

# C.C. reader

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C. C. Reader Interviews Dr. Robert Bresler

## No draft needed

by Jeff Drinnan

An American military attack is not the answer to stopping the Soviet's invasion of Afghanistan, said Dr. Robert Bresler, associate professor of social and political science, in an interview with the C.C. Reader.

A U.S. offensive would be "logistically impossible," according to Bresler. "There is no staging location" to launch an attack, he said, citing the lack of a U.S. military base close enough to do so. He believes that we shouldn't set up the bases needed for this purpose. "American military bases are an anathema to the Third

World," Bresler said.

Soviet presence in Afghanistan is a threat if it is "a prelude to further Russian probes," Bresler said. If the Soviets took over the Persian Gulf, the oil interests of many countries would be at stake. For example, 28% of U.S. imported oil comes from the Persian Gulf and Japan gets 72.8% of its supplies from there also.

A key to stopping the Soviet offensive is to give the Soviet-occupied countries aid to "help them help themselves," Bresler said. He added that the governments we choose to give aid to should be stable - ones that don't have internal conflicts, as Vietnam had.

Bresler believes that the government we choose to help should be independent from the U.S. "We don't want to have a relation with a government like we had with Vietnam. We should develop an alliance with countries which have the common interest of stopping the Soviets. They should not be clients," Bresler explained.

Up until President Carter's State of the Union address, Bresler agreed with Carter's actions on the Afghanistan invasion, agreeing that we should put economic and political pressure on Russia. "In his address, Carter seems to indicate a military solution," Bresler said, calling this view

"alarmist." "Let Russia get bogged down and learn like we did in Vietnam. It would have a chastening effect. They would then be reluctant to intervene again," said Bresler.

The draft is unnecessary, according to Bresler. It would not make us stronger. "It may make us weaker," he said, explaining that military spending may accentuate the already existing inflation.

Draft registration, even for a contingency plan, "doesn't make sense," Bresler said. He believes that not much time is gained by draft registration. "You don't have to equate patriotism with war but with self-sacrifice," he stressed.

Boycotting the Moscow

Olympics would hurt the Soviets, according to Bresler. "I wouldn't underestimate the power of a boycott. It would have a severe psychological effect. It is the single most important international event to take place in Moscow since WW II. The prestige of the Russian government is bound up in sports competition," he said.

Bresler said that politics has been mixed with sports since Hitler. To protest American action in Vietnam, Moscow boycotted a sports event the U.S. held.

"If you had to choose between the health of the Olympics and punishing aggression - boycotting the Olympics - you would have to choose to punish aggression," Bresler stressed.

## A gift to grow with

Hillel, a Jewish youth group, planted a cherry tree on campus on Feb. 1, 1980.

The tree-planting is in recognition of the holiday, Tu B' Shevat, a traditional Jewish and Israeli day of recognition for trees and their role in ecological survival.

The tree, provided by Davis Turf Company of Elizabethtown and Colonial Park, was accepted on behalf of Capitol Campus by Dr. Duane Smith, associate provost and dean.

The tree was presented by Frances Delinko and Dafna Meltzer, leaders of the Hillel chapter. "We hope that this will be the start of a new

tradition," said Delinko. "This is an excellent way for student groups to show their gratitude to the campus."

Meltzer noted that the tree-planting reflects several Israeli-American traditions. "Much of Israel has been forested through American gifts," said Meltzer. "Now it is our turn to help landscape this small piece of America."

Dr. Smith expressed the gratitude of Penn State for the gift. "It is a delight to see students interested in working for the campus," said Dr. Smith. "And it is especially pleasing to see their efforts showing such faith in and dedication to the future."



