

Editorial

Kill the terrorists

In 1972, PLO terrorists kidnapped and murdered seven members of the Israeli Olympic team in their hotel suite in Munich. The world was outraged at this premeditated act of senseless violence at the Games that are, supposedly, to promote international unity and understanding.

In 1973, a crack Israeli commando force stormed a hijacked plane at Entebbe and freed the hostages being held in Idi Amin's Uganda; the action was applauded world-wide as a strike against the irrational viciousness of terrorists everywhere. But...

People are murdered daily in Northern Ireland in the name of an independence war, and that war has extended beyond Ireland's boundaries, claiming innocent lives in London.

The *Achille Lauro* was taken over recently and one American citizen, a paraplegic, was killed during the incident.

Sikh extremists are believed responsible for two separate bombings, the Air India catastrophe off the Irish coast and the explosion in a Tokyo Airport, which together killed over three hundred people.

What the hell is going on?

The real threat to world peace comes not from the tensions between the superpowers and the possibility of a nuclear holocaust initiated between them, but from fanatical, obsessed independent groups of terrorists, particularly in the Middle East.

Israel herself, applauded above, could be condemned for acts of "terrorism", especially with regard to the recent bombing of PLO headquarters in Tunis.

How do we cope with this state of affairs? What can we do to stem the tide of international terrorism?

Perhaps I'm a naive fool, but I don't really believe that a nuclear showdown between the two superpowers is inevitable. I like to believe that the leaders of the USSR and the USA are sensible enough to realize that there are no victors in a nuclear war.

But I don't have that same confidence in the terrorist organizations that, without reservation, take human life whenever it is politically expedient.

Last week on Peter Gzowski's *Morningside*, Dalton Camp, in a discussion of the Geneva Summit with Gzowski's regular political commentators, made a similar comment and suggested that given the scenario of a world divided between the two superpowers or the rampant terrorism that exist today he would be inclined to choose the latter. Sometimes, though I think there are other options, I have to agree with him.

If the US and the USSR took a united stand against terrorists and stated that all acts of terrorism would not be merely condemned, but would result in retribution, maybe some progress could be made.

It is no secret that Moammar Kadafy harbours terrorists in Libya, he even provides for their training. He encourages and finances violence against Israel and the United States.

Maybe the US should declare war against Libya and blow the sonuvabitch up.

My fury at terrorism allows me to condone the same violence against terrorists and I don't know how to deal with that.

My father, who has similar sentiments, has suggested that the rest of the world erect a large fence around a piece of desert in the Sahara, supply all the arms and ammunition necessary, transplant all the terrorists in this "cage" and let them fight it out. The last one left wins. Wins what? Who cares.

Terrorism is, to me, one of the most reprehensible acts conceivable to our species. What is this predilection for self-destruction that supercedes all noble sentiments of tolerance and negotiation? If it were in my power, I personally could empty a large handgun into the people responsible for taking innocent lives to make a political statement.

Justice is not a concept exclusive to any one ideology.

What prompted me, a normally cool-headed person, to rant and rave here irrationally, publicly, about my disgust? As many as fifty passengers of an Egypt Air jetliner are dead in Malta after an Egyptian attempt to liberate hostages held by Palestinian and Syrian gunmen. The attempt was ill-conceived and, ultimately, a failure. How could the Egyptians assume that they could blow their way into the plane through the cargo hold without a substantial loss of human life? I don't know. But they tried to do something that said *enough!*

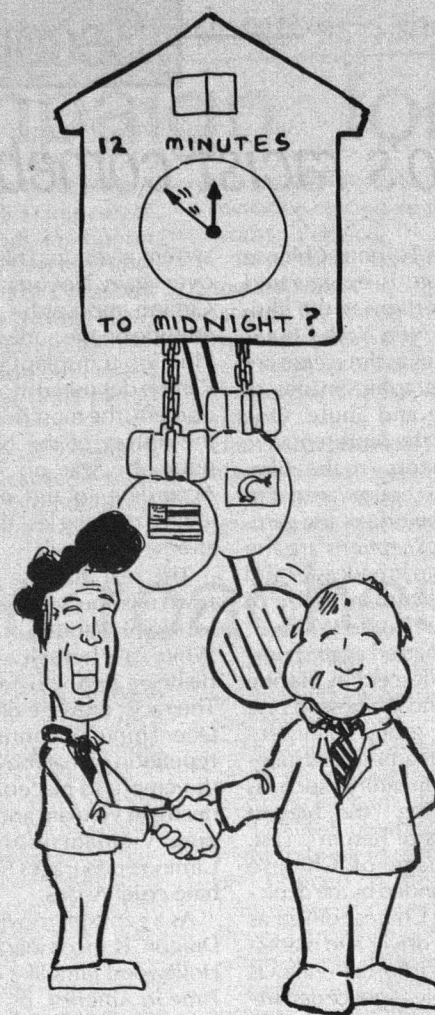
I find myself applauding the desire if not the deed. I reflect on Reagan's order to intercept the men responsible for the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* and I say damn fine. I find myself reluctantly changing my opinion on the Israeli bombing of PLO offices in Tunis.

Against my better inclinations, I am ready to accept terrible measures undertaken by any government which state terrorism must stop.

And I am not truly proud of what that acceptance could imply.

Mike Evans

Photo meetings
Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.



TURNING
BACK
THE
CLOCK?

(we hope!)

Don Filipchuk - GATEWAY '85

Letters to the Editor

Nazi/Apartheid

This year the world celebrated the 40th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. Victory was essential, in spite of the enormous costs, as it represented a victory of freedom over slavery, of democracy over tyranny and of humanity over barbarity. Unfortunately, the spectre of Hitler's Germany lives on in the Apartheid regime in South Africa.

Apartheid, as a state system, is based on separation or segregation of racial groups according to the color of their skin. South African racist policy revolves around the pseudo-scientific theory of the superiority of the white race. This belief system also underlied the policies of Nazi Germany and led ultimately to the extermination of millions of innocent Jewish people. Blacks in South Africa are faced with much the same oppression as were the Jewish people in Nazi Germany.

As a result of 'pass laws', blacks in South Africa cannot move freely, even to look for work. Similar prohibitions were also placed on Jewish people in Hitler's Germany. Just as restrictions were placed on who Jews could marry, 'love laws' in South Africa prohibit blacks from marrying whites. Jews in Nazi Germany were forced to live in horrible conditions in ghettos. Eventually they were slaughtered. Black South Africans are being forced to live in extreme poverty on Bantustans or so-called homelands. These "ghettos", comprising a mere 13 percent of South Africa, are meant to house over 75 percent of the population, namely 20 million blacks. Blacks in South Africa can be held in prisons indefinitely without trial. Torture and even murder in these prisons is common knowledge. The Nazis sought to preserve the "purity" of their race by destroying the Jews. South African authorities ascribe to Apartheid to preserve the purity of their blood. Racial segregation in South Africa, however, is only a cover for the real purpose of

Apartheid which is to preserve the privileges of the white population.

Many similarities exist between the policies of Nazi Germany and those in South Africa today. Tens of millions of lives were lost during WWII to defeat the Fascists in Germany. Something must also be done to bring justice and equality to all peoples in South Africa. Apartheid is a crime against humanity and as part of humanity we cannot sit back and watch these crimes being committed.

Robin Boodle
Arts I

Sunsationalism

To the Gateway:

When I first picked up Thursday's edition of the Gateway, I immediately noticed the "photo representation" on the front page.

The blatant sensationalism of the photo trivializes what is a very serious problem on this campus — sexual harassment. For far too long this problem has been looked upon with a blind eye by the administration. Only now that six students have laid charges has any real action been taken.

If the Gateway created the photo as a joke, or to fill space, it was in very bad taste. If the Gateway created the photo in order to increase circulation, then I might as well read the *Edmonton Sun*.

Brinton McLaughlin
Science II

Sacred cow

Dear Editor,
Moooo.

Archbishop Cudchewer Holstein IV
Agr III

The Gateway

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Jeff McDonald decided to improve the Gateway interior decorating. First, he scraped all the Dave Donnelly from the floor, gave James MacDonald a bath, then repapered the walls with a larger-than-life mural of Ken Hui, Roberta Franchuk, Blair Lowe and Alex Miller eating hot dogs. Rob Galbraith and Tim Enger he dipped in plaster, covered in rhinestones and set up as statues, but Pat Maguire promptly stole them to hang from his car's rear view mirror. A bouquet of beautiful volunteers was set in a vase on a table until Kathleen Beechinor, Kabir Khan, Susan Sutton and Bruce Gardave tired of being arranged and rearranged, and threw Tim Hellum, stalk first, at Doug Lange's nose as he leaned over to sniff them. "I hate it", noted Hans Beckers, while Don Filipchuk oohed, ahhed and covered Jeff in kisses.