# The Daily Tar Heel

*94th year of editorial freedom*

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# Editorials

## Diplomatic quagmire

*"Some (Soviet) officials undoubtedly are cocky. They say with barely disguised glee that the 'ideological struggle' between communism and the Western democracies will continue."*
*— Nicholas Daniloff, summer 1981*

"Cockiness" is a good way to describe the posture assumed by U.S. and Soviet officials regarding the Nicholas Daniloff affair — an unfortunate (though predictable) incident that should be placed in proper perspective and promptly swept under the seldom-used carpet of detente.

None of which can or should happen, however, until Daniloff, the U.S. journalist whom the Soviets still accuse of spying, is freed from house arrest. But, given the childish, Pavlovian responses Soviet officials have shown lately, such a prospect could be easily achieved.

The stimulus for Daniloff's detention was the Aug. 23 arrest of Gennadi Zakharov by U.S. officials. Zakharov, a Soviet scientist who was ending his tour of duty with the United Nations, was accused of spying by the FBI. Since he wasn't a diplomat, he could be tried in U.S. courts.

Response: the Soviets searched for an American to trade for Zakharov's release, the Kremlin's usual way of doing a little diplomatic business. Daniloff, who was winding up more than five years as Moscow bureau chief for U.S. News & World Report, fit the bill. He, too, was without diplomatic immunity.

Though Daniloff hasn't been put on trial yet, it appears he isn't guilty, at least by Western standards. According to a Soviet spokesman, Daniloff's "crimes" include information-gathering about the location of Soviet military bases and radioactive waste dumps. Also, the spokesman charged, Daniloff repeatedly asked a "Citizen L." about troops in Afghanistan.

In the United States, such general information about the U.S. military is taken for granted. Journalists, in fact, are expected to report on such matters — indeed, they're not doing their job if they don't.

Yet in the Soviet Union, citizens and visitors, let alone reporters, aren't allowed to know such things; anyone who does has violated Soviet law, such as it is. By this standard, Daniloff, who has cultivated sources in the Soviet Union for years, would likely be found "guilty."

Though Zakharov's alleged crimes are more serious — he's accused of offering a bribe to obtain information about a jet, for example — it's highly unlikely that U.S. security could have been compromised, even minimally.

A U.S. offer to drop the charges against Zakharov is the stimulus needed to get Daniloff out of the Soviet Union — and the two nations out of this diplomatic quagmire. Zakharov could then return to the Soviet Union, as he planned to do shortly, and Daniloff could come back to the United States — as was his intent. The "ideological struggle" is too important to become mired by prolonged arguments over such trivial matters.

## Recruiting recruiters

With fewer financial aid incentives available, higher tuition costs and keener competition among universities, schools such as UNC face a fight in the recruitment of top students.

More specifically, minority recruitment at UNC offers its own challenges. Admissions officers must accept gradually decreasing minority enrollment while facing steady pressure to bring in more minority students. To combat this, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Student Government and the Black Student Movement have joined forces to organize a new recruiting program with a personal touch of student involvement and leadership. It is a program that can only benefit the University.

UNC students are being sought to give high schoolers the scoop on the advantages (and disadvantages) of attending Carolina. Students will visit high schools to discuss life at Carolina, then continue the dialogue with subsequent phone calls and letters.

Working under orders of a federal consent decree, UNC admissions officers have instituted several new programs in the past five years to lure the finest minority students to come to Carolina. But hard work does not always yield positive results. Admissions officials say that those problems listed above and a void of student communication with UNC applicants have contributed to black enrollment dipping below 8 percent.

This program doesn't just need black students to relay a description of life as a black attending UNC. White students are necessary to launch this program, to show that all students want to perpetuate an attitude of openness.

The candor of current students is the most valuable piece of information a prospective college student can obtain. Offer your opinions and your time.



