

Campus Echo

North Carolina College of Durham

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U. S. Restraint Deserves Respect

Recent rejection of the United States in other countries of the world has been met most effectively by our government with a great amount of restraint.

Though there was a considerable amount of force from the United States in the Viet Nam crisis, there has been little or none at all in the present Panama Canal conflict. And the show of a small amount of retaliation on the part of the U. S. has nothing to do with the Communist countries or the Soviet Union.

The real issue behind the taunting of the Americans in Panama City, the destroying of American buildings and the lowering of the United States flag, is that the Panamanians are opposing U.S. imperialism that reigns in its most open and classic form.

For some years the Panama Government has threatened the break-off of diplomatic relations with Washington until there is agreement that there will be a revision of the 1903 treaty under which the U.S. occupies the Canal Zone. These treaty rights, the piece of real estate known as the Canal Zone and the canal itself were acquired by the U.S. in diplomatic fashion that characterized much of American expansion in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

In Panama, more than many other of the far-flung places in the world where U.S. political, military and business interest flourish, U.S. colonialism exists in a form reminiscent of that of the British in Cyprus, the French in Algeria, the Belgians in the Congo. The Panama Canal Zone is an autonomous U.S. government reservation cutting across the Republic of Panama. The U.S. government of the zone government is also the president of the Panama Company, which operates the 50 mile canal for the U.S.

Washington pays Panama \$1.9 million a year for the sovereign rights to the Zone and the Canal. The U.S. nets an annual \$14 million profit from the merchant traffic on the Canal. Poverty is widespread in Panama, but in the U.S. Zone area Americans live like colonialists everywhere.

That this recent incident was no students' prank-riot is indicated by the fact that the government of Panama broke off diplomatic relations with the U.S. within a few hours, officially charging the "U.S. armed forces with unmerciful acts of aggression against the territorial integrity of the Republic and its undefended population."

Our government has not withdrawn from the Canal Zone and it has not given up its military base there, but it has made efforts to restore peace and order and to make arrangements to make the U. S. treaty rights more acceptable to Panama. This does not mean that our government is in the least bit in the hands of pusillanimous politicians.

American diplomacy used in the past was apparently not a good or favorable one, therefore, the present administration has to pay the dues. President Johnson and company have used considerable amount of restraint instead of using the force they could have in the recent crisis. They have given way to the OAS so that they may determine where we stand before they commit us to action from which it may be impossible to withdraw. They have not only gained our respect but also the respect of many other neutral capitalist countries.

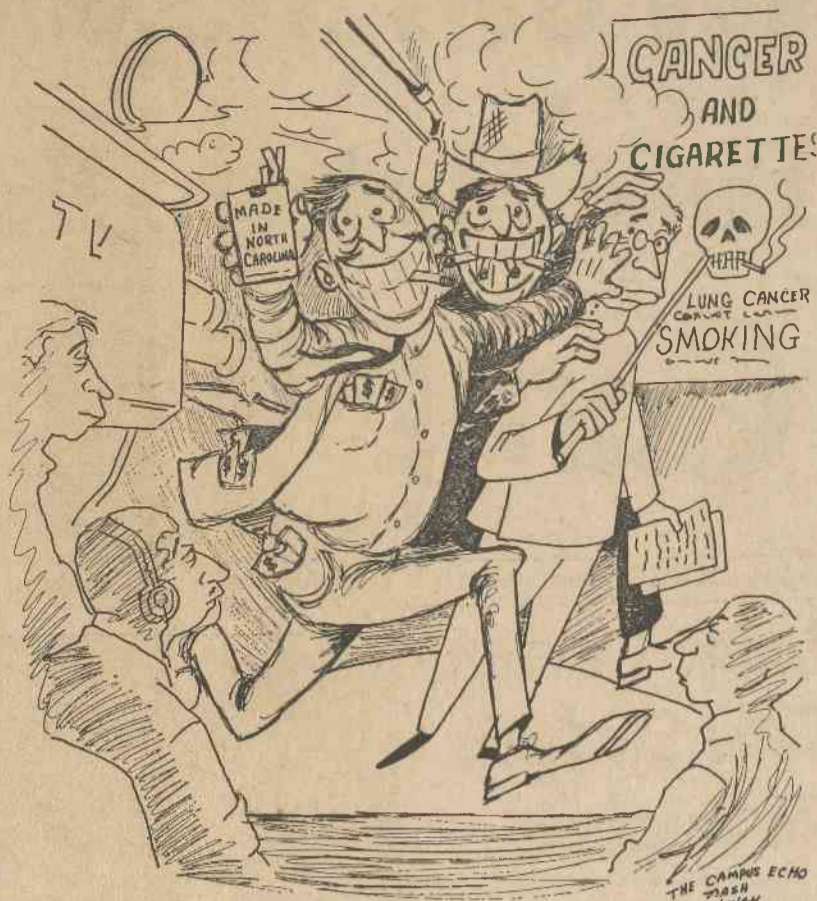
Smoking: An Individual Decision

Our federal government's report linking cigarette smoking with cancer comes not as a surprise to us, but rather as a reminder and a warning.

Many of us have, no doubt, heard rumors to the effect that cigarettes as well as cranberry sauce and other things are hazardous to human health and especially where cancer is concerned. The Black Muslims religious sect (and this does not mean that we are in agreement with their ideas or practices) has for a long time warned their followers against the dangers of tobacco nicotine. There also is a report by the National Advertising Association giving reasons behind most cigarette companies' refusal to continue advertising in college publications—one of the main ones being health. So now the Federal Government has validated these rumors and confirmed our suspicions.

