

Editorial

Grenada mission accomplished — time to get out

Last week's invasion of Grenada by the United States may turn out to be a long, drawn out affair.

When troops landed on the island last week, first reports indicated light resistance and government officials said American forces might be withdrawn in one or two days.

As the week wore on, reports of heavier fighting came from military and administration officials and the projected length of the stay of U.S. forces was stretched to a week to 10 days.

Now President Reagan may be given until Christmas to pull the American occupation force off the Caribbean island because of a war powers resolution passed Tuesday by the House. A Senate vote, expected this week, probably will approve the resolution.

While it is a positive move for Congress to set a limit on how long Ameri-

can troops can stay in Grenada, the fact remains that they could be there for two more months.

This is disturbing. Why should American servicemen remain on an island where fighting has ceased and where there is no longer any danger to the Americans that were rescued in the invasion?

How about a need for the United States (and the Reagan administration) to continue to assert itself as the world's hope against communism? That would be a good reason, except that our military exercise in Grenada and our continued presence there will not end the threat of communism in the world or deter future communist aggression.

Are we needed there to ensure that a new democratic government is implemented and that order is restored

on the island? Not if we truly believe in self-determination and respect the rights of others to solve their own problems.

What about a prolonged period of patting ourselves on the back for "saving" the people of Grenada from the Cuban invasion force entrenched on the island? This seems like the most likely reason though it is tinged by the fact that we didn't know for sure that there was a Cuban invasion force until we attacked the island. With this sort of reasoning, we could intervene anywhere in the world on the slightest suspicion that we may find something that justifies our action.

Actually, there are no good reasons for American troops to be in Grenada. If their mission was to protect American lives, as President Reagan has said, then the legitimate purpose for their

intervention has been served and they should be pulled out.

The Reagan administration has not totally convinced the American public that the United States was justified in its invasion of Grenada. Anytime men must die and their families must suffer, the questions that should be asked are: Why did it happen and was it really worth it? These questions remain to be answered.

The Reagan administration has tried to present a convincing argument as to why the United States had to step in. Some of it has been hard to swallow. But if our main mission of saving American lives has been accomplished, it is time to pack up and get out. President Reagan should not wait until Christmas to give that present to the American people.

—Terry L. Hyland

Most neighbors agree: Grenada invasion mistake

It's none of my business, but I don't think Reagan should have invaded Grenada.

He has my sympathy. It must have been very frustrating this past month when hardly anyone wanted to invade Russia or Syria. So I can see why he wanted to kick Grenada around. But if



Arthur Hoppe

truth be told, there's not much enthusiasm on my block for declaring war on Grenada either.

The one person for it was Captain Haskell, U.S. Army Flying Corps (retired), who lives at the corner. "By jingo, we haven't won a war in 37 years and this is our chance," he said happily at our Tuesday night Tupperware party. "But I do wish we'd warmed up on Nauru first."

Old Mrs. Cadwaller, who lives alone, admitted she'd been nervous about the Grenada threat for years. "After all, it's 21 miles long, has a population of 100,000 known Communists and lies only 2,500 miles from our shores," she said. But she was against the invasion. "I think," she said, looking up from the

tea cosy she was tating, "we should have nuked them."

It was my dear wife, Glynda, however, who summed up the feeling of the rest of us. "I never met a Grenadian I didn't like," she said. And after that interest in the Grenada-American war of 1983 flagged.

