

ROTC committee—the sensible way

Nearly everyone will agree that at least some changes are needed in the ROTC program. There are many ways to evaluate and examine the program and to make these changes.

Some schools do nothing and so students riot or demonstrate. In other schools a group of administrators arbitrarily take some authoritarian action in a back room. It seems that too few schools do the sensible thing — sit down and discuss the situation.

Here one can mark a plus for the University of Nebraska. Under the planning and work of Dr. C. Peter Magrath, dean of faculties, a special committee will begin work next week to examine the ROTC program. The committee's findings will be turned over to Magrath, probably in January. Magrath could then, and hopefully will, make appropriate suggestions for change.

Magrath said that he has been toying with the idea of an ROTC evaluation committee for

several months. His purpose is to have the ROTC program "discussed in a relaxed, peaceful, academic atmosphere." Magrath, who has said he will remain apart from the committee chaired by Dr. Philip Crowl, has given the members a broad mandate to "evaluate, examine and suggest changes in the ROTC program." Although he said the committee is working under the assumption that ROTC is an appropriate activity for a land-grant university, the committee is in no way limited to the range of recommendations it could make.

Magrath must also be given credit for appointing committee members with diverse and varied backgrounds. Nearly all views on ROTC will be represented and examined.

It will be interesting to see what kinds of recommendations the committee will make. But one thing is for sure — formation of the committee indicates a blue-ribbon day for the University community.

Nebraskan editorial page

Either or

A peace of the fund . . . by June Wagoner

In a magnanimous swoop reminiscent of the Philosopher Kings, the All University Fund board decided last spring to reclaim from the hands of the masses the privilege of selecting the charities to receive student funds.

And with an equally sweeping flourish they recently announced their AUF-al selections. Heading the list — the USO — (Grouping it with such commendable philanthropic organizations as the Muscular Dystrophy and Cancer Foundations, the benign panel announced a full campaign to insure rationalization of their monetary goal.

USO indeed. Even if all the funds were to end up as slot-machine booty for administrators and non-coms, it would be bad enough. But undoubtedly a goodly amount does filter past sticky fingered hondas to become R & R embellishments, segregated officers clubs and back home propaganda. (Lonely soldier on beach etc.)

Spare me the emotional appeals as to how the USO 'takes care of our boys.' The USO, like the VFW and the American Legion are all bastard offsprings of our omnipotent Department of Defense. Camp followers to the war business, followers that make breaking camp that much more unlikely.

The budget presented by Secretary Laird is not all for bullets, it contains a Herculean share of appropriations for just such subsidized parasites. And the more parasites (and people) involved on a war payroll, the more reason to delay that wars end.

And war is the business of USO.



NIXON'S WAR ON CRIME HAS TO START SOMEWHERE.

Though its functions may appear gentle, the prime prerequisite for the existence of USO is war, or the threat of war, or even the hope for war.

Why not support the U.N., or the World Health Organization or any of the other numerous international organizations that have peace keeping as their ultimate function?

Consider this next week and perhaps channel the USO part of your AUF contribution into the Moratorium fund.

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Dear Editor:

The idea of "chancellorless University" proposed by Professor Bert M. Evans deserves serious attention by the entire university community. Let us not write it off as 'impractical.' If we prize creative and constructive ideas, Dr. Evans has offered us one.

If we can implement it here in the University of Nebraska, we shall be the first university genuinely revolutionary with little sound and fury in this age of 'academic revolution.' The article, 'Injustice Lurks in Human Relations, History,' is also enlightening. Congratulations for the Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 2, 1969 issue.

Sing-nan Fen Professor of Education

Open Letter on the Administration:

The television show, "Laugh-In," each week does a short skit entitled something like "The News Twenty Years from Now: 1989." I've been applying this type of thinking to the situation here at the University of Nebraska and it's led me to make a few predictions concerning what this place will be like twenty years from now.

First of all, everything green, the trees, grass, flowers and shrubs, will have long since disappeared and been replaced by that ubiquitous substitute for our natural environment, concrete. Concrete, that most

beautiful and delightful of substances, widely acclaimed as the basis of our civilization.

There will still be a few green plants in the greenhouse so that anyone who has never seen one can do so.

Secondly, there will be more and bigger Old fathers. This will add to the overall pleasing appearance of the campus, while at the same time contributing to a rarefied atmosphere in which learning can take place.

Thirdly, Selleck Quadrangle will no longer be with us. It will be torn down in favor of a 26 story parking garage which will, unfortunately, fill up 15 minutes after it is opened. This will cause the Chancellor and the Campus Police to be somewhat dismayed.

These are but a sampling of what the University can expect twenty years from now. If we want all of these wonderful things to come about, we must continue our present policy of better-ketter development.

Under no circumstances must we undertake a plan of orderly development which is both aesthetically pleasing and humane. We must never forget our true objective, which is to operate this educational factory at a minimum cost and at max-

imum efficiency.

