

Let America Decide

How to achieve peace in Vietnam is one of the most debated issues today. It is constantly with us, seemingly an unresolvable question.

From President Johnson comes the opinion that the cost in lives and money is worth the eventual peace which he has assured the nation will come.

From Lt. Gen. James Gavin, who withdrew from the Massachusetts Democratic Advisory Council in protest over the Administration's war policy, comes the opinion that domestic problems and other foreign entanglements deserve the energy now spent on Vietnam.

Washington military advisers say escalate; sundry citizen groups say de-escalate.

Congress is a flock of birds as every member chooses between a 'hawk' or 'dove' policy.

The debating will go on and on and on. Most likely, so will the war.

Therefore, taking a cue from the Administration's professed aim to bring democracy to southeast Asia, The Collegian suggests the government start in its own back yard.

How do the American people feel about the war? Does the majority of people still back a total U.S. commitment?

Washington could easily find out, simply by heeding Martin Luther King, for one, who advocates a referendum on Vietnam. He suggests the American people should decide, through a vote, whether the U.S. should stay in the war.

The question need not be either one extreme or the other. In the range between complete withdrawal or bombing the country off the map, lie many other

possibilities. A halt to the bombing while still maintaining troops? A smaller troop commitment? There are many considerations.

And, the American public which is giving its sons, its money and its name to the fighting should have a voice.

Counterarguments to the referendum proposal stress the public's lack of knowledge about military strategy, and the large numbers of people who wouldn't bother to vote anyway.

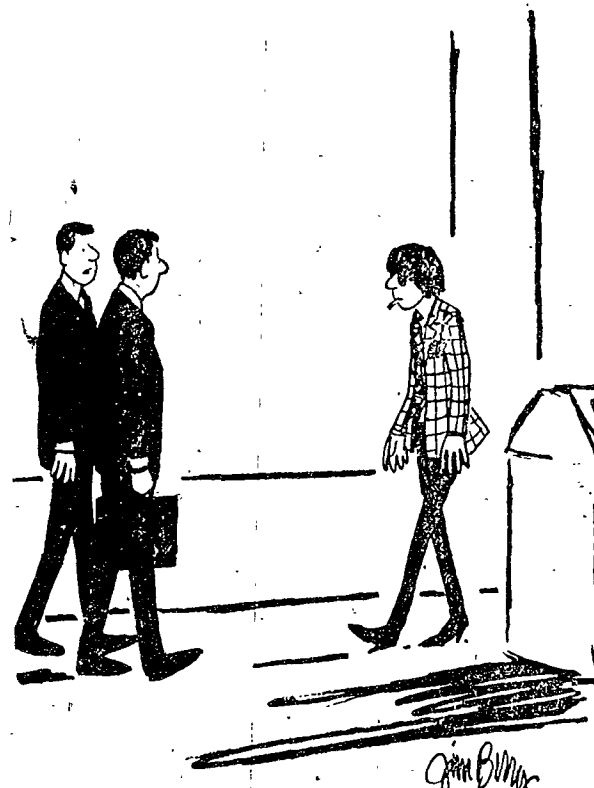
Of course, the public does not have the strategic knowledge the Pentagon has, but we're fighting an offensive war. Our shores are not being bombarded. There is safety in stopping to think. It won't deter the war effort, as some fear.

The observation that a large segment of the population does not vote should therefore void any election. The argument does not hold. People that care will vote. And, they're the ones that make the rules in any democracy.

As the war goes on, the U.S. is using its resources, its reputation, and most importantly, its youth as fuel. A concrete effort to do something is far overdue. Discussion is getting too stale.

War or peace. War to get peace? It's important to President Johnson.

But let America decide.



"Is that plain, old, 'bad taste,' or genuine 'Mod?'"

TODAY
 6-9 a.m.—Popular music with Dave Handler, news on the hour
 9-1 p.m.—Joe Berwanger with Top Forty, news on the hour
 1-2 p.m.—Up Beat
 2-5 p.m.—The Opera
 5-7 p.m.—Open House
 7-8 p.m.—Jazz Notes
 8-12 midnight—Gary Schwartz with Top Forty, news on the hour
 12 midnight-4 a.m.—John Schutrick with Top Forty, news on the hour

TOMORROW
 8-11 a.m.—Popular music with Ken Plessner, news on the hour
 11 to 3 p.m.—Popular Music with Sam McGee, news on the hour
 3 to 5:45 p.m.—Popular music with Ron Rietz
 5:45 to 7 p.m.—The Chapel

