

gateway

Thursday, January 13, 1983

The way to win an atomic war...

...is to make certain it never starts.
General Omar Bradley

Student Council laughs in the face of death

by Richard Watts

Laughter and debate preceded the passing of a motion to condemn the nuclear arms race at Students' Council Tuesday night.

The original motion called for the SU to condemn the proliferation of nuclear arms, support a multi-lateral freeze of the production of nuclear arms, condemn Canada's role in the nuclear arms race and support the establishment of Canada as a nuclear weapons free zone.

The motion ended with a riding clause stating that to these ends the SU supports all efforts to make the U of A campus and the City of Edmonton a nuclear free zone.

The motion was later passed after several amendments which stated the SU should send letters to sister city universities in the Soviet Union, the United States and "any country the EAB sees fit."

This implies any other country with a nuclear weapons capability.

The debate on the motion was opened by SU VP Internal Ray

Conway, who stated he could agree with the SU condemning the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and supporting a multi-lateral freeze.

However, Conway could not agree with the concept of the SU condemning Canada's participation in the arms race and could not support the establishment of Canada as a nuclear weapons free zone.

"I feel this implies that we are asking Canada to divest itself of commitments to NATO and NORAD and I don't think we are here to discuss such things," said Conway.

Council rep for Arts, Dwayne Chomyn countered, "Quite frankly Ray I think we are here to discuss such things."

Once Council member responded by saying, "We can still keep up our conventional contributions to NATO and NORAD, it just means we shouldn't take part in the nuclear arms race."

Conway urged that Council divide the motion up so Council

would not have to "swallow the bad with the good."

This suggestion was rejected and Conway later voted against the motion.

John Koch (who also voted against the motion), Council rep for Engineering, was also an outspoken critic of the motion. When it was moved to send a letter to a university Students' Association in the USSR Koch said, "We should do this because it reminds me of junior high school and I liked it back then."

After it was suggested a students' association in the U.S. should also receive a letter, Koch suggested the SU should send letters to every country with a nuclear weapons listing them "South Africa, France, England, Pakistan, India..."

Council broke up in laughter and the seriousness of the debate steadily declined.

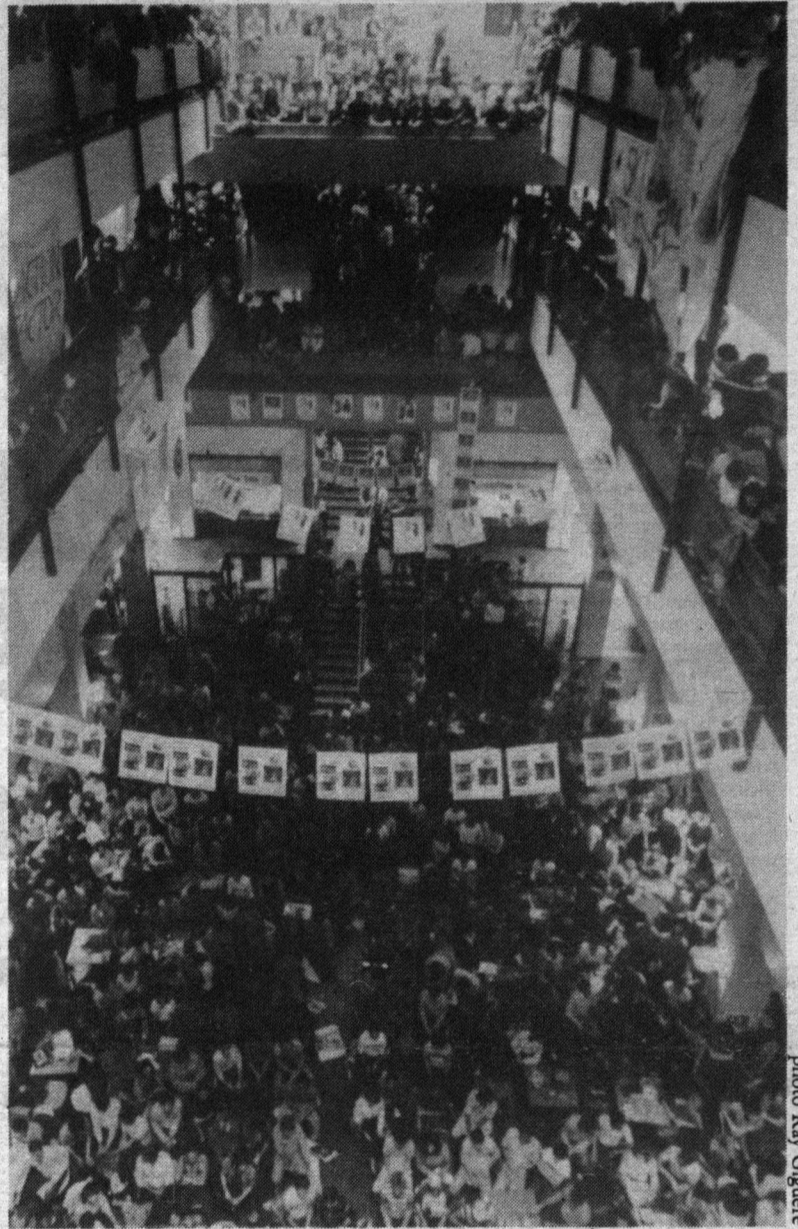
Brian Milligan, a member of the Canada Peace Research & Education Centre who had been invited as a guest to speak to the motion, said of the debate, "I am a little disappointed that an issue of this seriousness is being treated so light-heartedly."

