

# Editorial

## U.S. actions arouse Nicaragua

*'War to end wars' celebrated as U.S. approaches conflict*

Sunday was Veterans Day — anniversary of the end of World War I.

World War I was a messy war. Trench fighting led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of men in single battles. Veterans Day is a memorial to those who gave their lives and a monument of the stupidity and futility of war.

It's ironic that Sunday's page one news was tension in Nicaragua. We're close to war there. The Sandinista government says the United States is ready to invade and Nicaraguans are arming themselves in anticipation.

The Reagan Administration is considering a major increase in pressure on Nicaragua to halt the flow of Soviet arms, according to a copy righted New York Times article in the Sunday Journal-Star.

Another Journal-Star article said Reagan approved disciplinary action against some "junior level" CIA employees for their involvement in making a manual for Nicaraguan rebels on how to terrorize.

Reagan said the manual broke no laws.

The United States has mined Nicaragua's harbors, financed the Contra rebels, circulated a manual preaching the benefits of creating martyrs and inciting riots. Why is it surprising that Nicaragua is arming herself? We are forcing

the Sandinistas to increase their military might.

The manual, titled "Psychological Operations in Guerilla War," may not be against the law. But it encourages hiring professional criminals to carry out "select jobs," and it suggests creating a riot to kill one rebel supporter to create a "martyr." Inciting a riot is illegal in the United States and so is hiring professional criminals to carry out "select jobs."

The Times article said the Reagan Administration is discussing many ways to increase pressure on the Central American country. They include recalling the U.S.

ambassador, halting Soviet arms shipments by force, harassment of arms ships, or full Naval quarantine.

None of the intelligence information about the Nicaragua build-up has been released yet, but officials in the Pentagon and State Department said recent shipments delivered surface-to-air missiles, attack helicopters, anti-aircraft guns, radar equipment and patrol boats, the Times article said.

The rebels are a minority in Nicaragua. Most people are still loyal to the Sandinista government and they are ready to fight

those who would overthrow their country.

A war in Nicaragua would be messy. It would be fought in jungles and like Vietnam, the enemy would never be clearly defined. The Reagan Administration's aggression is forcing the Nicaraguans to prepare for war, and there is speculation the United States is preparing for a war as well. It's a quagmire in the making and a war we could not win.

Those of us who might be drafted to fight a war in Nicaragua will be watching the situation closely.



*Reagan quote book lacks explanation for CIA manuals*

As the scene opens, the newly re-crowned Ronald Wilson Reagan and his leading lady Nancy are sitting in the breakfast nook of the Western White Ranch. The prez is using one hand to dab the corners of his mouth with a napkin and the other to make prints of Sluggo on Silly Putty, while Nancy reads Dear Abby.

Ron: Gosh, Mommy, I sure love those Jewevos Rancheros. Pretty spicy for Middle Eastern food, though.



**Chris Burbach**

Nancy: It's juevos rancheros, Daddy. It's a Mexican dish.

Ron: You mean like Rosita?

Nancy: Tee hee hee, tee hee...

In her wild mirth, Nancy tips her chair back and falls over, bumping her head with a clink. Ron: I promised I wouldn't say this, but there you go again, Mommy.

While the two are still laughing, there is a knock on the door. Enter Larry Speakes.

Speakes: Good morning, Mr. President.

Ron: Pardon me?

Speakes (blushing): I mean, howdy, Mr. President.

Ron: Howdy, stranger.

Speakes: I've got news from back East, sir — some new information about Central America.

Ron: You mean it's true about there being separate countries and all down there?

Speakes: We're still working on that, sir. But the real news is about this CIA manual for neutralizing Nicaraguan officials. It's raising more dust than a Texas twister.

Ron: Darn it! I just don't understand it. The immigration and neutralization boys do hundreds of foreigners here every day, and those darn liberals get all hacked off when we try to neutralize some folks down on the south forty.

Speakes: Pardon me, sir, but that's Immigration and Naturalization.

Ron: Sure it's natural, it's American too. So what's the problem?

Speakes: It's this way, sir: the townsfolk got wind of the manual, and some of the boys up on the Hill are pretty riled up. We're going to have to do something about it, like punish the hired hands we're accusing.

Nancy: I could use some help peeling potatoes.

Ron: That's a good idea, Mommy, but I hate to do it. Down there, on the fringe of civilization, good men have got to know they're free to defend their herds and homes. What will I tell them?

Speakes: I'll do the talking, sir, you just tell me what to say.

Ron: Do I have to, Mommy?

Nancy: I'm afraid so, Daddy. But I think I can help you.

