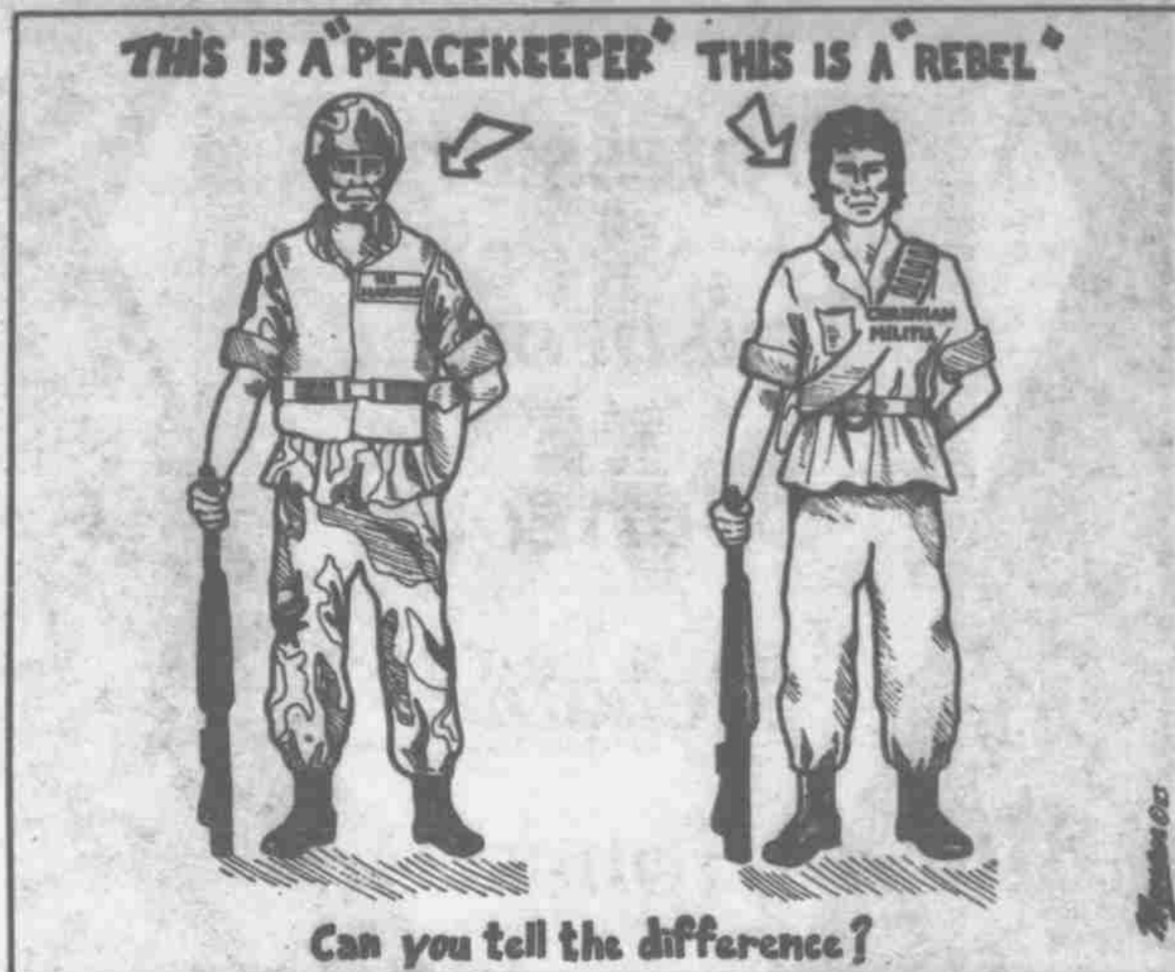


# Editorial



## Bring American men in Lebanon home

America's peacekeeping force may have been placed in Lebanon with good intentions, but it's time this country realizes the mistake it made and bring the troops home.

And it's time the United States learns a foreign policy lesson: don't go where you don't belong.

The United States installed the 1,200-man force in an attempt to keep peace within war-torn Lebanon, but the result has been four Americans killed and more than 20 injured. Meanwhile, the bloody civil war rages on.

And now, because there is no sign of an immediate resolution to the conflict, the United States finds itself in a difficult dilemma.

It has the option of a total withdrawal, which runs the risk of the Gemayel government being defeated, or it can strengthen its presence in the area, which would face heavy opposition in this country and possibly draw us deeper into the war.

Despite all this, President Reagan has declined to officially acknowledge that U.S. troops are involved in hostilities. By doing so, he would be placed under the 1973 War Powers Act, an act which would require Congressional ap-

proval for U.S. troops to remain in the area for more than 60 to 90 days.

But it's time the president make official what every American already knows—the U.S. is involved in conflict in the Middle East.

At least one congressman, Clarence Long, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee, has promised to pressure Reagan into formally acknowledging U.S. involvement in the hostilities.

According to the current edition of Newsweek, Long will lead an attempt to cut off funding for the U.S. forces in Lebanon unless Reagan invokes the War Powers Act.

Long's actions are commendable, but better yet, let's bring a halt to U.S. involvement in the region.

If there were any evidence that American troops were helping to lessen conflict in the region, it would be wise to maintain a presence there.

But most of the evidence seems to indicate the opposite. U.S. involvement offers no solutions to the war and only promises to keep this country involved in a conflict it never should have gotten into.

It's time for our troops to come home.



## Library priority

Once again the leaders of the University of Nebraska have shown where their true priorities lie. While claims of striving for academic excellence are constantly made, the academic environment has again been diluted in the name of budget cuts.

