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### LETTERS

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forum that Prof. Itwaru spoke at—but he did not mention the Palestinians and the PLO at all. Being competent and qualified, he opened the forum by explaining how today the term liberation is misunderstood and misrepresented. He logically left the issue of the Palestinians to the PLO representative.

Prof. Itwaru has the full right to support the Palestinian people and their goal for self-determination. Why is it that those who support the rights of the Palestinians must be silenced and condemned? There are a panoply of professors at York University who support Israel blindly and condone its terror. Why are you not querulous about them?

Moreover, yourself, like all of us, deplore and find terrorism reprehensible. However, your attempt at silencing those who condemn Israel for its state terrorism by calling it a crock is itself a crock. If Prof. Itwaru supports the PLO he is accompanied by over 100 nations who recognize it and about 5 million Palestinians who are the soul of it. So why not ban them, in accordance with your thinking, along with Prof. Itwaru from society for good? Mr. Benjamin, now I know what kind of world you support!

Jerry Khouri

## Park destroyed by pollution

Dear Editor:

The recent nation-wide interest in the fate of BC's Strathcona Park prompts this letter.

In 1911 the Park was created. It lies in the centre of Vancouver Island and contains alpine terrain, virgin forests and North America's highest waterfall. In later years mining claims were permitted within the park and, still later, a moratorium was placed on mining activity. In 1987 the BC cabinet, through an order-in-council and without promised public debate, again opened the park to mining. In addition, large portions were deleted and logging was permitted. An honourable course would have been to buy out the mining claims and leave the park intact. Instead, industrialization will affect drinking water in several municipalities and affect salmon spawning grounds.

The government refuses to answer the question: Who will finance control of acid and metal pollution from mine wastes that are expected to last several hundred years after mining stops? A nearby operating mine spends one million dollars per year controlling such pollution in their watershed. Currently in BC, when mining stops, the company is no longer responsible for pollution.

We believe such exploitation, especially in parks, is immoral. It is also uneconomic, thanks to the permanent costs of pollution control and the loss of tourism. People are not attracted by mining and logging devastation.

Besides the economic folly of this development and the dishonourable behaviour of successive BC governments, there is an increasing awareness of our interconnectedness with the earth. Consequently, more and more people are getting involved simply because it's the right thing to do. For more information write to Friends of Strathcona Park, Box 3404, Courtenay, BC V9N 5A5.

—J. Wilson  
Courtenay, BC

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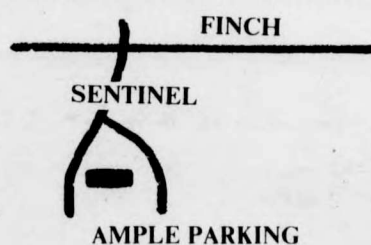
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### Attention all Excal hacks!:

This year's staff photo will be held this Tuesday at 3:00 pm in the newspaper offices. Remember: Immortality eludes all who are tardy!