Service (delay broadcast)
 7:00-10:00 p.m.—The Third Programme
 10:05-12 midnight—The Third Programme (continued)
 12-12:05 a.m.—WDFM News

MONDAY
 4-4:05 p.m.—WDFM News
 4:05-6 p.m.—Music of the Masters
 6-6:05 p.m.—WDFM News (popular, easy-listening)
 6:05-7 p.m.—After Six (popular, easy-listening)
 7-7:15 p.m.—Dateline News (comprehensive campus, national and international news, sports, and weather)
 7:15-7:30 p.m.—After Six (continued)
 7:45-8 p.m.—News Scene
 8-10 p.m.—Jazz Panorama (with Bill Fox)
 10-10:05 p.m.—WDFM News
 10:05-12 midnight—Synthphone Notebook
 12-12:05 a.m.—WDFM News

THIS WEEKEND ON CAMPUS

TODAY
 Pennsylvania Ball-t, 8:30 p.m., Rec Hall
 Student Films, 7 p.m., Hetzel Union Building assembly hall

TOMORROW
 Association of Women Students, 8 p.m., 215-216 HUB
 Art Department Reception, 8 p.m., HUB main lounge
 Folklore Society, 7 p.m., 214 HUB
 Homecoming Chairmen committee, 7:30 p.m., 218 HUB
 Penn State Thespians, 2 p.m., 214 HUB

214 HUB
 Student Films, 6 p.m., HUB assembly hall

MONDAY
 Alpha Phi Omega, 6:30 p.m., 215-216 HUB
 Bridge Club, 6:30 p.m., HUB main lounge
 Gamma Sigma Sigma, 6:30 p.m., 214 HUB
 Judo Club, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
 Junior Class, 8 p.m., 203 HUB
 Military Ball committee, 7:30 p.m., 218 HUB
 Student Religious Liberals, 8:30 p.m., 214 HUB

Letters To The Editor

Waking Up To Vietnam

TO THE EDITOR: In reply to J. Robert Shore, I would say: "if you can't take a joke, it's time to open your eyes." When we fail to see North Vietnam's peace proposals for what they are, a joke, then we must possess very little of that stuff which causes us to differ from our paleolithic predecessors. You speak of "America's men of letters and other thinkers." I hope you do not include yourself among this majority.

In what is called a "meaningful" effort, the U.S. halts its air strikes. In what is called a "meaningful" effort, the North Vietnamese agree to peace talks. While these talks are in progress a village chief and his family are taught the Viet Cong method of dealing with those civic leaders who oppose their "war of liberation." While these "meaningful" talks are in progress, the North Vietnamese use the lull in bombing to move huge quantities of men and material from centers such as Hanoi and Haiphong to areas in the South. They use this lull in bombing to set up anti-aircraft batteries and SAM sites around target areas.

The peace talks come to an abrupt halt. The North Vietnamese say that terrorism and the "fight for freedom" will continue until the U.S. withdraws from Vietnam. Having no intention of leaving South Vietnam to be overrun by the North, the United States says it will continue to remain in Vietnam, and the talks are officially ended.

The U.S. again commences its bombing of the North. It is soon realized how "meaningful" these talks have been. The U.S. aircraft returning over the target sites are met by a barrage of anti-aircraft fire and SAM's. Truly the peace talks have been "meaningful" the death tolls of South Vietnamese and U.S. troops soar due to the influx of troops and war material from the North. Truly the peace talks were "meaningful"—more American soldiers are dying than before because some "thinker" or "man of letters" desires peace at any price.

I am an American, and as a "thinker", do not desire such a peace. I know of far too many young Americans like myself who need the support of their fellow Americans. I know of too many Americans in Vietnam who cannot afford the mistake made by those who blindly seek peace at any cost!

Carter C. Thompson '69

Class Gift Concern

TO THE EDITOR: Once again The Class of 1968 (specifically, its class officers) is advancing fantastic and worthwhile ideas — but to whom? As yet, nothing definite has even been vaguely hinted as to what the '68'ers will present the University as a class gift.

Homecoming is but a few weeks away; yet, the PSU seniors have done little to foster school and class spirit for this classic autumn spectacle. It is hoped that the President of the Senior Class doesn't follow in his predecessor's footsteps, i.e., hide away for a full year in his room while drawing a salary for "his efforts." Some spirited action is drastically needed before June graduation arrives. In three years the Class of '68 has yet to contribute one major item of importance to its Alma Mater.

