

# Nuclear Energy a Problem

Nuclear energy is trouble. And until more questions are truthfully answered, it is going to remain trouble.

Nuclear energy has been promoted as the only real solution we have to the energy crisis. Scientists tell gruesome tales of whole towns left in the dark because they ignored the advantages of nuclear power. When solar power or more research into nuclear is mentioned, a huge cry from the nuclear industry can be heard and teams of experts are rushed in to bombard the public with figures on the unfeasibility of any other power source and the safe, clean nature of atomic power. What else can we expect? There is a lot of big money involved here and where there is big money there is always pressure for the public to accept the dictates from on high without question.

I am not a nuclear expert nor do I claim to be. However I do know that the nuclear energy industry is not in as good shape as we are told it is. Everyday it seems to grow worse. Three Mile Island; classrooms in British Columbia contaminated by waste; leaks in plants in Minnesota and Arizona; countries buying reactors for "scientific research" and using them to provide material for nuclear weapons; the list goes on and on. Nuclear authorities in Ontario have gone as far as to ignore government demands to clean up their act.

There are too many questions that remain to be answered about nuclear energy and we should demand the answers before more nuclear plants are built. Nuclear officials tell us that nuclear power is 500 times safer than coal or oil. What they don't tell you is that a nuclear disaster would kill millions and affect millions of others for generations to come.

The final point I would like to make about nuclear power is about the people who protest against it. Nuclear officials paint pictures of "thousands of unemployed arts students" (as a certain relative of mine has described it) being the only ones who care about nuclear energy. Nothing could be farther from the truth. More and more the voices being raised, the loudest in this debate are those of concerned scientists who are alarmed at the rapid growth of nuclear power. It must be remembered that the first warnings of problems in the nuclear industry came from officials in the industry itself.

What to do about nuclear energy? The answers to that question are many-sided and complex. But with the rapid growth of this industry, and with the shadow of Lepreau getting darker every day, it is one the people of the Maritimes should be thinking about.

## the Dalhousie Gazette

The Dalhousie Gazette, Canada's oldest college newspaper, is the weekly publication of the Dalhousie Student Union members, and is a founding member of Canadian University Press.

The views expressed in the Dalhousie Gazette are not necessarily those of the Dalhousie Student Union, the editor, or the collective staff. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons, or if it is considered offensive to our readers.

The deadline for articles and letters-to-the-editor is noon on Monday. No unsigned material will be accepted, but anonymity may be granted on request. Letters should not exceed 500 words and must be typed on a 64-character line and double spaced.

