated by respected leaders of our community, who are known to me and who "claim" open-mindedness.

This incident can only cast a dark shadow upon the organization that they represent and undermine its democratic foundation. An apology to Miss Zitner is in order.

Furthermore, the desired boycott initiated by our Senate and suggestion by its President that professors cancel classes strikes a direct blow at

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The Month in Review

Congratulations, President Mayer

During the week of September 15, the trustees of Tufts decided against total divestiture of stock from firms which do business in South Africa. In the September 24 issue of the *Boston Globe*, Mayer is reported as saying, "[Total divestiture] means you sell stock to people who don't care." President Mayer believes that companies which do business in South Africa can play very active roles in bringing apartheid to an end. Finally, Mayer described the present situation in South Africa: "I do think apartheid is on the skids. It will be slow, but clearly the philosophical basis is being eroded. The problem is how to get to one-man, one-vote rule without a bloodbath." Would those who say that *The Primary Source* supports apartheid because of its anti-divestiture stance tell the same thing to the humanitarian Mayer?

Conservatives Seek Divestiture

A group known as "Save the Oppressed People," or STOP has been founded by The Young Conservative Foundation. Their target, however, is not the Republic of South Africa, but a country which is much more repressive and vastly more dangerous. This brave group, which has united with liberal organizations also, wants colleges (currently they are most active at American University) to divest from companies which do business with the Soviet Union. If you are interested in their activities feel free to write them at 1326 G Street, SE; Washington, D.C. 20003.

Womens Groups Suffer Setback

On September 5 the United States Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a district court's ruling on the issue of comparable worth. The original ruling would have forced the state of Washington to compensate workers who have been working at jobs for less money than an outside panel thinks they deserve. The outside panel assigned points to a job based on factors such as education needed for the job. Needless to say no consideration was given to market factors like supply and demand.

Basically, the circuit court declared that the free market is not a subject enterprise. The state is not responsible for the disparity in wages and should not be held accountable for it. At least for a while longer, market wages will help determine an employees worth instead of a bureaucrat growing fat behind a large desk on taxpayer's money.

More News From Ethiopia

The Heritage Foundation reports that through January 1985 the U.S. shipped two million tons of food to Ethiopia. In the same period the Soviet Union had donated 3,500 tons of rice and Cuba supplied 5,000 mercenaries. The Soviets probably could not donate much more because they follow the same agriculture scheme that allowed the African drought to affect Ethiopia so severely.

How Caring Were Live Aid Viewers?

Live Aid raised approximately 58 million dollars to help starving Africans. At first this amount of money seems like a staggering sum, and in some regards it is. But just imagine if a billion viewers had donated a quarter each, which is quite a respectable price for a twelve hour movie. Live Aid would have raised two hundred and fifty million dollars. . . .



I Hope Uncle Sam Owes Me Money. . .

A General Accounting Office report showed that several government agencies have occasionally been paying their bills twice. This simple minded error only cost the taxpayers 11 million dollars in 1984!

Practice What You Preach, Tip!

Tip O'Neill made some serious gaffes recently. The *Boston Globe* of September 11, 1985 reports that hats made in the Republic of South Africa were distributed at an annual Democratic golf tournament. So much for trying to bring economic pressure against that country!

On another note, a computer keyboard which was made in Singapore was found in Tip's outer office. Can the unions ever take his word seriously again?

Who Is Tufts' President

At the so-called boycott of September 19, more than a few heads turned when Boston City Councilman Charles Yancy likened President Jean Mayer to Jerry Falwell, head of the Moral Majority. We never knew that Mayer was a Southern Baptist.

Is Busing Coming Back?

Is Jean Mayer Washington bound? At the September 8 Tufts Community Union Senate meeting, Mayer said that although the administration couldn't organize a trip to Washington, D.C. to protest apartheid, he would be willing to accompany the students and help arrange the acquisition of buses for the trip. We wonder if he will fly down?

Tufts Demonstration Policy

While the University recognizes the rights of members of the Tufts community to peaceful and non-obstructive gathering for the purpose of expressing and discussing ideas and opinions, the University will not sanction conduct such as the following:

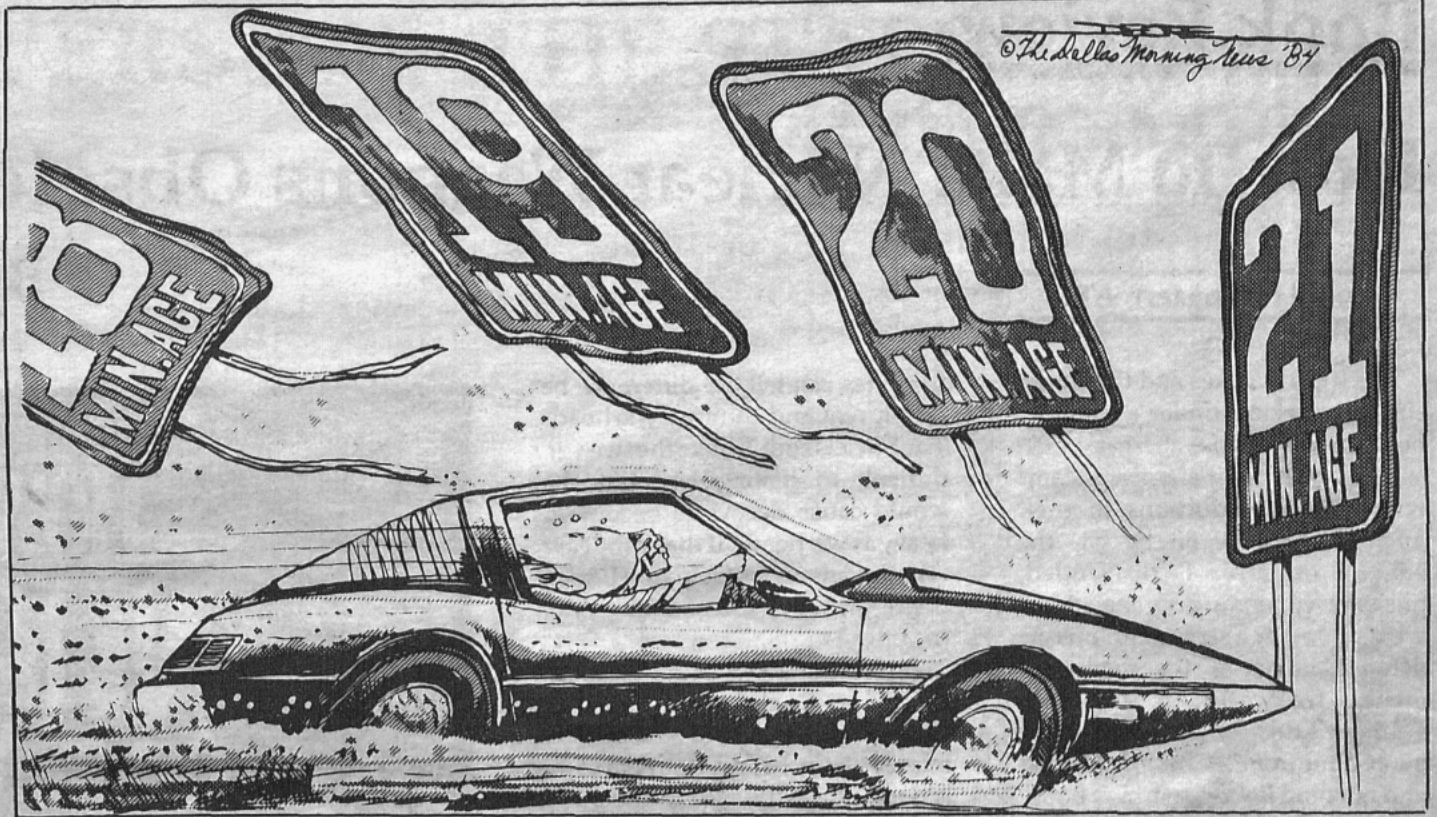
1. Interference with students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus who are seeking to perform their various duties;
2. Intimidation of students, faculty, staff, or visitors to the campus;
3. Destruction of or damage of University property;
4. Destruction of or damage of records, documents, files, etc., of the University or of members of the University community;
5. Trespass.

