

MORE LETTERS

U.S. threatens Honduras

We the undersigned students of the U of A would like to express our vehement opposition to the increased U.S. military presence in Honduras.

This poses a serious threat to the peace process in Central America and signifies a further escalation of their oppressive and unjust war waged against the legitimate Sandinista government.

As members of the Latin American Canadian Association, we feel it is imperative at this moment to denounce this new offensive, although the leadership of the club chooses to remain indifferent.

Isidoro Rojas
Fiona Hanley
and 13 others

Editorial misleading

I would like to commend Elaine Ostry for her wonderful editorial of last Tuesday (March 22nd). As a member of the (now defunct) Aparthy Slate, I was glad to see her not giving a damn about what she wrote. If she thought her editorial mattered, I am sure she would have bothered to do some research.

First, she said that the joke slates cost \$1200 to \$1350 each. Wrong. The maximum allowable expenditure for a slate of five is \$1200. If she had researched this, like for instance by reading the Gateway, or a ballot, she would have discovered that the joke slates ran five candidates each.

I know the amount of research involved in writing an editorial can be a crushing burden. In this case, she could have gotten exact figures by walking to the next office down the hall. But of course, such an effort is too much to ask, just for the silly purpose of accurately informing the students who pay one's salary.

The editorial implied we spent most of \$1200-\$1350 on sweatshirts and baseball caps. Wrong again. Taking into account the fact that we, as a slate, paid \$125 for the privilege of running in the election, the total outlay by the SU came to \$275, or a penny, a student. Anybody who feels cheated should please write to me c/o the Gateway, and I'll gladly reimburse them.

Again, the research load to verify her "facts" would be too much to ask. Just because she saw at least one member of the slate every day of the campaign doesn't mean she should have asked one of us how much we actually spent. We can't expect more out of an editor than we promised to

deliver if elected: nothing except free beer. Unfortunately, I haven't seen any free beer yet.

Being greedy types, we also gave away most of our sweatshirts and hats, including tossing some of them to the students at the SU forum, a fact which Ms. Ostry would have known if she had bothered to show up. We appreciate her show of apathy in not participating.

She also doesn't bother to mention that all campaign expenses have to be approved by the CRO. All expenses over \$100 have to be approved ahead of time. Ours were, and the person who approved them, we feel have told her this, it is the same person whose office is next to Ms. Ostry's.

Gee, Elaine, please forgive me for trying to get involved in student politics. Please forgive me for thinking that the students might like a new approach to the problem of apathy on campus, instead of being lectured on the subject. The total lack of effort you displayed in producing your editorial (like not going ten feet to get your facts — which is the maximum distance you would have had to travel to print an accurate editorial) is an inspiration to the entire Aparthy Slate. Compared to the amount of work we put into our campaign, you have really shown us how to "Get your money for nothing." We amateur apathetics salute you.

Keith Aparthy

Reagan policy wrong

This past weekend, over two hundred Edmontonians marched from the legislative grounds to City Hall in order to protest U.S. intervention in Central America. This demonstration, like the demonstrations held in countless other North American cities, was an angry reaction to U.S. troop deployment in Honduras. This situation, and the rallies and marches that have been organized to protest it, has, once again, focused world attention on Reagan's questionable Central American policies.

Here, it is important to note (as did many of those present at Saturday's rally) that Reagan's decision to send troops to Honduras should not be seen as an isolated incident, but rather as a predictable extension of a U.S. foreign policy directed to intervention. After all, the U.S. has, since the election of President Reagan, actively supported (financially, technically, and morally) the efforts of the ex-Somozacista contra to destabilize the new Nicaraguan government. The U.S. has also spent hundreds of millions of dollars to maintain the oppressive governments of El Salvador and Guatemala (governments that

allow death squads to murder political opponents at will).

