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**Students' Union**  
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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The Students' Union Exam Registry will be receiving orders for exams no later than **Thursday, Dec. 2nd.**

*Order Early to Avoid Disappointment*

SU Exam Registry, Room 145 SUB  
 "another Students' Union Service"

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**Coming Thursday in the Gateway!!**

December/January/February

**Princess Theatre Programme**

Ingrid Bergman tribute, Eraserhead, The Man Who Skied Down Everest, Film Visionaries, Peter O'Toole, Peter Sellers, more Marilyn Monroe, Bogart, Woody Allen, American Film Theatre, 50¢ Saturday matinees, Monty Python, 52 literary adaptations, A Hard Day's Night, Chan Is Missing, La Cage aux Folles, The Graduate, Night of the Living Dead, Led Zep, Mozart, Cannes Advertising, Heartland Reggae, John Huston director retro, De Niro, A Clockwork Orange, AND MUCH MORE!!

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lovely, old coconut plantation on the Pan American Highway near Santa Marta, the oldest (457 years), most fascinating city in all of the Americas.

Imagine, green palms waving in gentle ocean breezes, blue sea and sky, pounding surf and golden sand and, towering 19,000 feet over all and snow-capped the year 'round, majestic Mount Colombus. We feel we have much...incomparable beauty, fine neighbors, perfect climate, a stable, democratic government and a satisfyingly-low cost of living.

Like Colombus, we have discovered a new frontier, with a vast potential and, being human, are driven to tell others about our dream-come-true. If you are interested in the future of the Americas...and the Birds...write us by international air mail (35¢ a half-ounce) at Post Office Box 5222, Santa Marta, Colombia. It may take a while, but we promise to answer.

Now, from the beautiful Santa Marta, we wish you salud (health), pesetas (wealth), amor (love) and the time to enjoy them all!

Juanita Bird

**Evolutionary throwbacks invade HUB Mall**



Why does this sort of thing bring out the neanderthal in men?

Passing by the Hub "FashionShow" this Wednesday, I was impressed by the number of wolf-whistles, lewd noises and truly tacky remarks uttered by watching males, notably during the display of bathing suits and low-cut gowns. How refreshing it is to learn that such men exist on campus, that I need no longer seek out construction sites and busy street corners but can still obtain the

harassment and humiliation I depend on, right here at home!

Name withheld, but female

**Are these things yours?**

Re: *Found Property*

Two items have been turned in to our Found Property office that we would like to return to the owners

One is an item belonging to D. Anderson and the other is an item belonging to "Jamie".

If either person is able to describe the found item as his/her property, we will gladly return same.

This is a Campus Security service.

W.F.G. Perry, Director  
 Campus Security and Parking Services



**LETTERS**

Letters to the Editor should be no more than 250 words long, regardless of how much you normally run off at the mouth. The fact that you are hot under the collar doesn't impress us in the least. Also, spastic, disjointed and semi-intelligible writing induces migraine, and should be saved for your professors (who deserve it). Thirdly, the statement 'I think' is just a theory, and considering the evidence we get - 6,558 predictable letters on every subject - a rather dubious theory. Try shifting your brain into gear when you write. Finally, we reserve the right to disembowel any windy, illiterate or defamatory prose. Furthermore, if you keep sending such stuff to us, a Gateway SWAT team will take whatever measures are necessary to ensure that you pester us no more.

**Nazism is dead, but evil remains**

What is the most futile occupation that a man can pursue today? There are many possible answers to this question, but the one that springs most readily to mind is hunting down war criminals. Rarely a week goes by without some mention that such and such a war criminal has been apprehended in Latin America. Albert Rauca, the subject of some considerable controversy on the pages of the Gateway, is merely the most recent in a long line of discoveries. They are usually included on what must be a monumental list of Simon Wiesenthal, who has dedicated his life to this thirst for vengeance.

Why do I object to this? Can the hunt not be described as a desire for justice? Perhaps at one time it might have been. But that time expired about 1950. Chasing Nazis today is akin to demanding the death penalty for a rapist. A useless act that helps no one and serves only to satisfy a blood lust on the part of the hunter. It makes no difference to the world whether a few geriatric Nazis are eking out an existence in some remote corner of Paraguay, or even in West Berlin for that matter. Six million Jews will not be brought back to life, just as the rape victim will not suffer any the less. It is also a diversion from more important events that are taking place now.

