

Editorial

Daily Nebraskan

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Inevitable opposed

Gov. Orr says no to radioactive dump

Gov. Kay Orr only put off the inevitable by opposing the possibility of a low-level radioactive waste site being built in Nebraska.

Nebraska has the responsibility under a five-state compact to accept such a disposal site. Among the states in the compact, Nebraska has been the biggest producer of low-level radioactive wastes, including clothes, tools, filters and resins from nuclear power plants and radioactive materials from universities and hospitals.

One of the other states in the compact — Louisiana, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas — could wind up with the waste site, but the dump eventually will fill up, and officials will start looking elsewhere. Since Nebraska is already

in the compact, it will be a candidate in the future.

The Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact Commission will pick the state for the site Dec. 15 and select a town later.

Orr told the Omaha World-Herald, "It would be easier to have (the site) somewhere else. But I am saying I buy into the compact. I buy into being a responsible citizen and finding a place for it."

Several towns have shown interest in the site, including Oshkosh, Sargent and Bloomfield. These towns may not show that same kind of interest down the road. Nebraska could wind up stuck with a waste dump and no one who wants it.

Quibbles & bits

Student named FFA national president

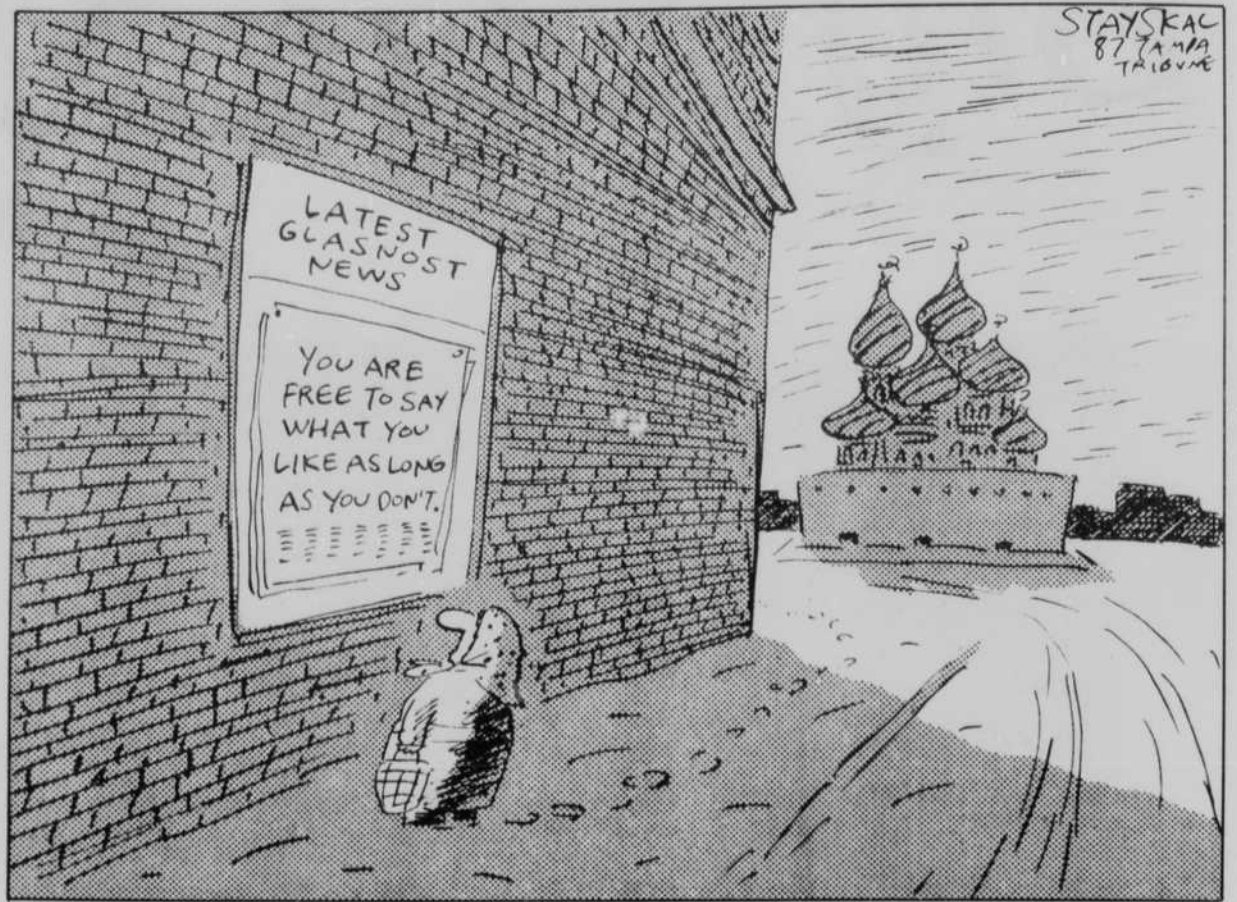
• Kelli Evans, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln agricultural economics junior from Hayes Center, was named national president of the Future Farmers of America last weekend. She is the second woman to lead the organization.

