

opinion/editorial

American corporations should end overseas exploitation

The United States has dirtied its reputation as a leader of democracy and human rights with its foreign policy in certain countries. Congressional leaders should heed the warnings of individuals like former journalist Don Luce.

Luce's evaluation of foreign policy in countries like Iran, Taiwan, South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand are supported by daily news reports of people's suffering in those countries.

Our reputation of being capitalists without regard for human rights is spreading throughout the world and it is alarming and disturbing, when the individuals at fault are American

multi-national corporations and political hawks.

If the United States continues to send military aid to repressive governments and places no restrictions on the corporations we may find ourselves in another conflict like Vietnam, Luce warns.

Our big business in other nations is barbaric and exploits the workers like they did in America's Industrial Revolution. It took years and the weight of legislation and unions to form regulations and protections for workers. Conditions still are subhuman in factories such as meat packing plants.

We must force our leaders to be responsible for American multi-national corporations and the working conditions of overseas plants. We must send inspectors to review the working conditions, we must pass laws that protect these workers, we must be responsible for human rights in every aspect of our business dealings.

If the main reason for our dependence on these countries is oil, we must develop other resources. We cannot stand up and shout for human rights if we continue to support oppressive governments.

The United States openly banned

Uganda for its violation of human rights, but we have nothing to lose with them.

The people of the United States can get along without the products of these countries. It is the big business in this country that cannot. They must not be allowed to make huge profits at the sake of others' lives.

The people of the United States should demand that military aid to dictators and the sale of arms be ended.

We must demand that human rights be respected throughout the world.

Grizzled ghostly past a parade of fleeting, fading images

"... that was the night Frito tried to put his head in the blender." An old friend was musing quietly over her cup of coffee, and trying very hard to grasp the significance of a distant series of events.

Meanwhile across the table, and light years away, I was beginning to bubble in my coffee.

I tried to explain, but all that came out was more strangled syllables.

"... maybe Frito really believed he could fit into the blender. I'm really sure he was desperate enough to try anything."

Ghostly gurgling

More inarticulate gurgling. "I seem to remember something."

I was beginning to sink into a bottomless pit. Her voice was echoing at me mingled with another more distant echo. It was ghostly.

"Schmuck," it said.

Since I was alone in my present pit, I ascertained that the voice was speaking to me.

Pulling on my vast literary background I remembered a perceptive question that the caterpillar asked in Alice in Wonderland. "Whooooo are you?" (who-who).

"Schmuck," the voice said, "I am the

ghost of your rather embarrassing past, and to answer your next, and rather inane question, I'm here to take you on a guided tour of the pit."

I toyed with several rhymes.

"I don't want a guided tour of the pit, or my past. I'm painfully aware of where I've been."

"Schmuck," the ghost thundered, "this may be your hallucination, but without me, you have no column."

I was immediately docile.

He stepped out of the shadows and produced a deck of cards. "Take a card, any card."

I slowly removed a card and shrieked in terror. My first year of college was minutely detailed in gold script.

The ghost cackled and did a horn pipe.

Special guest appearances

"And now I'd like to introduce some special guests from our studio audience."

A long line of small circular grey matter wearing white sneakers began marching past in single file. Each called out a number as it passed.

"Who are they?" I asked.

"Those are the brain cells you have systematically called out and executed in the name of higher education."

"Next on the agenda is my favorite amusement—your love life."

"Now hold on," I protested, "I'd just as soon live with my own illusions."

"Suit yourself," he said, "You're running out of space, so I'll let you choose what area of your past you'd like to dwell in."

I gave it some serious thought.

"Why did Frito try and put his head in the blender?"

The ghost jitter-bugged around the room, executed a running dive, and smiled at me from his prone position on the floor.

"Not all things are explained," he grinned.

This whole idea was petering out quickly.

Back on planet Earth, my companion was finishing up her speculation. "... and how it got in my sock I'll never know."

"It was there because it was supposed to be," I said, "Garcon, my check."

michael zangari

"We're doing it again," I thought. After swearing that we'd never run over the same old ground again, it's suddenly 1974 and we are knee deep in the mire, kissing the past's ass all night long.