Many events of the Second World War have never been put into perspective. Perhaps this will not occur until the last remaining participants of that war have died out. But the most serious issue is war crimes and war guilt. To name a few events that took place around that period: the 1933 Stalin famine in Soviet Ukraine, the Katyn massacre of Polish army officers in 1939; the death of over seven million people during the Chinese Revolution; the bombing of helpless civilians in Berlin and Dresden in 1945; the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in that same year. Which of these constitutes the worst crime? The answer is that it does not matter. They were all crimes and all that we can do is take every precaution that they do not reoccur. It is pointless, for example, to go looking for the American pilots who dropped atomic bombs on the two Japanese cities mentioned. But they doubtless knew what the effects of those bombs would be, just as Rauca executed Jews on the orders of his superiors.

There is another aspect to this, which is obvious, but rarely admitted to. The reason why Germans are still hunted and American, Soviet or British war criminals are ignored, is because Germany lost the war. Nothing more nor less. There is nothing in the German race that makes it inherently bad. The Nazis were admittedly an evil bunch, but they invented no torture, no crime, no law that had not been implemented elsewhere at some earlier time. Had the Germans won the war, there would almost certainly have been trials of British or Russian war criminals. But they lost and thus are still paying the penalty. History never has much sympathy for losers.

The history of the Second World War has been distorted by everything from novels to Hollywood movies depicting a one-sided conflict of good against evil. Stalin, for example, a mass murderer at least on the same level as Hitler, somehow appears as a benevolent ally. The calculating Roosevelt frequently made agreements with Stalin to thwart Churchill's designs to maintain the British empire. Some sources now declare timidly that

Japan was provoked into the war by U.S. aggression. There are endless examples. My point is that there is still one official stereotyped version of events. The mass media has destroyed any hope of an objective interpretation.

A good example of this was provided in the 1960s when the outspoken British historian A.J.P. Taylor gave a different interpretation of the causes of the war, in which he stated that the British and French were responsible for starting it. My own view is that he is mistaken, but the outcry that resulted was hysterical. Taylor was actually too old to serve in the war and thus could detach himself from the events. For others those events are still too painful to observe dispassionately.

I would not wish to be misunderstood here. I am not trying to whitewash Nazi Germany. The problem is the: Nazi Germany has been used as a form of comparison for every evil deed that takes place today. The term 'fascism' is a loose term of abuse and has no authentic meaning - it is most accurately applied to Mussolini's Italy, not Hitler's Germany. Soviet historians have perpetuated the term in their own jaundiced accounts of the events of 1941-5, and gleefully blame the Germans for every atrocity from Katyn to the murder of political prisoners prior to the German invasion of Eastern Poland. After the mass bombings of civilians, the division of Germany into two countries by the victors and the Nuremberg Trials, it is time to cry hold.

What then of the Wiesenthal campaign? In many ways the Nazi-hunter is an admirable and courageous man. But he has spent most of his life in a futile (though successful) quest to bring the "criminals" to justice. Even today, as political prisoners huddle in the prisons of Argentina, as blacks are suppressed in South Africa, as the government of El Salvador carries out mass terror against its own people, Wiesenthal checks his files and no doubt another Rauca will be found, cowering in the back streets of Toronto. Only the most blinkered observer could claim that this is a worthwhile pursuit. Nazism is dead, and it has been replaced by more secretive and equally sinister forces.

Finally, one must mention the most controversial subject of all, namely Israel. Its existence is sometimes based on the holocaust. One senses a general feeling that if the subject is dropped, then Israel will lose its raison d'etre. Israel's case has not been helped by the militaristic Begin. The anti-semitic Soviet regime is now comparing Israel to Nazi Germany, and more than once has referred to the Israelis as the "Nazis of today." But no serious statesman of the 1980s doubts Israel's right to exist and the Jewish homeland has deeper roots than the persecution suffered by East European Jewry in 1941-5.

These are complex issues and this essay has covered only their bare bones. In brief, it is essential that the horrors of the Second World War are not forgotten. On the other hand, it should be admitted that the term 'war criminal' is a relative one. This is not a bank heist with robbers and robbed. In most cases today, it is a vendetta occasionally based on the flimsiest of evidence. And the true criminal's life sentence is his conscience. It is time to throw this question into the garbage bin of history and to slam the lid tightly.

David Marples