• According to the National On-Campus Report, most condoms are bought by women. A condom vending machine employee estimated that women buy 65 percent of condoms. An official at the University of Nebraska at Omaha said, "Women usually take the responsibility for sexual activity."

• Husker Bob Rowe seems to be well on his way to recovery. The Lincoln Star quoted Rowe as saying, "I'm strong, I eat, I eat real good and I pray. I do

everything the doctors and nurses tell me... they say I'm a good patient. Hell, I feel good — I wouldn't mind having a cold beer." Way to go, Bob.

• The Daily Nebraskan isn't the only student newspaper that has to deal with questionable advertising. It appears there are controversies over advertisements at other newspapers as well. The Daily Collegian at Penn State University "froze" an ad for a popular brand of ice cream. The ad showed a man and woman with blue jeans and buttons saying "Take Your Licks." But that wasn't questionable. It was the fact that the woman's jeans were unbuttoned and not the man's that cooled the ad. One feminist said the ad illustrated that "male sexuality is much more sacred."

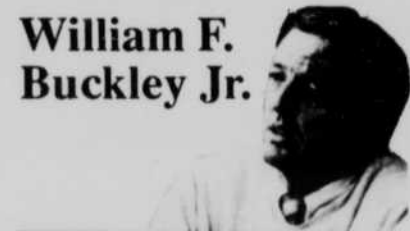


Leaders decide fate of Toshiba

Parent company should be innocent of the subsidiary's crimes

John Lehman, who was secretary of the Navy when it all happened (1984-86), was asked: Did "Toshiba" know about it? By "Toshiba," most of the world means the Toshiba Corp., 50.8 percent owner of the Toshiba Machine Co. He said they did. But in response to the same question after investigations were conducted, lawyer Leonard Garment says flatly that such was not the case. "Toshiba" did not know that "TMC" (Toshiba Machine Co.) was illegally selling to the Soviet Union technology of such huge importance as severely to jeopardize the security of our submarine fleet.

William F. Buckley Jr.



Leonard Garment is, to be sure, serving as counsel for Toshiba in the ruckus now going on. But Leonard Garment does not lie, not even on behalf of his clients, and he has asserted the guiltlessness of Toshiba most confidently. Moreover, the Japanese conducted a police investigation, as did the Japanese Ministry of Trade, and Toshiba designated a blue-ribbon panel of truth-seekers who will be guided by independent American counsel. Their joint mission: to ascertain whether, evidence to the contrary notwithstanding, anybody in Toshiba did in fact know what was going on. And to find out how many people in TMC knew what was going on, and who they were.

None of these investigations implicated Toshiba Corp. The U.S. government has concurred in these conclusions. The corporation punishment against the TMC wrongdoers has been severe. What exactly will be the punishment meted out by the Japanese government, one does not know. But we should be reminded that since about the time Gen. MacArthur left, the Japanese make their own laws; and as a result of U.S.-Japanese discussions following the Toshiba (TMC) revelation, their penalties against a violation of the Export Code are now as severe as our own.

Which brings us to Sen. Jake Garn, a highly respected Republican and anti-communist. He wants to throw the book at Toshiba. If one correctly understands him, his position is that a parent company is responsible for the activities of its subsidiary.

