

Free thought in chains

by Greg Harris

Imagine attending a university that has police spies in the classroom watching what is said and by whom. That's the situation faced by Chilean students and professors according to Patricio Lanfranco, President of the Cultural Association of the University of Chile (ACU).

"Only one point of view is permitted in Chile today," he said to an audience of sixty in SUB theatre yesterday at noon.

The junta is trying to look good internationally, but it isn't respecting human rights in any way, shape, or form, Lanfranco said, referring to General Augusto Pinochet's eight year old military regime.

For example, four student leaders were sent into exile for organizing a tribute to the founder of the first Chilean university. Another student leader, Patricia Torres, has been constantly persecuted by the police and faces the continual danger of either exile or outright expulsion, Lanfranco said.

Besides the flagrant suppres-

sion of free speech, the ruling government's policy is to sell out the universities to private business, equally detrimental to Chile, he said.

"Many of the faculties most important to social development of the country will just not be there because they are not money faculties," Lanfranco said.

And Canadian private business is directly involved in Chile. The Bank of Nova Scotia has lent \$14.1 million directly to the junta, and Noranda Mines is looking for backers for a \$350 million investment plan in Chile.

"The governments of the United States and Canada haven't appeared to be committed to the junta, but the corporations and the banks have done a lot of investing. It only helps to shore up a regime that is very oppressive," Lanfranco said.

Before the 1973 coup, universities operated on three basic principles of participation, autonomy and pluralism. These concepts broke down when Pinochet's junta seized power, he said.

"We have moved back literally decades... the degree of knowledge a person has is controlled," said Lanfranco.

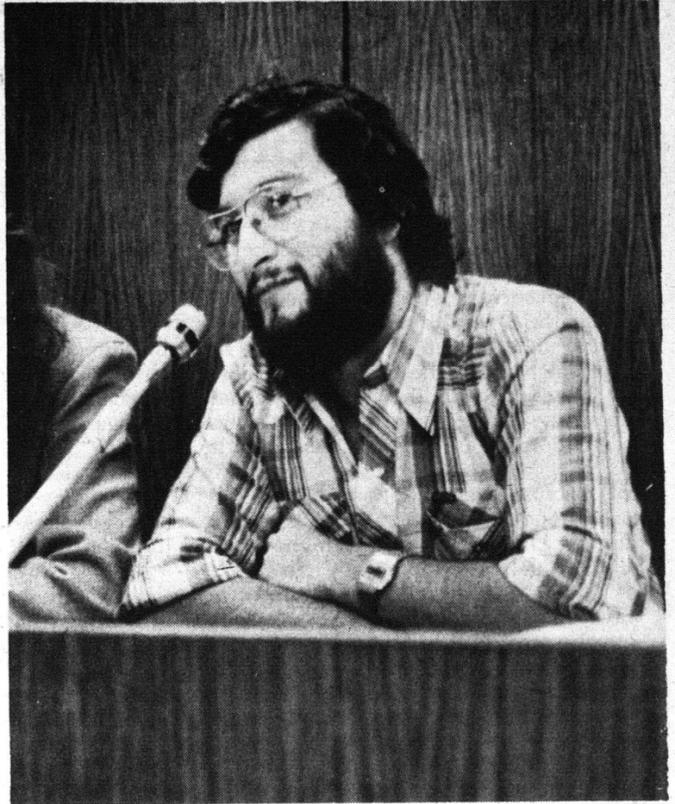
The ACU was formed in 1977 by engineering students in an effort to preserve cultural heritage and freedom of expression. Since then they have actively protested the oppressive terrorist policies of the junta.

Lanfranco doesn't rule out the possibility of resorting to violence in the fight against the regime.

"Chileans today aren't going to discount any route that will lead to the liberation of their country."

Lanfranco said that the harder Chileans work, "the shorter will be the time between the Chile today and the Chile that will once again be in the hands of the people tomorrow."

Lanfranco is currently on a cross Canada tour, and his visit to the U of A was sponsored by the Students' Union. Petitions condemning Canadian involvement in Chile and the military junta, may be signed in the Students' Union office.



Patricio Lanfranco on campus Wednesday.

Banks force higher loan rates

by Jim McElgunn

The federal cabinet is planning to raise interest rates on student loans sharply this month, but there seems to be nothing students can do about it.

The move follows intense lobbying by the Canadian Bankers' Association. An Order-in-Council has been prepared for Cabinet approval and may be passed at any time.

Canada Student Loans retain their interest-free status until six months after the student ceases being a full-time student. If the loan is not paid off by then, interest is charged.

Under the present system, the interest rate is tied to the six month average yield on Government of Canada bonds, currently about 13 percent. The bankers are proposing that it be the prime rate

plus one-half or one percent, or about 18 percent. The new interest rate would apply to loans negotiated under the old system.

The National Union of Students (NUS) and provincial student organizations fought against the proposal with a telegram campaign in November. As well, students on some campuses in Ontario and British Columbia set up information

pickets outside campus bank branches.

But the bankers fought back. "As a pressure tactic, the Toronto-Dominion Bank refused to negotiate student loans at a number of campuses," according to Federation of Alberta Students' (FAS) fieldworker Ann McGrath.

At York University in Toronto, this tactic was stopped because a member of the York

Board of Governors was also on the board of the TD bank.

As well, the Bankers' Association stepped up its lobbying efforts aimed at the federal government.

McGrath says previously the banks were willing to negotiate student loans despite their low profitability because they believed it would encourage students to deal with the same bank later when they were working and making more money.