The American Administration claims to be "defending democracy". It is obvious, however, that they are really defending U.S. military and business interests. To secure these interests they have intervened in the internal affairs of numerous Central American nations. Thus, as a result of its presence, the U.S. has undermined the principles of self-determination and democracy and is threatening the fragile peace (established not because of U.S. involvement, but in spite of it) in Central America.

Edmontonians and people across the North American continent have shown their disapproval for U.S. actions in Central America. We urge all those who are concerned to join us in condemning American intervention. We urge Canadians (government officials and ordinary citizens) to support the people of Central America.

Gill McGowan
Spokesperson
U of A New Democrats

Final word on WUSC

As a representative of the WUSC Student Refugee Support Committee I wish to respond to the legitimate questions raised by M. Peterson (Retiree/undm Wrongly Worded) in the Gateway on March 22. Peterson believed that the referendum should have made the fee levied of 50¢ optional in order to allow the freedom to choose whether to support the program or not. The Committee did in fact discuss the possibility of an optional fee, but was forced to reject the idea for various reasons.

Peterson's suggestion that students be allowed to choose at the time they pay their fees whether to contribute 50¢ or not is not advisable because it would be difficult for the students to receive the information with which to make an informed choice. On the other hand, a referendum allowed the students access to information about the issue, allowing a well considered vote.

An even greater problem is that, under the agreement with the Department of External Affairs, sponsorship of a student refugee requires a commitment to full support for 12 months, after which the student becomes eligible for student loans and receives permission to work in Canada. The complicated procedures necessary to select a student, arrange for admission, obtain immigration status, and complete travel arrangements require a lead time of several months and the funding must be guaranteed in advance. We therefore have to depend on a fixed level of

funding each year, a situation made impossible by an optional fee.

The idea of making the fee refundable on request was also debated by the Committee, but we were advised by the Board of Governors that this would be administratively unworkable.

I hope that this letter has helped to answer the questions raised by M. Peterson as well as clear up some misconceptions created by the NO campaign in this area. To conclude, the entire WUSC Student Refugee Support Committee would like to thank the student population for supporting the sponsorship program. The University of Alberta now joins over 20 other universities across Canada in sponsoring student refugees through the WUSC program.

Michael Padua

Fly on the Wall

I am looking out of one of the windows of the bus that I'm on which is climbing up Belgravia Road. Outside, on the sidewalk, jogging, her feet pat-pat-patting on the concrete at a steady pace, her arms stiffly bent at her sides, her pigtail bobbing back and forth with every stride, is a student running to university. At least, I think she's a student running to university. I have seen her at school before, at night, in her yellow top and black tights, so she is probably a student running to university.

She is not the only person that I have seen running to university, of course. Lately, from my seat on the bus, I have seen quite a few people — students, profs — jogging to school.

I am at school now myself, walking through HUB Mall with a coffee. I have been here for about an hour. Sitting on one of the benches, sipping a milk and eating a chocolate bar, is the student I saw jogging. Her face is red, like a stop-light; her forehead shines with sweat; she looks very tired. If she is a student, I don't think she will get too much work done tonight, unless the chocolate bar revives her, which I don't think it will. She looks too tired.

If she is not a student though, she doesn't have to worry about getting any work done. All she has to do now is savor every bite of her chocolate bar and every sip of her milk. Her work is finished for the evening.

I wish my work was finished for the evening. Maybe I should run to school.

Naaaaah!

J. Dylan

Let's Party

FOR ALL YOUR PARTY SUPPLIES

Disposable

- glasses
- plates
- napkins
- utensils &



ICE 25-50 lb. BAGS

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or
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SECURE FOR YOUR PROTECTION

- 24 Hr. on-site management
- regulated entry
- surveillance camera
- sprinkler system
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- burglar alarm

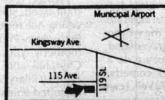
	Reg. Mo Rate	Special Rate
5' x 5'	\$44	\$29
5' x 10'	\$54	\$49

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