She opens the safe behind a John Wayne portrait, takes out the Good Book of Quotes and hands it to the prez, who holds her hand for just an instant and smiles up at her.

Nancy: Turn to "D" for Double Standards, dear.

Ron: By golly, you're right. (Flipping pages) Here's a good one under rebellion. 'Afghanis are freedom fighters, Salvadorans are rebels.'

Continued on Page 11



### Health aide defends treatment of student

This concerns Stacie Thomas' assessment of the University Health Center and health aides, (DN, Nov. 6). As one of the two health aides involved, I will attempt to provide a few of the facts she may have mistakenly excluded.

When I was contacted, the victim was still vomiting and had a case of diarrhea. I did take her temperature to be normal, along with the other health aide involved. We were both 4 degrees off; I doubt it.

I was not told by either the victim or her friends that she had been on medication (thus eliminating the suspicion of an allergic reaction) or that she had not eaten in three days. I was told that she was "fine until she ate dinner." Seeing that no one else was exhibiting similar symptoms, I assumed food poisoning was not suspect. Even if it had been food poisoning, putting the patient to bed, keeping her warm, and giving liquids after vomiting subsides is the most frequently used remedy.

After confirming this with the health center, this is exactly what I told the victim and her friends. The door was left wide open for the victim to go to the health center if she so desired. The victim reported to me, unbeknownst to Thomas, that she did not care to go to the health center. We, as health aides, are taught to respect the decisions and confidence of the students we help, as long as they are coherent, which she was. In no way did I say or infer that I "didn't want" to take her to the health center because of her weakness. I asked to be contacted again if there were any changes, and needless to say, I was not.

If my advice was not acceptable, then maybe the victim should have been taken to the "doorstep" of the health center. Health aides are not qualified nor trained to diagnose illnesses. Since the health aides involved were not presented with complete information, how can we be criticized for our actions? The people involved acted to the best of their abilities and qualifications, given the information presented them.

Jill Schmitz  
health aide  
sophomore  
pre-pharmacy

### 'Integrity' sparks fan's admiration

Sam Umland's disgust for those of us who waited in line to buy Bruce Springsteen tickets offers a clue to the real missing word in his quote (DN, Nov. 7). Apparently, "Ignorance is Bliss" in Umland's case. He should read about Springsteen and listen to his music before making such a facile connection between Springsteen, his fans and apathy.

I really would cheer for Springsteen passing in a procession when I wouldn't do the same for anyone else. But my admiration for this "rock star" is galvanized by an awareness of his integrity as an artist and as a humanitarian. Like Springsteen, who has performed on behalf of safe energy, Vietnam veterans and nuclear disarmament, I have "devoted the same amount of energy and time" to such "laudable political causes" as human rights in Central America, equal rights for women, a nuclear weapons freeze and halting the deployment of missiles both here and in Europe.

If Umland were more willing to learn than to instruct, he might find himself relieved to see stu-

dents so enthusiastic about a decent and gifted man like Springsteen.

Joan Ratliff  
UNL dropout

### Reader questions state intervention

When I began to read Jim Rogers' article, "Opposition economists say regulation causes monopoly" (Nov. 6, Daily Nebraskan), it appeared as if someone would finally speak up for capitalism — i.e., that the state just might be the cause of some of the evil in this country, which has been so conveniently passed on to those "selfish capitalists." By the end of the third paragraph though, I realized this was not so.

Rogers' term "monopoly capitalism," with the state at the root giving handouts, is as loose a use of language as is possible. Capitalism, as opposed to our present-day mixed economy, by definition, denies the possibility of such government intervention.

Secondly, when Ayn Rand re-

ferred to big business as "America's persecuted minority," she did not aim this description toward the moochers who have and still do ask for government protection. Rather, she referred to big business as being the scapegoat for any and all injustice in the country. For example, if businessmen strive for profit, label them greedy and cold; if they want to build cars without airbags for those who choose not to spend the extra money, call them unscrupulous and antisocial.

The aim of Rogers' article is only too evident in the final paragraph. Since he can't point to the promise of a better future to justify the stats, as the USSR did and does, he quotes a Harvard philosopher who says we need a "more extensive state" to make up for the past.

No matter what evidence exists against state intervention, just say we need more of it and all will be fine.

Jim Carson  
senior  
finance

### Letters

## Daily Nebraskan

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board Monday through Friday in the fall and spring semesters and Tuesdays and Fridays in the summer sessions, except during vacations.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-2588 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, call Nick Foley, 476-0275 or Angela Nietfeld, 475-4981.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

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