

letters and opinion

"We need nuclear deterrent"

In response to your article on the Trident nuclear base in the September 22 issue of *Excalibur*, I would like to take issue with its author who obviously supports the pacifists of the Pacific Life Community (PLC).

The sensationalistic title, together with the cartoon, make the prejudices and biases of the author and/or the editor quite clear. I would like to speak out on behalf of those who do not believe in the ethic of capitulation, no matter what.

If that ethic had been followed by the majority of men (sic) at any time in the history of the world, the human race would have become extinct long ago.

In despite war, I condemn the waste and cruelty of war. But I despise a man (sic) who would allow himself to be used, trampled, spat upon without resistance even more.

And that is the philosophy of pacifism, expressed in terms that even the man in the street (that vulgar superstition!) can understand.

FORCE FOR FORCE

The situation is simple: we stand in relation to a force which is openly dedicated to the annihilation of our way of life, and its every aspect of civil existence. Do we desire this as a solution for our problems? If we do not — and I think that the majority of us are of that opinion — then our only option is to respond by defending ourselves against that



threat. Any other action would be madness.

And the only deterrent in the face of force is force. Force, not logic, good will, or utopian dreams, is the final deterrent in any confrontation. Where such deep-rooted and widespread differences exist, no reconciliation is possible except by the destruction or radical transformation of one side or the other.

It is impossible not to take sides.

The world is aligning itself for one last desperate struggle, the outcome of which will result in the mastery of the planet. The eventual unification of all the governments of the world is, I think, inevitable. Even the utopians agree here.

History shows too clearly that society evolves to include greater and greater wholes. And once the world is united under one authority, there can be no more conflict. A utopia of sorts may in fact be possible.

But a society of slaves, of mindless robots responding automatically to the whim of an arbitrary elite, is not my idea of utopia. Therefore, I will support continued military build-up in the Western world until this basic contradiction in world society is eliminated.

WAR INEVITABLE

I would not like to discount the possibility of the (so-called) Communist bloc being destroyed from within by its own members. The signs of such an upheaval are already apparent.

But the natural tendency of communist governments would be to blame this resistance on the opposite side, and in desperation precipitate a major confrontation in an effort to bolster its own authority.

Hence a major war seems inevitable.

Name with held on request



Reader below advises those frustrated with Downsview, not to move it away, as the student above is attempting, but to learn to love it.

"Love where you live!"

Well the *Excalibur* has done it again! Why do you persist, almost as editorial policy, it seems, in gratuitously knocking Downsview?

You make a point of not being sexist, racist, etc. Why this reverse, illogical anti-regional bias?

Downsview is like any other place on earth. An area reflects what you bring to it - what you see is largely dependant on how capable you are of seeing. Downsview has homes, trees, ravines, libraries, skating rinks, and even (!) York University.

For me, the pleasures of living six minutes car time away, enjoying the trees, digging York, are undeniable.

Grow up you guys, look around, love where you live. It will be hard to move York, so you might as well settle in.

Peace,
Judith van Xraassen
Downsview.

"And for whom does the fowl fall?"



There are many glass windows at York which seem to be particularly tempting for birds to brain themselves on.

I usually enter the college by a side

door on the basement level. Much to my surprise, almost every day I see a bird on the cement walkway just below one of these windows. At first I couldn't understand why these tame, slightly silly looking birds would sit without moving while I prodded them with my umbrella — gently. I saw at least three different birds in various stages of recovery, each a different colour and size.

But then two distressing days in a row I saw dead birds. On the third day, I saw another live bird, so I thought that since I had seen so many kinds of fowl, I should set to examining them so as to identify

them in the bird book when I got home.

"Oh hello. Another one," I said.

Predominantly white and grey or black, speckled breast; bands of black on the tail feather; a red speckled head. No wait, I had never seen a bird with that colour head.

Oh no! "It's blood". I saw a small pool of blood several feet from where bird is now sitting.

Five or six hours later all that was left was a pool of dried blood.

Who harvests the birds every day at York?

Jessica Blackmore

Your name in print!

Excalibur's letters page is an open forum for members of the York community to comment about anything, and everything.

All letters should be addressed to the Editor, *Excalibur*, room 111, Central Square.

Please triple or double space the letters, and keep them to around 250

words. Lots of people have things to say.

Excalibur reserves the right to edit for length and grammar, but we'll try to keep it pretty much as is.

Name and address must be included for legal purposes, but the name will be withheld upon request. Deadline: Monday at 4 pm. Sorry, no exceptions.

Malfatti stands up for Radio York

Over the years Radio York has ignored the petty attacks of *Excalibur* concerning our operations, but I believe it is time for the students of York University to know what is really going on. This letter will concern itself with the article about Radio York in the September 23, 1977 issue.