But in the law, the burden is against such derivative responsibility. The Constitution specifically holds parents innocent of crimes committed by their progeny, and the Export Administration Act specifies that no sanctions can be imposed against the parent body of a subsidiary, provided it is established that said parent body is as innocent as Toshiba insists it is and will be proved to be by investigators.

Even so, Garn wants to impose a breathtaking penalty on Toshiba. He has backed legislation that would ban Toshiba exports into the United States for five years. At the going rate at which Toshiba does business here, that could amount to a \$10 billion fine. To get the measure of contemplated severity, if a U.S. exporter is

found guilty of violating the code, it is subject to a fine equal to five times the value of the illicit export. If a commensurate fine were imposed on Toshiba — never mind that it was an innocent party — the fine would come to \$200 million: The value of the treacherous economic transaction was \$40 million.

We need to be very careful about excesses on this order, and the reasons ought to be obvious. We have exporters in America who have sold sensitive stuff, usually via fake corporations, to the Soviet Union. I would gladly vote, if in Congress, to string such types up on a sour apple tree. But we don't even execute our traitors.

But there is more there than xenophobia for the Japanese to suspect. We are talking about a major exporter, and everybody in Japan, as in the U.S. Congress, knows that there is resentment in America over the imbalance in our trade with Japan. Inevitably, Japanese who are satisfied that Toshiba is innocent are going to suspect that we have come up with a way to invoke protection without calling it a tariff.

And we would appear to be doing it to the wrong company. Toshiba is willingly at work to cooperate with the government on model legislation to fine-tune export control. And Toshiba has for years led the way in investing in America and in hiring U.S. labor and technicians. We should not punish Japanese malefactors by a miscarriage of justice against Japanese who are innocent, and, indirectly, punish Americans who would suffer from a boycott of Toshiba.

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Editorial Policy

Unsigned editorials represent official policy of the fall 1987 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Its members are Mike Reilley, editor; Jeanne Bourne, editorial page editor; Joan Rezac, copy desk chief; Jann Nyffeler, associate news editor; Charles Lieurance, assistant arts and entertainment editor; Scott Harrah, night news editor and Linda Hartmann, wire editor.

Editorials do not necessarily reflect

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According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its student editors.

Letter

Surcharge debated; senator cites option

I am an ASUN senator representing the College of Engineering and Technology as well as the vice president of the Engineering Executive Board. For approximately the last month, I have been researching the proposed 20 percent tuition surcharge on all engineering courses for one year. I spoke with Dean Stan Liberty before the last NU Board of Regents meeting and was told that there was no other alternative to solving the current deficiencies which exist in the engineering

laboratories. However, many students, especially current sophomores and juniors who the surcharge will most drastically affect, feel that this sudden and drastic charging of students is quite unfair.

As you know, ASUN has proposed a tuition increase of approximately \$4 per credit hour on all courses at the university in order to supplement teachers' salaries. If this increase is passed by the Legislature, and with the addition of a 20 percent surcharge, which itself is equal to almost \$9 per engineering credit hour, engineering students will experience an increase of nearly \$13 for a single credit hour.

For an upper-class engineering student taking 16 hours of engineering courses each semester, the annual tuition increase would be more than \$400.

The College of Engineering and Technology is comprised of 1,615 undergraduate students, but this college is faced with the possibility of losing its accreditation. Although taxing students may not be a popular solution, it is obvious that the College of Engineering and Technology's accreditation should not be risked. However, the university campus at Curtis, with 54 students, has been appropriated \$350,000 and \$1.4 mil-

lion for the upcoming terms in order to keep that college alive.

Although the Curtis campus may be important to that area of the state, the College of Engineering and Technology would seem to be much more important to all of Nebraska. This becomes more apparent in light of recent decisions by major corporations. A \$4 million annual research program is now in the process of being implemented in the college. But why is such a great amount of money being allocated toward new research when present laboratories are lacking so greatly?

It seems unfair that engineering

students will be overburdened with this situation, especially after they have taken the initiative to help improve another deficient area, faculty salaries. I guess what I am asking is that some type of appropriation for the College of Engineering and Technology similar to that given Curtis be considered. Or even taking a splinter of this year's \$4 million pool dedicated to research in order to supplement the \$350,000 needed for the engineering laboratory deficiencies.

Joe Wurtz Jr.
 senior
 engineering