However Milligan did say the idea of sending letters to various students' associations around the world was an "excellent idea."

Milligan had some disturbing statistics on the likelihood of nuclear war and the number of warheads already in existence. As well as listing the number of warheads in existence which lies in the hundreds of thousands he also claimed Edmonton can expect to receive three of these in the event of a nuclear war.

Another guest speaker, a Ken Shipka, spoke against the motion. Shipka spoke of Reagan's Zero Option, which says the West should continue to build nuclear arms to force the Soviets into a position where they would have no option but to disarm.

After jokes, laughter and debate Council did pass the motion by 26 to 4.



The one, the great, the annual engineers CAB rally yesterday.

photo Ray Giguere



photo Ray Giguere

Brian Milligan: Edmonton can expect three (nuclear bombs).

Referendum on SU fees upcoming

Do you want higher fees?

by Shauna Peets

Students will be asked whether they support a five dollar increase in Students' Union fees in a referendum.

The referendum will be held the same day as the SU executive elections on Feb. 11.

Robert Greenhill, president of the executive that proposed the referendum, believes that the five dollar increase is a "necessary and justified one."

"If the 1985 deadline for solvency is not met, the students could lose their autonomy and the University can take over student affairs and business," he said.

Although the SU expects a \$200,000 surplus this year, it isn't enough to pay off the debt. The Greenhill executive has managed to keep the expected 1.3 million dollar deficit to \$800,000 by in-

creasing revenues and cutting costs. As well, the 50% increase in University grants has helped SU finances.

"The \$200,000-\$250,000 expected to be raised through SU fee increases over the next two and a half years paired with an efficient executive will almost guarantee solvency," says Greenhill.

"Should the new executive waive the referendum for the sake of obtaining more votes, it may mean financial suicide for the Students' Union," he said.

The referendum campaign will commence on February 2, in conjunction with the SU general election.

The question printed on the ballot will ask, "Do you support a five dollar increase in student union fees over and above any increase that may arise within the

allowances presently provided?" It is within the Council's power to raise the SU fees to a maximum of the consumer price index of the previous year without going to referendum. If students vote yes, this may mean a five dollar increase over and above the CPI adjustment.

The consumer price index (CPI) has been set at 12% this year. Council has the authority to raise SU fees by that percentage without a referendum. Presently, that would mean a \$4.75 increase.

A committee has organized a campaign supporting the increase of SU fees. They have been allotted \$1,450 for promotion through pamphlets and advertising in the Gateway. An equal amount of money will be given to any organized group who wishes to protest the fee increase.

Boycott, Boycott

Rothman's revisited

Did you know your Students' Union refuses to have anything to do with Rothman's cigarettes? At least they refuse to sell them in the Students' Union Building.

They would also like to stop Carling O'Keefe beer. At least that was the original intention.

You see both those companies are owned by Rembrandt Tobacco Company which is South African.

So by not dealing with those Rothman's and Carling O'Keefe the SU does not dirty its hands. At least not very much. There is some liquor law that says a bar must carry all kinds of beer so RATT and Dewey's have to sell Carling O'Keefe beer. But the intention was there!

There is also the argument that not selling these products is an educational vehicle.

If you smoke Rothman's cigarettes, every time you try to buy them in SUB you'll be told, "No, we don't sell them here because they are South African."

You will then learn about

apartheid. If could also happen if you drink say, Old Stock.

"No, you can't have an Old Stock because it is produced by Carling O'Keefe which is half-owned by Rothman's Investments which is wholly owned by Rothman's of Pall Mall which is 72% owned by Brinkham of Germany which is wholly owned by Rembrandt Tobacco Corporation which is South African. Know about apartheid!"

If you don't smoke or drink Carling beer it is a little more difficult to get educated. In that case it should be advertised.

"Don't buy your Rothman's cigarettes or Carling beer at the Students' Union Building because we don't sell it."

There are arguments on all sides for the economic boycotts of South Africa. These arguments come in all types: moral, realistic, and philosophical. Next episode we at the Gateway intend to explore these issues in two separate pro/con arguments.

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...council notes
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Gateway rookie night coming! Thursday Jan. 27, 4-6 pm in Rm. 282 SUB. Come on up.