

cause. As I stated, I was outraged and wrote my initial thoughts, calling you stupid and an idiot in the process. I do retract these names, although I strongly feel that you have not given enough thought to the whole issue. And, by the way, I did not, as you erroneously stated, call you a pro-abortionist. In the future, I will do my best not to hurt anyone's tender feelings.

Warren Opheim
Arts II

Nicaraguan thanks

Over the past month, many individuals have been working to collect aid, financial and material, for the people of Nicaragua. Numerous members of the University community, including the Students' Union, students and professors, have contributed generous amounts of clothing, office supplies, medical equipment and financial aid. At this time, over \$1000.00 has been collected in monetary aid in addition to all sorts of needed material supplies. In the near future, all the aid will be shipped to Vancouver where it will be sent to Nicaragua by boat.

On behalf of the Central American Campus Committee, I would like to thank all those people who gave so willingly and generously. In addition, I would like to present an excerpt from a letter sent from Ernesto Cardenal, Minister of Culture and a member of the Government for National Reconstruction of Nicaragua. Ernesto Cardenal, a priest and poet, played a fundamental role in the liberation movement prior to the insurrection in 1979 and, as well, now maintains a crucial and active role in the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

"I am delighted to hear about this most generous offer from the Central American Campus Committee and I would like to thank you and the members of the Committee, as well as the people of Alberta for their support, for their concern and for their care for the people of Nicaragua."

"Please, extend my gratitude, on behalf of the people of Nicaragua to the members of the Committee and to those who so generously have made this contribution possible."

With my very best wishes,"

—Ernesto Cardenal

With the constant threat of an American invasion and with the very real attempts to undermine their government through military, political and economic sabotage, the people of Nicaragua need Canadian support, both economic as well as political. The response to the "Aid for Nicaragua" project has been appreciable and encouraging. Once again, I thank all those who gave and continue to give their support. With such generosity, concern and spirit, the Nicaraguan people will be able to continue on their path of liberty, equality and justice.

Oscar Ammar
Central American Campus Committee

Oh heck, what's a little invasion among friends?

Re: Yankee Go Home, Tues. Nov. 1, 1983 Gateway.

If Mr. Ammar wishes to sway people to his point of view, he will have to provide a more convincing argument. Mr. Ammar, like so many socialists, believes that the Americans should not invade countries like Grenada. Mr. Ammar seems to feel that the Americans should stay at home, and in his words, not practice "gunboat diplomacy." But why should they not invade if they believe it is in their interest to do so? The Soviets rarely hesitate. This is not a moral question. The Americans do not need to wave a friendly flag to anyone, and they are not obligated to do so. The U.S. needs only to look after U.S. interests. Who does Mr. Ammar believe will tell the Americans anything? He writes: "I can assure them that they have little, if any, prestige left." Do the Americans need Oscar Ammar's assurance? I hardly think so.

Mr. Ammar calls the invasion a "criminal act." That is interesting. Does he honestly believe that any country considering military options debates the legality of that action? Clearly not. Mr. Ammar, as he has done in the past, takes a thrust at the Israelis. I think they live a little too far away to have had anything to do with Grenada. Mr. Ammar is merely straying into one of his chief stigmas.

But Mr. Ammar's greatest error is in his last paragraph. He writes: "Nicaragua will not be as easy." Does Mr. Ammar actually believe that Nicaragua has any choice in the matter? The only thing that saves Nicaragua from obliteration by the Americans, is other Americans. Many American liberals are not conscious of the true danger of the Soviets, and will not allow American interests to be served. If the Americans all agreed to occupy Nicaragua, the Latin Americans could not stop them.

Mr. Ammar, while he may have some legitimate grievances, will also have to avoid phrases such as "absolute crap" and "Death squad lotteries" if he hopes to impress anyone with his sincerity. Mr. Ammar is seriously wrong in many of his ideas, and clearly chooses to represent a socialist point of view.

Brady Harrison
Arts III

The registry notes

RE: To All Exam Registry Users

Please note that the Students' Union Exam Registry will not be receiving any more orders for exams after Wednesday, November 30th. From this time onwards we will have all we can do to fill the orders already taken. We will begin receiving orders again on January 16 of the new year.

As it now stands, there is about a four day waiting period from the time an order is made to the time it is ready for pick-up. We expect the waiting

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SECOND WIND

by Ernest Braithwaite III

I am at a loss as to why my letters have elicited such a frenzied reaction from Gateway readers. One such person (I do not recall his name, but this is hardly a major gap in my store of knowledge) even spoke of spelling mistakes, but could point out only that I had omitted a question mark. You should realize, sir, that all my questions are rhetorical since I already know all the answers. But enough of my critics. I promised a further piece on my views on politics and society, and here it is.

It is traditional these days to write a lot of nonsense about the value of living in a democratic society. I don't see why. Democracy has rarely achieved anything of note. The British Empire was reputed to be a democracy, but its only residue today is a score of military dictatorships scattered over Africa and elsewhere. Parliament is another means of preserving the status quo, of going nowhere and appearing to do this logically. This system operates badly enough when imposed on the English-speaking peoples. In the former colonies, incapable for the most part of running themselves, it is a disaster. In Canada, Parliament is a godsend to every parlour Bolshevik who seeks to infiltrate the system. The electorate is so gullible that he often doesn't even need to conceal his identity. Take for example Douglas Roche, who represents many of us in the hallowed House. Roche even has the temerity to wear Conservative colours while being a zealous advocate of Communist causes such as the anti-nuclear movement.

It is high time, then, that we abandoned democracy. It serves our enemies too well. There is something amiss about a system in which those who produce the greatest number of offspring ultimately have the most say in how a country should be run. Rhodesia, where I have some relatives, was railroaded onto the "democratic" course for this very reason, i.e., that the educated white rulers were too few in number. The result — yet one more marxist

regime imposing its terroristic policies upon the world. We can expect the same thing in South Africa in due course, despite the fact that it is perhaps the best run and most advanced industrial nation in the world today. Those who disbelieve this can count themselves among the victims of the frenzied press campaign, sponsored by the Left, to discredit this country.

Let us focus a moment longer on South Africa. I hold it up as a model because it is the only country, in my knowledge, to be administered by an educated elite. Would that this system were applied to Canada, and that we could remove these belling pygmies from the corridors of power. But to achieve this, we must impose some criteria by which to judge those who would hold office, such as IQ tests, financial backgrounds, etc. In turn, the Communists must be rooted out and exposed. Even in South Africa there are Communists within the system, working away like the parasites they are for the downfall of the Botha government. In Communist societies, anyone not on the far Left politically is persecuted. In parliamentary democracies, however, the Communists are actually encouraged to participate.

It is high time we acted. Those of us who love our country, and, it must be admitted, hold a lasting and sincere respect for our neighbours and cousins the United States, must stand firm against the Communist vermin within. The parliamentary system should be replaced with a ruling elite, committed to the interests of North America, and utterly devoted to the defeat of Communism. It is honestly beyond me how anyone could believe that we can achieve this through a Parliament, where every motion of any sense is immediately shot down by a combination of Liberals, New Democrats and Tory turncoats like Roche. Let us remember: the Soviets are relying on our "democracy" to ensure the success of world communism. Only steely determination and ruthless actions will prevent this. And we must be ready!

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