Is it already too LATE?

Bill Himmelsbach Jr. '68

Back To Semester?

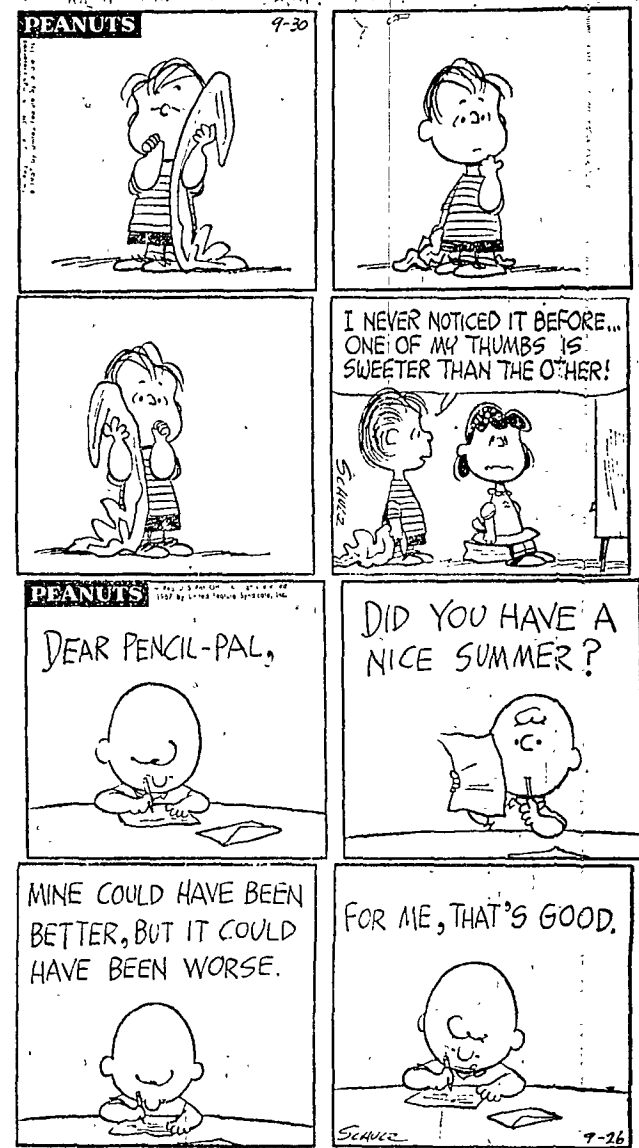
TO THE EDITOR: Since the beginning of the term various rumors have circulated concerning a major change in University policy. Unconfirmed reports have it that next year, Penn State will return to the semester system. By now we have heard such a large number of these reports that we feel justified in inquiring into their validity.

If, in fact, the rumors are true, then why has no public statement been released to the student body? Can the University, again, attempt to disregard student opinion in bringing about such a significant change in University policy?

We, therefore, challenge the U.S.G. or The Daily Collegian to investigate these rumors and report their findings to the student body.

Linton Wildrick '69
 Tom Weimer '68
 Rip Bourne '70

Editor's Note: During the summer, the Collegian learned that the University was considering a return to the semester system. The University has not said when it will make the possible changeover from trimester to semester, but when the decision is made, the Collegian will break the news.



The Daily Collegian

62 Years of Editorial Freedom

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PAGE TWO SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1967

LETTER POLICY

The Daily Collegian accepts letters to the editor regarding Collegian news coverage or editorial policy and campus or non-campus affairs. Letters must be typewritten, no more than two pages in length, and should be brought to the office of The Daily Collegian in person so that identification of the writer can be checked. If letters are received by mail, The Collegian will contact the signer for verification. The Daily Collegian reserves the right to select which letters will be published and to edit letters for style and content.

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Saturday, October 7th --- Rec Hall, 7:30 P.M.

general sales Mon. thru Friday
 we cannot hold seats for members
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remember what Smokey says . . .

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The Daily Collegian

announces

FALL TERM EDITORIAL CANDIDATE SCHOOL

7 p.m. Thursday in 124 Sackett

All undergraduate students interested in joining the paper's editorial staff are invited to come find out the who, what, when, where and why of working for The Collegian. No previous experience in newspaper work is necessary. Students need not be journalism or English majors.

Make tracks for . . .

The Daily Collegian

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, October 4

Basement of Sackett Bldg. — 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.