They have now concluded that students, like most people, deal with whichever bank is closest to them. This failure to build "brand loyalty" among students is also the reason so many low-profit campus bank branches have been shut down in recent years.

McGrath says NUS's best hope to defeat the proposal is the influence of the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada (CMEC), a body of provincial education ministers. Alberta Advanced Education and Manpower minister Jim Horsman has already said he opposes the rise in interest rates.

But McGrath is not optimistic. "At this point, it doesn't look like we're going to win."

Game shooters arm themselves

by Wes Oginski

"Why can't you university students play Monopoly?" was the City of Edmonton Police Department's reply to Donna Dmitroca's inquiries about playing a role-game called *Assassins* on campus.

Dmitroca is one of the organizers of the game.

She and a few friends visited Calgary last year and Mitch

McCormick invited them to view the game on the U of C campus. McCormick is the Calgary organizer who adapted *Assassins* from another game played at the University of Toronto.

Participants in the game as played here are assigned a *target* to assassinate; in turn they become *targets* themselves. An *assassin* and her *target* do not track each other.

Hits can only be made on campus, with the exception of a few restricted areas, such as the hospital and residences. There is a time limit. Round one of the three round event began at 12 Noon Monday and ends this Friday at 5 p.m.

"If they (players) *survive* the week and complete their assignments, they pick up their next assignment Monday (Jan. 26) between 8 and 12 in the morning," says Dmitroca.

The winner is the first to report a *hit* in the third round. A James Bond collection is the first prize.

A \$5 registration fee was charged at the beginning of the game. Three to three and a half dollars pay for the guns, printing and advertising. The rest is profit.

"Whatever is left over will go to the *Assassin* next year, or a charity, or most likely both," says Dmitroca.

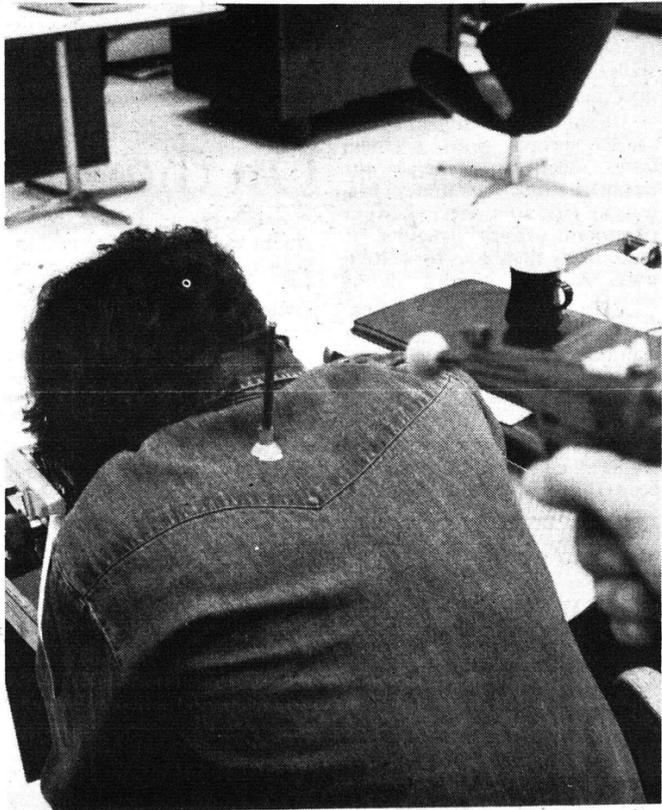


photo Bill Ingle

That second shot won't be necessary. This target's luck ran out before he could complete his assignment.

Authorities nervous

"We are not thrilled with the idea," says Jan Byer, vp internal about the *Assassins* game on Campus.

Both Campus Security and the Students' Union "are not happy" says Donna Dmitroca, one of the game's organizers.

"Our official position is that we cannot stop them," says Byer. "They were going to go ahead, so we said OK."

"The game reminds me of *Cops and Robbers*," says Byer. "There seemed to be a lot of support for it."

"210 people are participating," says Dmitroca. "About thirty to forty are females. A preponderance are Engineering students, as well as a good mixture of other faculties and years of programs."

"The response was great

Barz by Skeet

Skeet got wired to the kitchen table last night. The funeral's next Tuesday.

considering we only ran two ads," adds Dmitroca.

bouquets and brickbats

by Deacon Greese

Yesterday was weedless Wednesday. Tomorrow may be Foodless Friday. Before these damn puritans get to Sexless Saturday, read Brix/Boox; it may be your last chance to indulge in a filthy habit.

Warmest Building on Campus: SUB. It's Jan Byer's fault. He grows tomatoes in his office.

Coldest Building on Campus: Agriculture. Nothing grows in Ag. Notice! To the man/woman/child who placed the "ATTN" posters on better bulletin boards everywhere. The secret service of the writing competence committee is on to you. Give yourself up.

Most Violent Game on Campus: No, it isn't *Assassins*; that isn't even close. Try a game of Star Power with some poli. sci. students. Or running for SU executive.

Biggest Newspaper on Campus: *Edmonton Journal*. It's big. Really big. Great-big big. Huge-heavy-humongous big. BIG!

Best Newspaper on Campus: You really think I'm going to say the *Gateway* don't you? Actually you can get the *Globe and Mail* here and even the *Manchester Guardian* now and then. But if you rule out imports.....

Bwictch and boochs would like to welcome home the American hostages. However the #%&\$!- editor is too cheap to send me to Germany, so you will all have to go back to Iran until I can get the cab fare. Sorry!