

The Gateway



A Can you spot the otters in this picture? If not, turn to page 6.

THERE WAS A PROTEST YESTERDAY

"Sea otters of the world, unite!"

About 400 placard-carrying university and high school students staged a march and rally Wednesday in protest of the proposed Amchitka nuclear test.

The students gathered in front of the Students' Union Building at noon, and marched across

the new walkway on the High Level Bridge to the Federal Building on 107 Street. They then held a rally in which a number of people spoke to considerable applause.

Larry Panyck of the U of A Vietnam Action Committee lashed out at Canada's

complicity with regard to the blast. "Why has the government been so weak in their protests against Amchitka? he demanded. "Why don't they take a stronger stand? They're just sitting by and watching while maniacs play Russian roulette with people's lives. The government's involvement and role in NORAD, NATO, and the International Control Commission show just how great their complicity is.

"However," he continued, "it is not enough for us to protest just Amchitka. We must condemn the entire entanglement of government in the military-industrial complex; we must condemn Canada's role as a branch plant of the American empire; we must condemn the war in Vietnam which is responsible for the current crisis in inflation and unemployment."

Mary van Stolk of Save Tomorrow oppose pollution (STOP) commented on the ecological dangers of Amchitka. "It's wrong," she charged, "for the U.S. to take land, air and water to suit their own ends. As Jack Davis, federal minister of the environment, said, you can't even burn garbage in your back yard without getting a fine or something, and yet the Americans are going ahead with this blast, which will kill our animals, probably cause tidal waves, and possibly cause radioactive fallout as well. They're showing a blatant disregard for the environment."

Dave Rowles, of the group Defenders and Wardens of Nature, had more to say about the ecology of Amchitka. "Amchitka is in an earthquake zone," he warned, "and 1971 is the year of the seven-year high in earthquake activity; so, Amchitka could have a grave effect on the geological structure of that part of the world. The members of the Atomic Energy Commission say no serious effects will occur - why don't they sit on top of the hole where

the bomb is when it goes off, just to prove their faith?"

Rowles said, "There's another thing we have to consider too - the destruction of wildlife. The sea otters around Amchitka are quite rare, and yet it is estimated that Amchitka will kill 10-15% of them by underwater pressures. American officials always say 'only' 10-15%, but that's 10-15% too many. Even bald eagles, another rare breed, will be affected by the blast, so it appears that the Americans are even losing respect for their national emblem.

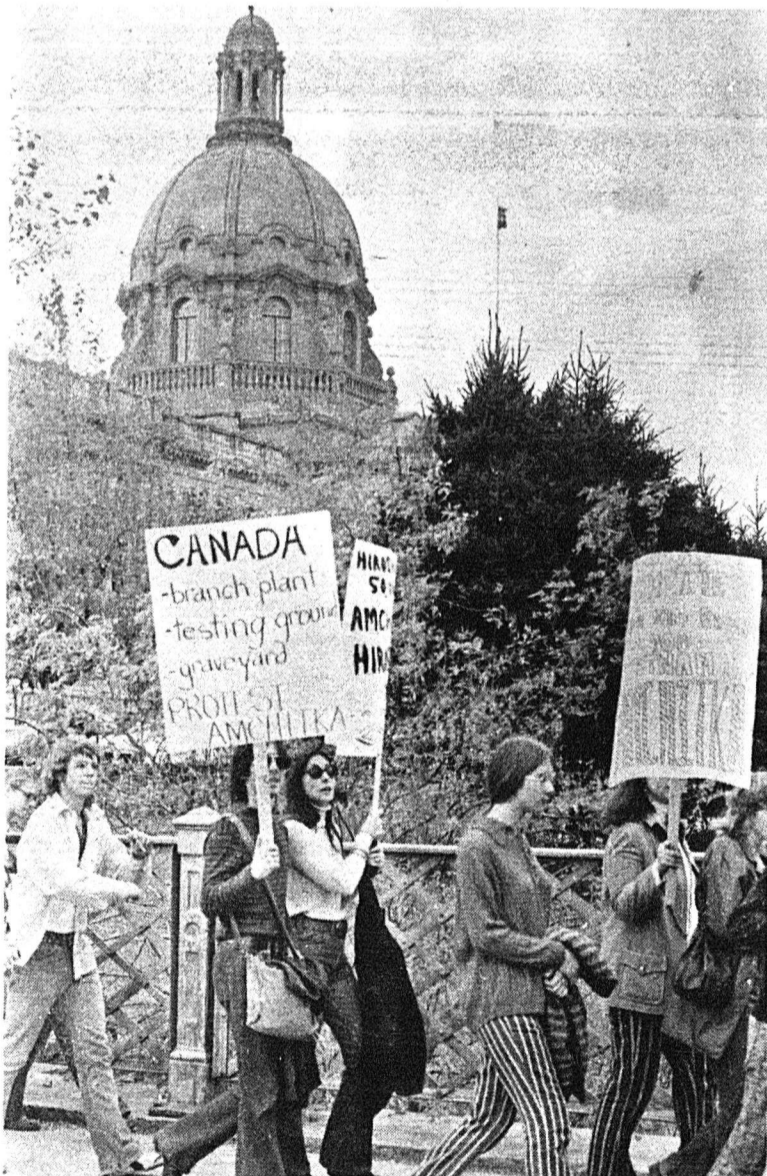
Said Rowles, "I think it's time the American government stopped playing God and started instead playing steward with the

environment God has given us." His speech drew a hearty round of applause.

Doug Black, co-ordinator of the U of A Students' Union, said, "Don't forget, we are here as individuals, and Amchitka is only one manifestation of the problem. Our responsibility is to question, as a group, everything that goes on around us. We must make clear where we stand, and we must not only protest but challenge what we don't like."

A representative of Edmonton high schools was the final speaker of the rally. He said, "It's great to see all these people out to protest Amchitka, but we must realize that this is only a

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THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE SEA OTTERS ... do they?

The Gateway will appear on Wednesday and Friday next week.

U of C questions the value of tenure

CALGARY (CUP)--The University of Calgary senate voted last Friday to express dissatisfaction with the concept of tenure as it now exists.

At a closed session immediately following its regular meeting the senate decided that the value of "appointment without definite term" known as tenure, had become questionable.

As a substitute to tenure, consideration would be given to long-term hiring contracts (five or more years). This would theoretically allow faculty members to have academic freedom while encouraging them to remain active since they would now be accountable for their inaction.

Although the Senate's decision cannot change university policy, the fact that the university even considered the issue will have repercussions across Canada. No other case in the country was known of where a senate has passed any opinion on the issue of tenure. The impact of the motion though will be cushioned since the

matter will go to committee before the senate will take a more solid stand.

The role of the senate as outlined in Alberta's Universities Act is to act much like Canada's Senate, it has investigative powers but no power to make decisions independent of the university administration. The senate is simply to express community interests in the university and to investigate matters brought to its attention.

In the past this University's senate spent much of its time on considering such things as the conferring of honorary degrees. This is the first move in a campaign in which the senate wishes to make itself more useful to the community.

No senate member debated the role of students in tenure applications after former Student Union President Dave Hunt presented a report and a speech that outlined the need for more student involvement in faculty appointments. Faculty representatives instead tried to argue that only tenure could

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