

# Imperialism charges show one-sided logic

By STEPHEN ARONSON  
and LINDA ROSS

Last Thursday, Excalibur printed two articles concerning Israel. The arguments raised in those articles are representative of the anti-Israel stand that has become so fashionable in certain left wing circles.

Typically, the anti-Israel argument begins and ends condemning Israel as an "outpost of American imperialism": as if by virtue of acceptance of aid Israel loses the right to exist. By the same logic, Egypt and Syria, together with every other state in the area which receives aid in large amounts from both imperialist super-powers, also lose their right to exist! Why do we not hear demands for their destruction?

America's true interests obviously lie with the oil states. In the summer of 1973, Standard Oil of California made a public appeal to America to change its policy to an anti-Israel one in order to guard the oil supply. What speaks louder for America's imperialist interests than the designs of the oil conglomerates?

## ONLY CHOICE

The problem for Israel is clear. "The only ones who are prepared to defend me are the Americans. It is convenient for them for the time be-

ing. You have flung me towards America, the bastion of democracy and the murderer of Viet Nam, who may trample downtrodden peoples but spares my life, who oppresses blacks but supplies me with arms to save myself. You leave me no alternative..." (Kenan, A Letter to All Good People, Tel Aviv.)

Accusing Israel of imperialist designs by virtue of American support is just one version of the old guilt-by-association lie, by which it would follow that Ho Chi Minh was an imperialist aggressor as well, since he accepted American aid in the 1940's against the Japanese. Israel's alliance with America, even if it could be viewed as absolutely reactionary, hardly justifies the call for the elimination of Israel as a nation-state.

## PERVERSE LOGIC

By what sleight of hand does Kuneitra become Hanoi, the PLO the Viet Cong, and Tel Aviv Saigon? By what perverse logic do radicals in the west support Arafat (long active in fanatic right-wing organizations such as the Moslem Brotherhood) and condemn labour socialists simply because their particular national liberation movement — Zionism — is currently out of "hip" favour?

## ALL FOR ONE

There is no question that the root of the whole problem is the conflict of Israel and the Arabs of Palestine. However, in trying to understand the tragic clash of two legitimate national movements over one piece of land we should be looking for constructive options, and possible compromises that would accord a measure of justice to each aspiring national movement, rather than the whole pie for one and nothing for the other.

Zionism does not necessarily require denial of Palestinian national rights. Jewish national rights and Palestinian national rights are not mutually exclusive. The respective maximalist positions of each people, however, (as expressed by the PLO National Covenant, and the Greater Land of Israel movement, a very small minority within Israel) are mutually exclusive. This is the crux of the entire matter. The PLO National Covenant is certainly the most important piece of evidence we have of the Palestinian position, and it is its unremitting irredentism that is standing in the way of Israeli-Palestinian compromise. Israeli cabinet ministers are talking now of negotiating with the PLO provided that it a) renounce its maximalist in-

tentions and b) give up terror as a tactic.

Now is not the time to enter into a detailed analysis of the PLO proposals, but there is at least one myth that we would like to debunk, and that is the web of illusion surrounding the term 'democratic secular state' in the Palestinian rhetoric.

The problem with this term is that a democratic secular state already exists in part of Palestine: it is called Israel.

## NATION STATE

Somehow, we get the impression that in the call for a 'secular, democratic state where all peoples can live together in brotherhood' it is an explicitly Jewish state that is opposed. If, however, it is the idea of nation state to which Weisfeld, Gayle, Stuart and such object, then they should pull the red cover from off their Kropotkin manuals and raise high the black flag: then we will join together in denouncing all nationalisms. They accuse Israel of being a racist, exclusivist state, but perhaps they should be reminded of the very nature of the nation-state? Canada for the Canadians, Chile for the Chileans, the Jewish state for the Jews, and please, Palestine for the Palestinians. You see, the nation-

state, by its very nature, is exclusivist (which Weisfeld et al call "racist"). If they are to oppose borders between peoples, then let them be consistent in their anarchism. Otherwise, we'll feel they're picking on us.

