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WW3 was closer than realized

By GRAHAM THOMPSON

"We have come much closer to World War III than people realize," according to Dr. George Ignatieff, Chancellor of the University of Toronto, in an address on global conflict resolution at Osgoode Hall yesterday.

Ignatieff, a former chairman of the United Nations Security Council from 1966-1968, described how the world hung on the brink of global nuclear war during the Six Day War between Egypt and Israel in 1967 and the Cuban Missile crisis during 1962.

After discussing the present tensions between the U.S. and U.S.S.R., Ignatieff said the world nations could either submit to a state of international anarchy and war or use the machinery of the United Nations to open up a dialogue between the superpowers.

Concerning U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Ignatieff said his "megaphone diplomacy makes good media coverage but contributes nothing to conflict resolution. Going on TV gets him more votes than solving disputes with the U.S.S.R."

Ignatieff said that an approach emphasizing "quiet diplomacy" between the superpowers would dramatically increase the chances of coming to some conflict resolving agreements.

Therefore, a quiet exchange of "political pundits" between Washington and Moscow, as

suggested by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, would better reduce international tensions, said Ignatieff.

He also emphasized that "quiet diplomacy" was indispensable to the resolution of both the Cuban Missile crisis in 1962 and the Six Day War.

In the Six Day War, the U.S. and U.S.S.R. came perilously close to war when Israeli forces rolled through the Golan Heights toward Damascus, the Syrian capital, said Ignatieff. AT the time Egypt was federated with Syria which harbored a body of Russian military personnel in Damascus.

A high level diplomatic exchange between Moscow and Washington ensued over the 'hotline'. The Russians were concerned that an American-endorsed invasion of Damascus by Israel would bring the superpowers into direct military conflict. Fortunately, Israel retreated to the Golan Heights and defused the escalating conflict, said Ignatieff.

Both the Israeli-Egyptian war and the Cuban Missile crisis illustrated how quickly a political conflict can escalate into a potential world war "in a state of international conflict." Ignatieff concluded with the caution "we should never let government get away with anything because in 23 years I have seen more blunders in international crises than I'd like to admit."

Gov't intervention debated

By PHILLIP LEE

Government intervention—yes or no?

That was the gist of a debate, titled "The Crisis in Economic Policy: Two Alternatives," in Stedman last Thursday evening.

Before an audience of about 175, the debaters, Professor Emeritus of Economics Lorie Tarshis (University of Toronto and Atkinson College) and Director of the Fraser Institute Michael Walker, provided what can be termed a polite contest in addressing the

In opening the debate, Walker presented a long list of the failings of the implemented policies as practiced by past and present governments. Walker divided stabilization and regulatory policies as "well-intentioned but erroneous ideas."

While in regulating industry "the government is better at picking losers than winners" in its support of certain segments of industry, said Walker

He went on to advocate deregulation and to

accept its imperfections, as well as the imperfections of government.

Advocating government intervention in the economy, professor Tarshis delved into his experience of having lived through the Depression to argue his case that government has a role to play in maintaining prosperity.

Depression has a high cost, Tarshis said, and with the current high unemployment rate, the labor not used or used inefficiently was now costing Canadians half a billion dollars each week, along with the loss of job skills.

Saying "stupid government does stupid things" in recognition of the imperfection of government, Tarshis also said that "private industry does stupid things too."

A question and comment period followed the formal part of the debate, which was moderated by Paul Reinhardt, chairperson of the Economics department at Atkinson College. A number of other York professor also participated in the debate.

Give Bette the boot: CFS-O

By ANDREW ZARNETT

KINGSTON—Student leaders from various universities and colleges passed a motion that called for Bette Stephenson's resignation as Minister of Colleges and Universities at the CFS-O/OFS winter conference last weekend.

According to Mike Connolly, Information Officer, CFS-O/OFS, her resignation demand was made in the shadow of the Minister's plan to reshape and scale down the university system in Ontario.

It was the first tactic in the federation's latest campaign for universal accessibility and improvement in the quality of post-secondary education.

The campaign will begin immediately and conclude in a "Week of Action" dated March 19-24.

"By calling for the minister's resignation we are saying that we have no confidence in the

government's ability to provide Ontario with a decent post-secondary system," said Ian Nelmes, chairman CFS-O/OFS.

"We must reject any plan which will take us back to the time when universities were elitist institutions for the wealthy. Underfunding has been and continues to be the problem. Government has ignored public concerns and has irresponsibly pursued a policy of cutbacks and limited accessibility," he said.

CFS-O/OFS also voted to support the Committee for Concerned Visa Students, who are considering a class action suit over a tuition fee increase for foreign students which was introduced last year.

The last point of business was the election of the new chairperson. Monica Turner, president of the Ontario Graduate Association, will assume the office in June at the annual meeting.

