

## Steps towards disarmament

The agreement between the two superpowers to eliminate all short and medium range ballistic missiles on a global basis is a dramatic and historic first step towards disarmament.

For the first time in history an arms control treaty will result in fewer nuclear weapons rather than simply rules for building more.

A second dramatic element of the INF treaty is that modern state-of-the-art systems, which are still rolling off the production lines, are being stopped in midstream.

To be sure, the 2,000 warheads being pulled out of Europe will not end the arms race. Between the two of them the superpowers still have 35,000 more. But it is a first step.

In the wake of this first disarmament success there are several lessons to be learned.

The first of these lessons is that to negotiate you have to have something to trade.

The INF deal worked out is essentially that both superpowers give up all their short and medium range missiles. This is exactly what Ronald Reagan proposed in 1982. So why did it take 5 years to get this deal ironed out?

Simple. In 1982 the US was proposing to trade yet-to-be-deployed Pershing II's and Cruise missiles for already existing Soviet SS-20's. The level of public protest in the NATO nations made deployment seem, at the time, a dicey issue. From the Soviet perspective they were being asked to trade a few hundred triple warhead SS-20's for, well, nothing.

But once NATO stood by its guns and actually began to deploy its own Euro-nukes the Soviets saw that they would have to pay a price to get them out — that price was its own SS-20's.

The "peace" movement should well ponder the irony of their actions. If the "peace" movement had been successful in blocking the NATO nukes it seems highly unlikely that the USSR would have traded their 450 or so shiny new SS-20's for nothing in return. The failure of the "peace" movement in this case meant that in addition to getting rid of 400 US warheads from Europe, 1600 Soviet warheads were negotiated away from them.

The second lesson to be learned from the elimination of the Euro-nukes is that the Free World's technological advantage is useful in negotiations.

The Pershing II is the most advanced ballistic missile on Earth. Its accuracy of about 50 feet means it could have taken out any target in its range, including Soviet command and control systems, with very high probability. Soviet nuclear doctrine involves deterring nuclear war by being able to fight, and in some sense, prevail in such a conflict. For a relatively small investment the US was able to disrupt Soviet nuclear planning due to technological superiority.

This is why the USSR was willing to trade 1600 warheads for only 400 US ones. The US systems were simply better.

If the US learns these two lessons, standing firm, while pushing its technological advantage, maybe the talks on long-range strategic nuclear forces can be just as successful.

Ken Bosman

## The Gateway

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Letters should be no longer than three hundred words. Mail or deliver your letters to Room 282 SUB, or drop them at any SU information booth.

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## Cartoon morality

Re: Nov 5 Gateway's Political Cartoon Debate — Valerie Ball's Letter.

I couldn't agree more with Ms. Ball when she points out how degrading this cartoon is to women because of its Beaver/female implication. I only thank my lucky stars Uncle Sam had not been drawn as a woodpecker, making it equally — if not more — degrading to men. And it's exactly this kind of disgusting and decadent behaviour that propels our society toward apocalyptic ruin. I, for one, Ms. Ball, salute you. I confess it is beyond me how a cop goes about trying to arrest a cartoon character but let me tell you newspaper smart alecs one thing: I have it from reliable sources that AIDS — the epidemic to end all epidemics — gained entry into the human sphere because men were tying it on with monkeys (yes, Virginia, monkeys!) which is where it came from. I think you can appreciate, then, that Bestiality is no laughing matter. It's an insult to monkeys everywhere! So you better knock it off, okay?

Most painful to me was Ms. Ball's allegation that the cartoon degraded the sex act by portraying "intercourse" as "demeaning." My own case proves just how true this is because I completely lost my sex drive immediately after seeing it...and I haven't found a trace of it since. My therapist assures me it'll take years of psychotherapy before I'll be able to trust a cartoon again.

But the most important point by far that Ms. Ball makes is her allegation that the cartoon is an insult to Canada since it insults "the integrity of the government You voted in." Touche. Ms. Ball, Touche!! I always wondered who voted them in — so you're the black-hearted devils that did it, eh? Well, you deserve to be exposed for it — that's all I can say. And if the truth hurts, let it.