photo by Don Shoemaker

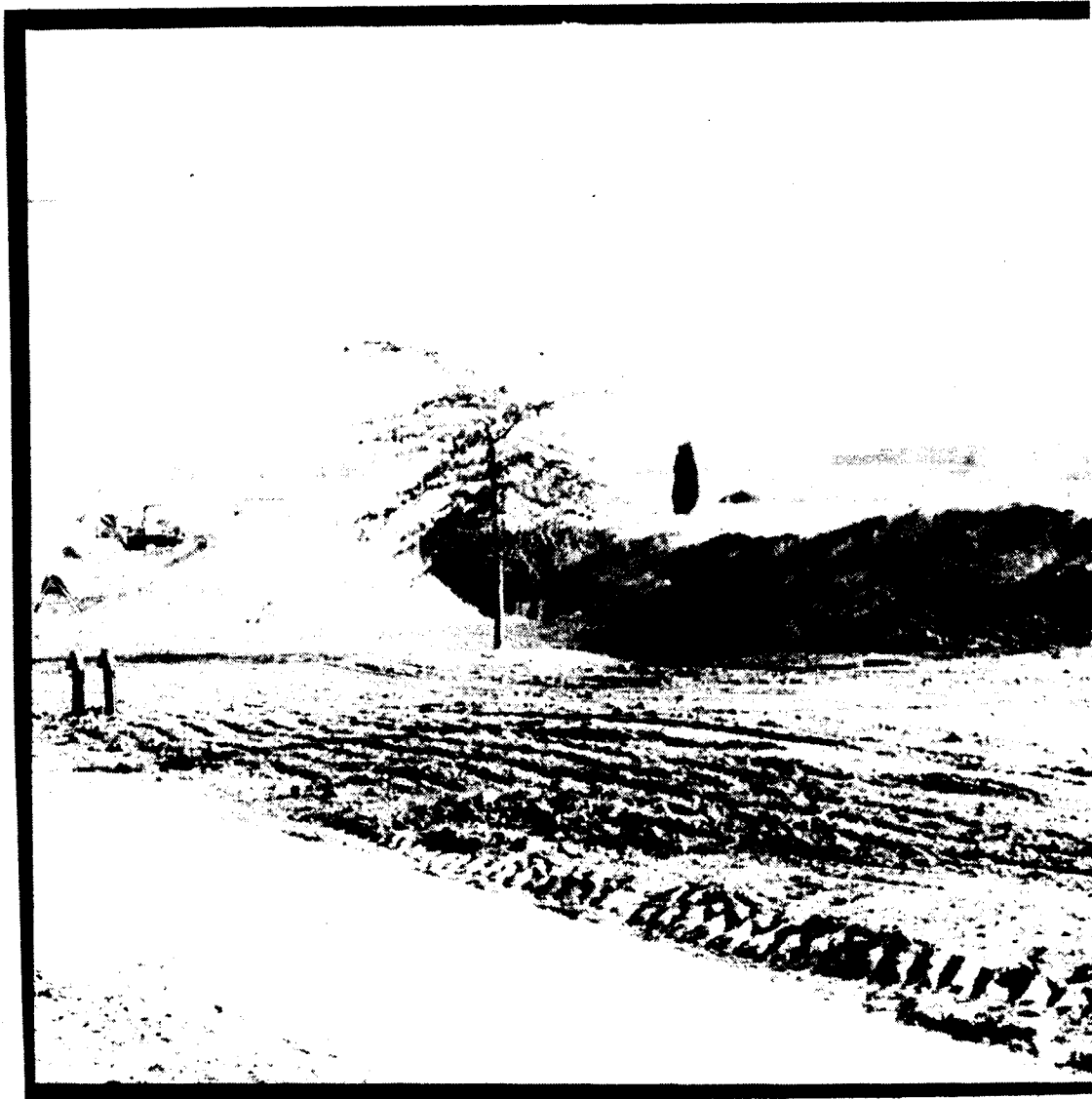


photo by Jeff Drinnan

The construction during the past couple of months near the heating plant was discovered to be a clever ploy to install the beer pipeline. Tips from unidentified sources led C.C. Reader reporters to the office of R.I. Diculous, creator of the beer pipeline plan, who, under pressure, admitted to the coverup. Evidently, the construction company was commissioned by Diculous to sneak beer from TMI into the student center. Beer pipes were found 20 feet below the surface. The two curled pipes (lower left corner) are valves to let out excess foam.