

Editorial

United Nations becoming shattered dream

Charles Lichenstein has a good idea.

The American delegate to the United Nations suggested to reporters Monday that U.N. delegates "seriously consider removing themselves and this organization from the soil of the United States."

State Department officials have since retracted the statement, saying Lichenstein was not representing U.S. policy.

But the United Nations seems to be little more than a shattered dream whose time has passed.

If other nations consider it a necessary organization, then let them shoulder the burden of being the host country. And let them foot the bill for it.

The U.N. operations budget for last year was just more than \$1.5 billion. The United States, by agreement written into the U.N. charter, had to pay 25

percent of the bill.

No other nation pays even half that much. The Soviet Union picks up 11 percent of the tab, Japan 9 percent, West Germany 8 percent and France, China and Great Britain about 5 percent each.

Many smaller nations, which share equal voting privileges with the superpowers in the U.N. General Assembly, kicked in little or nothing to pay for this costly organization.

Still, the cost would be worth it if the United Nations produced the results it was intended to produce.

But let's be realistic. Since it was created at the end of World War II, the United Nations has not played a major role in preventing any conflict.

Even a casual glance at the television news or any

major newspaper provides more than enough proof of the United Nations' failure.

Achieving world peace is, of course, an ideal goal. But maybe it is time for us to take a simpler approach to that goal.

It would seem to be just as effective, and much less expensive, for nations to work out their differences on a one-to-one basis, using a neutral country as a mediator, if necessary.

Most recent settlements — the Egyptian-Israeli peace accord and the Iranian hostage release for example — seem to have evolved this way.

Somehow, that seems to be a more reasonable method of preventing war between two nations than involving all 157 members of the United Nations.



Letters

Mismatches 'predatory'

Jim Rasmussen's article (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 19) about football mismatches revealed that money is everything in big-time college football and that the players — who, unlike other students, generate rather than consume revenue — should be paid.

Mismatches don't "just happen". Some are the direct result of a guaranteed cash "bounty" (in the nature of a bribe) offered to entice athletic directors of weak/little schools to sacrifice their young players to major Meatgrinders. While swelling the collective ego and padding the statistics of nationally ranked juggernauts, the ethically questionable practice results in humiliation and loss of self-esteem for the pulverized victims. An object lesson in "sportsmanship"?

The "sport" adhering in degrading mismatches is akin to that of pulling wings off butterflies, poisoning fish in a barrel or pitting Muhammad Ali against a lightweight. While the predatory exercise generates cash and plays to the blood lust of fanatics, it does something bad to the psyches of the bullying victimizers as well as the humiliated victims.

Athletic directors at New Mexico State and Wyoming, after admitting sending their players into the NU meatgrinder for money, said they won't do it again. NU athletic director Bob Devaney, discussing such scheduling said frankly, "one of the main priorities... is to get a good deal financially." For whom?

All of it is about money. Even at NU. Make no mistake about it. Take away the money, and you'll clean out the entire NU athletic department.

Finally, if the time, effort and hazards connected with football work are not sufficient justifications for paying the workers, being forced into the roles of athletic surrogate sadists and masochists certainly is.

Ernie Chambers
state senator
11th District

Birth control preferable

I am writing in response to Greg Schleppebach's letter (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 19) about the proposed film from Planned Parenthood, "Condom Sense."

While in principle, I agree that some people are irresponsible in their approach to sex, I have worked on campuses long enough to realize that more is needed to change this attitude than just withholding contraceptives or information about contraceptives.

I was walking across campus two weeks ago when I heard a male student say to his two friends, "I have been here two whole weeks and I haven't had sex once yet."

Such behavior would suggest to me that it is preferable for these people to use contraceptives than adding the irresponsibility of starting another life to any other stupidity they may commit.

Jane Antonion
technician
life sciences



Governors hinder U.N. mission

The United Nations was formed at the end of World War II, mainly in an attempt to prevent armed conflict by providing an alternative method of solving international differences. The United States, fresh from making the world safe for democracy, became the host country for the new world council, which has met in the United States since 1945.

It seems natural that, as host country, the United States should make every effort to facilitate access

Gromyko's plane been allowed to land in Newark or New York, he probably would be at the assembly.

It seems quite unlikely that the protest of two or any number of American governors will significantly alter Soviet policy or prevent another attack on a civilian airliner. What the governors have done, without affecting Soviet policy, is cause the absence of a major country delegation from the U.N. General Assembly. That absence represents a lessening of dialogue between nations, which can only detract from the mission of the United Nations.

The governors of New York and New Jersey also have given the Soviets a new tool in the propaganda war between the superpowers; the Soviets can and will claim, however inaccurately, that the United States prevented them from attending the General Assembly.

The U.S. government should pressure the governors to reverse their decision and allow the Soviet delegation to land at New York or Newark. It may cost them a few votes, but neither politics nor public opinion should be allowed to affect the United States' role as host country to the United Nations.

Christopher Burbach

to U.N. headquarters for delegates to that body. In fact, the United States signed an agreement with the United Nations in 1947, promising that American authorities would not impede the travel of delegates.

Last week, however, the governors of New York and New Jersey, in direct violation of the aforementioned agreement, announced they would not allow Andrei Gromyko, head of the Soviet delegation to the General Assembly, to land at either Newark or New York City airports. Those venerable heads of state wished to express their outrage at Soviet barbarism in the Korean Air Lines Flight 007 incident and, no doubt, to impress voters. Their move was a petty one, yet it has produced significant and disturbing repercussions.

Gromyko is not attending the General Assembly because, the Soviets say, the governors' action made it impossible for his delegation to get there. Although that is untrue, (Gromyko could have landed at a nearby Air Force base), the Soviet absence can be traced directly to the governors.

The actual reason for the Soviets' refusal to attend is unknown. Perhaps they wish to avoid the embarrassment the airline incident could cause them at the General Assembly and needed an excuse to sidp it, or perhaps they recognized a potential propaganda tool. The fact remains: Had

Daily Nebraskan

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board Monday through Friday in the fall and spring semesters and Tuesdays and Fridays in the summer sessions, except during vacations. Subscriptions: \$20/semester, \$30/two semesters, \$35/year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68598-0448.

Second class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.
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