The first thing I would like to comment on, is that Paul Hayden (President of CYSF) is all of a sudden taking credit for CYSF's taking over of Radio York's finances. Richard Gould (Station Manager of Radio York between Sept. '76 and Sept. '77) requested CYSF to take this course of action at least four times between Sept. 76 and Dec. 76. These requests were totally ignored by CYSF, and now I read that Mr. Hayden, "... saw that, the books were in bad shape, the station needed financial restructuring ..." My, how organized and efficient the central student government is.

DEMOCRACY RULES

It seems funny that *Excalibur* would attack Radio York on the so called 'democracy issue'. The reason I find it funny, is because I never knew that such an issue ever existed inside Radio York, well I guess in the imagination of *Excalibur* it does. Anyway getting back to this so called issue, if *Excalibur* can remember back to CYSF's passing of Radio York's constitution on Sept. 13, 1976 this whole matter can be resolved. In this constitution, it states that, "The Station Manager shall be responsible for the organization of Radio York..." This clause in effect gave the Station Manager the authority over the internal operation of Radio York. If *Excalibur* remember, CYSF is elected by the students of York University and is given the power to represent these same students.

In other words, the students of York University gave the Station Manager of Radio York, the authority to control the internal operation of their radio station. If this is not democracy, then please tell me what is.

Last year the Board of Directors of Radio York was never put into effect because the two individuals who were responsible for this area of CYSF activity never did their job. But the blame should go to the entire CYSF council of last year for not taking an interest in what was going on. Let's hope that this year's council and especially the vice president of student services and communications do not repeat the performance of their predecessors.

NIGHT OF DEBAUCHERY

Excalibur in their wisdom have complained that, "many of the outlets are inoperative..." I must explain to *Excalibur* that Radio York cannot be held responsible for individuals who after a long night of debauchery, decide that the perfect end to the evening would be hanging from the speakers until they come off the wall. Radio York also cannot be held responsible for individuals who find that the maximum volume which the speakers can produce is not enough and proceed to attempt to increase the volume until they decapitate the volume control.

In the editorial, the editor of *Excalibur* stated that (referring to the speakers), "... badly placed on busy thorough-fares not inductive to listening." If the editor of *Excalibur* feels that he knows exactly where to place the speakers, I publicly invite him to come up to Radio York and share his expertise with us.

Excalibur continued on to say that,

"Campus pubs, coffee shops and cafeterias have taken advantage of CKRY speakers sporadically or not at all, which is quite understandable given the fluctuating broadcast hours which characterised the station's performance last year." This comment is just another example of *Excalibur's* vision that they can see the entire iceberg above the water. With a closer examination, they would have found that the reason for the fluctuating broadcast hours was because the majority of last year's staff was fired for not living up to the standards which the executive of the station felt were acceptable if the station was to receive an FM licence. The executive of Radio York last year believed that no broadcasting was better than very poor broadcasting. If *Excalibur* followed this type of philosophy, I'm sure I would not be writing this letter.

In the same editorial *Excalibur* mentioned that there are a few students involved in the operation of Radio York. Radio York has close to fifty individuals on a volunteer basis on staff, on the date of the writing of this letter. According to the bottom of page six in the Sept. 23, 1977 issue of *Excalibur*, it seems that *Excalibur* only has thirty-two individuals on staff.

CLASSES FOR EXCALIBUR

I would like to end this letter by parting some advice on to Paul Kellogg (Editor in chief of *Excalibur*). When I asked Mr. Hayden about a few of his comments in the main articles on Radio York in *Excalibur* this year, I was informed that he had been misquoted on several occasions. When Mr. Scott Clayton (author of these articles) was interviewing Mr. Gould and myself, he did a great deal of talking and hardly took any

notes (he must have a good memory), so I guess it should not surprise me that there were misquotes in the articles. My advice to you Mr. Kellogg, is that, if you cannot train your staff properly, they are more than welcome to attend Radio York's classes on media, where they might pick up some points about reporting.

I mean even here at Radio York, where we're supposedly "autocratic" and have no "internal constitution", we do train our staff for the jobs we ask them to perform. By the way the class schedule is available by calling Radio York.

I would like to thank *Excalibur* for stating that a portion of the end product of work done at Radio York is of high quality, I'm glad to read that somebody is listening to Radio York and is enjoying our programming. Good luck *Excalibur*, for this will be the last time I will concern myself with any of your visions on how Radio York should operate, I have more important things to do, like attempting to get an FM licence for the students of York University.

Giulio Malfatti
Radio York
Station Manager

