

Letters

Aggressive U.S. Policy Urged To End Cold War

TO THE EDITOR: It is comfortable to believe that there is no war going on. We seem to feel that if there is a war, it is only a cold war, and who cares about a cold war? Besides, we have exams to worry about, so why be concerned with the world situation.

To know that facts are fearful is not to fear them. If we lose the cold war, a hot war is inevitable. Our great and inescapable task is not to end the cold war, but to win it. Western freedom will not survive merely because it is a noble ideal.

We don't want war, but we cannot tell ourselves that it is more important to avoid shooting than to keep our freedoms. If we do that, we are committed to defeat.

No, we cannot question the necessity, but we can question the human cost. In none of the eight wars we have fought have we been adequately prepared. Might not some of these wars have been avoided had it been known that America's desire for peace was matched by its strength and readiness to fight?

Is it not right to ask whether we must again pay the price of war because we are unwilling to pay the price of peace?

Free men have always chosen peace when they could keep peace without losing their freedom and history has shown us that peace with freedom is granted only to those who keep their powder dry and their marksmanship in trim.

Americans are accustomed to think of peace as we do of health—the normal condition of mankind. To us, war seems abnormal. Unfortunately, this ideal is not backed up with facts. Men have been at war more years than they have been at peace.

The cold war is a very real war and it is far later than we think. The Communists can win without changing their tactics; we cannot. We dare not stand still; to do so is to continue to lose ground. These Red barbarians cannot be bought off.

they must be defeated. This can be done by an all-out offensive in the fields of propaganda, economic aid, public education, and in general—fighting fire with fire in every part of the globe.

The future could redeem the past or it could confirm it. Either you believe that these events were inevitable or that they could have been prevented. If you believe that they were inevitable, you are already a Marxist. The only hope is to believe on a basis of truth and not of ignorance.

We must stand firm at all costs against any further Communist expansion. Still, this is not enough. To only stand firm means we wish only to save our own skin and that we have no vision or concern for the rest of the world. We cannot be true to our own freedom if we do not work and wish for the freedom of others.

The hope of liberation must never be allowed to fade from the hearts of the oppressed. These people should be promised greater material freedom than the Communists have given them. They should be assured of the freedom to criticize, to think, to create, to speak, and the freedom to choose their own government.

We do not want a peace of surrender. We want a peace in which freedom and justice will prevail and that is a peace in which Soviet power will no longer be in a position to threaten us and the rest of the world.

Our country has traditionally shunned aggressive war and has fought all encroachments on our individual liberties. We have now accepted the hard principle that it is better to stand with a gun in your hand than to kneel with a knife at your throat.

No nation has ever gone under Communists rule by a free vote of the people and no nation has ever been able to throw off communism by a vote of the people. Remember, communism has not advanced when confronted directly by the U.S. Armed Forces. (Eg. Turkey, Greece, Berlin, S. Viet Nam, Korea, etc.)

—Gomer R. Williams, '63

Junior Sees Fear Stifling Freedom of Expression

TO THE EDITOR: It should be evident that decisions important to the health and well-being of the majority of people in the world are made by a few "respectable" individuals.

It is also evident that the population is informed of national policy only at the discretion of the few "chosen" leaders.

At the present time these facts seem, no matter how debatable, past debating, and the resultant state of our nation seems a condition imposed on us from without.

Yet are we, the people, to be stymied, tongue-tied by a fear from within?

Are words like peace and freedom which are an expression of our hopes, our dreams, to become even less than empty? Are they not to be voiced?

Do we have the self-control—the unadulterated guts—to demonstrate for that which is so dear to us—peace and life?

—Carol Tucker, '64

Coeds Weary Of Dorm Life

TO THE EDITOR: As students of this University, we are constantly confronted with both the opportunity as well as the encouragement to express our individual initiatives and ingenuities. It is made manifest to us that this institution is not only desirous, but also demanding of enactment of the realm of resourceful measures upon which the student can draw.

Because of its financial restrictions, the University is compelled to house dormitory residents in concrete block cubicles complete with all essentials for survival. Isn't it a pity that after toiling for four years in academic pursuit of this concept of initiative, the female graduate must feel awkward while walking upon carpeted floors, clumsy while seated in an easy chair, and apprehensive while hanging a picture on the wall?

Of course the University cannot be expected to provide these luxuries for the student. On the other hand, why should this individuality so instilled in us by the scholarly atmosphere of such greats as Pattee and Schwab be squelched by the hand of such an entity as Housing?

We have grown weary of room inspection and a constant barrage of exquisitely penned notes such as, "This will be removed tomorrow if you don't get it out of 'hear'."

—Gail Hall, '63
—Carol Marcy, '64

Grad Student Finds Fault With Collegian's News Play

TO THE EDITOR: Although I am not in favor of the University administration's policy of stifling any unorthodoxy in student opinion and behavior, I cannot share your enthusiasm and vigor concerning the banning of the Froth. I feel, however, that as the University is doing away with indiscreet, irresponsible, and generally worthless publications, it should next consider The Daily Collegian.

In the past The Daily Collegian was considered to have some value—namely the Peanuts cartoon and classified ads—however, its recent editorials have been an insult to the integrity of any rational thinking person, much more so to a person in the process of getting an education.

It seems to me that any news publication which is almost entirely preoccupied with petty trivialities at a time of national and international crisis, has not only failed in its responsibilities to its readers, but in addition is fostering an attitude of shallowness among them.

When a newspaper devotes most of its front page to quibbling over a humor magazine or to how the Nittanians did or did not do against Syracuse, at a time when President Kennedy is addressing the nation on a matter of national urgency, at a time

when the U.N. Security Council is in emergency session, at a time when the possibility of global war is at a maximum, such a newspaper has undoubtedly lost all sense of perspective and discretion in the "news" it prints. One need only refer to the Oct. 23 or Oct. 24 editions of The Daily Collegian to become aware of this type of journalism.

Perhaps in the future greater prudence will be used by The Daily Collegian in meeting its responsibility.

—Allan Schneider
Grad student

Frosh Criticizes Telephone Service

TO THE EDITOR: Wednesday night, at 7:30, I attempted to dial the operator on one of the University residence hall phones. I was in need of some information on an important call that I wanted to make. Dialing at five-minute intervals until 8:50, and hearing nothing but the busy signal each time, I finally decided to give up for the night. With 17,000 students here at University Park, I feel that a student should be able to get in touch with the operator after trying for almost an hour and a half. In short, let's improve the miserable phone service here on campus.

—Michael Waxler, '68

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