

Daily
Nebraskan
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EDITORIAL

It's about time

Congressional vote asks to put end to war

The Vietnam War is long over. One of the final doors on the conflict closed Thursday when the Senate voted to end trade sanctions against Vietnam.

Two of the resolution's key supporters were senators who lived through some of the worst of the war.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., was wounded three times in the war. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., spent six years in a prisoner-of-war camp in North Vietnam.

"If you want to put the war behind us and act in a statesmanlike fashion and move to the future and protect the interests of this nation, you will vote to lift the embargo," Kerry said.

Senators voted 62-38 to approve a non-binding resolution urging the Clinton Administration to lift the trade sanctions. The vote will give President Clinton credibility to move in opening new relations with Vietnam.

Opponents raised arguments against lifting the sanctions, mostly because of human rights violations by the Vietnamese and the 2,238 Americans still missing from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

But six of the eight senators who served in Vietnam voted for the resolution. Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., said he thought it was in the best interest of the families of MIAs and the United States.

The search for missing servicemen should continue with even greater vigilance. But the war is over. The time has come for the normalization of trade relations.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"That's the whole nature of the university, to foster constructive dissent, and once a decision has been made, let's play ball. The opposite would be a police state."

— Rosemary Skrupa, Omaha regent, in support of competition between NU's Omaha and Lincoln campuses.

"Well, 'cause I was stupid. I took someone's advice and I shouldn't of, and I felt bad about it."

— Roger Bjorklund, convicted murderer, explaining to Lincoln Police Detective Sgt. Greg Sorensen why he mailed threatening letters to jurors.

"Among the most difficult tasks anyone can begin is one which is fraught with nearly impossible deadlines, inconsistent and unreasonable expectations and a substantial dose of old-fashioned Missouri pessimism, 'Show me.'"

— Bruce Stahl, executive director of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, in a statement following his resignation from the post.

"We're not going to sit back and let this happen. It is a mission of mine to establish a proper climate in the greek system."

— James Griesen, UNL vice chancellor for student affairs, vowing to enforce dry-campus policies

"It is the duty of nations, as well as to men, to owe their overruling power to God. Those nations are blessed if their God is the Lord."

— Cal Thomas, syndicated columnist, quoting Abraham Lincoln at the 19th annual Walk for Life.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1994 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

LETTER POLICY

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others. Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted. Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nelson

The Daily Nebraskan has shown its obvious partisanship and lack of true journalism with its Jan. 25, 1994, editorial on Ben Nelson. It stated that Nelson basically saved the state from going under and kept "Nebraska stable during difficult years. And that was no small task."

Now for the truth about Nelson's record. Under Ben Nelson's leadership, the state has seen an increase in state government. Not only is the State Office Building full, but state offices have expanded into the Atrium. In the first two years of his administration, Ben Nelson added 531 new state employees. Now the state has a hiring freeze on all full-time employees, but the want-ads are full of new openings for state positions. This is a key example of Nelson's "do as I say, not as I do" attitude. He touts himself as being fiscally responsible and putting the brakes on runaway spending. In fact, in 1992, the budget Nelson submitted to the legislature never made it out of the committee. This saved taxpayers a great expense. Sen. Bernard-Stevens, who is on the Appropriations committee, said that Nelson's budget had \$100 million in new, hidden taxes without any tax cuts.

Nelson has also been giving bonuses left and right. Under his administration, he has hired a lobbyist, Tom Litjen, a former law partner, who works in Washington, D.C., at a cost to taxpayers of nearly \$90,000. Former Omaha mayor Mike Boyle, who was booted out of office, is paid \$60,000 to review contracts that the Attorney General would review at no extra cost to taxpayers.

Another expense was the approximate \$90,000 that was spent on unnecessary security and equipment for the state lottery, the crown jewel of the Nelson administration.

In Nelson's own office, staff has increased by nine employees, travel expenditures are up 50 percent and salary expenditures have increased by nearly 25 percent.