"Arrrrrrgh," I said.

"Pardon?" she said.



Mobster's story haunts, raising questions

Several years ago we developed the confidence of gangster John Roselli, one of the mobsters whom the Central Intelligence Agency recruited to murder Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. With Roselli's help, we were able to break that story in January, 1971.

jack anderson

He continued to talk to us over the years. He was always cautious with words. But in his guarded way, he indicated to us that the plot against Castro backfired. He suggested that Castro had captured the underworld assassins, had brought pressure on them to reverse the plot and had sent them after President Kennedy.

Mafia assassins

The assassins, Roselli also indicated, worked for the Mafia godfather Santos Trafficante, the former overlord of the mob-owned gambling casinos in Havana. Roselli implied that Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused Kennedy killer, was a patsy used by the mob. Once he was apprehended, he had to be shut up. This assignment allegedly was given to Jack Ruby, whom Roselli identified as an underworld punk with links to Trafficante.

The story was so fantastic that we

found it hard to swallow. Then, on Aug. 3, 1976, some of Roselli's friends told us that he was missing. They implied that he might be in trouble with the mob for talking to us. His body was found a few days later in an oil drum, wrapped in heavy chains.

Drum resurfaces

It had been heaved into Miami Bay where it was supposed to have disappeared forever on the ocean bottom. But body gases made the oil drum buoyant and caused it to rise eerily from its watery grave.

Police sources told us they had learned from underworld informants that Santos Trafficante had ordered Roselli rubbed out. That was an allegation, of course, that could not be proved.

Roselli has been dead for over two years. But his story has come back to haunt Trafficante. Recently, he was hauled before the House Assassinations Committee and questioned about reports that he foretold that Kennedy would be hit.

"No way"

The crime lord, hunched and balding, denied it. "Absolutely not," he said. "No way."

Now, however, we have obtained a fascinating FBI report dated March 21, 1967. It quotes a former top FBI official who had learned from his law clients about the CIA-Mafia plot to knock off Castro.

"Castro... arrested a number of suspects," states that report. "By pressuring

the captured suspects, he was able to learn the full details of the plot against him. He decided. If that is the way that President Kennedy wanted it, he too could engage in the same tactics."

Teams dispatched

"Castro thereafter employed teams of individuals who were dispatched to the United States for the purpose of assassinating President Kennedy."

In short, the story simply won't go away. This, of course, does not mean that it is true. There is no proof. And Castro himself has emphatically denied it.

Deceptive advertising: The military dictators who run Chile have received a lot of bad publicity. They have been denounced for abusing human rights. And now the United States is trying to extradite the former Chilean secret police chief for masterminding a murder in Washington, D.C.

Positive publicity

The Chilean leaders are trying to counterattack with some positive publicity. But they are using highly deceptive tactics.

The Chilean embassy, for example, recently distributed a publicity package to the press. One of the items included in it was the September issue of the *Nation's Business* magazine. The embassy boasted that the periodical contained a "special report on Chile."

The so-called "special report" was in fact a paid advertising supplement.

letters

The current controversy concerning campus unrest has filled many people with a strange feeling of pleasure. We have spent much too long living our lives believing that the normal state of affairs is acceptance of the status quo. But it is not normal that the police provide more entertainment at a football game than the football team.

It is not normal that we should be dictated by the conduct of our own university and it is not normal that we should sit passively and listen to cheap propaganda.

What is at stake is more than the Vietnam War. What is at stake is the very nature of our lives.

Complacency has replaced idealism as the principal character of student life. The example of the Iranians is inspiring. It is inspiring because they have with all our wealth do not. They have a cause.

Another era of campus unrest? The idea is appealing. Unfortunately, the spirit is lacking. The American System has worked too well. We have learned at an early age that personal desire must be subordinated to social order.

But that human spirit is not entirely dead. That is the explanation for that feeling of pleasure that we felt as a result of the emotions displayed at the Westmoreland speech.

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Religious fanatics

It's about time that someone told the Iranian students where to get off. The

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