

large body for several purposes 0 most important that it may be broadly representative of the student body as a whole. Matters of detail are best dealt with first by Students' Council committees in detail, subject to final amendment and consideration by council. Is this undemocratic?

The Young Socialists have challenged George Mantor to publicly debate student rights on Wednesday October 24, 1973 at 12 noon in Room 142.

I now counter-challenge.

I challenge the Young Socialists to rescind their challenge to George Mantor, and instead sponsor a free and open discussion related to the issue of use of tables in the Students' Union Building and on the flea market. I further challenge the Young Socialists to appoint an independent chairman at this meeting, and to omit mention of personalities! I challenge the Young Socialists to stick to facts and not emotional slandering of the personalities involved.

It is regrettable that the Young Socialists have not attempted to truly inform the students of the real problems. I hope now that the real issues will receive the proper hearing rather than the Young Socialist attempt to make themselves appear the oppressed of the world.

Wayne D. Madden
Education Rep to S.C.

Wayne Madden attacks the Young Socialists; defending the Arab nations; more on Chile; a lengthy editorial on SUB building policy; and... the slum in Mitchener Park.

professional army. No sir, we continue and will continue to support keeping our armed institutions strictly professional." In the face of the impending coup the Chilean Communist Party called for a petition against civil war! This strategy paved the way, not to socialism, but to the disarming of the masses and ensured the success of the coup. The Communist Party of Chile and the Communist Parties throughout the world, as the supposed followers of Marx and Engels, share the major responsibility for what has happened in Chile through their scandalous policy.

In the face of the accomplished fact of the coup and the massive repression being carried out by the military junta it is necessary that all those who oppose the repression irrespective of their views on the Allende Regime and other issues be united in a single defence organization around demands such as "Release the Political Prisoners!" Such a committee must be non-exclusionary in character and should organize actions involving the trade unions, the NDP and other political and community groups as part of an international defence campaign for the victims of the coup. This is the only way pressure can be brought to bear on the Chilean junta to release the political prisoners who now include the above mentioned Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Chilean Communist Party and thousands more. The attempt by supporters of the Communist Party to exclude members of the League for Socialist Action and the Young Socialists from the presently constituted defence committee because of their political views can only do irreparable harm in the waging of an international campaign in defence of those under attack by the military junta in Chile.

Fraternally yours,
Jude Keast
Forums Director for the
League for Socialist Action

Letters



Chile

Proclaiming that their mission was "to fight for the liberation of the fatherland from the Marxist yoke," a four man military junta ousted President Salvador Allende September 11, seized control of the government, declared a state of seige and imposed censorship and a curfew. After mopping up fierce but localized and disjointed resistance the junta has embarked on a systematic repression directed against supporters of the Allende regime, revolutionaries and the estimated 15,000 political exiles granted asylum by the Popular Unity government. The effect of the coup has been to decisively settle the crisis situation in Chile in favor of U.S. imperialism.

The coup has posed point blank before the Communist Party the need to clarify their stand on two crucial issues: 1) the validity of the "peaceful road to socialism" and 2) the need to build a united, non-exclusionary organization for the defence of the victims of the repression.

The Communist Parties throughout the world hailed Chile as a shining example of the "peaceful road to socialism." Canadian Communist Party Leader William Kashtan in the January 26 Canadian Tribune (1972) stated that the events in Chile were "a democratic revolution paving the way to socialism." The Communist

Party of Chile was an integral part of the Popular Unity coalition. The government of Salvador Allende however was neither socialist nor did it pave the way for establishing socialism in Chile. Allende himself stated as much after his 1970 election victory when he said, "the program of the Popular Unity is not a Communist program nor is it a Socialist program, it is a convergence of opinion." Allende himself agreed to maintain the constitution and the apparatus of the state in particular the police and the army so as to insure his formal appointment to the presidency by the Chilean Congress. This reliance on the apparatus of the capitalist state forced the Popular Unity government into trying to balance off the demands of Chile's exploiting class and the wishes and demands of the workers and peasants. The coalition, for example, sided with the country's big businessmen in helping to break workers strikes (i.e. the miners strike of this year), dampen the mass demonstrations and curb the land seizures by the peasants. On the other hand the UP tried to maintain the support of the masses by carrying out the expropriation of Chile's copper mines, increasing wages and implementing some welfare schemes. This balancing act neither satisfied the workers and peasants nor the ruling class of Chile.