The DN also stated Nelson "continues to guide our state through the choppy waters of crime, welfare reform and economic hardship." First of all, Nelson never realized crime was a problem until he was forced to introduce his own crime package just a few weeks ago. But where was Nelson when the Attorney General was trying to pass his crime package last year? He was sitting on the sidelines. It should be no surprise that Nelson has become a "me, too" governor, hardly a strong leader. He consistently offers too little, too late. The simple fact is if Ben Nelson would have worked as hard on a crime package as he did to get the state lottery passed, our state would be a much safer place.

Unemployment has remained low and more businesses have come into and expanded in Nebraska over the past several years. The fact is Nelson

takes credit for these things, but these rewards that the state has received are not the results of his leadership, but from the actions of former administration. LB775, which Nelson campaigned against in 1990, has allowed the state to reap these rewards, and Nelson now embraces LB775 as if it was his own.

It has also been said Nelson has "made decisions based on what Nebraskans want, even if it has meant stepping across party lines." However, he also "asked" the people's Lieutenant Governor Maxine Moul to resign, appointed her to director of economic development and appointed his own political crony, Kim Robak, to her position. This means that if the governor would have to leave office for some reason, Nebraska would have a governor that was not elected by its people.

It is time this state had a governor who leads by example and shows real leadership, Nebraska needs more than a ceremonial, "me, too" governor. When it comes right down to it, when the tough decisions have to be made, Ben Nelson is sitting on the sidelines. Nebraskans deserve more than a back-slapping, ribbon-cutting, glad-handing governor. It is time to make sure that Nelson and Robak are voted out of office so this state can move forward under bold, new leadership.

Josh Daws
junior
history



Amy Schmidt

'Propaganda'

In a recent court decision, some Nazis were sentenced to time in prison, a small fine and were ordered to see "Schindler's List." What does "Schindler's List" have to do with anything?

Do we forget that "documentaries" that were really cleverly disguised propaganda films were played in Nazi German theaters?

Jeremy Meister
sophomore
general studies

Student Assistant

In reply to Matt Kroll's letter to the editor (DN, Jan. 26, 1994):

I wanted to thank Kroll for his "tips" on how to spot residence-hall drinkers. I'll be sure to cut out his comment and post it on my wall as a mission statement.

As a Student Assistant in Abel Residence Hall, I am one of those people "stopping alcohol from entering the residence halls."

The rules are enforced in the halls. I have poured out many containers of liquor from residents. When they are caught, they usually are instructed to take a \$30 alcohol class and are even put on probation sometimes.

Other residents call S.A.s to complain about parties, alcohol and suspicious-looking students. When was the last time you saw your fraternity brother drinking a brewsky and called the president of the house, if it wasn't him drinking, or the UNL Police?

Yeah, we have a problem in the halls—but if people are going to play the game, there are consequences.

Jennifer Junge
Abel Hall Student Assistant
junior
psychology

Hoax

We are writing in response to Mark Knoffler's letter (DN, Jan. 25, 1994). The letter contained some information and apparent opinion about hazing in our greek system. Many people disagreed with his opinions and found his letter to be very inappropriate.

After some research, we have found there is no Mark Knoffler registered at the University of Nebraska. We have therefore concluded that the letter was not written by someone in the greek system, as it implies.

The letter was also written in a very sarcastic tone that was probably not meant to be taken seriously, as it was by many people.

For both reasons, Knoffler's letter should be disregarded by readers of the Daily Nebraskan.

Brad Shafer
senior
English

Nick Reifschneider
junior
construction management

Disabilities

I am very concerned that there appears to be virtually no representation on campus for those labeled with an emotional or mental disability. Despite the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act and its mandate for greater accessibility, the mentally and emotionally disabled constitute a forgotten disability. The time is long overdue for UNL to address the needs of this minority, as it has so many others.

Roy Ferry
Lincoln