We think we Jews have earned the right not to be the first to sacrifice our national right on the altar of Weisfeld's fanciful social experimentation.

Let Arafat continue to define us as a religious group (see Articles 16-20 of the PLO National Covenant) and we will let Menachem Begin define him as a non-entity; it's as simple as that.

But let there be heard even one 'peep' from the Palestinian groups that they might possibly be ready to begin discussing Jewish national rights, and the positive reaction in Israel will shock Weisfeld and his fellow moral progressives so out of their self-satisfaction that they will never even hear the sound of progress passing them by.

## Nixon loses out

ASPEN, Colorado — (CUP - CPS) - Residents here are up in arms over a proposal to carve a 150-foot likeness of former president Richard Nixon on a rock path overlooking the area.

The idea was advertised as a tribute to "two great Republican crusaders for peace", and a carving of Abraham Lincoln was planned for a twin peak. But the proposal met with such negative response from the townspeople that it has already been scrapped.

The Aspen Times editorialized that the giant carving would be "the last deformity the area needs".

Said one prominent Aspen woman, "I'm a good Republican, but I don't want to get up every morning and vomit."

Steve Hain

## Parking violator beset by vision of poster

I stormed out of the Ross Building last week quite upset. It had been a day when I felt like shrinking so small that I could play in the York ventilation system.

I was in the midst of hydroplaning to my car, with any thought of parking regulations being the most distant in my mind.

Who could describe my anger when I saw my windshield last Tuesday, presenting red on white, and in poster form: *You Are Parked Illegally*. Why is there never a camera present to capture your best reaction shots?

My first response was to demand that the officer who issued the accompanying ticket, and therefore my mini-poster, be required to remove it. After all, it does represent an obstruction to vision as well as being an embarrassment. By the time I made it home, I was as civil as a pneumatic drill operator with a toothache.

And, to heap further insult upon injury, everyone is at least partially aware of the fact that it requires a hammer and chisel to remove a glued object from a cold, hard surface.

Friday afternoon found me in the office of safety and security director George Dunn, located in the Permanent Office Building. Ready with my wit and the ability to ask spontaneous questions (some would say I was unarmed), I embarked on my quest to find out how one becomes a

member of the sign-carrying elite.

With approximately 25,000 people representing the total enrolment at the university, I was pleased to learn that somewhere between 13,000 and 14,000 have begged, borrowed, bought or stolen parking permits. When you consider that maybe 7,000 to 9,000 make the trek here on public transit or by hitch-hiking, the number of parking offenders is limited to ed to about 2,000 idiots.

It is very humbling to find out that you are one of the idiots.

The obstruction posters are given out to cars that have been ticketed more than three times, or to those that are regular parking violators. In

extreme cases, cars can be banned, but the owners are allowed to walk the streets free and unrestricted. Plans are now underway for owners to be made responsible for the actions of their cars.

Like most agencies that deal with the public, the parking office is most receptive when dealing with individual queries, as long as they are presented in an objective manner, and not in the vein of most individual inquisitions.

And if you can't obtain any satisfaction from them, you can always appeal your case to the parking committee, which is made up of four of your peers, four of the girls

who take your essays when you hand them in at a prof's office, and four of the faculty's finest.

What happened to the sign on my windshield, you ask? Due to the continual rain of Tuesday night, I was able to peel it off the next day in about 45 seconds. One of life's little nuisances.

## C.Y.S.F. Annual Elections

will be held March 10 & 11, 1975

Nominations for all positions now open,

close: **4:00 p.m.**

**Friday February 28, 1975**

Nomination forms etc. may be obtained at C.Y.S.F. office, 105 Central Square.

## TAX RECEIPTS for Tuition Fee Payments

Tax Receipts will be mailed by the Student Accounts Office during the final week of February.  
Please allow sufficient time for mailing.



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