Marx and Engles believed that the army and police along with the capitalist state apparatus as a whole were instruments of capitalist rule. Marx wrote in 1871 that the task of the revolution is not "to transfer the bureaucratic-military machine from one hand to another, but to smash it. Marx hailed the fact that "the first decree of the (Paris) Commune...was the suppression of the standing army and the substitution for it of the armed people..." In 1971 Allende said, "I have absolute confidence in the loyalty of the armed forces. Our forces are

professional forces at the service of the state, the people..." Young Communist League Chairman John Bizzell stated, "The army has agreed to respect the Constitution and the electoral decision of the people in electing the popular unite...the army has remained loyal and increasingly so." (our emphasis, Canadian Tribune, Oct. 13, 1971.)

Immediately after the abortive July coup of this year, Luis Corvalan, general secretary of the Chilean Communist Party opposed the arming of the masses for their own defence when he said, "Because the workers took some immediate security measures against the recent attempted coup and maintained these precautionary measures, some reactionaries have begun to send up a howl, thinking that they have found a new issue to use to drive a wedge between the people and the armed forces. They are claiming that we have an orientation of replacing the

Middle east

The recent military flare-up in the Middle East lends itself to the usual forms of distortions and misrepresentations.

What is happening in the Middle East, especially in the Arab World is in no way an act of an unprovoked Arab aggression. Following its typical Zionist and expansionist policy Israel has been carrying out wanton military raids on adjacent Arab regions.

It should be asserted that the Arabs both in Egypt and Syria are endeavouring to redeem Israeli occupied Arab territories in total conformity with the U.N. resolutions, especially the 242 Resolution calling for the Israeli withdrawal to the pre-1967 war borders, the recognition of the geographical integrity of the involved parties, and the equitable rehabilitation and acknowledgement of the inalienable rights of the indigenous people of Palestine.

The military flareup could have erupted any time, anywhere, in the Middle East so long as the political and geographical imbalance perpetuated by the Israeli Government is not redressed. We, the Arab-Canadian Community, the U of A Arab Students and faculty Members urge the Canadian Government, the Canadian people and all peace-loving people everywhere to place in its proper perspective the unduly long perverted image of the Arabs and to work collectively towards a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

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editorial

Edmonton's tallest slum

With a title like that, your mind probably drifts to a 5 or 6 storey boarding house in the downtown area.... but no...it's nothing like that. No, the building in question is a brand spanking new 21-storey hi-rise in southwest Edmonton. You got it baby....it's Galbraith House in Michener Park! Where else could you find cardboard boxes knee deep in the lobby? Where else could you find kitchen garbage piled in the apartment corridors? Yes folks, this is how some students live.

These are the same people who take conservation and ecology courses by day; the same people who complain about the aesthetics (?) of pop cans in the river valley; the educated people....the people who were given a chance.

Cigarette butts, candy wrappers, and general crap are liberally distributed throughout the tastefully carpeted elevators. Mud streaks can be found all over the lime green broadloomed corridors....they didn't want to dirty their apartments, ya' understand.

No blame can be put on the management either. Each floor is equipped with a garbage chute, and huge empty disposal bins can be found sitting lonesome outside the building.

It's not everyone; just the "precious" few who have little or no pride. Maybe many apartment managers are right when they refuse to rent to students. I couldn't understand it before - I do now!

Carl Kuhnke

From the Quill

George Mantor,
President,
U of A Students' Union,
Edmonton

Dear George:

I am writing you in response to a letter which I received from the Central Office of the Young Socialists. The letter condemned your action in evicting the Young Socialists from the Student Union Building and asked that letters of a similar nature be sent to you by my newspaper.

At the risk of being labelled a "typical reactionary", I can only extend to you my support and congratulations for having the courage to enforce by-laws enacted by the Students' Union which you are representing.

My experience with the Young Socialists has been that they do a lot of talking about democratic rights; but do little to promote democracy until they in their own screwed-up way of thinking, feel that their rights have been infringed upon.

Keep up the good work and remember that you are representing everyone, not just those who shout the loudest or do the most talking.

Sincerely yours,

Dave Dranchuk, editor
The Quill
Brandon University

The Gateway

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