

Blood and Thunder

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rm. 35, Student Union Building, UNB Campus
DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Tuesday

January 11, 1985

THE BRUNSWICKAN-7

Suggestions wanted for services

Students:

Having recently been elected to the position of vice-president Services, I find myself faced with the rather complex task of attempting to organize and reorganize the services division of the Student Union. With this in mind, and with a view to actually please as many students as possible, I would like to ask that all students take a few minutes to write down what their perception is of Student Services at UNB, Campus Services Limited, and how they feel that their needs have been met or overlooked in the past. Suggestions as to the future of the CSL Exchange, of entertainment, and off campus housing, as well as the future of the CSL itself would be appreciated.

It will be my responsibility with the help of the services commission, the student union council and you, the student to formulate a structure that will serve us not only now but in years to come.

Possible suggestions I have received are:

1. to rejuvenate CSL by putting in more Student Union money and amending the

regulations to make it more accountable.

2. to fold CSL into the Student Union and make services directly controlled by council, and
3. to fold CSL and form a new corporation based on correction of past problems.

I would welcome comments on any of these, as well as new ideas. All you have to do is drop a letter (no postage necessary) into a mailbox on campus with the following heading:

Ron Spurles
Vice-President (Services)
Student Union Building

McGill disagrees

Dear Editor:

In an article involving a matter between the Law Students Society and the Campus Police I was misquoted as having made accusations against Faisal Joseph, President of the Law Students Society. I would like to clarify that accusations I made were against members of the LSS whose names are not known to me and up until several weeks after the matter occurred I had

never met Faisal Joseph.

J. Steven McGill
Assistant Chief
Campus Police

Editor's Note: The Brunswickan stands by its story.

Keep disarmament alive

Dear Sir:

The special Disarmament Issue of the *Brunswickan* (December 7) contained some valuable points on this subject; in some small way this may help to keep us all alive.

The article by Lois Corbett took a position that ignores several historical facts. The most fundamental of these is that the knowledge of how to build nuclear weapons must be considered universal throughout the world. Proliferation, in the sense of dissemination of this knowledge, was completed by about 1960. This eventually was clearly foreseen in the mid-1940's by U.S. policy planners, who proposed to their government that all mat-

ters pertaining to nuclear energy be placed under the control of an international agency of the United Nations. Nationalism being what it is, and due both to U.S. mistrust and the intransigence of the government of the U.S.S.R., the proposal was modified considerably. Nonetheless, the International Atomic Energy Agency was formed and charged with administering a program much like the one proposed by President Eisenhower and titled "Atoms for Peace". Under the IAEA program a nation which promised not to actually produce nuclear weapons would be given, in exchange, the technology for nuclear-electric energy generation. This technology was, at that time, held largely by the nuclear weapon states. These states also agreed to control their own nuclear weapons production.

The non-weapons states have, by and large, kept their promises up to this time. True, India tested a bomb in 1974, but there is little evidence that she then proceeded to develop an arsenal of these weapons. (It was a heavy water research reactor from which the plutonium was produced, but not a CANDU power reactor. U.S. separation technology

also was used.) India's neighbour, China, developed her own limited arsenal almost independent of outside assistance with the exception of ideas which were brought in by returning Chinese nationals. The main problem was, and is, that the major weapons states continued to expend their arsenals and delivery systems in contravention of their agreement. Mike MacKinnon's article is very clear in discussion of this problem. What is not obvious is the fact that withholding of the technology for peaceful use of nuclear energy is seen by many non-weapons states as further abrogation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Their most likely response is to "go it alone" without any international controls or inspection agreements. This is surely the wrong path to peace.

One other important fact is that weapons now can be developed with relative ease by a small nation without their having nuclear-electric power reactors of any kind. They can either extract uranium 235 from natural uranium or build their own simple production reactors to make plutonium. Either will work. (As an aside, the recent revelation by V. Gilinsky and others that reactor-grade plutonium can be used for weapons is true, but unfortunate. Some careful thought will reveal the reason that the claim is true; this knowledge might well help someone making weapons to do the job more easily. Responsible people should work in the opposite direction - confuse the facts as much as possible to make the task more difficult. Many people have been doing this for many years. Revelations such as this one contribute to proliferation of detailed knowledge and thereby work directly against peaceful objectives).

Finally, in my judgement, one reason very few nations have built their own nuclear arsenals is that these weapons are both expensive and ineffective in conflicts such as the ones the world experiences regularly. It can be argued that tactical nuclear weapons are virtually useless on any battlefield. Much more work

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bookstores or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to
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