

Rescue raid impossible

As 60 American citizens continue in captivity in our Teheran embassy, we must consider what is being done to get them home to their families and friends.

Diplomatic efforts on our part are being ignored by the Ayatollah, who at the moment is the law in Iran. He has even spurned the efforts of the PLO, which has abandoned its "fact-finding" mission to the area. His son was present at the embassy immediately after the takeover, and we presume that the entire action had his tacit approval. This type of action is usually considered an act of war.

The American people seem to be very upset and angry over this issue, and many members of Congress appear just as angry. President Carter may be forced into some action by the public furor created by this incident. If he does take any, it will be because he's been forced.

Options other than diplomatic include military action on various levels. While many consider them attractive, the only result would be great numbers of American, Iranian, and Soviet casualties, for they would certainly intervene to be in position to take over what would be left of Iran.

An Entebbe-type rescue raid will not be possible. Not only are the prisoners under a heavy and alert guard, but they are inside a major city as well. The result would most likely be a massacre of the hostages, and the loss of the rescuing force. Paratroops would drop over too wide an area to be effective, and would probably be shot down by the Iranian air force while still in the planes.

At the other extreme, nuclear devices or the threat of their use is simply ludicrous. To use them would be far more inhuman than holding 60 hostages, under whatever conditions.

Our oil supplies have been cut off (dried up?) by the Revolutionary Council, Iran's excuse for a government. President Carter announced a moratorium on Iran oil one hour before their announcement.

Our one viable option seems to be to take a very hard line with the myriad Iranian students in this country, especially those who commit infractions of our laws. We might also order the Iranian Embassy closed, until further notice.

Unless we take a 'hard line' with these people, further incidents like this one will crop up across the rest of the Third World.

Editor's note: This editorial was written in light of Tuesday afternoon's news reports regarding Iran.



Letters To Editors

Laundry machines needed

Dear Editor:

The residents of Carolina would like to ask for the use of a few items that were forgotten about when we were moved to Sloan. First of all, we desperately need essentials, a washing machine and dryer. Since Carolina is the largest women's dorm, we

fell we have an urgent need for our own laundry facilities. The laundry room in Hook is usually overcrowded, so doing the wash turns into an all-day job.

Also, we would greatly appreciate machines for change, cigarettes, ice, and candy. These are not as necessary as the washers, but

since we are living in such cramped conditions, we feel that we deserve a few extras. These items are not for the benefit of a few people but rather for the entire dorm. We took good care of our machines in Sloan so why are we being penalized in Carolina?

Residents of Carolina Dorm

Beer is beer, container irrelevant

Dear Editor:

I am appealing to the faculty to reconsider their views on having kegs at Elon. I see no difference between buying a keg of beer or several cases. Beer is beer; the container from which it comes is irrelevant. The only difference between a keg and cans of beer is that a keg is

more convenient and less messy than a bunch of smaller containers.

It seems that a keg would be preferred rather than banned. A lot of parties with kegs have to be moved off campus because of this rule. That means people are forced to drive after they have been drinking. Fortunately, there

have been no serious accidents- yet. There is more chance of someone getting injured, however.

If kegs are not illegal by N.C. law, why are they considered a crime at Elon?

Debra Burke

Violence

Dear Editor:

I would like to use this forum to state an opinion about the events of recent weeks in Greensboro. I feel that the violence perpetrated by the CWP, KKK, and American Nazi Party is insane, and I can find no sympathy for supporters of any of these groups. All three of these radicals organizations are fanning the flames of racial tension as a means to reach their own narrow ends.

One of this country's basic beliefs is that people and groups of people who are not in agreement may peacefully work out their differences or at least agree to disagree. I feel that any group or person who goes outside the system and uses violence to achieve their own selfish ends should be deprived of their rights within the system.

Michael Robinson

'Trite and callous'

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Joy Hamilton's article about the Pop's Concert which was trivial and obviously ignored the enthusiasm and hard work which permeated the two evenings. In contrast to Miss Hamilton's trite and callous remarks, I would like to commend the Music Department on the remarkable effort and delightful performances which more than exemplified the outstanding talent and diversity of Elon staff and community members.

At no other time of the year was the convivial and relaxing atmosphere more evident than during the two evenings when Elon's Music Department showed its finest.

The only aspect which is regrettable is that more students were not present to witness one of the finest cultural events that Elon College's Music Department offers.

Betty Burton
A concerned patron of the arts

No paper

next week

Happy

Holidays!

The Pendulum

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