

Boycott Carter

U.S. President Jimmy Carter is making rationality a rare commodity in North American political decision-making.

His highly publicized and emotional conversion from believing in *detente* to distrusting the Soviet Union is as familiar as the sunrise to anyone who has ever studied the Cold War period of the Fifties and early Sixties. Anyone fooled by the Carter "grassroots" appeal is not familiar with the careers of Joseph McCarthy, Ike Eisenhower, John Kennedy, John F. Dulles, Dean Acheson and all the rest of the American politicians who have sought and won votes at the risk of peace and sanity.

One certainly does not have to condone the Soviet military activity in Afghanistan to recognize that Carter's hardline approach is nothing more than American propaganda. Frightened by the fact that the rest of the world doesn't jump at the request of the American government, Carter and his crew are attempting to kick sand in political faces. If Carter succeeds in persuading nations to boycott the Olympics, a major travesty of justice will have occurred.

What's even worse is the warmongering going on in the U.S. that is being prompted by the American government. It's absolutely amazing how soon Americans forget their past mistakes: Korea, the Philippines, Cuba, Cambodia, Vietnam and other nations bear the scars of American "freedom-fighting."

Naturally, Canadian politicians have jumped on the Carter bandwagon with great abandon, hoping to win over the Canadian public. Flora MacDonald's game of blind man's bluff with the Soviet Union indicates how much of Canada's "foreign policy" is rational and how much is jingoist gusto. Let's remember; the Soviet Union anticipates as much trouble from Canada as the U.S. would anticipate from Belgium.

What Carter is doing right now is repeating the errors of the immediate past. He seems to be listening to his military advisors, who would like nothing more than a war to justify their existences. Thinking Americans and Canadians shouldn't accept this dangerous policy: let's follow the example of the European community, who are much more familiar with the nature of the Soviet Union and who have refused to panic irrationally despite the ravings of the Americans.

Of course, don't take my word for it. Before you rush out to sign up and fight for the American way of life, why don't you study the past thirty years of American interference in international affairs? After looking at Cuba, Vietnam, and Cambodia in particular, you'll probably be convinced that it's American policy that should be boycotted.

Gordon Turtle

the Gateway

If it happens on campus...it's news to us.

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THE RESULTS ARE IN and the winners are: Steven Wohl (External Affairs), Howie Spragins (NDP whip), Bruce Pollock (unsuccessful M-L candidate), Ken Daskewich (PC - Mundare), Peter Michalyszyn (Creditiste), Barry Lee (Social Convenor), Megan Collins (Secretary of State), Wayne Renke (French Ambassador), Barb Horricks (Treasury Board), Mike McKinney (Air Canada), Russ Sampson (NFB), Sue Techie (Canada Council), Stan Mah (Intergovernmental Affairs), John Barry (Police), Shaune Impey (Ged Baldwin - Lib), Danny Nakamura (C.D.), Ian Hooper (Senate), Gordon Turtle (P. M. again), Joe Clark (Gateway editor).

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Exec criticism uncalled for

It seems all too often we bitch about or criticize someone without considering all the facts. This is the case with many editorial comments about our present SU Executive but in particular with E.G. Mani's letter of February 7.

Although what I have to say could be directed toward anyone of the present executive I am specifically writing in support of our VP Academic Chanchal Bhattacharya. Given the fact that we all have time constraints brought about for whatever reasons, and given that we are all students here for a learning purpose I think Chanchal has shown an unprecedented concern for students on this campus. I am not stating these constraints as an excuse, but a reality which we all must live with.

Over the past year Chanchal has been instrumental in major revisions in the granting formulas for clubs and faculty associations, he was a prime instigator in the revision of the study hall which has not only seen that facility improved, but has led to increased awareness of study space on campus and better lighting and extended hours in CAB. He has been

involved with the Writing Competence Committee (WCC) fighting for the students, and has been invaluable with the new Academic Unit Review procedures.