Yours from the peasantry. 508-56-1884 Robert Knisely

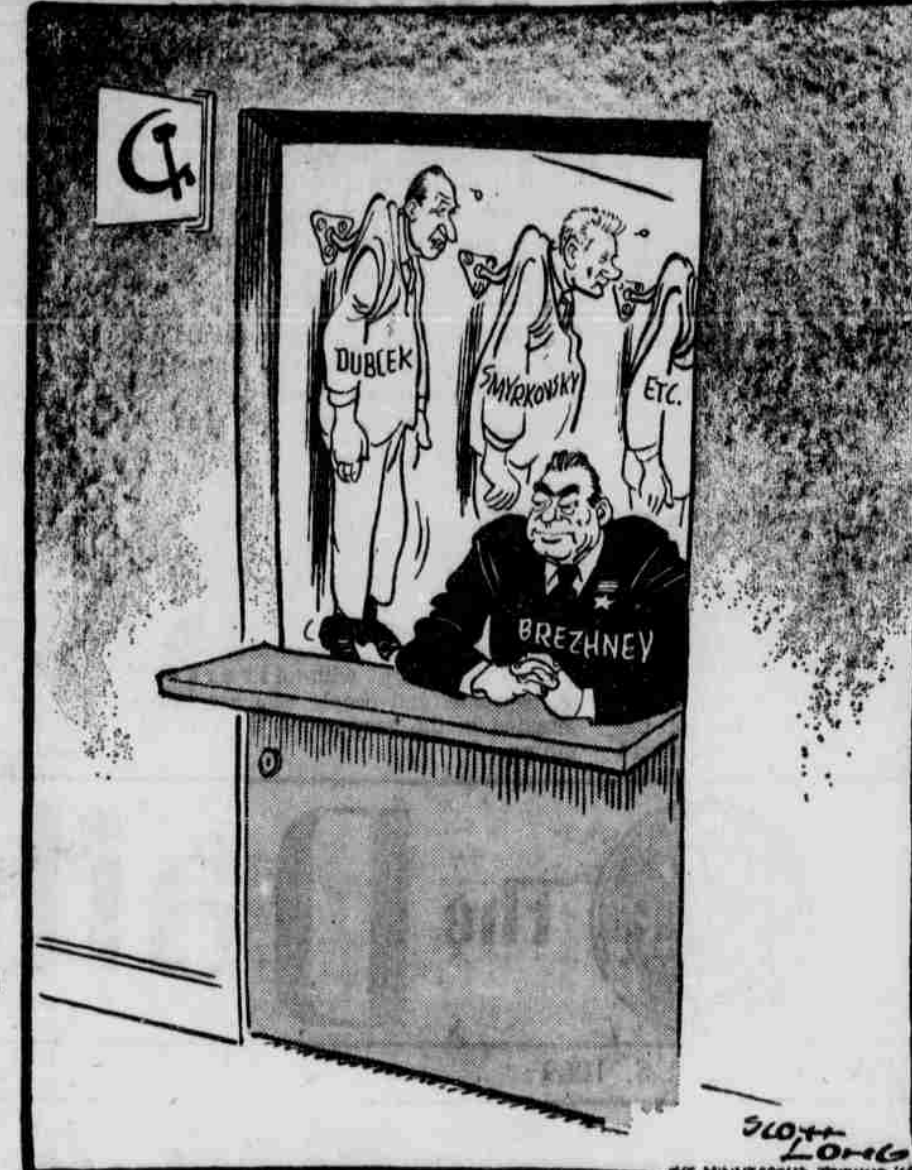
Dear Editor:

I was interested in Professor Pearlstein's anti-military arguments as he expressed them in October 2nd's Daily Nebraskan. His approach seems to me typical of the one normally used by antagonists of the military: a high-toned condemnation of military "Morals" and "Ethics". Military minds like that style of argument. Emotional appeals are right up their alley, with their endless exhortations to "Patriotism" and "Honor".

The outcome is that a prospective draftee or ROTC candidate is left swimming in a confusing soup of loudly-argued abstractions. It's really a lot simpler: military life is a waste of time.

The military has tons of machinery and millions of men. It supports and maintains all this machinery and associated administrators and technicians (officers and enlisted men) with the most intricate procedures imaginable. Over these machines and men reigns the military system of rank, designed to mathematically define authority and to gain instantaneous response to that authority.

Generals at the Pentagon run this gleaming military machine. They shine it; they



Justice scales now are loaded

by Frank Mankiewicz and Tom Braden

Washington — "I will use the full power of the United States, including whatever force may be necessary, to prevent any obstruction of the law and to carry out the order of the federal court. The federal law and orders of a United States court implementing that law cannot be flouted with impunity."

So spoke Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1957 when the state of Arkansas forbade nine Negroes to enter a public high school in Little Rock.

