



## Cold concrete

Every day, we sit around the Inter-Fraternity Flame in SUB. In case no one but us has noticed, the Flame is no longer with us, and we feel that it used to be a highlight of this University. We should know why it is gone. It adds a great deal to that gigantic disc of concrete. By itself, this huge slab is aesthetically dead, lying there, yearning to have its life flame rekindled. We would like to register a plea for the enlightenment of our friend the Flame.

Yours truly,  
Eric, Ute, Cecily, Lisa  
Arts 2.

## Mid-East Crisis

Without being supercilious I am afraid Miss Rose's comment (*Gateway*, Oct. 16, '73) on the Arab-Canadian Press Release is a manifestation of a brain-washed and brain-sliced public who has been exposed for years to the stereotyped Zionist propaganda.

I must assure Miss Rose that I approach the Arab-Israeli dilemma from an enlightened viewpoint and that I have been urging news media in this country and in the U.S. to strike some sane balance between Arabs and Jews.

The Press Release speaks for itself for any objective audience and there is no point repeating its content here. "My ignorance in certain matters," as Miss Rose claims, merits, however, some consideration. Whether or not the Israeli-occupied territories give Israel "some room to breathe" - and parenthetically to suffocate the Arabs - has no bearing on the volatile situation in the ME. The core of the problem is that these lands are internationally recognized Arab lands and that the Israeli military apparatus never meant to relinquish them to the Arabs according to UN resolutions. Israel has been tossing around the word "peace" for decades to solicit local and international support, but "peace" in the Israeli Zionist lexicon means exclusively one thing: the Arabs should knuckle under Israel's domination and accept its military conquests.

Like all wars of liberation in the Third World, the Arab War of Liberation is no less justifiable in accordance with the fundamental principle of self-determination. In view of the Arab guerrillas' activities abroad, one should not lose sight of the fact that the Palestinians are subjected to a present-day Diaspora, and that they are striving to wrench some recognition from the international community which is as blind to the complexity of the situation as you are.

The Israeli terrorist gangs (Haganah, Irgun Zvai Leumi, Lochovei Herut Israel, etc.) are accredited with having introduced in the erstwhile peaceful ME the art of letter bombs. Only a few months ago the Israeli commandos made military forays into the Lebanon and massacred with impunity entire families in cold blood.

While I should not waste time or space on your subjective value-judgments of me and of the Press Release, I still extend my candid invitation to you and to all concerned to review in a scholarly manner the historical, political, and human background of the Arab-Israeli predicament.

M. Deeb  
Dept. of Comp. Literature

even this is improbably) it is likely then, in my point of view, that the Arab governments would drop the Palestinian cause like a hot potato. Be this as it may, it is still the Israelis who hold the key to the situation. The Palestinian question can never be humanely solved as long as the basis for the Israeli state is a racist one. And no amount of Zionist rationalizing double-think can deny the racist character of the Jewish state. Sorrowfully, this is the one point that most Zionists are pledged never to compromise on. So the Palestinians are caught between the racist Zionists on the one hand and Arab leaders, like Hussein, who are willing to massacre them for the sake of a settlement the Israelis stupidly refuse to agree to.

In the end it is the minds of Jews that I am concerned with, for I am a Jew. For me to see the people who have justly complained of racial persecution for countless generations, now turn the tables and condemn the Palestinians to second class citizenship or oblivion in wretched camps, all on a racial basis, raises in me a great sense of betrayal.

Lawrence Davidson  
Grad. Studies, history

## Non involvement

In view of the capture of an American Vietnam veteran pilot over Damascus, the US semi-official radio "The Voice of America" has reported the US government's denial of any US forces or personnel in the Middle East conflict. I should like to question the so-called "NO US INVOLVEMENT".

First, it is established beyond doubt that the US official denials of any bombing of Cambodia was entirely untrue. One, therefore, has enough reason to discount such US official statements.

Secondly, with regard to the curious news analysis by the said radio station; that "There could be American volunteers in the Israeli Air Force", the logical inference is that these "volunteers" must have been US Air Force pilots. Furthermore, the planes used in the Middle East are the F-4 Phantom jets which have been the same used by these veterans in Vietnam. Could it be just a mere coincidence?!