His work with student groups and in particular faculty associations has been the strongest I've seen in four years, opting not for the laissez faire attitude of past officers but for a working relationship second to none. Maggie Coates couldn't

have said it better (letter of Feb. 12) when she stated "he has given us support and advice and more importantly he has acted when we needed help."

It has been both rewarding and enjoyable to work with Chanchal over the past ten months, as I'm sure many others would agree. So next time, you too will give credit where credit is due.

Dean Drager
President - BACUS

Exam demand low

The Students' Union Exam Registry is a service organization designed to meet the needs of the student population of this university. Exams given in previous years are made available to all students through the registry on a nominal cost basis. (I might also add for the benefit of any cynics in the crowd, that we operate on a deficit budget and require subsidies from the Students' Union.)

My concern is over the small proportion of students who have used the registry in 1980. As far as I can tell, this is not a result of deficient publicity on our part, but rather, a case of procrastination by students in general. Few students plan well in advance for their examinations, choosing instead to wait until the week of the exam to begin preparation. This is fine for those who work under pressure well, or find cramming more effective. It is however, beyond the ability of the Exam Registry to accommodate last-minute studiers.

We will stop accepting orders this year on April 3, one week before the end of classes. If you have not placed your order by then, no amount of sob-storying, bribery, cajoling of any sort, will get you an exam. We want to accommodate as many students as possible, but we need your help. The sooner you come in to the registry, the sooner we can provide you with those exams. The Exam Registry is staffed by students, who have scholastic demands the same as you, and they must be given time to do their own studying. For this reason, the Exam Registry has instituted the order deadline.

I would much rather assure every student who uses the registry that s/he will get copies before exam time, than accept, last-minute orders with the knowledge that ninety percent of

those orders will not be filled. Please, do it now! The Exam Registry is located in room 240 in SUB and the staff are there, waiting for you to act. Your exams are our business; please make our time your business.

Roberta Hanson
Director, S.U. Exam Registry

NUS loan paid off

The National Union of Students at this time would like to repay, in full, the loan from the University of Alberta Students' Union made to this organization under the special financing arrangements of 1975.

Although we would have liked to defer the repayment for one more year, we appreciate your concern, and acknowledge with this cheque our commitment to maintain the good faith between our two organizations.

The second cheque enclosed represents interest payment on the outstanding balance from January 1979 to January 1980. Interest is payable at the average Bank of Nova Scotia savings account interest rate, which for this period was 9.8%.

The National Union of Students remains grateful for your contribution in 1975 which allowed the NUS the opportunity to grow as we could otherwise not afford, and look forward to a time when the students at the University of Alberta will again participate in helping to further shape the future of the Canadian student movement as they have in the past.

Max Johnson
Treasurer NUS/UNE

Theatre needs help

I have now been attending this university for close to four years. For the first couple of years I attended events (e.g. films) in the SUB theatre at least once a month. This year I have attended two events; one was the election forum last week. By all indications attendance at the theatre this past year has been poor in general. It seems that the "Students' Union" theatre is such simply by virtue of its location; students' union members are a rarity in it.

When one area of the Students' Union loses large amounts of money, other areas suffer. This may manifest itself in terms of decreased service and/or increased prices (for example, I believe it has been suggested that the prices at SU Records be raised). This situation is particularly bad because the area losing money is one that should be capable of coming

close to breaking even. To conclude, I hope that this letter will spark the interest of some students in their theatre. Should they desire to know more about the matter they can request to see documents at the Students' Union Offices in SUB. The minutes of the Building Sciences Board meeting of 29 Oct. 1979 (Document M503) and the Final Budget (Document M560) would be of interest. Should they wish to comment on this matter, I urge them to write (remember, verbal communications can be so easily forgotten) to one of: Sharon Bell (VP Internal), B. Best (SU General Manager), the Building Services Board, or the Gateway editor (so some feed back appears on this letter page).

R.J. Meleshko
Student-At-Large
Building Services Board