

Editorial

Doomsayers predict United States revolution

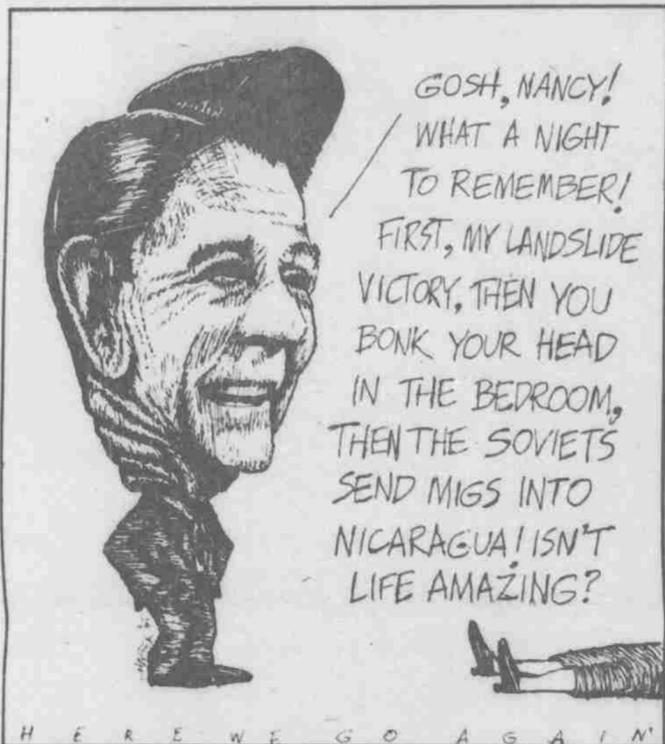
Folks gotta eat. While most of America basks in President Reagan's re-election, some doomsayers predict revolution in the United States within the next few years. A revolution born of growing social inequity and reared by its resulting poverty. The Republican Party will tell you there is little social inequity. And what little there is will be cured when businesses are free to hire people at sub-minimum wages. That is, if business can find enough of those shiftless poor to claim jobs. Now, if you listen to average Democrats, they'll tell you how sensitive their party is to the problems of the poor and how those damned country club Republicans live off the sweat of the impoverished. Their argument is fine in theory. Walter

Mondale's tax hike and deficit-reduction plan would have evened the social structure by heavily taxing only those families with annual incomes of more than \$60,000. Mondale and Ferraro's support of the ERA, freedom of choice in abortion cases and the Civil Rights Act, certainly put them on a ideological plane above our moralizing president and his radical Christian friends. But the election is long gone. It was over before the polls even opened, really. The Democratic Party cried in its beer and whined that the country is ignorant, that the Republicans can have it because trouble is imminent. Nebraska's Democrats spent the evening at a subdued bash at The Cornhusker hotel.

Despite Exon's victory, most Democrats spent the balance of the evening mourning liberal losses across the state and the country. Funny thing, though. The funeral at The Cornhusker was well attended by the middle and upper class of the Nebraska Democratic Party. Most of those poor, unfortunate, downtrodden folk who Democrats had courted throughout the campaign didn't show up to mourn Mondale, Ferraro, Bauer, Cavanaugh, Hunt. A few Democrats of the non-elite variety went to the wake only to find themselves ostracized by the "concerned, caring" office seekers and their contributors. Those few sat at tables, munching on popcorn, sipping cola, waiting for their favorite candidate to extend a glad hand.

It never happened. In theory, the Democratic Party had it all over the Republicans. In practice, there really was no difference. Sure, President Reagan's policies will make the distinction more evident between those who have and those who don't. The Democrats could, but probably wouldn't, do better. This quiet, non-rebellious atmosphere prevailing during Reagan's reign will break up. Don't let the Democrats kid you that they could have curbed the coming revolution. Folks gotta eat. Neither party really understands the gravity of that fact. They soon will.

Jeff Browne
Daily Nebraskan Senior Editor



Reagan mandate to wreak havoc

Yecchhh. An unrestrained President Reagan with a blank-check mandate. A truly scary thought. Sort of like an unrestrained Howard Cosell with a Mr. Microphone.



OK, So Minnesota Fritz and the party of doom went down to a crushing defeat. America wants to feel good again. Yippie skip, we go traipsing, tra-la, through Camelot-West, building bombs and tax-loopholes as we go. Let's pray in schools and lynch Ralph Nader, build more nukes and bomb Grenada. The rich get richer, the poor get ignored, and problems fade into the woodwork to be varnished over by the new Reagan veneer. Sure I'm a sore loser. I don't like Reagan. But then I never did have a stomach for phony-baloney or