Any individual who engages in the conduct described above or who otherwise interferes with and disrupts the orderly conduct of University affairs will be subject to civil or criminal prosecution, when civil or criminal statutes are violated, and to applicable University disciplinary procedures. With respect to students, such disciplinary procedures could result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

—Pachyderm, 85-86



The next deadline
for
The Primary Source
is
October 17



BUCKLE UP...OR ELSE

Craig E. Reimer, A'89

The big hand of government has broken through your car windshield and intrusively placed its fist upon your lap. In these days when the college intellectual forum seems so wrapped-up in the affairs of other lands and peoples, it is disturbing to see laws and ordinances that challenge our fundamental sense of liberty be enacted with little furor or protest.

The issue at hand: it is now a violation to be driving or traveling in a car without your seatbelt fastened. This

became law in Massachusetts just recently while similar acts are being or have been enacted across the country.

Whereas the usefulness, effectiveness, of such a law can be argued with piles of statistics of this and that to the nth degree, pro and con, there is a much more significant intangible involved. Its constitutionality.

Generally, common sense and experience dictates that it is safer and better to be in an automobile with the seatbelt fastened. But, such a decision should not rest with the arbitrary rule of our legal system. While drivers have a responsibility to the public at large and to the occupants of their vehicles, it is nevertheless their private property. The sanctity of private property is the cornerstone of all our liberties as American citizens.

While seatbelts cannot and should not be equated with such gross infractions of every person's inalienable rights as apartheid, martial law, etc., it is significant. We must keep a balanced prospective at college between urbanity and indifference, "save the world" and self-indulgence.

The grand list of liberties that makes our nation great is now numbered less one. Drive safe, drive smart, Big Brother is watching you.

Poet's Corner

Jeff Hamond, A'89

(NO) CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Early morning, April four, is what U2 might say,
But there was persecution in our world before and after that day . . .
In South Africa now exists a situation much like our very own
For in the mid-1960s our black citizens had no home.
Why do we insist on persecuting others — we are all created the same —
But creating a perfect society seems to be some sort of game;
Hitler's attempt at an Aryan race was certainly a mistake,
And we, also, must realize there's just so much a people can take.
So why don't we sit back for a while and let things take their course,
For letting oppression diffuse may save us from future remorse —
Let's keep our world at peace for the benefit of our next of kin,
Because having different religion or color is certainly not a sin!

RED RIDING HOOD REVISITED

Gordon L. Conklin

Once upon a time, in the far-off land of Organized States, Little Red Riding Hood wended her way through the forest toward her grandmother's house. This was not easy to do, for the road's reconstruction had been delayed for years by wrangling over an environmental impact study. A batwinged griddlesnitcher was rumored to live in this forest, and there were those who considered it an endangered species.

Now unbeknownst to Little Reddy, a wolf was already creeping toward the back door of her grandmother's house. Grandma saw the rascal as he burst through the door, and reached for her trusty firearm . . . remembering too late that the Wolf Protection and Civilian Disarmament Act had authorized its confiscation only the week before.

As the wolf picked his teeth after the rather meager meal, he reflected gratefully that old granny was fortunately very lean and therefore presented no cholesterol hazard. He supposed vegetarianism might be an option, but it never had appealed to him.

Glancing at the blackboard beside the door, Old Snaggletooth saw granny's note to herself: "LRRH for supper." He thought this was a capital idea, and so he put on some clothing

he found in the closet and climbed into bed to wait for the arrival of the next repast.

Now Little Reddy hadn't been raised in the streets of Big Wormy without learning a thing or three, so she spotted the wolf's tracks right off. Suspecting something amiss, she asked some nearby woodcutters to accompany her to the house. One grabbed up his axe and the other a hunting knife.

Alas! Just as they burst into the house, a passing police patrol arrested the whole kit and kaboodle for suspicious activities and for carrying unauthorized weapons in an inhabited area without a permit.

Further investigation revealed Granny's gory demise, but the wolf was quickly exonerated on the grounds of temporary insanity. Furthermore, when it was revealed that the departed had once owned stock in a company doing business in South Africa, the wolf became a folk hero to the college students at Bubblehead U. located in a nearby city.

The woodcutters were finally released on a legal technicality. . . Little Reddy sued and collected a zillion shekels for false arrest. . . and the wolf became a fabulously successful lecturer and bestselling author (as well as a frequent talk-show star).

Mr. Conklin is Editor-in-Chief of the American Agriculturalist. This article has been reprinted with his permission.

STAR WARS

Sly ones, deft ones we can handle
Even abusers of our preamble
But for those who invade the foreign suns —
"Mount your spaceships — grab your guns!"
Hell, we've got enough trouble here
Without adding more interstellar fear;
Screw the Soviets and don't worship Reagan —
We'd be better off all acting pagan!
Look at songs, like "Russians" by Sting;
The commies keep us from doing our thing . . .
Always threatened by another crisis
Chopping the world into smaller slices.
All this bullshit screws us over
While we wish for peace on a four leaf clover —
If our leaders want to fight war in space,
Well, maybe that's their rightful place!

Book Review

How To Make Nuclear Weapons Obsolete

Daniel Calingaert, A'86

By Robert Jastrow

The United States and the Soviet Union, working under a carefully negotiated timetable, alternate parallel deployments of defensive systems with parallel reductions in their nuclear arsenals. Bit by bit, the balance of terror is dismantled, nuclear weapons are eliminated and are replaced by a secure anti-missile defense. "That is the road to a nuclear-free world." (p. 140)

One would have thought that the quote came from *The Wizard of Oz*, had one not read Robert Jastrow's book. Indeed, the notion that nuclear weapons can be made obsolete still seems like wishful thinking, even to people who are not dedicated cynics. However, two and a half years after Reagan's famous "Star Wars" speech, the elimination of nuclear weapons is beginning to look like a real possibility.

According to Dr. Jastrow, the United States could create a strategic defense system with today's technology (based on "smart bullets" which can track a missile through heat waves or radar reflections) which would be "80 percent effective — a very conservative estimate." (p. 15) Even though 20% of the missiles launched against us could hit their targets, the Soviet Union would be less likely to launch a first strike because it would not know which missiles would reach their targets, and part of the U.S. deterrent would survive to retaliate.

If the Soviets increased the number of missiles and warheads, the United States could reinforce its defenses sufficiently to offset the Soviet increase. The deployment of an additional offensive weapon would cost two to three times more than the addition of one unit of defense capable of destroying it.

