

Campus Echo
North Carolina College of Education

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Letter To Editor

Vietnam Involvement Protested

The following letter is a means of protest against the war in Vietnam. An independent group of students at Douglass College of Rutgers University in New Jersey wrote, printed, and circulated it for signatures over a three-day period. At the end of the first day, 700 persons had signed the letter in a seven-hour period. The letter along with copies of every signature, has been sent to every U.S. Senator.

The amount of dissent against the war which has been voiced in the Senate in the past few weeks convinced us that this kind of action will not be wasted. If Senators or Congressmen are reminded emphatically that this is an election year, they will be forced to acknowledge the amount of dissent that exists, whether it comes from students or not.

In a five-day period, the letter was written, sent to every student and faculty member, publicized in our newspaper and the Rutgers newspaper, as well as on two radio stations. It was also sent, along with an explanatory letter, to ten major newspapers across the country. Two days later, it was stenciled and mailed to the Senators with dittoed copies of the signatures and a very short explanatory note. Finally, we sent this same circular to 500 universities across the country.

* * *

Dear Mr. Senator:

In view of the debate that took place in the Senate on March 7, 1968, as recorded by the New York Times, over the question of the further escalation of the war in Vietnam and the policy of the President in carrying on that war, we, the undersigned, support and agree with the statements of Senators Fulbright, Kennedy, Mansfield, Church, Hatfield, Hartke, Case, and Miller.

We wholly agree with the above Senators that there has been virtually no success achieved in that war as it has been conducted over the past seven years. Even from the limited amount of information available from the news media, it is obvious that a continuation of the present policy will have no success in the future.

We feel that those who represent us and ask for our votes have an obligation to consider the amount of dissent that has been and is continuously voiced

across America. It is often felt and is often said that because that dissent comes most loudly from the younger members of the adult population, it need not be considered seriously. First, we disagree on the grounds that it is perhaps we who have the greatest stake in the future of this country. That future will be a direct result of the decisions made for us and forced upon us now. Second, it is often true that the younger members of the population are more interested and hence, better informed. Third, it is ironic and, at this point, tragic, that those who must implement that policy have little to say in its formulation.

We have questioned and continue to question the nature of the involvement in Southeast Asia. We question whether the continuation and expansion of the present policy is in the interest of this country at all. Furthermore, we cannot accept either the moral or political obligations which have been presented to us as a justification for that involvement. We feel that these purported obligations fall far short of being sufficient reasons for the destruction of the already precarious internal balance of this country. We fully agree with Senator Mansfield in his warnings against the necessity of tax increases, economic controls, etc., which will result if this war is not stopped. The amount of sacrifice with which the American public is faced, in terms of lives alone, is totally out of proportion to the ends for which this war is being fought.

Consequently, we believe that the time is long past due for the Senate to demand the reinstatement of its right to advise and give consent to Presidential policy. We do not understand how we can be expected to support a war which is purported to be fought in the name of the American people as represented by the Senate when, in reality, it is not. If we are expected to fulfill our Constitutionally-defined obligations, what right has the President to misuse his Constitutionally-limited powers?

We urge you, as a Senator and as our representative, to support and help initiate immediate action which would restore the Senate's right to advise and give consent by revoking the power you delegated to the President in 1964. By this action, the people of the United States will regain the representation in Congress which has been denied to them for the past four years in the matter of this war.

Signed,

Alumni Claim India Temporary Home

Dr. Gerald Alonzo Edwards, a member of the Class of 1941, received the Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry in that year, and did graduate study in Chemistry the following year. He served on the faculty in Chemistry at North Carolina College in 1950, while completing the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Physical Chemistry, which he received from the University of Buffalo in 1951.

Mrs. Catherine Ruth Edwards, Dr. Edwards' mother, was a member of the faculty of North Carolina College for 26 years prior to her retirement in 1957. As a member of the faculty of the Department of Music, she directed the college choir for a number of years.

* * *

They Live In A Land Of All The Centuries

Two former members of the faculty of North Carolina College, Dr. Gerald A. Edwards and Mrs. C. Ruth Edwards, have claimed India a land which lives in all the centuries, as their temporary home. There, among Hindu gods and deities, a princely Maharaja and bejeweled elephants, they have learned to understand and enjoy the ancient as well as modern Indian cultures.

Gerald is on leave from the North Carolina A.&T. State University. Dr. Edwards is serving as Consultant in the Physical Sciences in the Ohio State University-India Education Project sponsored by the Agency for International Development.