# Tar Heel Forum

## U.S. must share guilt in espionage

**Scott Greig**
Staff Writer

When Nicholas Daniloff was taken into custody by the KGB, the higher levels of American government and the western journalistic community were shocked by what they called "an obviously cheap attempt at retaliation" for the arrest of Gennadi Zakharov by the FBI.

Zakharov, a Soviet employee of the United Nations, has been indicted by a federal grand jury in Brooklyn for conspiring to commit espionage, obtaining information about U.S. national defense and attempting to transfer that information to the Soviet Union "to be used to the injury of the United States."

Daniloff, a foreign correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, was said to be involved in espionage while working in Moscow.

Daniloff may or may not be a spy, but that's not the most disturbing aspect of this case. The thing I find most incredible about this incident is the fact that so many people have been laboring under the idea that there's no way in the world Daniloff could be a spy. Why couldn't he? Let's face facts, the U.S. government isn't some spotless organization that doesn't deal in foreign operations. Just because these operations don't always make headlines doesn't mean they don't happen.

Daniloff is a journalist. Zakharov is a physicist. It seems that Daniloff would have as much opportunity to do some behind-the-scenes espionage as would Zakharov. Daniloff is in the business of making contacts who feed him information the Soviet government won't. Who's to say that the CIA wasn't using him in some sort of operation? And once he was in KGB custody, the U.S. government wasn't going to jump forward and say, "Okay, you caught us, how about a trade and we'll forget the whole thing?" Admitting to that type of thing isn't good for business.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., declared, "It is the absolute and unwavering policy of the United States government not to employ journalists in intelligence-gathering in any way whatsoever."

Oh really, Senator, who does the United States government employ in its intelligence-gathering operations?

So now the Senate has voted 93-0 to demand the release of Daniloff, and I'm sure the Kremlin got a big laugh out of the move. One senator charged that the KGB's arrest and imprisonment of Daniloff were reminiscent of "the days of Stalin."

That's probably a better choice of words than the senator realized. Josef Stalin, the Soviet leader from 1928 until his death in 1953, did not live to see a U.S. U-2 reconnaissance plane shot down in the Soviet Union on May 1, 1960. While Dwight Eisenhower and Nikita Khrushchev decided the fate of Gary Powers, the plane's pilot, U.S. citizens were shocked by the revelation that their government could be involved in such a thing. Powers wasn't getting checked out by the Federal Aviation Administration on his first solo flight; he was spying! Yes, the United States got caught red-handed and had to pay the price for it. The image of the U.S. government was forever tainted, and no matter how much we might want to forget it, we can't.

I'm not saying that Daniloff is a spy, because I, too, would like to believe he isn't. But we have to be open-minded enough to accept the possibility that he might have been spying. It's not out of the question. Just because citizens see the United States as having an image of being fairly clean doesn't mean that the government couldn't be involved in that sort of thing in the 1980s. They were in the 1960s.

