

## Gulf crisis has no morals

To the Editor,

In response to Paul Webster's opinion piece linking the Iraq-

Kuwait conflict to that of Israel-Palestine (Gazette Nov. 1/90), it is my view that to link the two in this way does little but to demean the nature of the latter conflict. After giving a valid account of the offences perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian population of the

West Bank and Gaza, he states that the Gulf crisis "fits in" because of the military funding of the U.S. to Israel. As well, though not explicitly stated in the article, the notion of U.S. hypocrisy plays a major role in the connection between the two conflicts.

The argument Webster presents is too weak to support his claim. If the facts of U.S. military funding and U.S. hypocrisy constitute the connection, then one could take this claim to an extreme and link the problems of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama (and until re-

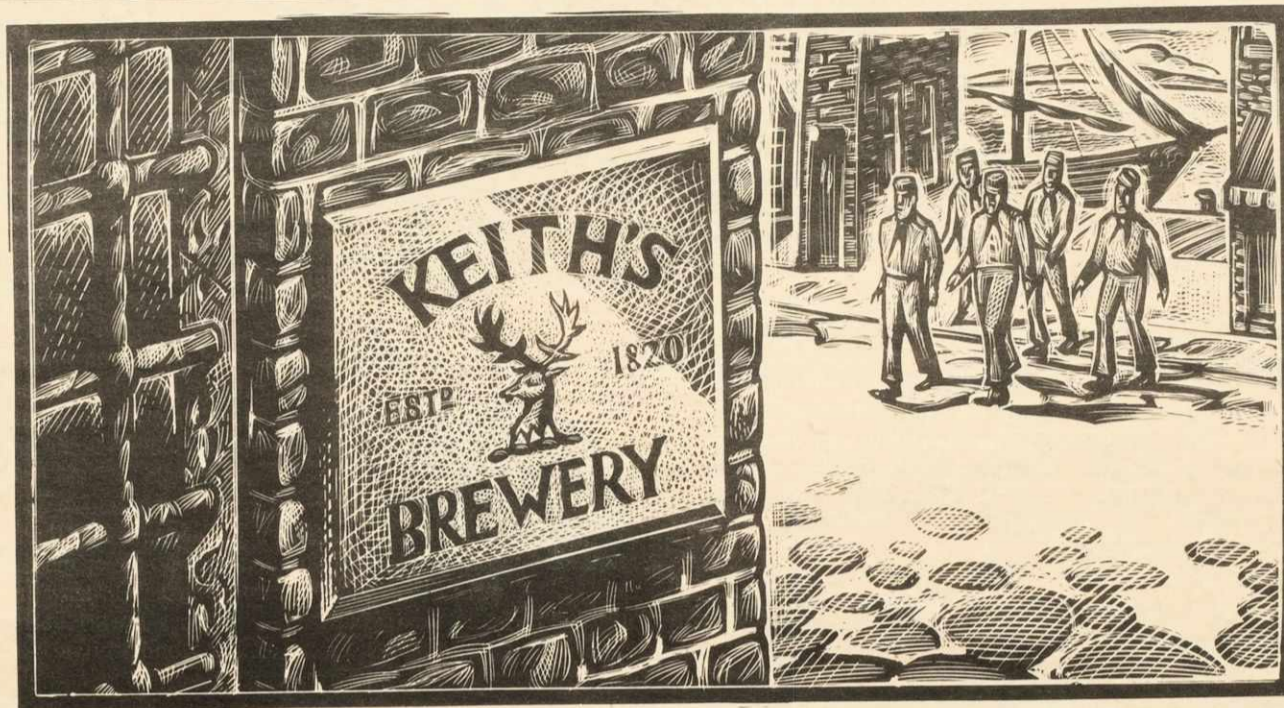
cently the situation in South Africa), directly to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. This would be stretching the analogy, and the tie that Webster is trying to make, too far.

However, it does serve to show that by piggy-backing the resolution of any one severe and essentially unique conflict to another does little more than diminish the importance of both. Certainly there are elements common to both the Israel-Palestine and the Iraq-Kuwait conflicts. Though, as someone who has recently (1988) visited not only Israel but the West Bank, Gaza and Jordan, it is my opinion that to attempt to find a hasty solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict merely because of the existence of another conflict in the region is to go about it in a negligent and situationally ignorant way.

The international community and international public opinion must be made to address the Israel-Palestine conflict for what it now is; a decades-long belligerent standoff between two diverse peoples attempting to live on the same small piece of earth. The questions of ideology, belief, religion, economics, politics, and violence that are such crucial factors in the conflict are unique to the Israel-Palestine problem. To attach this problem to another, as Webster does, is to mask the points of distinction between the two.

True, the U.S. funds Israel's military, and true the U.S. is displaying inordinate amounts of hypocrisy even by their own standards. But the Gulf crisis is a crisis of oil and moral muscle-flexing. The Israel-Palestine crisis has nothing to do with oil and the muscle-flexing going on has little if anything to do with morals.

Chris Bellon  
Political Science, MA



# In 1820, the British navy discovered a new reason to take shore leave in Halifax.

When Alexander Keith arrived in Halifax, he found a bustling seaport town full of longshoremen, garrison officers and sailors who shared a taste for quality ale.

In his own careful fashion, he began to look for a suitable home for his new brewery. It was a search that occupied the better part of five years, for it was not part of Alexander's character to make any decision until the time was right.

Finally there came a day when Alexander knew that he had found what he wanted. He settled on several acres on Water Street, a site that afforded his new business plenty of room to grow.

The brewery was built with walls of local quarrystone and cut granite. Under the cobblestone courtyards, cool vaults provided

temporary storage for his fine ale.

It was an impressive structure that soon became the central topic of discussion at the nearby waterfront taverns. Indeed, word of Alexander's efforts quickly spread throughout the port and even aboard the ships that came and went.

For in his new brewery Alexander was instructing his employees to work slowly and carefully, taking the time to get things right. The merits of this philosophy were confirmed by the taste of his India Pale Ale.

The longshoremen, the garrison officers, even the sailors in the British navy came to understand that Alexander's name on a bottle of ale was assurance of a quality brew.

Today, we still brew Alexander Keith's India Pale Ale his way.



THOSE WHO LIKE IT, LIKE IT A LOT



## Sounds

• continued from page 14

disc; opening with samples from Bomb the Bass, Schoolly-D, and Humphrey Bogart, this first single has energy, lots of it, and is infused with plenty of stolen beat. Then patterns; and many of the lyrics and vocals pathetic, this is not the brilliant follow-up one would expect. In the end the problem is not the fact that the ten actual songs are surrounded and sometimes buried by samples, but that there are only three good songs paired with what sounds like seven parodies.



Paperback, Hardcover  
and Rare Books  
Bought and Sold

BACK PAGES

5214 Sackville St., Halifax,  
Nova Scotia B3J 1K6  
423-4750