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photo Mary MacDonald

Gavriel Strasman and Dr. Chaim Shaked discussed a Zionist point of view at the forum.

What next? Nobody knows

by Mary MacDonald
Will the future hold war or
peace, emnity of understanding? What is going to happen
next in the Middle East? This
was the theme explored by the
Tuesday forum sponsored by
the Jewish students on campus.

The forum consisted of two speakers - Mr. Gavriel Strasman of the Information Department of the Canadian Zionist Federation, and Dr. Chaim Shaked, Dean of the Humanities Faculty, University of Tel Aviv. In addition to these speakers there was a panel consisting of U of A professors: Rabbi Sol Aranov (Professor of Jewish-Studies), J. Legnieks (International Relations) and E. Waugh (Islamic Studies).

The U.N. has been practically abandoned as a peace keeping force with only a few of its decisions having been implemented in the last decades. "Only lip service is being paid to the U.N. charter now," says Strasman. They no longer seem to exert any power in the Middle East, but the U.S. does.

With the Israeli economy going downhill, that country on the U.S. for political, military

and economic support. More than ever. How will US Secretary of State Kissinger bring about a possible new round of negotiations? With the Sadat discussion over arms sales with France and the urging of a Geneva Conference, the U.S. influence appearp to be decreasing.

Dr. Shaked also did not care to make any predictions for the future as in his opinion most experts are, wrong in their-educated guesses. He described the situation in his personal

opinion as an Israeli citizen to be very complicated.

"There is still almost mutual exclusivity of two nationalistic movements," said Shaked.

He preferred to remain objective and stated, "Both sides have their rights and wrongs. Both are to be blamed and complimented." Shaked maintained that the events of the future depend on the attitudes of the parties concerned. If it depends on getting rid of one party there will be further continued on page 2

Pratt's opinion on Syncrude

The U. of A. NDP Club sponsored a highly successful public lecture delivered by Dr. Larry Pratt on Wednesday, January 29. Over 250 jammed into Room 142 of SUB to hear a detailed reconstruction of the Syncrude negotiations of 1973, an analysis of the present uncertain situation regarding the project, and a proposed alternate to what he called "complete capitulation."

Professor Pratt, who released the "Syncrude Papers" three weeks ago, stressed that the government neither bargained as stridently as they claimed nor were they "conned" by the consortium . The Lougheed government knew full well what the situation was. By admitting the government had no intention of undertaking the project themselves as a last resort, Lougheed gave away any bargaining advantage he might have held over the monolithic US multinational firms.

The consortium elicited fifteen concessions from the Lougheed government including: a guaranteed 8% rate of return on the capital invested as a tax deduction, a guarantee that labour unrest would not be allowed to slow construction of the project, and a commitment by the government to provide economic infractructure (roads,

pipeline, etc.).
It is clear, Pratt said, that
Syncrude threatened to pull out
of the project and would have
made sure that no other firms
would undertake development
of the oil sands, unless all of
their demands were met.

Lougheed gave in.

Not only did Syncrude lobby extremely hard, but were intimately involved in the "slick" public relations job undertaken to announce the agreement to Albertans, Professor Pratt claimed. In fact so effective was the publicity campaign Peter Loughed thanked the members of the consortium for their assistance.

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The world through a big picture window

Attention election candidates

All candidates in the upcoming election are invited to pick up a special *Gateway* Questionnaire for use in furthering their campaigns in next Tuesday's *Gateway*.

It can be picked up in the Gateway office Friday and Monday morning, but to be printed, it must be submitted BEFORE 12 o'clock Monday afternoon. The traditional "mug shots" will go with the article.

All responsibility for picking up the questionnaire rests on the candidates themselves. We're not chasing anyone to fill them out.

This way, only those interested in the questionnaire will get space in the election

"Window on the World" is something new and something old. It has been traditional for the International Students' Committee to organize an International Week during the winter months. At least a .few interested students were sorry to see last winter slip by without the usual cultural and social activities, notably the International Concert and the Internation Dance. This year International Week has been revived and rechristened, "Window on the World." It is, we hope, bigger and better than ever!

