

KAL defense

by Simon Blake

"In the air the principle, which came from Roman Law, is that he who owns the land owns the pillar of air above it," said Professor Leslie Green in defence of the USSR's legal right to shoot down KAL flight 007. Green and Professor J.A. Lejniaks were the speakers at a forum held on Friday to discuss the ramifications of the Soviet action.

"I am going to be coldly unemotional. My aim is to explain the laws of International Civil Aviation. The law on the subject is hazy," said Green. "The Chicago Convention (on civil aviation) expressly states that a country can declare in advance that a certain area is closed to all foreign and domestic aircraft. This does not apply to military aircraft. In 1977 the Soviet Union had declared the area in question closed for military reasons."

Professor Green went on to explain the procedure a country has to use if an unidentified aircraft enters its airspace. "First they must try and establish radio contact with the aircraft from the ground. If that doesn't work they send up fighters to establish radio and visual contact from the air. If the alien aircraft continues to ignore all warnings the country whose airspace is being intruded upon has the right to shoot the aircraft down."

Green said that in his opinion the Soviets followed the correct

procedure and given the same set of circumstances any country, even Canada, would have done the same thing.

"In view of sophisticated navigation instruments why the hell was the Korean aircraft 450 miles off course?" Green continued. "Five years ago a Korean aircraft was eight hundred miles off course and shot down over another security area in the Soviet Union. That time there were only two killed because of the skill of the Korean pilot in bringing the damaged aircraft down."

"The Koreans are notorious for usurping their place in the air. They may have short-cutted across the Soviet area. Apparently they have been doing that lately."

"The problem of spying is unimportant," said Green. From a legal point of view it doesn't make any difference. He went on to condemn the reaction of the Reagan government. "The Americans, in their haste to create an uproar, didn't bother to check the translation of the tapes (of the Russian fighter pilots as recorded by the Japanese).

"There is very grave doubt that there was any legal basis for the U.S. protest before they knew Americans were on board. Only those countries with citizens on board have a claim." Green criticized the "hysterical reaction" of some Western leaders. "I don't pay much attention to what Mrs. Thatcher says, and certainly not to an over-aged cowboy."

"Professor Green concluded, 'The problem of face is very important in international relations. There will be no apology and probably no compensation.'"

Professor J.A. Lejniaks, spoke after Green. He said, "The disaster presented Ronald Reagan with some serious problems in that he had to satisfy domestic political response, satisfy the allies of the U.S. and avoid friction with the Soviet Union. The U.S. decided to deal in the debatable area of world public opinion."

"Reagan skillfully framed the problem so that it would not appear as a confrontation between super-powers, but rather a confrontation between the Soviet Union and the world. Reagan comes out looking good in world opinions."

The result, Professor Lejniaks said, is that "Reagan is going to get the MX Missile Appropriation Bill through Congress with less difficulty and the anti-nuclear movement is going to be quietened, both of which will hurt the interests of the USSR."

Lejniaks agreed with Professor Green that "Whether or not the airliner was spying is a moot point." Also that the aircraft was spying is highly dubious because the U.S. has far more sophisticated espionage equipment such as satellites, specialized spy planes, and powerful listening devices."



Leslie Green (bottom) and J.A. Lejniaks (top).

Council in hypocritical position

by Ken Lenz

Disgust with the Gateway, expenditures for University Night, and a \$785 grant to the disorganized Arts Students Association were the primary issues at last Tuesday's Council Meeting.

Business Representative Brian Thomas was upset at a joke ad and a quote in Tuesday's Gateway.

"I'm referring to the tasteless ad on page 12 and the rather tasteless comment on the front page of the Gateway. I would like you to comment on what you think about this," he said.

"The quote on the front page is from (ASA member) Tim Jellard, speaking about (former ASA president) Gunnar Blodgett." Jellard

used the expression *fucked up*.

Block responded emphatically, "I was also thoroughly disgusted with the Gateway. We have a building policy which they are not ordered to abide by, but I think it would not hurt them to read it once in a while to see what the SU is there for. It is definitely not for racist and disgusting material like this."

"It does put us in a hypocritical position because here we are complaining about what the clubs do, and what the bookstore does, but our own publication doesn't seem to have the decency to follow basic guidelines of conduct."

University night was next on the agenda. University Night is coordinated by the SU to provide an opportunity for students to meet some of their MLA's.

It was Council's task to approve an \$862 budget for the event.

Education representative Ann McGrath had some doubts about the effectiveness of University Night.

"Even in the case where students have a united voice and go to the Legislature to speak with MLA's in a more political form they have a tough time getting their point across."

McGrath adds, "It is not very good for the Students Union to be putting this type of money into alcohol, basically for SU members. Only five MLA's are going to be there, and that makes it even more atrocious."

Brian Thomas disagreed, "I don't think you need 5000 students marching behind you to change an MLA's mind."

Thomas is also worried about the SU's image - "I think it would make us look really asinine to go cancelling an event like this when it is so close to the day it's happening."

The motion was finally passed 21-9.

The final controversial motion concerned the provision of a \$785 grant for the Arts Students Association (ASA).

VP External thinks the money should be a grant.

Said McLean, "If we loan this money to the ASA now we will end up granting it to them anyways."

Clubs Commissioner disagreed on principle. "If it was any

other club, someone would be shot at sunrise. If they're going to run any event, it should be on a cash flow basis."

"I just don't understand why there should be any kind of special arrangement made for a faculty

association to come up with a retroactive budget when this would be totally unacceptable for any other group on campus."

VP Academic Barb Donaldson pointed out the fact that the ASA is not registered as a society which means that each person who signs

for anything is personally liable. The money was approved for donation in grant form.

Other highlights included:

- \$1100 for Central America Awareness week.
- \$75 for the mayoralty candidate forum on October 12 in SUB Theatre.

- \$4080 for new desks in the planned club space.
- \$300 for campus NDP club.
- \$350 for the East European Solidarity Committee.

Free Booze

by Ken Lenz

October 4 is University Night and all students are welcome to eat, drink, and hobnob with local MLA's at 8:00 PM in the Map Room at Lister Hall - all at the expense of your Students' Union.

This is one of many events planned for National Universities Week (October 2-8) - a week designed as a celebration of higher education in Canada.

The President's Walk will kick off the celebration on October 2. University President Myer Horowitz and several other members of the Administration will walk around campus meeting and talking with students and faculty alike.

On Monday, October 3, SUB Theatre will host Nobel Prize winner Roald Hoffman at 8:00 PM.

Hoffman will speak on the topic, "One Culture," in response to C.P. Snow's perceived rift between technologists and humanists.

The mighty Students' Union will take on the Administration in an Earthball game sometime during the week.

The Agriculture and Forestry students have organized a blood donor clinic in CAB which will last throughout the week.

National Universities Week will be brought to a close with a gigantic flea-market, auction and fair. This event has been organized to raise money for the NUW scholarship and will include items ranging from valuable china, crystal and silverware to a pair of sandals belonging to J.G. Kaplan.



Important Gateway staff meeting on Thursday, September 29, 1983, at 4:00pm in Room 282 SUB. Co-Photo Editor to be selected.