Thus, both superpowers would be better off if they built a strategic defense system. Both sides would keep some missiles to deter the other until the new technologies are put in place. The deployment of lasers and of particle beam weapons would raise the effectiveness of the defenses to "99.9 percent," (p. 113) which would make nuclear weapons obsolete.

One could think of a number of ways in which strategic defenses could be overcome, but Dr. Jastrow rebuts most problems which spring to mind. Could not a large number of decoys overwhelm a defense system?

Satellites can tell the difference between real and dummy warheads. The Soviets could make the two very difficult to distinguish, but that would cause decoys to become as heavy as warheads. If that is the case, "the Soviets cannot release a flock of them, and they are of little value." (p. 118)

Then what about putting a shine on missiles to reflect laser beams? The shine will be dulled during the missile's launch, and "the heat of the laser beam will degrade the shine rapidly." (p. 163) It may take a bit longer, but the missiles will be shot down. But the Soviets can try to blind our defense system by destroying our satellites. No problem. Satellites can be defended too.

They can be as heavily armored as we like because they are weightless in orbit. They can also be placed in orbits outside the range of anti-satellite weapons, or can have rocket engines to maneuver out of the way of an attacking missile, or a satellite "can shoot down smart bullets with its own smart bullets." (p. 64) For the skeptic, the arguments are intriguing, but not convincing. Unless one has studied these matters, one must accept Dr. Jastrow's explanations at face value, and the suspicion remains that some of his assertions are debatable.

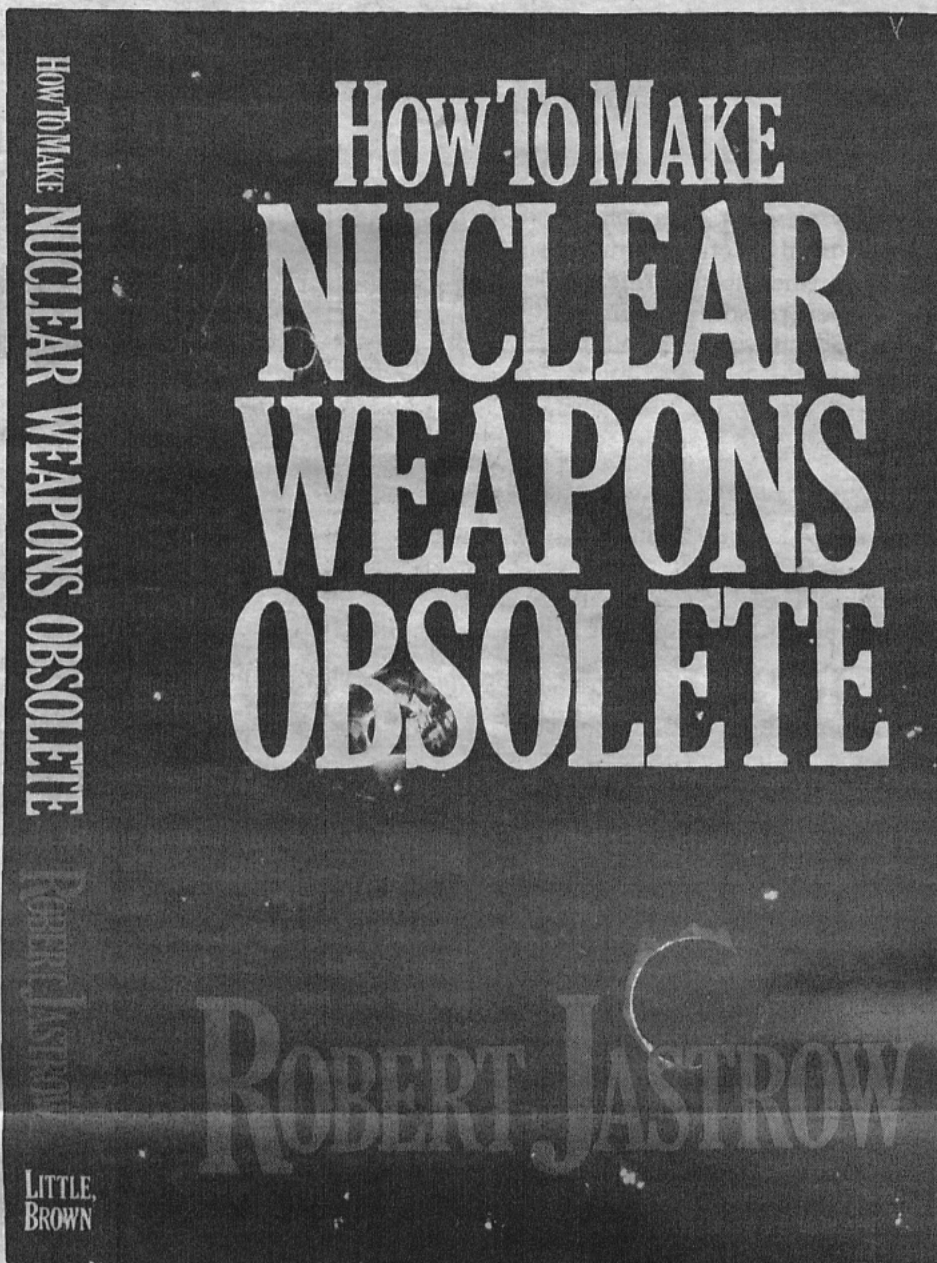
Nonetheless, the book is worth reading because it offers one of the most cogent and thorough arguments in favor of strategic defense. Dr. Jastrow is one of the very few people who can explain scientific matters in a way that is not only understandable, but also interesting to read.

However, moving on to strategic questions, one encounters two major problems with Dr. Jastrow's analysis.

First, he belittles the necessity of cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in moving away from deterrence to strategic defense. The period in which the superpowers possess both offensive and defensive systems will be more volatile than today, because the strategic balance could be upset more easily by technological innovations.

If either a country's defenses become penetrable or its missiles become unable to strike the other, the balance will become unstable. Today's balance requires only that part of each country's forces can survive a nuclear attack and retaliate.

The second problem is that Dr.



Jastrow ignores the possibility of the Soviets creating countermeasures to our systems. Even if our satellites could be defended today, Soviet scientists in the future might think up ingenious ways to countering those defenses. In such an event, it may be difficult to send the Space Shuttle to each of our satellites in order to deploy the new counter-countermeasures.

However, one should keep in mind that if neither side possessed nuclear missiles, this problem would not be as serious as it would otherwise be. Robert Jastrow may be a visionary who has outlined the course of peace into the 21st century, but it is too early to hand him the laurels. Much of his argument is based on technology which has yet to be proved workable and affordable.

However, the prospect of a nuclear-free world is sufficiently compelling

to warrant the investment in research in order to tell whether or not a strategic defense system could work as well as its proponents claim.

The Soviet Union is spending large sums of money on space weapons research, which is reason enough to do the same. In addition, we cannot assume that the balance of nuclear weapons will always prevent nuclear war. Though it has served us well in the past, deterrence has a tendency to break down from time to time. Given the opportunity of eliminating nuclear weapons, it would be foolish to content ourselves with the bliss of ignorance.

We should, instead, make the investment of research into strategic defense in order to find out whether the dream of a nuclear-free world can become a reality.