Thirdly and most importantly, I tend to believe that if really the US is not involved how come it allows the flow of its tax exempt dollar in billions to Israel, (over 2.5 billion dollars up till now)? Israeli finance minister is now in the US to raise more funds to compensate the two billion dollars spent by Israel on the war so far.

If the US government is providing Israel with the highly skilled "volunteers" under many disguises, the machines on which these personnel have been trained on and finally the funds for such operations, one really wonders whether or not the US is directly involved in the Middle East conflict!

M. Kouni  
Grad Student, Genetics

## Dollars

RE: "Dollars in the Wind", October 9, 1973, *Gateway*.

We would appreciate the opportunity of clarifying the confusion and obvious lack of information, as exhibited in the letter by Anton Kritzing.

We extend an invitation to this gentleman and many others, who may not be aware of the reasons behind actions taken in regard to landscaping.

B.F. Pratt, M.R.A.I.C.  
Assistant Project Officer

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## Letters



"My ignorance" cannot but raise the issue of the Palestinian Arabs as a displaced people whose legitimate rights to their homeland should be restored, and should be taken into consideration as an imperative premise in any peaceful settlement between Arabs and Jews. "Ignorant" as I am, I invite you to do some research on the problem of land purchasing in Palestine. For the moment, all records show that during the thirty-year British occupation of Palestine the Zionists managed to buy only 3 1/2% of the Arab land and that most of the purchased land was transferred to the Zionist bodies through the British authorities and was not sold by Arab owners. "Acquisition" of Arab lands in the post-'67 war era took on two forms: (a) wholesale bulldozing of Arab homes and (b) guying them with the rifle in one hand and a few pounds in the other, all of which is in violation of the rudimentary principles of Human Rights.

The oft-quoted allegation that the Arabs "plan to push Israel into the sea" is mere journalism and can hardly be substantiated. Conversely, the Israeli generals (e.g.: Moshe Dayan, David Elazar, etc.) have asserted of late that their main objective in the current conflict is to destroy the Egyptians and Syrians. (See further samples of the hysterical Israeli broadcasts, *Newsweek*, Oct. 22, '73, p. 60.)

Several letters have recently appeared on the Middle East war. One of them, by an Eve Rose was basically verbalized emotionalism and botched history. The other, by Robert Lewis, summarizes, more or less accurately some of the history of the situation. Neither deals with the primary questions now facing both Israelis and Arabs, an understanding of which is necessary to any unemotional view of the present situation.

The first question is one of borders. The Israelis have always said that they cannot accept internationally guaranteed borders because they are unsafe and unreliable. Instead they have maintained a border policy based on might - "our borders are safe because we have conquered them and militarily hold them." Surely now, after three wars, even the most myopic Zionist can start to suspect that it was the Israeli border policy that was really unsafe. Anyone who has objectively examined the positions of the Egyptians, Americans, Russians, and even Syrians on this question over the last few years will find them in surprisingly close agreement. Their common position essentially implies that if the Israelis had been willing to compromise on the border question so as to supply the Arab governments with a face-saving settlement, the Israelis could have had reasonably defensible, safe (certainly safer than the present ones) borders, and de jure recognition of their state. Thus this war would not have been. But the Israelis stubbornly stuck by the rule of might. Now, it is reported, Mrs. Meir is appalled at all the casualties. No doubt she is. But then again, what did she expect? What did any Zionist expect? Alas, do people charged with emotional fervor ever learn anything? Most of the pro-Zionist Jewish community now bemoans the Arab military action as an "unwarranted and unprovoked" attack. It has always struck me as requiring a great capacity for double-think to label what is inherently a counter-attack (even the Israelis still call Sinai and Golan "occupied" land) as "unprovoked". Again, what do the Zionists expect? One reaps what one sows.

Unfortunately, borders are not the most important issue at stake. The most important issue is that of the Palestinian refugees. They are the ones who are bound to lose either way the battle goes. For, even if the Arab armies win just enough to sober up the Israelis and force them to a compromise on borders (it is naive to think the Arabs could win much more than this and