## **IMPERIALISM** from page 1 Thus Vietnam is a testing be universal in its application

ground, a testing ground perhaps as Korea was supposed to be, a testing ground where the sincerity, the sacrifices we are prepared to make and our belief in the inherent evil of the communist system will be tested.

Within recent history the American army has effectively 'conquered' many countries. These countries include South Korea, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, the Phillipines. These are countries which the U.S. actually occupied with its own troops. Of course Americans have had, or do have, some influence in all these nations. But could you seriously say that any of these independent nations are vassals of U.S. Imperialism'? On the other hand there is no question that those countries that the Soviet Union occupied with its armies are indeed vassals under Soviet fascism. In examining the past record it is clear which nation on this earth is the aggressor. It is difficult for us to understand why the Vietniks should decide that the U.S. is the aggressor when the record of Soviet atrocities is common knowledge. What on earth do you people mean by 'imperialism'?

You sit in your safe little university and pretend to talk knowingly of political realities . What in God's name do you know about imperialism?? Ask the thousands of people who risked (and lost) their lives crossing the Berlin Wall. Ask the people who threw bricks at Soviet tanks in Budapest. Ask the 50,000 East German workers whose general strike was crushed by Soviet armour. Ask the Tibetans overrun by the Chinese hordes. Ask the Czechoslovaks who woke up to find tanks in their streets. If they cannot convince you ask the Croatians, Rumanians, Poles, Serbs, Koreans, Macedonians, Albanians, Bulgars, Ukrainians, Latvians, Lithuanians, Estonians, Cossacks, Kalmuks, Georgians, Byelorussians and yes, even ask the South Vietnamese.

Heath Macquarrie, member of the Canadian delegation, spoke to the U.N. Assembly in 1962:

'Like the Declaration of Human Rights and like the U.N. Charter, the U.N. Declaration on Colonialism was intended to

be universal in its application to subject people everywhere. To divert attention from its evil practices, the U.S.S.R. has long preached against the sins of others. Our Canadian aim is to provide perspective for the strident demands which the U.S.S.R. makes on behalf of others, for the rights and benefits denied to the subject people of the Soviet Union.'

Yet we still hear of American 'aggression', 'imperialism' and 'murder'. Protestors ignore the fact that the Soviets supply North Vietnamese invaders with MIG's, radar and rocket installations, the standard AK47 rifles carried by the Vietnamese communists. They pleasantly forget the forced labour, the political assassinations, the random rocket attacks, the kidnappin of whole villages, the indiscriminate slaughters that are the trademarks of the Viet Cong. They ignore reports of American soldiers found torn to shreds by machine gun bullets with their hands tied behind their backs. They forget- the cave where the bodies of an executed village were found. Yet they find the gall to pervert the name of freedom by defending these atrocities

Tragically however, condemning American foreign policy seems to be the 'in' thing at the moment. We take special exception though to David Moore's letter to Excalibur Nov. 28. (viz. 'In forbidding Hawker Siddeley to recruit on campus, York University would be upholding the world view by condemning Hawker Siddeley for its involvement in the Vietnam war.') What on earth is this nonsense about a 'world view''? When, after 100,-000 people were gathered in Washington by a campaign to protest the war, 200,000 were summarily gathered in New York alone to show their support for their men in Vietnam. The leftists may have the loudest voices but there are active groups of students supporting the fight in Vietnam on most American campuses. The 'pro-Vietnam' groups often suffer from lack of funds and hence appear to have the softer voice, yet to quote Daniel Rubin 'Communists have played a significant role in the disorders on the U.S. college campuses . . . over the past several years'. (We leave you to draw your own conclusions).

Professors too have not been idle. A significant group of American scholars, mostly experts and specialist on South East Asian and Chinese affairs, 'felt obliged to refute the distortions of fact and the emotional allegations' made by small groups re the Vietnam situation. In an open letter these men labeled the communists as the aggressors. In fact only a handful of academics with adequate far east credentials have taken part in anti-Vietnam protests.

The news media in its search for sensationalism usually ignores the anti-protest protest and many who support the fight against communism go unheard. For example American novelist John Steinbeck was asked by a Soviet writer to denounce the American presence in Vietnam. To the Russian Stienbeck replied:

'You know well how I detest all war, but for this one I have a particular and personal hatred. I am against this Chinese-inspired war. I don't know a single American who is for it. But you ask me to denounce half a war, our half. I appeal to you to join me in denouncing the whole war. Surely you don't believe that our 'pilots fly to bomb children', that we send bombs and heavy equipment against civilians?

You know as well as I, that we are bombing oil storage, transport and the heavy and sophisticated weapons they carry to kill our sons.

Surely our Vietniks didn't believe Hanoi when it said that: 'American officers and the Diem clique daily scour the streets of Saigon to prey upon young girls. They take the Vietnamese maidens, rape them, disembowel

beat them about the breasts with clubs'. Perhaps they would believe it, we wouldn't be surprised.

them, suck the blood from

their livers, and cruelly



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last we heard, the line-up was over a block long.

but we suspect that those fellows may be a bit disappointed with the setup.

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## **By Bill Novak**

New Jersey is a state of mind, as the saying goes. It consists in general of a very long and uncrooked main street, periodically dotted with signs and diners, and with short extensions into patches of resi-

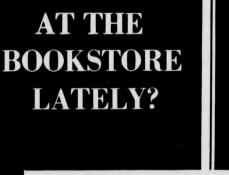
crete along the sides where you can rest your car if the ashtray is on fire.

You know New Jersey is weird because when weird things happen there you don't notice their strangeness. That's because New Jersey operates in a straight and colourless pattern like the one you feel driving along its main street at 3 on Sunday morning with an old friend whom you met a short while ago. He goes to a College in New Jersey. Bad enough that's the name of the State but the town he lives in is called New Brunswick. That sort of kills me. Back home we have got a whole province by that name.

You won't believe it but in New Brunswick New Jersey there're old houses and old trees. They were built that way in 1957 to give the town a healthy college atmosphere. You've got to hand it to those Americans.

You'll still see the occasional "diner" in New Jersey. I can't explain what a diner is because we don't have anything like it at home. You really know where you are when you start seeing the Diners. You see them mostly on the corners of the quasi-highway — they're sort of like old cars 180 feet long that are rounded at the corners where people eat. I have no idea why they call them diners.

New Jersey is one hour from the suburbs of New York, although of course it is one of them. In New Jersey you don't smell anything when you breathe and it feels strange after you spent time in the City. New Jersey is quiet on Sunday mornings and the phone rings only once every three hours at that time of week. It's more often than not a girl from a neighbouring town who wants some information and although you can't really help her, nobody is particularly upset for in the end you can usually suggest someone she should have phoned in the first place. So you think with a smile that she wanted to call you for your own sake. That's how you feel good in New Jersey.



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