New Liberalism — A Threat To Democracy

continued from page 5

the students' right of free choice. Although the intention of the Senate was admirable, it did infringe on some students' desire to receive the services they paid for. What strikes me as strange is the President's quote in *The Tufts Daily* (September 18), "— we didn't realize how few students have classes on Fridays," referring to why the boycott should be held on Thursday. Was it the intention of the Senate to lengthen

their own weekend or were they serious about the action? Clearly, had fewer students had classes, more could have attended the rally and thus be informed of the situation.

To this effect, I suggest the Senate, the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, and the student community organize one or more cause dinners which could make humanitarian contributions, spiritually and physically, to the victims of apar-

theid repression. Humanitarian aid, unlike violent revolution as suggested by some to overthrow the current regime, enhances cooperation and promotes democratic ideals. Violence, in any case, kills the roots of democracy. I'm sure Bishop Tutu would agree with me on this point.

Despite talk of the liberalism and open-mindedness on this campus, I see a lack of tolerance for politically opposing views, particularly those moderate to conservative views

which are often muffled out by the voices of the left and far right.

Such conflict is destructive, and if this intolerance is not dealt with, one can expect greater problems in the future. It used to be that the Jesse Helms and Jerry Falwells were undermining our freedom. Now it is their liberal counterparts that threaten democracy for all.

CONTROVERSY AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT

Pamela Ferdinand, J'86

Fueled by charges which suggest the President's foreign policy is not being carried out according to plan, controversy over State Department policy and personnel has peaked in calls for the resignation of Secretary of State George Shultz.

The current debate not only bridges the issue of a possible discrepancy between State policy and Presidential rhetoric, but also touches on the sensitive issue of State Department personnel, their loyalty and their ability to carry out Presidential mandate. Fingers point to State support of the Soviet-backed Mozambique government despite Reagan rhetoric in favor of the anti-communist rebel cause and to relations with China over Taiwan as examples of State-Reagan policy gaps.

The controversy may seem surprising, considering the assumption that when a President takes office, he names his supporters to top positions. Theoretically, policy is developed and implemented accordingly; practically, this is not the case.

For an administration to have any policy impact, the President is expected to take full advantage of his appointment ability to select policy supporters. By law, this ability is marginal; only 160 positions, ambassadors and top department posts at State can be appointed by the President (Title 22 of US Code, Sections 2652, 2653). Excluding ambassadors, statutory authority leaves only 30 State Department positions for the President to fill out of a 7,125 strong diplomatic corps.

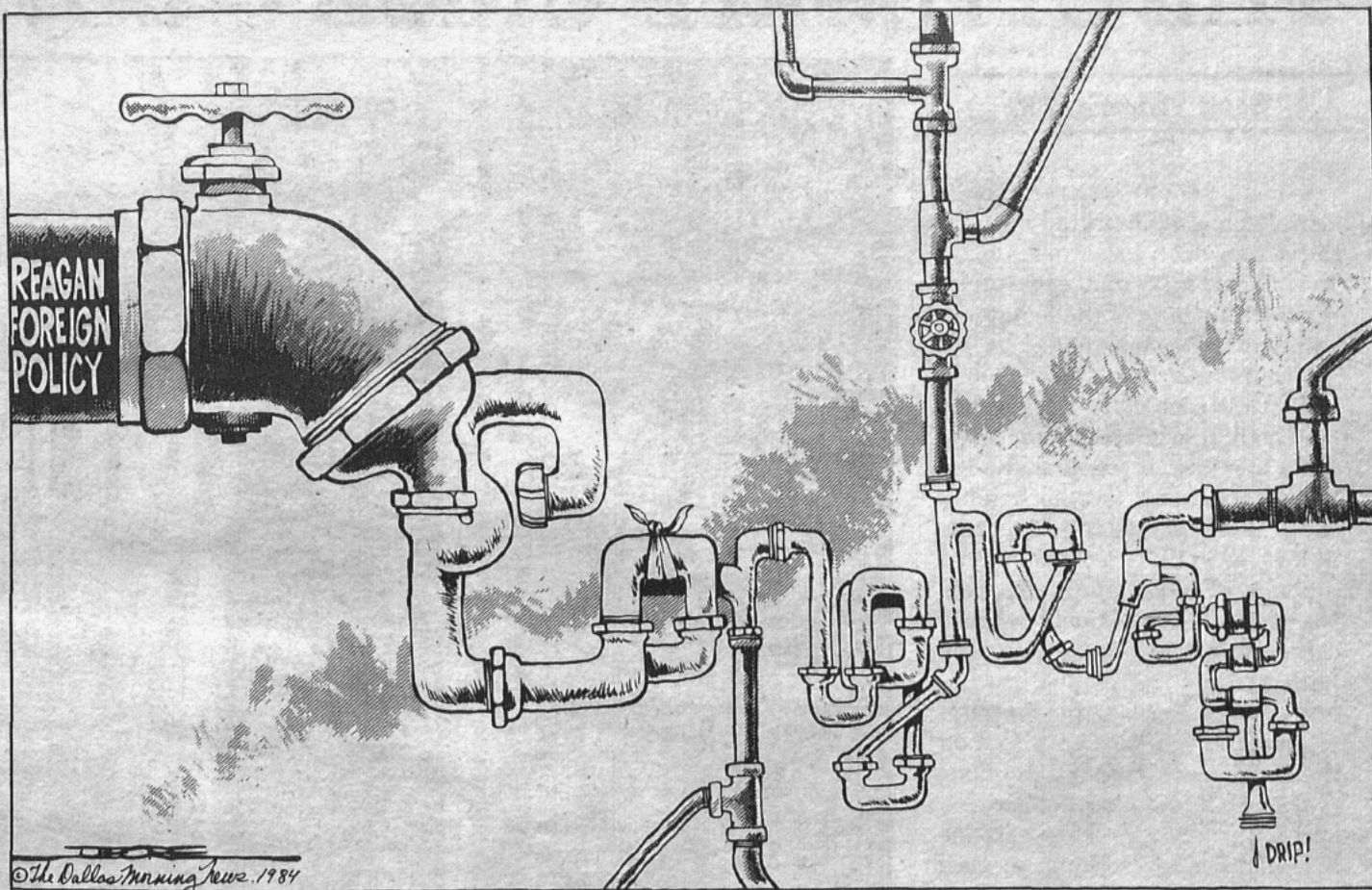
These 30 policymakers oversee the 7,095 State Department employees at the Washington headquarters. The 7,095 must be filled by civil service careerists (4,464) and foreign service officers (2,631).

Apparently, the policy gap is determined by two factors: 1) the law, which restricts Presidential appointments and 2) the President, who may or may not exercise his appointment authority to the fullest extent.

A look at the law shows the limit of executive authority in this area. The extent to which President Reagan seems to have neglected to use even this minimal amount of discretion can best be judged by looking at who occupied these 30 posts during his fifth year of office.

In order to better understand the workings of the State Department it is helpful to know the policy maker's backgrounds. Forty percent of the thirty possible political appointees are actually foreign service officers. Of the remaining eighteen Presidential appointees, ten are holdovers from previous administrations. Four appointees are holdovers from the Carter Administration and six are holdovers from the Nixon Administration. The remaining seven appointees are first-time political assignments by the Reagan Administration.