The Eisenhower statement was historic. Coming, as it did, three years after the original Supreme Court decision on integration, it demonstrated the power and the will of the federal government as clearly and authoritatively as Andrew Jackson's famous toast to the federal union: "It must and shall be preserved."

But great statements do not determine history, as the young men of Jackson's day were to discover before they died, and the Eisenhower statement, for 12 years the national policy, was as surely superseded last week by the action of an assistant attorney general as was Andrew Jackson's by the actions of the doughface Presidents Fillmore, Pierce and Buchanan.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Jerris Leonard was asked why the Justice Department had moved to delay enforcement of a court order compelling the integration of schools in Mississippi. This is what he said: "Even if the Supreme Court were to order immediate integration, I lack the people and bodies to enforce the law."

If that statement is permitted to stand — if Leonard is not overruled by the attorney general, or by the President — then the nation has embarked on a new course. The integration which the Supreme Court ordered and which three successive Presidents have enforced will be an ideal but not a goal, a prayer but not a creed. It will be talked about but it will not be done.

Sixty-five of the 74 attorneys in Leonard's division have publicly disagreed with their boss,

but it seems unlikely that their protests will avail. Leonard is — like most of the new appointees in John Mitchell's Justice Department — not a lawyer's lawyer but a lawyer turned politician.

Leonard did not bring spectacular civil rights credentials to his job, but the Atlantic Monthly reported earlier this year that as the head of Wisconsin's State Building Commission he directed about \$200,000 in legal fees to John Mitchell, then a New York municipal bond lawyer.

Defeated in a Senate race in Wisconsin, he is joined among Mitchell's associates at the department by Deputy Atty. Gen. Richard Kleindienst, who was defeated for governor of Arizona, Assistant Atty. Gen. William Ruckelshaus, defeated in an Indiana Senate race, legal counsel William Rehnquist, a Goldwater speechwriter, and Assistant Atty. Gen. Will Wilson, who lost races for governor and senator in Texas.

Not in recent history have the top men at Justice been so politically oriented, and they are directed by the author of Mr. Nixon's Southern strategy, John Mitchell himself, whose principal assistant, Kevin Phillips, has set forth the strategy in a book which might as well be called "How to Win Elections Without Black Votes."

As a lawyer, Leonard is wrong in his refusal to uphold the law, and his excuse — that he hasn't the manpower — is laughable. The Justice Department under Dwight Eisenhower didn't even have a Civil Rights Division. But Gen. Eisenhower enforced the law, even when, as with the Supreme Court decision of 1954, he was personally unsympathetic to it.

As a politician, however, Leonard seems to be on the popular course. The law is against him but the polls are not. The growing view is that middle America has had enough integration, and the well-publicized views of black militants do not help the cause.

So 15 years of legal precedent are giving way now to Mr. Nixon's "new federalism." "The Supreme Court," Mr. Dooley told us, "follows the illicion returns." The Justice Department is doing even more. It is making them.

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Open Forum

It is, and, most important, they feed it: "All sound men between the ages of eighteen . . ." et cetera.

That is a significant point: our military system is not designed to attract men, it is designed to use men that have been force-fed into it, either directly, by the draft, or indirectly, by resignation to the inevitability of the draft; the emphasis, it can be seen, is on the good of the machine, not the man. I don't care how many orders the generals shoot out concerning morale, they are thinking of their machine, not "their" men (you could say they prefer good gas for it instead of watery gas). This unreasonable basic emphasis spawns those amazing military values: form over reason; appearance over initiative; military bearing over professional competence; the great "Sir" (success or disgrace in military life can rotate exclusively about the use of that word).

There are career officers and enlisted men. The career officer, dedicated to the system and its remarkable values, does not have the respect of "his" men, an overwhelming number of whom weren't exactly brought up to covet his values, to put it mildly. A career enlisted man is usually someone without a whole lot of ambition or pride. He's along for the twenty-year ride and the government pension. The military feeds him and

experiencing. Stay out if you can.

Steven F. Strasser

Dear Editor:

The inference drawn by Larry Jones (letter to the Editor, Sept. 24th) that the Love Library Central Reserve Room is closed over the weekend is wrong. The doors to the Central Reserve Room are opened every day, five minutes after the outside doors of Love Library are opened. If Mr. Jones had not hurried away he would have known that the reserve room was available Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20 and 21.

To avoid similar inferences in the future, the staff has posted a sign on the doors of the Central Reserve Room designating the exact opening and closing times.

We admire the eagerness Mr. Jones has displayed. And we agree with him that the reserve books and room should be available over the entire schedule of library hours.

Eugene M. Johnson Associate Director of Libraries for Public Service

Dear Editor:

The Innocents Society, senior men's honorary, endorses the October 15 Moratorium and urges students, faculty, and community members to participate in the march from campus to the Capitol.

Dave Buntain, President