*Scott Greig is a senior journalism major from Charlotte.*

## Drawl on

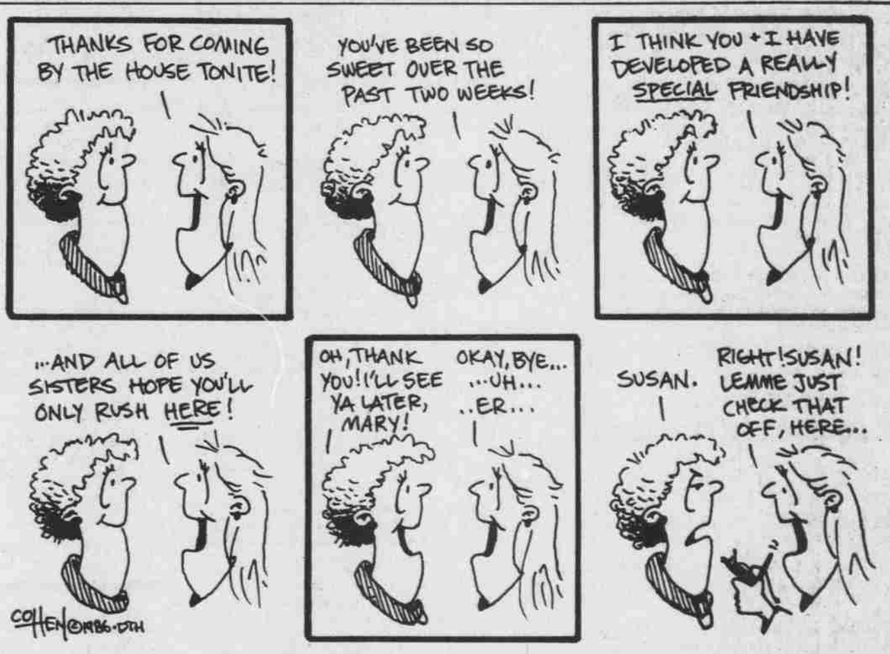
To the editor:

The speech department's course on how to talk like a Yankee is not only a revolting idea, but it may be one whose time has passed ("Class helps modify Southern drawl," Sept. 3).

Some of *them* are starting to talk like *us*. Recently I've heard ABC's Peter Jennings say both *ree*-search and *fie*-nance. In time he may move on to *hoe*-tel and even *poe*-lice.

Hold the fort. Keep the Faith. Save your Confederate money.

J.S. REED
Professor
Sociology




## Crumbling walls

*The author is a Student Government executive assistant.*

To the editor:

Many efforts have been made over the past five years to increase minority enrollment in the University of North Carolina system. Programs have included mailings to all North Carolina minority students taking the SAT and PSAT, providing publications directed specifically to minority students and visits by University officials to high schools across the state. While these efforts have brought attention to the issue, their success record has not been impressive.

Black enrollment on the Chapel Hill campus peaked in 1982 with 8.7 percent, but has declined every year since then. Each year about one-third of the minority applicants who are accepted to UNC choose another school. The debatable reasons for the decline include a lack of interest in attending a predominantly white university and an insufficient amount of student aid. Regardless of the reasons, this university must do more to attract minorities.

One of the reasons these students go elsewhere is that they receive more personal correspondence from those schools than they do from UNC.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions sponsors a successful program that targets Ivy League-caliber students by writing personal letters and interacting with current undergraduates. Why couldn't the same be done to attract qualified minorities?

Student Government's Minority Concerns committee has joined the efforts of the Black Student Movement, the Division of University Affairs and Undergraduate Admissions to coordinate a program that will allow student recruiters to visit high schools with admissions representatives, then follow up the visits with personal letters and phone calls. Communication with current undergraduates along with admissions officers can greatly influence a high school senior's decision to come here.

Visits to area high schools will begin as soon as October, but student recruiters are needed. Anyone interested in helping with the program should attend a meeting Monday at 6 p.m. in the South Campus Union. The program's success will lie in the efforts of those who help the University breakdown the wall between UNC and minority students.

DARRIN POOLE
Junior
Economics

# Letters

## Superpower terrorism equally evil

**Pierre Tristam**
Guest Writer

Whether founded on Marxism, Islam or capitalism, a totalitarian regime cannot survive without armed force. And militarism, to be effective, entails terrorism. In this era of overmilitarism, it has become impractical for superpowers or regional powers to maintain supremacy without terrorism. This can be done with an army (or a proxy army) occupying a foreign country or with a mounted policeman cracking the skulls of fellow countrymen who just happen to disagree with their rulers. State-sponsored terrorism is thus any governmental use of a military or police force against any group in the absence of declared war.