The policy implications of the personnel situation are becoming increasingly obvious as a separate foreign policy line develops alongside the Presidential agenda. For example, the State Department con-



tinues to oppose aid to the Afghan Freedom Fighters rebelling against the Soviet-backed government in Afghanistan to avoid antagonizing the Soviets or the Pakistanis. Secretary Shultz mandated that \$2 million be spent by the International Red Cross in cooperation with the puppet Kabul government instead of on the Mujahedeen, or Freedom Fighters.

Particularly in South Africa, State Department diplomacy spearheaded by Chester Crocker advocated the cut-off of aid to Jonas Savimbi's anti-communist Freedom Fighters in Angola. In Mozambique, Crocker has supported aid to the Soviet-backed government despite Reagan sympathy for the rebels.

State Department policy towards Taiwan has borne the brunt of criticism from conservative ranks. People charge that President Reagan's affirmation to follow policy "consistent with our obligations to the people of Taiwan" (Statement on August 17 Communique, August 17, 1982) is threatened by State Department policy which seeks improved relations with China.

Among other State decisions was the denial of FX fighter planes to Taiwan on the grounds that "no military need for such aircraft exists." Critics argue that the State Department turns a blind eye to the Communist Chinese threat, pointing to former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs John Holdridge's assertion that:

We are quite certain that Taiwan is under no imminent threat of attack, and we believe we would have considerable lead-time — perhaps as much as five years — if there should be a shift in Beijing's intentions.

(US Congress, House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, *Foreign Assistance and Related Programs, Appropriations for 1983, Part 4, 97th Cong., 2nd session (1982)*, p. 326)

Accordingly, State Department treatment of Taiwan has included a shift

from dealing with the Taiwanese "government" to Taiwanese "authorities" and avoids references to Taiwan as the Republic of China in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979.

In a recent article in *The Washington Times*, James Hackett pointed to other instances of State Department inconsistencies with Reagan principles:

For four years, State tried to undercut the establishment of Radio Marti, to avoid antagonizing Fidel Castro

State supported a Contadora draft treaty which would have led to acceptance of a Communist regime in Nicaragua

State cooperates with Communist regimes in Angola and Ethiopia, convincing itself that African Marxists are not real Marxists

State opposes most freedom fighters around the world, because its basic policy is to support the status quo, even where the status quo is communism

Concerned that conservatives were being "purged" from State Department ranks, Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) and a group of eight other senators sent a letter to Secretary of State George Shultz requesting a meeting with the Secretary and putting 29 nominations on "hold" earlier this year. The "hold" is "a form of senatorial courtesy under which other members tacitly honor a senator's request for delay of a confirmation vote" (*Washington Post*, John Goshko). The tactic was applied to the nominations of individuals whose loyalty to President Reagan's policies were deemed "suspect" by Helms.

Eventually, all 29 nominations were approved, but only after a heated debate that revolved around the nominations of both career diplomats and non-careerists and "after raising questions about the propriety and credibility of several" (NSR, 7-85). The implications of the

debate involved a request for Shultz's resignation and concern over the delay of Thomas Pickering's nomination that prevented his ambassadorship to Israel during the hostage situation. (Only Helms agreed to lift the hold on Pickering's nomination). Besides delaying the appointments, Helms demanded protection for at least six conservatives in the department, including Refugee Coordinator Douglas.

State Department critics who share Helms' view have suggested recommendations to make the department into an effective arm of Presidential foreign policy. The suggestions boil down to several points: 1) restore oversight of the foreign service 2) appoint loyal individuals to key policy positions and, ultimately, 3) replace the Secretary of State. A bill recently passed by Congress provides for some oversight of the department and removes the regulation that the chairman off the board of the foreign service must be a Foreign Service Officer.

These measures are designed to bring the State Department into line with the policy and objectives of the President. This would not only allow the realization of five years of rhetoric, but would fulfill an obligation to the American people who voted to see the campaign oratory put into action.

Let Us Hear From You

The Primary Source would love to hear your opinion about our newspaper. Write us a letter or an article and send it to us via campus mail. Speak out, we can only learn through dialogue.

Arts and Leisure

THE ULTIMATE VALUE — LOVE

Scott Vincens, E'87

To many people love is an expression of feelings apart and devoid from the values which decide our politics. To eradicate this errant philosophy the intermingling of their common values must be shown.

A couple who hold different views cannot love each other because they have nothing to offer each other to express that love. It seems as though two people who love each other could never disagree and this is true. In love, as in life, events should be mutually beneficial and since love is based on logical reasons, so should actions be based. This is not to say human relationships should be without emotions, quite the contrary! Human relationships are based on the highest, most revered emotions — respect, admiration, selfishness, and ultimately love. How can one love another for nothing, or even worse, for holding an opposite value?

Love is also an acceptance of responsibility. There is responsibility to the commitment of free exchange and also to defending that love. In order to defend this love one must be willing to face scrutiny and give meaningful reasons for one's love. This requires that one closely scrutinize their reasons for sharing that love before exhibiting this value. Love must be questioned before it can be felt. Because of this questioning, love is an undying value rather than a thoughtless, whimsical feeling.

Furthermore, love is an expression of one's own self, and one cannot love someone who does not believe in the same things. Love is an outlet that comes from the general principles of a person. If a set of beliefs (politics for example) does not agree with the other person's, then no complete set of values can coexist between the two because beliefs all stem from a person's general principles. It may be said that political views can be repressed. General principles by



which one lives cannot be repressed. If the principles that make up one's life are destroyed then life ceases to exist and consequently a nonentity can neither love nor be loved.

In a competition for one's love there can be no sharing or compromise with that love. The winner of the desired love is the one who earns it more. The person who most represents one's self esteem and pride, the person who has more to offer, the person who is valued higher is the one who receives the love. Although it may seem as though there must be a loser, actually there is none because the "loser's" values are obviously not equal to the chooser's values and therefore no love exists.

It may be assumed that selfish love is described here, yet what other love

is there? Altruistic love cannot exist because it implies love for the sake of love. What is there of value worth loving? Love for the sake of pity is meaningless, it is love for values that are absent rather than for values that are present. Love needs some logical reason, beneficial to both people, in order to exist. Love is a rational selfish expression of one's self respect and self esteem.

This does not mean that one should look for a servant to love or be loved by. There can be no dominance in love and no compromise between lovers. They are compliments of each other. One does not take from the other without giving due returns. In relationships, two people are independent equals who freely and voluntarily exchange respect, admi-

ration and love. A relationship without these equal, uncoerced exchanges is a facade, a contest in who can fake their "love" better.

Love can be nothing other than the ultimate expression of one's own self esteem. Because of this love shows everyone how highly or lowly one feels for oneself in the way one shows their love. Dishonor and disrespect for a loved one shows lack of love or lack of self respect, or, more probably both.

A person's values are their life and love is the ultimate expression of those beliefs. Love cannot exist as a contradiction to one's values or general principles but only as a complement to them. If it is of no value, it is not worth loving.

THE VENDING MACHINE:

A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT

Cara Applebaum, J'88

I'm studying. It's late. I'm tired, bored, and, of course, the inevitable — hungry. Instead of European history my mind is concentrating on chips, chocolate and diet coke. Though I try to push these thoughts aside, they keep nagging at me and driving me to the brink of delirium. Finally I relent. I scoop up whatever change I can find, fly out the door and race down the stairs, two at a time!

