

The Pendulum Established 1974

Can an ordinary student combat terrorism?

When David Halberstam spoke Jan. 16, he mentioned the United States should be cautious of a war with Iraq. His message of hesitation resulted in an interesting and lively question-answer session the following day.

During the session a student asked Halberstam, "What can I, as an individual student, do about terrorism in the world?" While it was a relatively standard query, it seemed to floor Halberstam. His only response for the student was to keep abreast of world affairs by reading the newspaper every day.

But is that answer good enough? Doesn't the student's question deserve a more substantiated response? Halberstam's half answer does not seem to fully address the growing concern that many students are having about a possible war on Iraq and further terrorist attacks.

President Leo Lambert and the administration expressed their concerns to The Pendulum about the issue of terrorism and have asked that it be brought to the forefront of a campus discussion.

So the question for students is: What can we, as ordinary students, do about terrorism in the world? What are the possible efforts we can make to combat this global problem?

The Pendulum encourages your response to a question and issue so important in today's society. Upon receiving your responses, The Pendulum will compile and publish them in the Opinions section. Please e-mail your response to pendulum@elon.edu.

The Pendulum

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Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, double-spaced, signed and include a telephone number for verification. Submissions are also accepted as Word documents on disk or by e-mail.

The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene or potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may have to be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

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Each individual is entitled to one free copy.

Does America truly believe that Iraq is the only enemy? Keep guessing

Simple Logic seems to dictate that the world has changed since Sept. 11.

We are now fighting a war against terrorism, pushing for war in the Middle East and dealing with dictator on the Korean Peninsula.

Over the holidays, I was questioned by my uncle.

He asked me, "Where do you and your friends want to go war: North Korea or Iraq?"

This question has gotten me thinking on the events in both regions of the world. The question that we now pose to citizens of the world is where the next threat will come from.

Recent surveys in both the United Kingdom and Europe has shown that people feel that the United States is the greatest threat for world peace.

I can see why many people may feel that way, however I think their vision is blurred.

With the situation in Iraq the United States is pressing for intervention in order to get rid of a totalitarian dictator that has shown his lack of compassion for the people he governs.

I may agree at times that the United States are acting too hastily, but overall they are playing by the rules in the United Nations resolutions drafted late last year.

However, the bigger threat to world peace in my mind is the North Korean situation. It may seem logical but, sometimes people don't understand the consequences of not intervening into a situation.

With the North Korean situation, this is what we know: The communist country has a nuclear device, as proclaimed by the government.

The government has forced slave labor camps that imprison thousands of people at a given time.

Monitoring devices for



Dan Hanson



KRT Campus

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nuclear reactors have been removed, leaving the international community blind about the nuclear program within the country.

And finally the regime has announced that it would quit the armistice that ended the Korean War in the 1950s.

The recent events logically in my mind have but the North Korean situation on the radar more so than Iraq.

I feel that the North Korean situation in my mind is graver because of two reasons: the weapons involved and the region which the country is located.

First off, nuclear weapons are not to mess around with, especially when a government has the means of delivering that weapon on a missile.

This is exactly what the case is in North Korea.

If recent trends continue in the next few years the North Koreans will have the means of delivering a nuclear weapon to the continental United States.

The second reason could be a definite possibility. Sharing boarders with Russia and China the North Koreans could throw

the region in tailspin creating a dangerous situation for the United States.

This region is essential for the development of the United States economy, as many manufactured goods come from China and Southeast Asia.

The stability of the region is essential for relations as both the South Koreans and Japanese have strong ties to the United States.

Now looking at the past policies of containment with the two countries, we see drastic differences.

With Iraq, since the war in 1991 there have been minor skirmishes, but nothing really of significance.

Containment in North Korea has led to an increase in nuclear arms production along with disbelief in the international system.

I feel that the Bush Administration needs to focus, as hard as it is, on the North Korean situation in order to solidify world peace for the next generation.

Contact Dan Hanson at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.