Ancient and modern cultures blend beautifully in the city of Mysore where Dr. Edwards is stationed. It is the home of 12 colleges and universities, and Gerald is stationed at one of these Regional College of Education.

Mysore, a city of 400,000, boasts not only of art museums, a bird sanctuary, movie theatres, a zoo, but also of 4 royal palaces for it is the home of the Maharaja of Mysore. Located on a plateau at an elevation of 2400 feet above sea level, it boasts of temperatures ranging from 70 to 85 degrees F all year round and beautiful flowering trees, lovely parks, and playgrounds.

In his work Gerald's broad concern is to assist with programs for developing the sciences in India. This has included syllabus revision, writing instructional materials, conducting workshops for science teachers, promoting fuller student involvement in learning by investigative science projects, and science fairs. He is one of 16 such Americans, four in different fields, Agriculture, Technology, Commerce, and Science, in each of four Regional Colleges located at Ajmer, Bhubaneswar, Bhopal and Mysore.

Not only a focal point of educational interest, Mysore has many landmarks of Indian history. Nearby is the palace of Tipu Sultan, who ruled southeastern India in the 18th century. The Hindu temples at Belur and Hassan are glorious testimony of the artistic genius of ancient times, while skilled craftsmen today produce the marvelous inlaid ivory replicas of Indian life, silks, and cane woven articles for which Mysore is famous.

Cecile goes to work at one of the palaces in Mysore. As guest scientist at the Central Central Food Technological Research Institute, she is completing research papers covering work done at North Carolina A. and T. State University and extending the laboratory work initiated there by the Edwards team. CFTRI is located in one of the palaces given to the state by the Maharaja when he relinquished sovereignty so that the Indian nation might be unified.

Beloved and respected by his people, the Maharaja holds court in October at "Dasara", where the outstanding citizens, ministers, and his faithful followers are received and given personal blessings. During the ten nights of Dasara thousands of lights turn the main palace, already magnificent in oriental splendor, into a fairy-tale castle. During International Tourist Year in 1967, it is estimated that over a million persons came to Mysore for this event, unequalled in pomp and ceremony in India.

Overlooking Mysore is Chamundi Hill outlined brilliantly with lights each night and the site of a handsome 2000 year old Hindu temple; Siva's bull Nandi, a 16-foot statue carved out of a single huge boulder;

the private summer palace of the Maharaja; and a giant statue of monster Mahishasura who was killed by goddess Chamundi "to bring peace to the country." Only 12 miles away are the exquisitely designed Brindavan Gardens at Krishnarajasagar which have been compared with those of Versailles. The dam here at the confluence of three rivers is 1 1/4 miles long and one of the largest in India.

This year the grandeur, pomp, and ceremony of Dasara were followed by Khedda — "Operation Wild Elephant" where the skill and daring forest tribesmen shamed the staunchest American cowboys as wild elephants were rounded up for circuses, zoos and princes who can afford them.

With the Edwardses in India are Gerald, Jr., 12, Adrienne, 9; Hazel, 4; and Mrs. C. Ruth Edwards, a native of Durham and the mother of Dr. Edwards. The children attend schools in Mysore and delight in the wealth of experiences which have come from their travels and stay in India.

Though Dr. Edwards has gone to India three times prior to this assignment, he finds each trip exciting and rewarding. Gerald, Jr. has accompanied him on these previous trips, during which summers were spent at Burdwan University, Annamalai University, and the Regional College of Education, Bhubaneswar.

His family has enjoyed the stay in India also as a 19-month stop-over in a round-the-world trip, going to India by way of Hawaii, Japan, and Thailand. They will return to Greensboro in August, 1968, traveling by way of the Mid-East and Europe.

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The plane is a 164 seat Rolls Royce Canadair 400. If all seats are filled the roundtrip price—N. Y. to London and return London to N. Y.—per ticket is \$200 and if 110 seats are filled the roundtrip price per ticket is \$250.

Eligibility: The following people are entitled to join the Student Travel Groups at the stated price: (a) all full or part-time students or any students finishing their course this year, (b) all staff and employees of the university, (c) all organized groups, (d) dependents accompanying an eligible student, (e) certain exceptions can be made in special cases.

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We will send application form ticket as soon as possible upon receipt of information form.

We as students hope that this low price charter flight will be a benefit to students.

Address form to:

Anton Loew, Director, Student Travel Service, 127 West Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514.

Information Form: Please print:

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College

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