There they are: those two beautiful pieces of machinery. I turn to the soda machine and decide on a diet coke. But — there is one small complication — it costs fifty-five cents. Why is it that I only have two quarters? It was only fifty cents last year. I can not believe it! I mean, I can almost feel that nutrasweet flowing through my veins, that

caffeine activating my nearly comatose brain.

machine which says (and I quote), "When lit, use exact change only, please." Now they tell me! I push the coin return, but I fail to hear the reassuring noise of my fifty cents clinking against the bottom of the machine. I push it again. This time a little harder. But this is definitely not my night.

Slowly I turn and walk back up to my room, vowing to go the Heartland supermarket tomorrow to stock up on sodas and junk food. I'm just not strong enough to fight those machines again.

Isn't modern technology wonderful!

Oh well. At least there is still a snack machine and that only costs

forty cents. Let's see, should I get sugarless gum? Nah, that's a waste. How about fritos? But they're just not chocolate. Hmm, there's the M&M's, and over there a snickers bar. Where's the Twix? What will I do? Okay, I'll choose. I'll go for the snickers bar!

I drop my fifty cents into the machine and press the appropriate button. I wait expectantly. . . Why isn't anything happening? I push it again — still nothing. This isn't amusing. Doesn't this machine know that it is not nice to play with someone who is in desperate need of a chocolate fix?

Suddenly, I spy a little yellow light hidden in an obscure corner of the



Film Review

Compromising Positions With A Twist

Cara Applebaum, J'88

For three months I dreaded all the low-budget "sure sell" teenie booper-sex films and the generic sci-fi flicks of summer.

In the middle of September I finally felt that enough time had elapsed to make it safe enough to venture back to the movie theatres. After all, I reasoned, the summer is basically over, and perhaps some director with a conscience (you remember them) had been resurrected.

With these thoughts in mind, I cautiously made my way into the back of a very crowded theatre that was showing Frank Perry's *Compromising Positions*.

The movie centers around a stereotypical suburban housewife, Judith, (played by Susan Sarandon) who has given up her career as a journalist in order to marry a typical successful lawyer and raise two stereo-typical Long Island kids. She is basically bored with her typical life of Burger King and baking cookies for the PTA.

So what we have is the makings of a typically boring movie where our typical heroine is trying to "find herself."

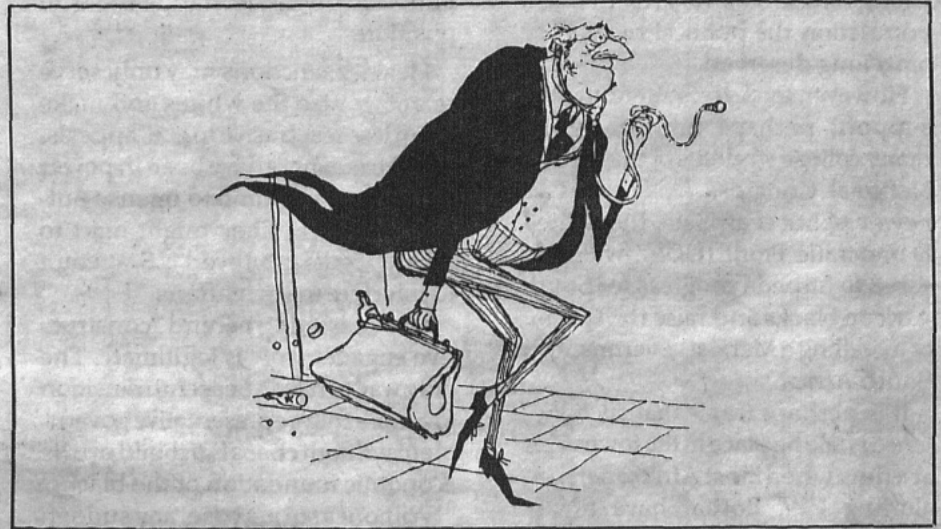
Yes — unfortunately this movie does employ these stock elements.

But, Perry has taken these conventional situations and turned them into a relatively original and humorous social satire, reminiscent of his comedy, *Diary of a Mad Housewife*.

"So where does the originality come in?" you might ask (I sure did). Well, the plot takes a turn for the better with the murder of Judith's Don Juan, a macho dentist. Apparently he had been a lot more than a dentist to a lot of women (which we discover at his funeral where half the female population of Great Neck mourns his death).

Judith decides to return to her former job in order to do a little investigating of her own. This interference brings her in contact with homicide-investigator, Lt. David Suarez (played by Raul Julia). Julia adds a sense of intrigue and a little romance to the scene as well.

But what really makes the movie is Perry's exaggerated caricatures of various stereo-typical Long Island housewives. We see them at their finest: at the health club, in designer sweat suits, while they are shopping



and, of course, at the dentist's office.

The funniest wife is the dentist's widow, Phyllis Fleckstein, who drips with gold jewelry and expensive perfume. Complete with a symmetrical hairdo and leather pants, Phyllis is the perfect parody of the perfect Jap.

Another note worthy performance is given by Judith Ivey as Nancy, Judith's best friend. Ivey portrays a very chic and cynical sculptress who engages in extra-marital affairs and witty one-liners. Other fine performances are given by Edward Hermann as Judith's husband and Mary Beth Hurt as Judith's slightly psychotic friend, Peg Tuccio.

If you can get past Sarandon's whiney intonations and disheveled sweat clothes, she gives a relatively insightful and realistic performance. Though not his best role, Julia's Suarez is portrayed with competence, sensitivity and sex-appeal.

With a few surprise twists, clever dialogue, an over zealous dog and amusing characterizations, *Compromising Positions* proves to be a reasonably good way to spend a Thursday night. You might, however, want to wait until it comes to the dollar theatres.

By Frances Hansen

- ACROSS**
- 1 Shoe strip
 - 5 Attended
 - 9 Tossed fare
 - 14 Elbow space
 - 18 Et —
 - 19 Modern museum offering
 - 21 St. Theresa's birthplace
 - 22 "This one's —!"
 - 23 Sunshine time, per 48 Across
 - 26 "New Jole —," song of 1947
 - 27 Screened, in a way
 - 28 Brings up
 - 29 "— later, alligator!"
 - 31 Express disdain for
 - 32 "— in haste..."
 - 33 Superabound
 - 34 Fol-de —!
 - 35 Dorsal parts
 - 36 Religious renegade
 - 39 Completed
 - 42 Increasingly, per 48 Across
 - 44 Crazy —
 - 45 — Queen Bess
 - 46 Prefix with tasse
 - 47 Rosy reply, in a way
 - 48 Memorable composer Jerome

- 49 "Sugar Babies" name
- 50 Waterway nickname, per 48 Across
- 54 Venomous viper
- 55 Explode
- 58 Fuel ship
- 59 Mother — chicken
- 60 Twelfth months of Jewish calendars
- 61 French film director Rene
- 62 Vichy premier
- 63 WWI British nurse
- 65 Author Alexander
- 66 Clean and polish the car
- 69 Ryan or Tatum
- 70 Prom turndown, per 48 Across
- 72 Goddess of healing
- 73 Ocean flyer
- 74 "— Here to Eternity"
- 75 Agitate
- 76 Shakespeare's river
- 77 Cymbals of India
- 78 Impoverished clown, per 48 Across
- 82 "... — clock scholar"
- 83 "... prison to them that —": Isaiah 61:1
- 85 Dreamy state
- 86 Olympic Peninsula Indian
- 87 Cowboy Gene
- 88 Praying figure
- 89 More grumpy
- 93 Dedicate
- 95 Pitcher Luis from Cuba