No, it doesn't surprise me in the least that it's people like you who allow deadly cartoons to be published, that a political cartoon dares censure government policy is beyond contempt. Who'd of thought it? Surely no one in their right minds could expect that from a political cartoon. What we expect from a political cartoon is

material we don't understand and that doesn't upset us — got it? Good.

While the despicable cartoon in question fulfils the first criterion, it fails miserably in the second...and with good reason: your editors failed to observe what constitutes obscenity in our social morality. Marlon Brando made it clear what this is in Francis Ford Coppola's film *Apocalypse Now* so there's no excuse for it. He said, "Young men drop five from the sky onto the people below but they can't write 'Fuck' on their planes because that's obscene." By extrusion, a government acting in the interests of big business can sell Canadians down the river, but these Canadians can't yell "We're getting fucked in the ass by the Yanks again" because that would be obscene. Got it? Good.

In the name of the colonial mentality, the social morality, and the Holy Profit. Amen.  
Jeffrey Ors

## Cartoon symbolism

Ahem! Regarding the Free Trade cartoon. This author admits freely to plagiarizing the previous sentence.

Ms. Ball; you should be an English major. I have never seen such a detailed analysis of a cartoon before. But you are not. It is obvious. Otherwise you would be familiar with that famous literary device known as *symbolism*. Frankly, you have overreacted to the point of being silly. The almighty Canadian public did not choose the beaver for a national symbol but we got stuck with it anyways. A similar situation applies across the border. Consequently, in the vast political arena, it is rather difficult for budding political cartoonists, wishing to hang onto their jobs and creativity, not to ignore such ripe fruit.

Ms. Ball, you also seem. How do you know that beaver was Female and not male? I do not remember seeing breasts/nipples/teats on that beaver, the barrel was in the way. You also seem to be unfamiliar with the phrase of being bent over a barrel and raped. It is a very old euphemism as far as the history of barrels go. I am surprised you missed the opportunity to bash homosexuals during your little expose. Afraid of inciting G.A.L.O.C. into a hormonal frenzy and being plastered with pink triangles? Any sex act can be portrayed as demeaning whether it is ye old missionary position to a fling in the stables (I did not say with who or with what) if viewed from a left, lateral oblique perspective. If you would care to familiarize yourself with the Free Trade discussions you will

discover that there is a high probability of this nation getting shafted. So save your nit picking for your Moral Minority speech.

Valerie, it took balls to write that letter so I will give you some free advice: take 250 mg. of valium and mellow out.

Robert Shkuratoff

## Cartoon relevance

Re: The Political Cartoon Debate

Valerie Ball, will you please lighten up? You seem to be so involved with your own issues that you missed the relevance of this cartoon.

Issue 1: In your letter you stated that bestiality is illegal. This would imply that depicting such an act is also illegal. However, whose judgement would determine what idea this cartoon is actually depicting? You say it's sexual, I say it's political.

Issue 2: You seem to think that women were being degraded. I believe the artist was referring to Canada 'getting it up the ...'. This office does not sexually discriminate. Perhaps the beaver should have been drawn with Mr. Mulroney's face, however, I commend the artist for not attempting this mind-boggling visual image.

Issue 3: Lastly, you claim Canada has been degraded. If this has happened somebody other than this artist is probably to blame! Has it occurred to you that not all Canadians VOTED for our current government? In most cases, minority viewpoints have a right to be heard. Censorship seems to be your answer to views which do not coincide with your own.

Personally, I do not agree with the artist's political message. However, I do believe that people have the right to express their viewpoints. With that in mind, please feel free to write back and tell me how wrong I am!

Jeff Watson

## Cartoon pride

Re: Gateway staff horny

With respect to Ms. Valerie Ball's analysis of the free trade cartoon (05/11/87), I would like to point out a few flaws in her reasoning. Though I found the cartoon humorous, I was not surprised to find that it offended some; whether or not one liked the cartoon is simply a matter of personal taste.

First, she claims that the cartoon degraded the sex act. I feel that the artist's intent was merely a visual play on the common phrase "being screwed," meaning "getting a bad