

# Editorial

## Both sides claim victory in rhetorical war

There are two wars carried on between Iran and Iraq. In one people are killed and towns bombed — a typical bloody conflict. In the other war, the truth is butchered and morale is either lifted or lessened. It's the rhetorical war.

The *Los Angeles Times* reported that the Iraqi military command has issued more than 1,372 communiqués in the war. Iran probably has issued a like number.

Each of these communiqués reports another glorious victory for the issuing country. Another factory bombed, another successful push through enemy lines.

During the last six weeks, I have read at least one of these reports in Reuter news items every day.

Typically, either country claims a military victory. Then an hour or two later, the other country says that no such victory occurred: Indeed, they had just smashed through the other country's lines. It's impossible to tell who is winning.

At the beginning of the war, about 3½ years ago, Iraq invaded Iran. Iraq intended to reclaim the east bank of the Shatt al Arab, the waterway from Basra to the Persian gulf, the *Times* reported. Iraq relinquished the

territory in a 1975 border agreement.

Neither side appears to have made significant progress against the other. Neither side appears to be able to mount a campaign large enough to win a meaningful victory against the other.

A meaningless war.  
About 200,000 are dead.  
Until I read the summary report by the *Times*, it was conceivable to me that the fighting had ceased. Only the truth was being butchered every day.

Neither side appears ready to give in. Both seem to be surviving economically as well. Neither side appears ready for any sort of settlement.

It would be much simpler and less

expensive to step up the rhetorical war, than to continue the other one.

Each side could maintain hundreds of propaganda troops to claim victories and repudiate defeats. The news wires could then simply report the number of communiqués issued.

Here in the U.S. of A. and over in the U. of S.S.R. we already have a full-scale rhetorical war.

I see our battle communiqués every day on the Reuters wire. The U.S. claims the Soviets did this, or that, or behave this way. Then the Soviets deny and come up with their own claims.

So far no one has claimed casualties.

—Chris Welsh



### Letters

#### Car towing addressed

The issue of night time towing has become a very important and highly debated topic on the UNL campus. We realize that towing of cars with outstanding violations at night may put students, faculty, and staff in an unsafe situation, but at the same time we recognize that the members of this university community should be responsible for paying their parking tickets.

ASUN has taken action on this controversy by establishing an ad-hoc committee to look into alternatives to alleviate this problem.

Until a viable alternative is found, the UNL Police Department will continue to tow cars with unpaid violations during the day or night. It is still the responsibility of vehicle owners or operators to abide by the present regulations.

To clear up any misunderstanding about impoundment procedures, ASUN and UNL Police have copies of the 1983 UNL Parking and Traffic Regulations available to anyone.

Present policy allows for impoundment (towing) of vehicles with one or more violations left unpaid after 20 business days, day or night. This policy is clearly outlined on the back of the parking tickets.

The ASUN Ad-hoc Committee on Night Time Towing is currently researching possible alternatives to towing. Such alternatives include the holding of class registrations, night time parking permits, the education of all vehicle operators, and increasing safety features across the two campuses. All alternatives must be weighed in terms of safety, costs, and effectiveness.

The ASUN Ad-hoc Committee on Night Time Towing welcomes any suggestions of possible alternatives. We will meet 4:30 p.m. March 1 in the ASUN office to discuss our findings to date, and recommend alternatives at the March 6 ASUN Senate meeting.

Until another alternative is found, please don't put yourself in an unsafe situation by not paying your parking violations. You can contact the UNL Police Department at 472-3555 to find out if you are one of the 2,200 license plate numbers on the impoundment list. Help us find a solution, and take action before it's too late.

ASUN Ad-hoc Committee  
on night-time towing  
Mark Cross, Chairman

#### UNL 'inconsiderate'

I would like to comment on the recent development of the proposal of the Performing Arts Center by UNL.

Is it conceivable that the business people effected could have been informed by a better means than television and newspaper? I will not attempt to quote the newscast, but it went something like, "Authorities say they hope businessmen effected will be cooperative so they won't have to go the condemnation route."

I feel that if UNL officials were really concerned with the cooperation of the businesses effected, they could have informed us of their plans before they told the press. These plans do more than effect us; they may change our lives.

In my opinion, this is a sign of the constant and consistent inconsideration of the university for the residents and businesses of Lincoln.

Shelly Sweeney  
manager  
Dippy Donuts

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BASED ON ONE-HALF  
OF ONE PERCENT OF THE  
PRIMARY VOTE HERE IN  
NEW ENGLAND, WE HAVE  
PROJECTED A WINNER  
IN THE NOVEMBER  
ELECTION...



Letter

1984 CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## Humans preserve ourselves by building chemical resistance

I was in the kitchen building an excellent bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich when my daughter, Malphasia, caught me.

"Daddy!" she cried with that disdain children reserve for the sins of their parents. "Don't you care about the EDB in that bread?"

"Not until a month ago, I didn't," I said, "seeing no one had mentioned the stuff until then."

"And the malathion on the lettuce or the nitrites



Arthur  
Hoppe

in the bacon?" she pursued relentlessly. "Here, at least try one of my organic turnips."

I recoiled in horror. "Are you trying to kill me, Malphasia?" I demanded. "Didn't you read the passing last month of Oakleigh Ruff, the nation's leading forager and sprouter and author of *Fruits, Nuts & You*? He didn't look a day over 60 and he was only 37. It was organic foods that did him in."

"I don't believe you," said Malphasia flatly.

"Possibly not," I said with dignity. "But I presume you would believe Dr. Appleton Shote, the noted agronomist. Would you like me to tell you of his recent experiments as reported in *The New Jersey Journal of Medicine*? Or would you like me to cut off your allowance?"

Well, it seems that Dr. Shote (I informed a sulky Malphasia) had been knocking off laboratory rats for years with one new chemical additive after another, each more lethal than the last.

Suddenly, he realized the incredible scientific error that he and all his fellow researchers had been making: Each new chemical was ingested by a group of rats who, unlike human beings, had never ingested a new chemical before!

"So what?" inquired Malphasia, obviously egging

me on.

So Dr. Shote attempted to duplicate in the laboratory rats the same conditions we humans have undergone: First, he gave them a taste of red dye No. 1. Then he added a hint of a hint of cyclamates, a touch of saccharin. Finally, he hit them in sequence with 24D, DBCP, PCB and BYOB.

The results were amazing. In six months, the rats looked younger and sleeker. All had taken up jogging, break dancing and aerobic I Ching. On the other hand, a control group fed on nothing but organic tofu and mung beans was listless, pallid, balding and suffering from the heartbreak of unwanted facial hair.

"That doesn't make sense," said Malphasia. I asked if she would allow me to quote from Dr. Shote's conclusions or would she rather clean her room?

"In conclusion," concluded Dr. Shote, "we see here an obvious example of natural selection. Human beings who ingest chemical additives regularly, as most do, build up a tolerance to chemical additives — just as insects do to insecticides or viruses do to antibiotics.

"But pity the poor consumers of naught but organic foods. Sooner or later, they will unknowingly and inevitably ingest some new chemical. Having no immunity, they will quickly expire, thus clearing the human gene pool of their strange, inbred health theories.

"Thus, through chemical additives, we are developing a tougher, harder strain of human beings fit to survive in a chemical-deluged world — moreover, a strain with increased longevity. For what better way to preserve this all-too-mortal flesh than with artificial preservatives?"

I knew that this saga of an incredible breakthrough on the frontiers of modern science would stimulate Malphasia's insatiable childlike curiosity. It did.

"Can I have my allowance now?" she asked.

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