Crossword Puzzle

- 96 Blooming climber
- 97 Toe the line
- 98 Extravagant compliment, per 48 Across
- 101 "South Pacific" sine qua non
- 102 Flamboyant Flynn
- 103 Emulate
- 104 Notion: Fr. United
- 106 Tooth: Prefix
- 107 Brave man who wrote "Brave Men"
- 108 Twine

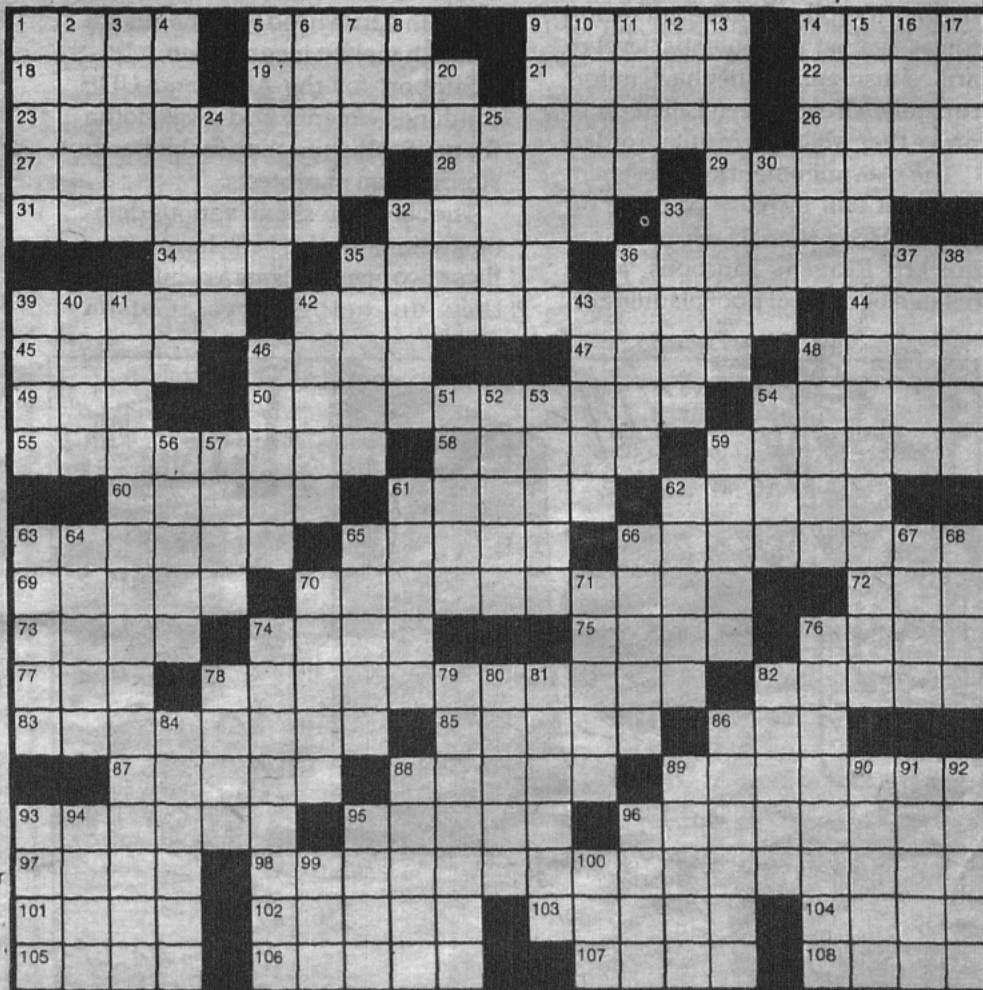
DOWN

- 1 RAF women
- 2 Mrs. Irving Berlin
- 3 De Gaulle's birthplace
- 4 Giggled girlishly
- 5 Bovine pokey
- 6 "He was — and hated..." Rilke
- 7 Tennyson heroine
- 8 Work unit
- 9 Desertlike
- 10 — Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center
- 11 Toppers
- 12 Words with mode or carte
- 13 Nine to five, for most
- 14 A Taylor
- 15 Pretend, according to 48 Across
- 16 Melville book
- 17 Diner's card
- 20 Balkan peninsula area
- 24 Salome's father
- 25 Brownish red, with 63 Down
- 30 Let up

- 48 Sacred text of Islam
- 51 Exile of fiction
- 52 Laughing
- 53 Homeric work
- 54 — relievo (sunk relief)
- 56 City in western New York
- 57 Partner of void
- 59 Bumpy beast
- 61 Eat inelegantly
- 62 Legally allowable
- 63 See 25 Down
- 64 Close by, poetically

- 65 Pen's inferior
- 66 Nose around
- 67 — National Park, Utah
- 68 "Cubist" Rubik
- 70 Satire
- 71 Court decree
- 74 Kind of fish or opossum
- 76 Sporting
- 78 Printing paper size
- 79 Sabra, for one
- 80 African antelope
- 81 Leaseholder
- 82 Artery
- 84 Kept afloat
- 86 Shake down
- 88 Altai tribesman

- 89 Fiber plant
- 90 Rainbow: Prefix
- 91 Somebody: Ger.
- 92 Carried on
- 93 Old fogey
- 94 Statesman Abba —
- 95 Revolve
- 96 Undulating
- 99 Galena or bauxite
- 100 Brass monogram



AN APPROACH FOR SOUTH AFRICA

Jim Burke, A'87

Recent debate in this country over the future of South Africa has become focused on the necessity of taking radical steps to give the black population the political rights they have long deserved.

However, total divestment and the support, perhaps unwittingly, by many college students of the African National Congress (ANC) and its newer political affiliate, the United Democratic Front (UDF), will only serve to impede progress for South African blacks and raise the spectre of installing a Marxist government in South Africa.

It is perhaps tragic that such violence is taking place in the townships at a time when most Afrikaaners, including P.W. Botha, have finally realized the need for reform and have started on the long journey toward black representation in the government, and in a larger time frame, equal rights.

The unfortunate reality is that the white government is unsure about what steps must be taken to prevent chaos from overtaking the process.

Reforms only began in earnest in September of last year with the election of P.W. Botha as South Africa's first Executive State President. The new constitution, though politically flawed, was a radical step for South Africa. It could have been a useful step if the white Conservative Party and Herstigte National Party had not split white opinion over instituting reforms and casting doubt in the minds of Coloreds and Indians about the real intent of the reforms.

Reforms have been slow because of the impression of many white leaders of an uncertain future and a feeling of "taking a step in the dark." The spread of reforms has been stepped up since the press and, in part, the protests in this country brought the issue to a head in the last few months.

But if reforms are enacted too quickly, violence and unrest will spread, increasing the possibility of a full scale civil war.

A civil war would hurt the non-whites much more than it would help them. South Africa's white government is secure with its huge and highly-disciplined police and Army forces against any potential level of armed insurgency. They have, unfortunately, already been called on to prove their ability to maintain order.

The main argument for divestment is that it will increase pressure on South Africa to enact reforms more quickly. Reagan's sanctions, albeit belated because of poor planning on

the part of his advisors, are meant to send a strong signal to Botha. Divestment would be redundant because Botha clearly understands the U.S. position.