We do not agree with those who regard the report as just another scheme by the government to the rid the South of its number one wealth producer. Nor do we agree with those who regard the report as an escape from really finding the cure for the inevitable-death-causing disease. The government made a thorough and authoritative investigation of the disease and one of its perpetrators, and whether we like it, this, alas, was its duty and responsibility to us as its subjects.

The question before us now is to smoke, not to smoke, or to search for a *quid pro quo* for the now dangerous psychological crutch. While we do not advocate smoking, we also



"...AND NOW A WORD FROM YOUR FRIENDLY SPONSORS,
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HENRY C. CLARK

"Gag Law" Questionable

The North Carolina Legislature in the last meeting of the general assembly, passed a law forbidding all known communists from speaking at state-supported institutions.

Every since the law was passed, there has been continuous controversy considering its constitutionality. The constitution states that all people in this country shall have the freedom of speech. The state legislature, however, seems to have different ideas.

Several colleges and universities in the state have taken the forefront in expressing their opposition to the law. Some say that the law forced them to cancel some of their planned speakers. Some also say that their students will not get a well-rounded education as long as certain speakers are banned from speaking at their institutions.

Since North Carolina College is one of the state's leading institutions, it is only logical that some of its students bring some of their opinions to view considering the speaker ban law.

When asked whether he thought the law was good or bad for the state, Floyd Benjamin a junior, biology major from Brevard, N. C. had this to say: "Yes, I feel that the speaker ban law is bad for the state, for the mere reason that all the people of the state are not in accord with it. I feel that the people of N. C. want to hear all sides of every case, and I know that the people of this state are broad minded enough to make their own decisions on matters that concern everyone."

do not discourage it. Some smokers will stop smoking for a while and then start back, some will stop all together, some will smoke less, some will stop until the manufacturers rid the tobacco of the cancer causer, and some non-smokers will begin to smoke. None of the decisions will be made by the Federal Government; if there is a decision to be made, it will and must be made by us as individual persons.

Brenda Pettis, a sophomore, history major from Belmont, N. C. answered the question this way. "Yes, the law is wrong because the students deserve to hear all opinions. I think if anyone wants to become a communist, he will, whether influenced by the speaker or not."

Well, it seems as if some of NCC's students also disagree with the law. How long it will remain and what effect it will have remains to be seen.

The ironic thing about it is that the people whom it least affects and who want it the most are the ones who have forced it on the people that it will affect most (colleges and universities) and the people who want it the least.

Smoking Report Poses Dilemma

By FRANCES NEELY
Slow down and live longer, for the life you save might be your own.

According to Dr. Luther Terry of the U.S. Public Health Service, people who continue to smoke will increase the death rate and the cause will be cancer in the lungs and larynx. I don't disagree with his findings, but I have known people who have never smoked a cigarette to die from lung cancer. What was the cause of their death, cancer?

There are millions of smokers and thousands of chain-smokers in the world. Do you think all these people will stop smoking? The answer is no. Many have increased tension and anxiety because of these findings, and as a result, they have increased their smoking.

Dr. William Couch, a professor of English at NCC is practically a chain-smoker. He says, "I smoke from one and a half to two packs of cigarettes a day, and plan to stop; however, it will be difficult." He says that he would like to see cigarette clinics established in Durham like there are in larger cities.

Cigarette smoking is a habit which is hard to break. The only way the habit can be broken is to discontinue the production of cigarettes. One knows that this can never be done. Sugar is not taken off the markets to prevent a diabetic from purchasing it. He purchases it at his own risk.

If manufacturers were to stop the production of cigarettes, there would be a great decrease in economic activity. What would happen to farmers who depend on tobacco industries for a living? I'll tell you. They would end up smoking their own cigarettes.

The manufacturers have no alternative. They must continue the production of cigarettes. The only solution for those who cannot stop smoking is to smoke less, for the life you save might be your own.

BILLY WATTS

Compulsory Assemblies Void

Should we the students of NCC be made to attend assemblies? Of course not! We the students of NCC are a student body of high intellect and believe in broadening our knowledge whenever we are given the chance.

But, is this true? Do the students of NCC have this attitude? Some students around campus seem to think differently.

One student thought it "completely necessary" for assemblies to be compulsory because as he said, "Nobody would go if it were not. Some students when they do go and find someone in their seat they turn and leave."

Another thought that compulsory assemblies would not be necessary if NCC were on the honor system.

Still another student thought that NCC students lacked the culture with which to appreciate these assemblies.

Another student said, "If the students of NCC were men and women as they are supposed to be, they would not have to be made to attend assemblies. When a person is forced to do something, he does not get the full value as he would if he had done it freely."

These statements give us as students a low rating. Do we have to be made to listen to new ideas and attitudes by which we might form new ideas and opinions? If so, we as students are missing an important part of the quality education that is to be had at NCC.

-March-

(Continued from page 1)
"Sacrifice for Freedom."

Several carried make-shift crosses with "Don't burn a cross, bear one. Let the love of Christ fill your life."

The marchers, walking single file, stretched three-fifths of a mile when they reached downtown Chapel Hill, police said.

The march was the first of this nature held for civil rights, and the second largest in Chapel Hill's history. Police said it was topped by a July 4, 1963 demonstration which included about 500 participants.