The Sept. 8 issue of the Daily Nebraskan reported that all UNL libraries will be closed on the six Saturdays on which home football games are played. Libraries are the centerpost of any educational institution and should be the last area to be subjected to budget cuts. The libraries are used on football Saturdays and many students and faculty have neither the time or inclination to spend those six Saturdays in Memorial Stadium. The few dollars that will be saved by closing the libraries will certainly not save the university from collapse. Hopefully, administrators will reconsider and keep the libraries open on football Saturdays. This is an educational institution, not just an excuse to have a football team.

Doug Buhler  
Gary Tuxhorn  
Carla Ault

## Closing 'drastic'

I am outraged at the announcement made Friday that Love Library, plus all other campus libraries, will be closed on football Saturdays. I do not blame the library staff, but the citizens of Nebraska, including our businessmen, our state representatives and our governor, who value football over quality education. Last year, the NU Board of Regents increased tuition and fees plus added a 10 percent surcharge to compensate for a reduction in state funding for the university. Yet this money has not been used to decrease class size, increase the number of professors or increase the services offered by the university.

Nebraskans are not allocating enough funds to higher education. They are more concerned about the ranking of the Cornhuskers and the teams "vital statistics" than about education. The closing of the campus libraries on six football Saturdays is a very blatant decision. What will be next? The closing of the campus libraries on all weekday evenings?

In recent months, the nation has been exposed to the unbelievable statistics of the fatal state of our

nation's schools. This decaying condition can only get worse with the closing of campus libraries on six Saturdays during the first semester. In the long run, the state will be affected by this drastic, unfair and irresponsible decision. It proves once again to many Nebraskans that certain individuals will do anything to satisfy and preserve their interests in the "Big Red Machine."

Mike Ganser  
junior  
business administration

## Paranoia aired

A recent phenomenon on City Campus has me concerned. It is an event that should be brought to the attention of the student body, for it is something that affects us all. Of course, I'm talking about the "punks," "hoodlums," and "drunken morons" who write letters to the Daily Nebraskan.

The other day while reading one of these exaggerated and sensationalistic letters, I found myself being "cursed and driven to the gutter" by someone who had obviously been traumatized in childhood by a psychopathic tricycle.

I suggest that a separate student publication be created for the specific purposes of paranoid pedestrians who feel called upon to vent their spleen about two-wheeled vehicles.

At any rate, something should be done to prevent the Daily Nebraskan from becoming the battle ground in the pedestrian-pedal war. A war that will never be won by either side, and that will only succeed in driving the rest of us crazy.

Marty Wells  
junior  
Teachers College

## New low?

I am aghast by what I found on the front cover of the Sept. 9 issue of the Daily Nebraskan. Do you actually have to sink to such depths of degradation as to put a cute photo of someone shearing sheep on the front page? If I wanted that, I'd read the Lincoln Journal and Star. I believed the DN photoediting staff had better taste than that. What's next — little kids with dogs?

Erik Andersson  
sophomore  
undeclared

# Happiness found in 'militant non-violence'

The movies "Sophie's Choice" and "Gandhi" deal with one of the most important questions of the human condition, i.e. "How should one react to injustice?" Sophie and Gandhi answered this question in different ways. Their responses and the



## Krishna Madan

ensuing consequences are instructive in helping us to answer it for ourselves.

Gandhi reacted to injustice by becoming personally involved in the issues concerned. He did not do this in the manner of a do-gooder liberal who merely acts in order to quiet his conscience. Rather, Gandhi saw in the existence of injustice the need to change oneself just as much as one desires to change society.

Thus Gandhi was willing to give up all unnecessary pleasures and to live the common life of the people. Dealing effectively with material and other desires was very important to him because only if he could do this could he achieve a personal satisfaction that was just as important as any satisfaction to be gained from societal change.

In the long run, the attainment of these two goals was part of one process. The overcoming of selfish desires led to a quiet strength which enabled him to make the sacrifices that were necessary to pursue his larger societal goals.

Gandhi expressly said that to achieve anything, one had to be willing to make any sacrifice — including the supreme sacrifice. He believed that abstinence and fasting were important in creating the mental fortitude necessary to achieve this level of consciousness.

Gandhi's most famous words are probably "non-cooperation with evil is a sacred duty." To him, resistance to oppression meant not only a simple deliverance for oneself but also a complete refusal to participate in the system of oppression.

Like Gandhi, Sophie also found herself in a country occupied by an oppressor. Unlike him, she cooperated with the system of oppression rather than fighting it.

She tried to preserve her life and that of her children by participating in anti-Semitic activity that would endear her to the Germans. In doing this she became part of the murderous anti-Semitic machine. Rather than saving her life, this helped to destroy it.

Choosing to become a murderer of Jews — if only by verbally damning them — was the first step in

choosing to become the murderer of her child. When she was presented with the choices dictated by the German camp commander, she had already become a part of the system of the Nazis. It was only because she thought like them that she was able to choose which of her children to die.

The memory of this murder is what eventually lead Sophie to destroy herself. Far from saving her life, the condoning of the killing of Jews was only the first step toward destroying it.

Sophie's problem was that she was passive in the face of evil. She accepted the choices outlined by the German camp commander rather than making up her own. She accepted the anti-Semitism of the Nazis rather than fighting it.

Both Gandhi and Sophie died violent deaths. The difference is that Gandhi died in the pursuit of a goal while Sophie's death was purposeless. Moreover, again unlike Sophie, Gandhi died as a person who had achieved self-fulfillment.

Gandhi's method was called "passive resistance" in English; in actuality, he considered that name to be inappropriate and preferred "militant non-violence." In our personal lives we will all discover that his type of militance is capable of bringing more happiness than Sophie's passivity. For some of us, as with Sophie, this discovery may come too late.