State-sponsored terrorism is far more extant and costly in human lives than individual acts of terrorism, like the Pan-American hijacking in Pakistan or the synagogue deaths in Istanbul. State-sponsored terrorism is subtle and acts incognito. It is planned with scrutiny, rationally victimizing thousands, unhindered by dormant public opinion. Even though the media far more often report the sudden, fanatical outbursts, a type of terrorism *is* supported by our own government and constituents. Such support creates a danger to our democracy's viability.

The United States is far from becoming totalitarian. However, an alarming delusion is developing within the American public in the face of our government's support of state-sponsored terrorism, which I call "totalitarianism." In Latin America alone, the brutally repressive regimes of Chile, Paraguay, Guatemala and Honduras enjoy political and military backing from the United States. Nicaragua also suffers from terrorism at the hands of American-trained Contras.

The Reagan administration (helped by the voters via Congress) sponsors terrorism whenever it is in danger of failing to live up to its own image. An invisible message waves in the wind alongside Old Glory atop the White House, and it reads, "This president is no pushover."

Whenever President Reagan has the chance, he hails the message like he does the flag, and the American public likes it. It feels secure. Not that a policy maker with the slightest intelligence believes that tiny Nicaragua could threaten America's security by falling outside the capitalist fold. But it may appear to do so, and because appearances are part of reality, they must be dealt with accordingly. At what cost, though? Constituents tend half-blindly to support the government's sponsorship of terrorism on the basis of a misconception: a Palestinian hijacking and the death of fifteen civilians is different, uglier than the death of an equal number of civilians at Contra gunpoint in an isolated Nicaraguan hamlet.

In fact, there is no difference. The two acts are equally reprehensible. Their aims of terrorizing for a supposedly greater cause is identical. And it is high time the American public decries one act as fervently as the other, regardless of White House rhetoric.

State-sponsored terrorism in the past has thrived beneath many a rhetorical guise. It was during the French revolution, too often termed as "glorious," that the guillotine killed thousands of citizens, victims of a paranoid "Commitee for Public Safety." A century and a half later, Josef Stalin's similar paranoid concern for "public safety" (mostly fear for his own power) led him to slaughter millions of peasants and fill Siberian gulags with military officers and intellectuals such as Alexander Solzhenitsyn. To Stalin's rhetoric the world bowed and looked away.

Given a voice, America's intellectuals could balance political rhetoric with perspectives certainly more objective than those of self-interested officials. It is a shame that American writers do not wield as much authority as they do in Europe. When, for instance, if Saul Bellow, Joyce Carol Oates, I.B. Singer, Kurt Vonnegut and 50 other notable writers become concerned with the number of political arrests in Poland, their letter may be published in a literary journal, but their voice is seldom taken seriously on U.S. networks, in news magazines or on The New York Times Op-Ed page.

Instead, we hear a number of "expert" opinions from State Department employees or advisers of past presidents. They may not have as much intelligence or imagination as a Roth or an Ashbery, but they have more clout. At least the American public thinks so, especially as Americans feel cozier hiding behind diplomatic jargon than admitting that their own government drenches its foreign policy in blood, similar to the five governments President Reagan has labeled as evil sponsors of terrorism: the Soviet Union, Syria, North Korea, Libya and Nicaragua.

I am not advocating a foreign policy based on morality. I am only denying that the United States is innocent of state-sponsored terrorism, which ultimately differs only in degree from celebrated, local acts of terrorism — state-sponsored terrorism is more effective. And, if only to preserve the openness of our society, I am suggesting that the public be more cautious in its eager acceptance of the current administration's rhetoric.

For if the president can redefine terrorists as "freedom fighters" in Central America and get away with it, if he can justify bombing the Libyan coastline as retaliation for acts far less destructive than those of the U.S. Air Force and get away with it, or if he can call a missle crowned with 20 megaton warheads a "peacekeeper" and get away with it, then little will stop him from redefining subtle repression in the United States as looking out for "public safety," especially should the occasion arise when his image and his party's power is at stake.

And the Gipper will get away with it.

*Pierre Tristam is a graduate history student from Carrboro.*