

Editorial

Pentagon's latest nuclear plan 'stupid'

Those crazy guys at the Pentagon have come up with another fresh plan.

They were just wondering what they could do with some of that extra money President Reagan has been shuffling their way. You can only take up so much slack with \$7,000 coffee makers — it's understandable.

The military has spent a lot of money investigating the possibility of "Star Wars" defense. Now they're on to something Jules Verne would love; "Nukes in the Center of the Earth."

The Air Force wants the project, cleverly titled a "Secure Reserve Force," so that just in case our missiles in planes, silos and submarines are destroyed by a preemptive mega strike, we could still bomb the heck out of the Russians.

They've spent \$10 million researching the project, and they plan to spend another \$10 million this year. And they are asking Congress for \$20 million in 1986 for yet more research.

The plan is extraordinarily stupid, even for the Air Force. It goes like this: In order to supplement our nuclear armaments, the Air Force would build an underground base in the desert. It would be a 400-mile network of subways 2,500 to 3,500 feet below the surface. The base could survive up to a year after a nuclear war.

Last Sunday, Carl Sagan had another article in Parade magazine about the dangers of Nuclear Winter. The international community of scientists have agreed that even 1 percent of the world's nuclear stockpile exploding would cause a nuclear winter — a global dust storm that would lower the earth's temperature and block out the sun long enough to decimate civilization, and possibly life as we know it.

If the Soviets could stop even one-half of the missiles and bombs we have now, the world still would be destroyed. The Soviets could not destroy even half of our nukes. We have enough on submarines alone to hit every major Soviet city.

It's ridiculous to make more nuclear weapons. Even if the Soviets had twice as many as we do, we still have the same advantage. Their attack would guarantee their own destruction. We'll always have enough bombs to destroy the world — it doesn't matter if they hit Soviet soil.

It's criminally stupid to drain the economy researching a project that is not needed. It would be even worse to spend the \$50 billion the Air Force estimates it would cost. We are as strong as we'll ever need to be. "Peace through strength," one common justification for such madness, has to be one of the most asinine platitudes ever uttered. It sounds hauntingly like "War is Peace."

What we need is "Peace through Sanity." We need a freeze, then we need mutually verifiable reduction of weapons.

Write your congressman and let him know you're not one of the complacent who will allow the pointless build-up to continue.

Kudos to the American Psychological Association for dropping Lincoln psychologist Paul Cameron from their ranks.

Cameron was in the news recently for his comments about homosexuals. In a speech in Maine, Cameron said homosexual men should be registered to avoid a "modern-day plague" of AIDS. He said, "Homosexual meeting areas should be closed, gay baths and public parks taken over by homosexuals should be closed

and all practicing homosexuals should be required to register and their movements should be tracked."

The APA dropped Cameron for violating the preamble to the professional organization's "Ethical Principles of Psychologists."

In part, the preamble says psychologists should "strive for the preservation and protection of fundamental human rights," and that psychologists should "respect the dignity and worth of the individual."



Culture Center's renovation disguises more than building

While driving down North 16th Street the other day, I noticed a very interesting sight — there was a new-

looking building on the east side of the street. I soon realized that it was an old building with a new coat of paint and a catchy design

Elizabeth Burden

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At first I saw nothing wrong with the "renovation," which many of you might determine is a good thing. But upon realizing what building it was, I was forced to think further about the event. Nothing is simple where the Culture Center is concerned.

Four things about this occurrence bothered me: (1) it was painted with a homogenized symbol, covering up the ethnic pride symbols that were formerly on

the building that made it unique; (2) it appears that the administration thinks the current Culture Center will be around long enough to warrant a new coat of paint; (3) it appears the administration thinks the students have forgotten that this is a temporary site, no matter how cosmetically appealing the outside may be; (4) it makes a structure of questionable stability (according to a physical plant report) look OK. Let's consider each of my ap-

prehensions.

Apprehension number one may seem to be a minor one to most people. What does it matter what's on the outside of a building?

While a suggestion to have the building painted may have been to boost morale and promote a new image for the center, it seems there is an underlying, unconscious message. Painting over the symbols may give new students the impression that they should be "just plain students, blending

in," the way the building does now.

The painting over a mural — that was but one way of exemplifying the nature of the reaffirmance within — symbolizes a deeper message: if you must be "ethnic," do it under wraps, where it can't distract others. If non-users of the center didn't know what it was for before, they definitely won't be able to tell by looking at it now.

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Campus Quotes

What do you think of UNL's Homecoming?



Laree Witte
Sophomore
Animal Science
"I think it's a good thing for the university because it kind of brings everybody together. It's a good way to welcome the students back."



Ridge Smidt
Senior
Undeclared
"I think it's a waste. It should be liberalized. More emphasis should be put on partying...like alcohol on the floats. I think if we had alcohol on floats, everyone would turn out for the event."



Ann Edmunds
Senior
Pharmacy
"Homecoming is a feeble attempt to hold on to high school memories. Being adults now, we should engage in more sophisticated games. Homecoming has the power cosmic."



John Hilgert
Junior
Pre-Law
"It doesn't seem to have too much participation by people. It seems to be a big thing for fraternities and sororities. I plan on participating though."



Eric Traudt
Junior
Computer Science
"Not much. I've had nothing to do with it at all. Have not even thought about it."

Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan