

LETTERS

• continued from page 9

a breach of peace, and an act of aggression, such as Iraq's, may be met with economic "interruptions" (read sanctions — Article 41). If the sanctions prove to be inadequate to restore international peace and security the UN may take action by air, sea or land forces.

Canada fully supported the UN resolution to impose sanctions against Iraq, and if necessary will take action to reimpose international security.

Burton's statement that Clark's statement of 25 October 1990 to move independent of UN approval is a "dangerous move away from Canada's usual peaceful foreign policy and its traditional support of the UN..." demonstrates Burton's ignorance.

Firstly, under Article 51 of the UN Charter it is stated that "nothing shall impair the right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a member of the United Nations..." Kuwait was invaded by Iraq and asked its UN allies for collective self defence. Using a similar line of thought, if Canada were attacked by a foreign power, it would have the right to defend itself, and the right to call upon Allies to help defend and repel an invading power. If one has to wait for a UN resolution to defend itself, one has lost one's sovereignty before one starts. Analogously, if the Canadian warships, currently on patrol in the Persian Gulf, come under attack, I should hope that all Canadians believe that it has the right to



defend itself, regardless if the UN has sanctioned the action. To have to wait for a UN resolution would be to sacrifice one's sovereignty and defence. Canada has not stated that UN approval of actions is irrelevant by claiming the right to collective self-defence.

Burton's claim that the government is "morally corrupt" is a statement without any substantiation, and even to respond to such an outrageous statement would be giving more credence to the statement than it deserves.

Real people may die, some of my friends may die on the ships in the Middle East, but they are sacrificing themselves in the name of international peace and security. The maintenance of an Armed Force is a statement of fact saying that some things are worth dying or killing for. If we do not stand by the UN Charter and the collective

belief in self-defence, international peace and security, then Canada would not be standing up to its beliefs and being a responsible nation. If we do not stand up now to Iraq, as we have stood up to belligerent nations in our past, when do we stand up? If we do not believe in collective security, then who will help us in the future if we require assistance? Canada should follow its traditional role as a peacemaker in the international arena, even if it means paying the ultimate price.

P.E. James
Political Science

Abortion "Rhetoric"

To the Editor:

According to the front page article in the Gazette on Oct. 25, Morgentaler described anti-abortionists as those adhering to "rhetoric", and that these "religious fanatics", ... don't care about the welfare of women. They care about one little cell."

I am a woman and I do care about my sex. That is why I am so concerned about the abortion issue, not for religious reasons but because of facts. Facts that so many women are blinded to, because they feel the need, mainly of society's pressures to get rid of this unwanted "thing" in their body. Many do not understand what the "thing" is until it is too late. Women should not be afraid or ashamed of being pregnant. It is a beautiful and natural process that many women are denied. I am not saying we should be barefoot and pregnant, far from it. But many of us are not aware of what abortion is and the consequences that can follow. It is not only a baby's life at stake, but also the mother's. Unlike a natural termination of a pregnancy, therapeutic abortion is not natural, it can be very dangerous.

Anne Saltenberger lectured at Dalhousie on the dangers of legal abortion and curiously enough, I did not see her on the front page of Gazette. What are your priorities? Is it against the current trend to write more than a tiny article about a woman trying to protect other women? Or is it because she is not prominent enough for our newspaper?

You have the real responsibility of reporting current affairs, yet you failed to write about a critically important women's issue, that could save a woman's life. Instead you put a man on the front page who advocates abortion. "A simple medical procedure that only removes one cell" (ha, ha). It can actually damage a woman's body permanently, prevent her from ever having another child, create a harsh environment that could damage her next child mentally or physically and, as mentioned, could kill her. Did our wonderful Dr. Morgentaler mention this? I wish this was simply "rhetoric", but it is not, those are the facts about legal abortion.

A. Casey



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