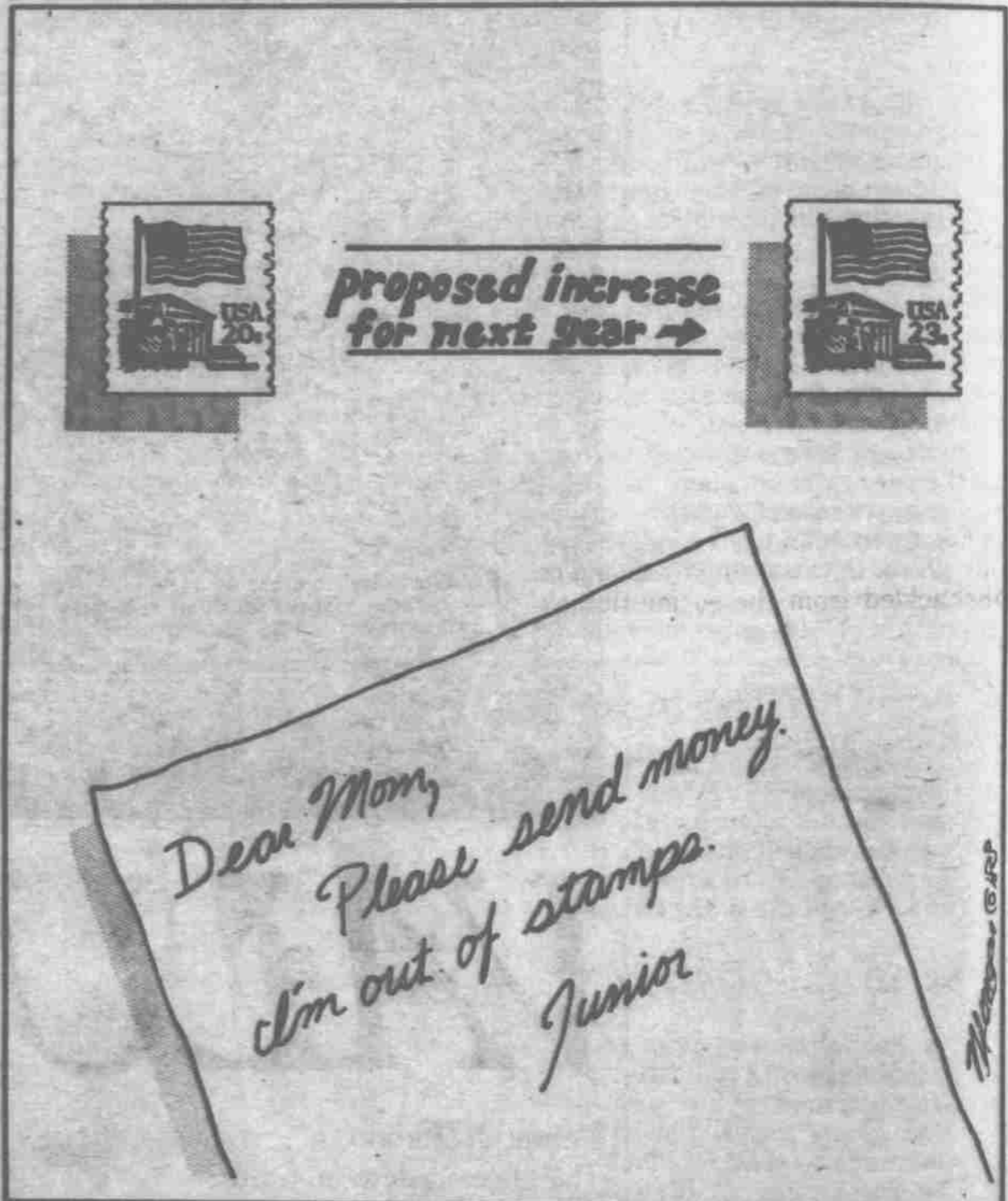
In all due modesty I must concede that it was I who first suggested we launch an all-out assault on Red China instead.

The initial reaction was, at best, apathetic. Like most Americans, the people on our block have come to look upon the Chinese in recent years as peace-loving agrarian reformers who make baskets and hydroelectric projects and love having their pictures taken with Polaroid cameras.

That was before I read them a recent Associated Press dispatch from China reporting that any dog arrested within the confines of Beijing or its suburbs would be executed without trial.

"Do you realize that there are an estimated 100,000 dogs in Beijing who will be exterminated under this barbarous program of canicide and," I said, addressing this last remark to old Mrs. Cadwaller who has a miserable, yapping cocker spaniel named Piffles, "many of them are cocker spaniels?"

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Campus Quotes

What do you think of the Daily Nebraskan?



Linda Lee
Junior
journalism
"I think the Nebraskan has been around for a long time and I think it's one of the best papers in the state."



Tom Arjoo
graduate student
computer science
"Actually, it's improved a great deal. I've been here a long time and I've seen the improvement. Whoever is editing it now is doing a really good job."



Jeff Warren
freshman
computer science
"I think that there's too many editorials in it. A lot of times I can't find out about events going on around campus because of it. There's usually a couple of articles that are interesting though."



Jerry Page
senior
accounting
"I really enjoy reading it for all of the university news. But all of this Nebraskan stuff is a bunch of baloney. I've subscribed to the [Lincoln] Journal for several years."



Holly Drent
junior
Teachers College
"It's a good paper and I think it does a good job of reporting on what's going on around campus."

Staff photos by Carl Sorenson