Heavier sanctions may only serve to antagonize the whites and make them less responsive to U.S. appeals. The Afrikaaners have been in power too long to succumb to intense outside pressure. They might react to what appears as an overt U.S. attempt to interfere in their affairs.

The reasoning behind "constructive engagement" is legitimate. The only way to have a peaceful transition to a more fully representative government without chaos is to build up the economic foundation of the blacks.

Without a strong base, any sudden reforms would be followed by chaos. Unemployment, lack of housing, training, and medical facilities would only serve to increase the calls from the economically discontent for a more radical ascension into power. Today, much of the unrest can be traced to the fact that South Africa has high unemployment for blacks and a generally poor economy.

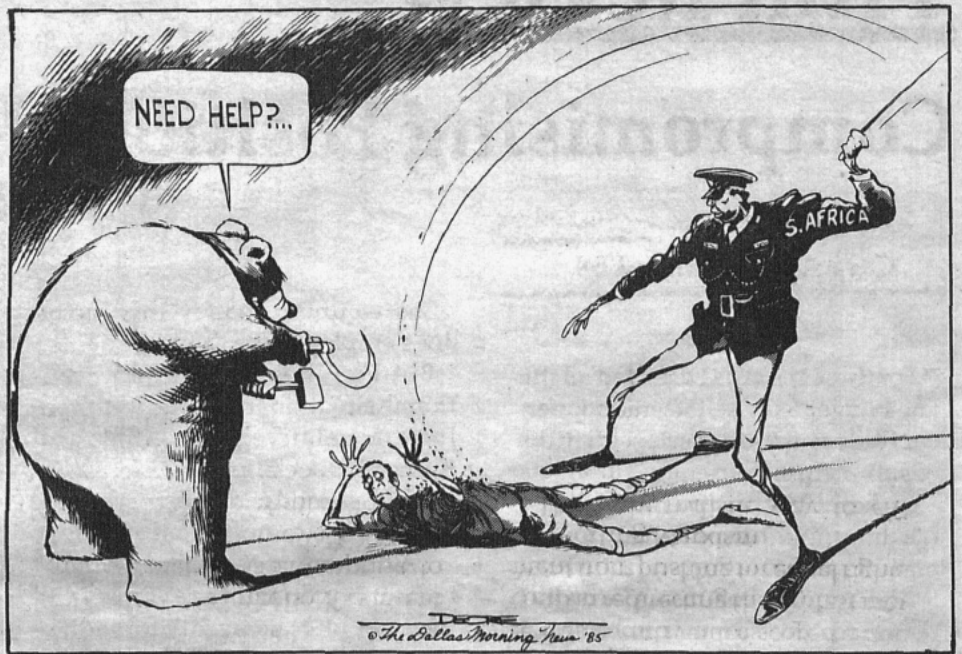
Divestment would only serve to slow the pace of change because violence at a greater intensity than at present would only force Pretoria to crack down and stifle reforms. Without jobs, violence grows. To divest would only serve to increase the impoverishment of the homelands. And Botha has promised to make blacks bear the full brunt of divestment.

Ciskei and Venda are already in dismal condition and to draw money out of these areas would turn them into slums. The best course would be to divest from white communities and invest in non-white communities. Building the necessary hospitals, schools, and houses would induce blacks to move from the townships to the cities to find gainful employment.

Already investment can be seen working in a few inner city areas such as Hillbrow in Johannesburg. What good is political reform if it does not also give non-whites more economic reform? To achieve greater political and economic rights, the non-whites of South Africa need reforms but not through violent insurrection.

Support for the ANC and UDF condones violence and gives Botha the political justification for his harsh suppression of protests.

The liberal press and various demonstrations in the U.S. have given these two organizations a political life they do not deserve. Gatsha



Buthelezi, leader of 6 million Zulus, stated that the second tier leaders of the UDF seek to gain the "acclaim they do not deserve." (The UDF's second tier leadership, and its ranks, are filled with old ANC members who switched their affiliation after the ANC was outlawed.)

The calls by some administration officials to mediate with the ANC and release its leader, Nelson Mandela, has been misconstrued by many as the political legitimization of the ANC.

Including the ANC in talks might reduce violence by forcing the ANC to become more politically oriented and cut back on their guerilla activities, but this is doubtful. The ANC would only step up the attacks and the pressure.

Also, ANC involvement possibly might temper Mandela's small but crucial support among the moderate blacks, the majority of South Africa's blacks. Support grows the longer he is held in jail as a symbol of resistance.

The ANC is a Marxist organization outlawed in South Africa and, for the time being, expelled from its sanctuaries in Mozambique by the Nkomti accord signed in March 1984.

Soviet support of the ANC and other Marxist regimes has been waning in recent years. (In the late 1970s, Brezhnev turned his sights on Africa, setting up and propping up regimes in Angola — where 20,000 Cuban troops remain — Mozambique, and Ethiopia.)

Unfortunately, many take this lull in Soviet interest to mean disinterest. Moscow still supports the ANC, supplying most of their weapons, and is still involved in supplying the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) in Namibia.

Perhaps it is a sign of Botha's intent to reform that he is attempting to reduce pressure from SWAPO and the ANC by making an incursion into Angola and keeping pressure on Mozambique despite the Nkomti accord. In this way, he could focus on reform unimpeded.

A disturbing argument heard by protesters in favor of a South African "revolution" is that a Marxist government can be prevented from coming to power by allowing them to have a small part in the reformed government.

In a chaotic situation, though, be assured that the ANC, living by the gun, will rule.

Cadres of the young radical youths who are the cause of many of the sadistic acts of murder will fill its ranks. These youths now think that the ANC is too timid. If the ANC

comes into the fore, the hoodlums will integrate with it, as the closest politically aligned group with any potential.

An article in *Newsweek* (September 16, 1985) said fallaciously, that "nationalist pride would probably not allow the Soviets in." This is sheer fantasy.

Oliver Tambo has stated publicly that the ANC would be happy to have relations with those who helped them "in their hour of greatest need," the Soviet Union by name.

In reply, many would say "but the Soviet Union does not need South Africa." Did Moscow need Angola, or Mozambique? The ultimate argument is that a Marxist government is better than the Afrikaaner's dictatorship.

Those who offer this suggestion clearly miss the point. We do not want to perpetuate Communism, we want to foster democracy. Experience in Africa shows that any moves toward democracy are much more likely to occur in a reformed South Africa than in any of the dictatorships that encircle it.

Demonstrations in this country have come a long way, unfortunately, from following the lead of Steve Biko, the black consciousness leader. Biko favored peaceful protests in South Africa, as Bishop Tutu does now.

Tutu, though, in his references to a "revolutionary climate" is showing that even the more moderate black opposition leaders are losing control of the situation.

As the climate in South Africa has radicalized, so have protests in this country. No longer content to push for divestment, protests have begun to push for a "revolution." The leftists in this country have scored a major coup in redirecting the protest movement from pushing for equal rights to supporting Marxism.

The only realistic way to effect change in South Africa is through the progressive erosion of apartheid. The most useful U.S. policy to help non-whites in South Africa is "active engagement."

The agenda for student protests in the U.S. should be amended to include constructive engagement but more importantly, they ought to protest against the violence that Mandela, the ANC, and the UDF perpetuate.

We can then stop following false prophets, take a more pragmatic approach toward the situation, and protest, not for a quick solution, but for a brighter future for the oppressed peoples of South Africa.

