

letters to the editor

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These tax dollars could be used for education, but the regents have other plans which ignore our welfare as they have had in the past. In 1973 they took control of student fees which had been levied and appropriated by the students since 1937. Last year they severely restricted our freedom of speech by eliminating our right to select and pay for "political speakers" with our own fees.

This time the regents plan to build an outrageously expensive and uneconomical stadium addition. They think they will approve a contract in July and begin construction this summer. But things aren't over yet. Construction hasn't begun and maybe it never will!

Ken Havelka
Graduate Student
Chair of the Commission
on Educational Quality

Chinese rights

On reading YAF advertisements in Monday's *Daily Nebraskan*, one cannot but think that Mr. Cannon and his friends have run out of creditable slogans for their membership drive. The accusations they have made are gross exaggerations and half-truths at best.

It is true that the Chinese communists are guilty of mass killings, about one million to two million landlords, between 1949 and 1951 when land was being redistributed. It is also true that killing one is just as bad as killing any greater number.

But, Mr. Cannon, please keep everything within the realm of rationality. Should you not give the Chinese people more credit than just idling when one out of every thirteen of them was killed by the government?

Furthermore, the first eight years of communist rule in China are regarded, by western scholars, as a period of economic recovery and growth, of national unity and identity. Surely this cannot be if there are 32 to 61 million being murdered in the same country. Even in the chaos of the Cultural Revolution, there were no reports of mass killings.

The number provided for forced labor is equally exaggerated. When has the Guinness Book of World Records become an authority on China? China has been a closed country behind the "Bamboo Curtain" until the beginning of the 1970s. I do not believe that the communist rulers would make exceptions and provide the Guinness Book of World Records with the number of people they have killed and put in forced labor camps. Sadly, despite inflated figures, the charge remains valid.

China is no more, and no less, aggressive than any nation in a similar situation. Taiwan and Tibet were parts of China before they were invaded by Japan and Britain in the 19th century. Any effort to recover lost territories cannot be regarded as aggression. To do so will be like calling President Lincoln an aggressor against the "Old South" in the American Civil War.

Stretches of Siberia and Northeast Asia were seized by the Tsars, and the Bol-

sheviks had promised to return them to China. Russian policy was changed by Stalin, and the border dispute began. Wouldn't the Americans be fighting if the Mexicans had suddenly put 46 mechanized divisions in Texas? As for Korea, China entered the war only after the existence of the latter was threatened, the UN forces advanced too close to the Chinese border and after ample warning. The only count of aggression against China that can stand up in a debate is the Sino-Indian Border trespasses. As for Cambodia, China needed an ally to counter-balance pro-Soviet Vietnam in the region, much like the United States supporting the Shah of Iran.

The above belong to the past. So what if the above accusations are true?

Finally, the Chinese communists have turned away from such ideological and political absurdities and tried to improve the lot of the common people they rule. They need technology and turn to the west for oil refineries, fertilizer plants, Coca-Cola factories, airplanes and combines.

States is now feeding the Russians so that their rulers can devote more resources to nuclear weapons. Why can the Chinese not ask for some technology for peaceful purposes? Is the YAF afraid of the Chinese overrunning the world tomorrow with armored combines and fertilizer guns?

I am not a communist but I do not want to see the Chinese being deprived of technological assistance because of some false allegations dated from the Cold War and the McCarthy hearings.

Times have changed; the leaderships in Washington and Peking have changed. They both recognize the benefits of reapproachment. I hope that the YAF will come to its senses, too. If they are in dire need of a campaign platform, try inflation, energy crisis, baby seals, ecology, and unemployment, just to name a few. I am sure that these will all work better than bad-mouthing others.

Gerald M. Woo
Junior Accounting Major

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