. The following is the program of events:

Sunday, Feb. 9

International Folk Festival, 1:00 p.m., SUB Theatre. Tickets: 75¢ in advance, \$1.00 at the door. Advance tickets available at the Information Desk and Room 232. SUB; also the Foreign Student Office, University Hall.

Monday, Feb. 10

Arab documentaries, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Tory Lecture Theatre B-2.

Chinese documentaries, 12:00-3:00 p.m., SUB Theatre. Admission free.

Chinese folk dances and Cantonese drama, 8:00 p.m., SUB Theatre. Admission free

Feature film: "The Promised Land" (Chile, 1973), 8:00 p.m., Tory Lecture Theatre B-1. Admission by donation.

Folkrock: Ernie Massawa, 7:00 p.m., RATT. Tuesday, Feb. 11

Alberta World Reflections display, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., CAB-Cameron passage.

Indian documentaries, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Tory Lecture Theatre 11.

Chinese New Year's Banquet and Dance, 7:00-12:00 p.m., Dinwoodie Lounge, SUB. Tickets: CSA members \$5.00, nonmembers \$6.50. Tickets available at the Information

Desk and Room 232, SUB, or call 433-4903, 432-7718.

Feature film: "Hare Rama Hare Krishna" (India), 8:00 p.m., Tory Lecture Theatre B-1. Admission by donation.

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Quote of the week

Washington D.C., Maryland (ZNS/CUP) - The quote of the week comes from Mississippi Senator James Eastland, who sat in on one Senate caucus investigating alleged wrongdoing by the C.I.A.

During the discussion of the agency's intervention in Chile, Eastland drew audible gasps by thundering out, "what's wrong with overthrowing the government of Chile. It was a commie government wasn't it?"

'The Watchmaker'-one newspaper's fringe benefit

by Greg Neiman

Working for Gateway has its fringe benefits. Every once in a while an unexpected surprise drops into the office, making all the other mundane happenings worthwhile.

The Watchmaker of Dien Bien Phu is one such surprise. It is a collection of Vietnamese short stories, North Vietnamese short stories, to be more exact, probably a book you'll never be able to find in any library.

What does it speak of? The stories cover the period of time from 1945-64, the

revolution against the French.

Printed in Hanoi, it gives us an unprecedented look at how the Vietnamese people saw the war. Whereas all our previous information came from American sources, this collection offers a completely new point of view.

It speaks of the sufferings of the Vietnamese people, their loves, hates, aspirations, and disappointments in their struggle for freedom from French terrorist rule.

Sound propagandist? Darn right it does, but that is where the beauty of it lies, that is where its value to us is given. For once

we can see, in its totally unedited purity, the other point of view.

From a literary standpoint, the stories seem shallow, and can glut the reader's taste if the whole collection is read at a sitting. It leaves you with a feeling similar to having seen ten hours of Shirley Temple movies, or a stack three feet high of Sergent Rock comic books.

There are several interesting undercurrents contained in the literature. Despite its obvious propagandist end, there is still literative beauty

contained in its language. A love for the soil, the desire to be simply left alone to work, shows itself throughout. Short, but beautiful passages depicting the countryside, are juxtaposed immediately next to stark statements of political ire.

Other things like the rejection of religion, the complete denial of self for the cause of fighting the enemy and the adolation of courage (repression of emotions) are part and parcel of the propagandists

But it is packed with heroism, derring-do, lost loves,

ancient family hates, and above all, hope, and freedom. It is the chronicle of a society's struggle, constructed during the fact, for the fact.

The student of literature, the sociologist, and the political scientist could gain from reading this rare, almost unobtainable collection.

If you've got an hour, come on up to the Gateway office and read a few stories from it to see what I mean. It'll likely be here for a couple of weeks, after that, well I can't guarantee I won't take it home.