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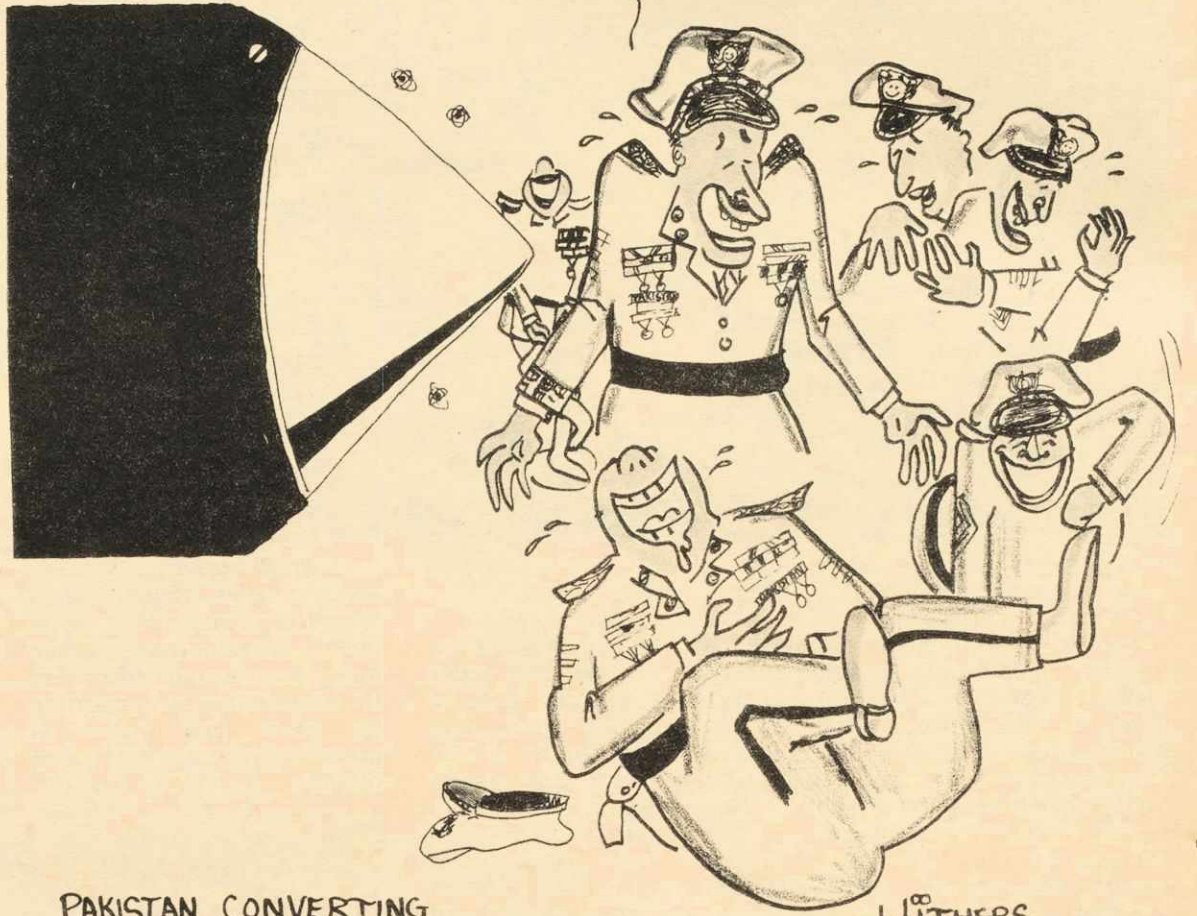
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WE TOLD THEM IT WAS FOR PEACE.  
 THEY CHOSE TO BELIEVE US.



PAKISTAN CONVERTING REACTOR TO ATOMIC BOMB

WITHERS

## Letters

### Bolivar Wants Apology

To the Gazette,

In last week's Gazette editorial the editor explains that the press must "honestly and fairly present any issue to the public," but as we look down the page, we find another editorial in the "Letters to the Editor" column, in which crucial facts are left out to enable the editor to slander one person, me.

The editorial infers that I personally assumed responsibility for alleged injuries that included hospitalization and temporary blindness to an unnamed female Gazette staffer by settling with this unnamed person out of court.

This is slanderous and obscene.

To clarify my declaration I would like to quote paragraph 2 of a receipt and discharge dated March 19, 1979, signed by Gail Picco (female Gazette staffer), witnessed by Michael Watson (her lawyer at the time) which reads—

"IT IS UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED that the payment of the said Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) is not to be construed as an admission on the part of said David Bolivar of any liability in consequence of said accident."

It is my advice to the editor that a full retraction and apology be printed or else the legal route shall be employed.

It seems, with respect to the above noted omission, that the Gazette is not willing to "honestly and fairly present any issue to the public," but would rather leave out certain facts, in order to generate the "news" that they like, not caring to acknowledge any other point of view but their own, no matter who they slander in the process.  
 Sincerely,  
 David Bolivar,  
 Apt. 1409, 5599 Fenwick St.,  
 Halifax, N.S.

### Iran

To the Gazette:

The majority of Muslim-born Iranian students in Halifax would like to announce that they were totally unaware of the letter printed in the Gazette of September 27, 1979, which was a protest to the appearance of a caricature of Ayatollah Khomeini (Gazette issue of September 13, 1979). We would like to mention to you your journalistic responsibilities in such a public announcement, which was undersigned by "IRANIAN MUSLIM STUDENTS", an institution which is not recognized by the majority of Iranian students in Halifax.  
 Iranian Students of Halifax

### Impression Misleading

To the Gazette,

I must point out that your article (Oct. 4) concerning Student Aid may have given a misleading impression of the Students' Union of Nova Scotia. In its brief to the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, SUNS does not call for the elimination of student loans in favour of grants. Rather, it suggests that the loan portion of Student Aid be decreased in order to lessen the burden of debt to students. Moreover, the brief is not intended as an attack on the Student Aid program or the Nova Scotia government. The present Student Aid program has been beneficial to many students. The SUNS brief is intended to make the program work better for those who need it.  
 Jeff Champion  
 Co-chairman,  
 S'JNS Campus Committee