disingenuous actors. Reagan is slowly flushing our future down the drain for short-term gains. And he's doing it with a smooth line, and a wry smile. Ladies and gentlemen, we've been had by the best. The only thing worse than the result was CBS' Dan Rather falling all over himself trying to be charitable to Reagan. "RONALD REAGAN HAS A CHANCE FOR A 50 STATE SWEEP!" Rather blathered every three minutes with uncharacteristic unprofessionalism. His voice was agitated, he looked like a jelly bean and sounded like Joe Garagiola rooting for Tom Sawyer to throw a no-hitter. I thought I'd lose my lunch. Rather came unglued. Fidgety, nervous. Words flew out of his mouth like carrot dollars out of a La Machine. He even reverted back to his old Texas accent, did you notice? Everything was mista Raagan this, and mista Raagan that; Jay Rockefeller became Jay Rockafella and the eyes of Texas

were upon us for the rest of the evenin'. Hook 'em, Dan. And, c'mon, where did he get all that copy to read anyway? I swear he talked for 20 minutes without a breath one time. He started to turn green, and they cut to a commercial. I got this image of a sweaty little cue card guy on the floor, frantically toiling with his Marks-A-Lot to stay one card ahead of Dan — or else. I would've liked to have had the anti-perspirant concession for that election team. But Dan and his motley crew weren't the only ones I was upset with on election night. Try everybody else in TV election coverage. The worst phrase of the night? "... and we'll tell you why." They might as well have said "and we'll tell you what to think." Reagan still in the saddle and Rather still in the booth. And they say there's no propaganda here. All I can say is God Bless America, she needs it more than ever.

'Non-partisan' State Department promotes Reagan campaign

The State Department is supposed to implement foreign policy in a non-partisan fashion, but that tradition has been tossed aside in this election

The publication was apparently a timely bit of propaganda for the Reagan-Bush re-election effort. Its title sets the partisan theme: "Realism, Strength, Negotiation: Key Foreign Policy Statements of the Reagan Administration."

Printing costs came to about \$45,000; mailing expenses totaled another \$5,000.

ing out the multibillion-dollar defense budget, for example, Senate and House conferees debated the following:

general recently ruled that eight Defense officials were not entitled to free door-to-door transportation. The House agreed, but the Senate granted an exemption for the excommunicated eight. The House gave in.



The contents consist of excerpts from speeches by President Reagan, Vice President Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz.

Strictly personal: Our continuing series on waste in government has inspired thousands of readers to voice their support, suggest stories, and raise questions. One of the most frequently asked questions is: Why doesn't Congress crack down on waste? One reason is that the lawmakers sometimes can't see the forest for the trees. While thrash-

- Polyester uniform linings: The military wants to switch to polyester jacket linings, but some lawmakers were concerned that the artificial fabric — a butt of fashion jokes for years — "may make a major difference in troop acceptability." The brass hats were instructed to reconsider the proposal.
- Chauffeurs: The comptroller

• Hardship Pay: The Senate and the House managed to agree on discontinuing hardship pay for two hazards seldom encountered by the military: Glider duty and exposure to leprosy.

year. The department recently issued a slick, soft-cover, magazine-size compilation of self-praise by Reagan administration officials.

The State Department has printed 25,000 copies of the Reagan puff piece, with a picture of the president on the cover.

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Political backlash clouds Gandhi death

The events surrounding Indira Gandhi's death are clouded in communal language, the least of which was your comment — "It would be ideal if India's new prime minister and the Sikh leaders could achieve peace through nonviolence." (Daily Nebraskan, Nov. 6) This is not any confrontation between two communities. The depth of communal animity in India is far greater than to be broken by this incident. The political backlash was by disgruntled elements. It was political, not communal.

The true melting pot is India. The enduring tragedy of Gandhi's death is that Sikhs have enjoyed a distinct economic superiority under her rule, and it was under her rule that she launched the vastly successful green revolution with outstanding success in Punjab, among many other states. Punjab is the spiritual homeland of Sikhs. She gave Punjab autonomy as soon as she assumed power in late '60s. The Sikhs have always ruled the state through electoral participation in different parties. The paradoxical thing is that Sikhs are also in the communist party of India, which is one other quixotic variation in India.

Guest Opinion

There is no parallel to the Indian syndrome in any country. To Americans, to describe India is to imagine traveling from Iowa to Nebraska and not being able to speak the same language, eat the same food nor dress in the same mode. Least of all, the religion could be different. India has more Christians than many European nations put together, the third largest Muslim population in the world, not to speak of the Sikhs, Jews, Jains, Buddhists and the assorted sub-cultures. It is to the enduring genius of the Indian psyche and its leaders that every community people have held outstanding positions disproportionate to their strength. As it is said that if it fails, it will not be the failure of democracy as much as the failure in the greatest experiment in secular living.

The people who have killed her have done a great disservice to the great Sikh community by failing to take advantage of a secular, democratic process, when the elections were due in January, 1985. By their acts, they will move the country into hands of those right-wing zealots who have been frustrated through the years, and who will not think twice before they strike against the minorities. It was a monumental mistake for them to ignore that economic progress of the minorities and hence their security goes in tandem with national development.

It is depressing to note that the educated Sikhs failed to condemn the violence that has been festering in Punjab, and being carried out from the precincts of the holiest of the holy shrine of Sikhs. The act was synonymous to gun-toting zealots taking over the Vatican, and yet the Italian army cannot go inside.

Continued on Page 5

Daily Nebraskan

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