

## Anti-imperialist proposal

## Arab-Israeli coalition?

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If Arab and Israeli leaders were to listen to proposals for peace by Shalom Lappin of the Progressive Students for Israel and Harry Kopido of the Young Socialists, perhaps there would soon be peace in the middle east.

Both are against imperialism, both advocate an integrated middle east society guaranteeing equal rights to Arabs and Jews, and both believe in socialism.

There is one problem, however. They can't agree on who the enemy is.

During a debate last Thursday in Vanier common room, Kopido opened his remarks by explaining that the Arabs were involved in a national liberation movement opposing imperialism, and he called upon the Israelis to unite with them in the struggle.

He said there must be a "de-Zionized binational society in which Arabs and Jews have equal

rights." He charged that presently Israel represents a "wedge created by the imperialist powers to oppose the Arab revolution."

Although Lappin agreed that there must be a unified struggle against imperialism, he claimed that the Arabs must "recognize that in Israel there is a movement for national liberation against imperialism, no more or less important than the Arab struggle."

He disagreed that the Arabs have been involved in a progressive socialist movement, pointing out that historically they have allied themselves with Nazi and fascist countries.

He claimed that the El Fatah, the revolutionary Arab guerilla movement, recently attended a neo-Nazi conference in Barcelona.

He also said that repressive intolerant actions taken by the Arab governments in Egypt and Syria against radical Moslem minority groups is not socialist and "is nothing to be proud of."

Kopido counter-claimed that Israel is a reactionary, racist society. His proof was that Israel has constantly voted against the recognition of communist China in the United Nations, she has refused to condemn South African apartheid, she supported the French government's attempted suppression of the Algerian revolution and she has continually backed the U.S. war effort in Vietnam.

Kopido also accused Israel of continual discrimination against Arabs living in the Jewish state, saying that because "it is almost impossible for Arabs to get jobs in the government or in the universities, their plight is similar to that of blacks living in the southern U.S." He also charged that Arabs in Israel are forced to carry identification cards, a fact that Lappin denied.

Both debaters agreed that neither the Russians nor the U.S. is involved in the middle east for moral reasons.

They believe that each are imperialist powers that must be defeated. However to counter Kopido's charge that Israel is a pawn for U.S. imperialism Lappin stated that the United States has economic bases (mostly oil interests) "in no less than 14 countries," but that they have no such base in Israel. He claimed in fact, that there has never been total agreement in the upper government circles of America as to which side to support.

Lappin described Israel's government as one of "highly flexible socialism." "The workers control 25 per cent of the economy directly, and much more indirectly, and the government owns 91 per cent of all the land — a much higher percentage than in any Arab country," he said.

## World Briefs

## Protest sparks street fights

CARACUS (Guardian) — A protest by students at Central University of Caracas in Venezuela against the torture and assassination of a sociology student by the military turned into three days of armed street fighting that spread to other cities and left two dead and scores injured. The struggle subsided when several hundred troops, violating traditional university autonomy, occupied the campus on the pretext of searching for weapons and explosives.

## Draft records mutilated

BOSTON (CUPI) — Unidentified vandals broke into six Boston draft offices Saturday and scattered, mutilated or threw paint over approximately 100,000 draft records — 10 per cent of the files in the state. But Massachusetts Selective Service Director Col. Paul Feeney said that all the damaged records could be reconstructed. Files were ripped open and tipped over in the raids, while draft records were spread over the floors and in some cases ripped or covered with paint, red ink or liquid soap. Letters claiming responsibility for the actions were sent to local newspapers in the name of the "Boston Eight". The letters said the group was made up of "eight Americans who had exhausted legitimate dissent" and who "oppose militarism in any form—selective service, lottery or volunteer." The group will identify itself publicly, the letters said, "at an opportune time."

## 6 killed in Ecuador protests

ESMERALDAS (Guardian) — Military units repressed a student demonstration protesting the closing of their college in this town in Ecuador, Oct. 29. Two students were killed, bringing to six the number of demonstrators who lost their lives during the week of protests.

## Weatherman-SDS investigated

CHICAGO (Guardian) — A special Cook County grand jury investigating the Weatherman — SDS's "Bring the war home" demonstration in Chicago Oct. 8-11 will convene in Chicago Nov. 17 with indications that the SDS faction may face further indictments. The justice department has begun investigations for possible conspiracy indictments of Weatherman under provisions of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. In Washington, the House Internal Security Committee has spent the last two weeks probing Weatherman, activities in three states. "We're looking into the efforts of the SDS to recruit youth ... and especially to encourage attendance at the Oct. 8-11 actions in Chicago," a committee member said. Chicago police report that of the 290 arrests during the four-day protest, most involved misdemeanor charges. There have been 25 charges of resisting arrest and several charges of aggravated battery. Sentences have been relatively light so far.

## GI's held for holding meeting

TACOMA, Wash. (Guardian) — Thirty-five soldiers were restricted to base at Fort Lewis outside this town for holding an American Servicemen's Union meeting Oct. 20. "While the brass says it's quite legal to hold meetings and talk about the war and the oppressive army," reports Bruce Frederick, one of the GI's, "they do everything within their power to make sure that no one does." The Seattle American Civil Liberties Union filed suit Oct. 28, naming defence secretary Melvin Laird, army secretary Stanley Resor and post commander Maj. Gen. Pearson as defendants, demanding the army take all men off restriction, drop charges and not interfere with any future meetings.

## Bills to curb unrest coming

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CUP—CPS) — At least 15 pieces of legislation — the official response to student unrest on U.S. campuses are still percolating in various committees of the U.S. senate and house of representatives. Four bills are pending in the labor and public welfare committees; 11 others are on file to the house of representatives special subcommittee on education. They include: a bill saying that institutions of higher education that have failed to take necessary steps to maintain "a reasonable degree of discipline" will not receive federal contracts; a bill "to encourage institutions of higher education to adopt rules to ensure the right of free expression and to assist such institutions in their efforts to prevent and control disturbances"; a senate measure to "provide a means of preventing civil disturbances from interfering in federal programs and activities at institutions of higher education". None of the bills have yet emerged from committee to be approved as law.

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## College E

A general meeting of College E will be held Friday, Nov. 21 at 2 pm, place to be announced, for the discussion and ratification of a proposed constitution. Copies of the proposal are being mailed to all members of the college.

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