

The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Is The U.S. Too Well Armed?

In his State of the Union address Jan. 17, President Johnson tried to explain away much of the uneasiness in the United States with a metaphor of the "great ship of state."

"When a great ship cuts through the sea," the president declared, "the waters are always stirred and troubled. And our ship is moving — it's moving through troubled and new waters; it's moving to new and better shores."

In retrospect, it is ironic that the president should have chosen a ship in troubled waters to illustrate his point.

Less than a week after Mr. Johnson made his remark, the world came to know that the ship of state was not the only American vessel to be afloat in troubled waters.

Unlike that great ship, however, the U.S.S. Pueblo was not headed toward new and better shores. Rather, after being captured by the tiny North Korean navy, it was headed for a hostile harbor at Wonsan.

Looking at the officially released Pentagon statement describing the incident, it appears that the North Koreans should be credited with one of the smoothest maritime operations in history.

According to that official statement, it happened like this:

"At approximately 10 p.m. EST, a North Korean patrol boat approached the Pueblo. Using international flag signals, it requested the Pueblo's nationality."

"The Pueblo identified herself as a U.S. ship. Continuing to use flag signals, the patrol said: 'Heave to or I will fire on you.'"

"The Pueblo replied: 'I am in international waters.' The patrol circled the Pueblo."

"Approximately one hour later, three additional patrol craft appeared. One of them ordered: 'Follow in my wake, I have a pilot aboard.'"

"The four ships closed in on the Pueblo, taking different positions on her bow, beam and quarter. Two MIG aircraft were also spotted by the Pueblo, circling off her starboard bow."

One of the patrol craft began backing toward the Pueblo with fenders rigged. An armed boarding party was standing on the bow. The Pueblo radioed at 11:45 p.m. that she was being boarded by North Koreans."

After reading the Pentagon's account of the capture, several embarrassed civilian officials demanded to know why American air power was not utilized to rescue the Pueblo. If the ship was first threatened at 10 p.m. but was not actually boarded until 11:45 p.m., it seems that there should have been enough time to receive support from the air.

Replying to the queries of enraged congressmen, the Pentagon said that the only aircraft within range were located in South Korea. But these planes, the Pen-

tagon explained, are armed solely with nuclear warheads which are unfit for a situation of this kind, and there just was not enough time to "deload" the planes by replacing the nuclear weapons with conventional armament.

Far from explaining the situation, this reply points to a tragic flaw in the American defense system, a flaw which centers around the question of specific military response to a specific act of aggression.

Suppose, for instance, that the North Koreans should launch a surprise air attack across the 38th parallel tomorrow. What would be the American response?

Judging from what the Pentagon has said, we would have two alternatives.

Since there would not be time to "deload" our planes, we could throw ourselves into the fray with nuclear weapons, thus expanding a conventional war into a nuclear confrontation. Or, we could sit around and do nothing, just as we did when the Pueblo was attacked.

That's not much of a choice.

Yet we have been told that the United States has come a long way in the field of international strategy since the Eisenhower-Dulles policy of massive retaliation. Much has been said about measured response and the principle of meeting aggression on its own level.

We have been assured that we have both the versatility to repel aggression and the common sense to avoid nuclear holocaust.

But now the Pentagon has informed us that this is not necessarily so.

Perhaps, of course, the Pentagon is not telling the whole truth. In view of other statements which have come out of there — such as those concerning the U-2, the Bay of Pigs and the bombing of civilian targets in North Vietnam — this is a strong possibility. Perhaps the Pentagon was only making half-baked excuses.

But perhaps they were telling the truth. Perhaps the only aircraft we have in Korea are armed with nuclear weapons. And perhaps it would not be overly presumptuous to assume that the same is true of our aircraft in other areas of the world.

In short, either the Pentagon has misrepresented the situation or the United States defense system is grossly unprepared for anything short of nuclear war.

In either case, the predicament is equally disturbing.

The Seeds Of Revolution: Need For Spring Polacks

Although it is not customarily editorial policy of The Daily Tar Heel to suggest the political subdivision or secession of any country of sectional power, the time has come where action must be taken.

Basic economic theory dictates

that when one monopolistic power proves financially unfeasible or fails to satisfy the people, competition must enter the field to provide a more suitable socio-economic balance.

The same theory holds for political reform. An unpopular or particularly inept monarchy or aristocracy, for lack of peaceable means, will become caught up in internal insurrection.

And it is time for a revolution here.

The aristocracy which must be compromised is the Germans Club. Due to the steadily diminishing interest in and success of Germans Weekend, a coalition government must be formed, consisting of the non-German fraternities, to bring the staggering Teutonic power to its knees. This coalition must be dedicated to planning popular entertainers, who: **ARRIVE ON TIME POSSESS THE** ability to please the majority. **DON'T CHARGE** such outrageous fees.

Certain Greek factions have already conspired in favor of such an idea, but headway has been slow in coming.

May we suggest a perfectly fitting fete? In order to maintain the identity of the tradition in kind, but not in composition, a Polish Club might be a pleasing change of decor.

The annual festivities would be entitled, "Polack Weekend". And, quite naturally, the required attire would be significantly altered.

Instead of a loosely constructed custom of tuxedo or dark suit, rigid requirements must be established if the gala celebration is to function successfully.

Sneakers (dirty) would be required of all. The men must have their team bowling shirts personalized, not with monograms, but with their nickname and most of their fraternities in individualistic script. For the ladies, sequins would be de rigueur.

Argyle or athletic socks are optional for those not holding box seats, as well as army fatigue pants. Skirts are appropriate if they are stylishly hemmed below the knees (Ski pants if they are puce or purple).

Understandably, the bid-type invitation system, similar to that of Germans will be carried over, incorporating the finely engraved style. The only difference would be that the bids will be individually smeared and grease stained, will have the effect of further distinguishing the revolutionary social event of the year.

The Polish national favorite beverage — beer — will be served. It will be tapped from Old World wooden kegs, which will be heartily shaken sporadically to insure a sizeable head. Roquefort cheese ensconced about saline crackers will provide an added entrapment for the gourmet contingent.

Minors definitely will be served.

Haw River's finest Polka band will be on hand to provide music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

The rules of the game dictate that baths and shaving are strictly verboten. Anyone caught engaging these activities after Thursday morning will be severely fined.

In all, a good time could be had by all.

James College: The Jelling Of A Dream

Out in Hinton James Residence College, this living-learning concept is finally beginning to really jell.

The Residence College System here has been talked about for some time now, and quite a bit of progress has been made in the past several years, considering that before then there was nothing which in any way, shape or form resembled a system through which students could incorporate their daily lives and their academic routines into one.

Since the residence colleges began here, the most notable strides have been made, of course, by the high rise colleges on South Campus. This is to have been expected since these colleges have the physical structures which accommodate such a "living-learning" system's being instituted in one huge building, whereas the main campus residence halls lack this advantage.

But never before has anything been done with the idea like is being done now in James.

And it's being done by students — not administrators.

"What it all amounts to," explained James Governor Bill Darrah, "is that we're building one big Experimental College."

Dick Levy, the coordinator of the idea, said further: "We are going to the students and asking them, 'What are you most interested in?' Then we'll tell them to organize the activity they're interested in."

This approach to the problem is refreshing. It not only allows for developing a wider range of activities — to suit a wider range of interests — but it also involves in the actual running of the college many students who would otherwise be on the outside looking in, unless one of the Residence Hall officers might have thought of something that would interest those students.

Further, by seeking grants to set up a library-study room complex carries the living-learning concept side College System even farther along than did the installation of classes in the buildings.

And there'll still be the parties, too.

Levy, who attended the conference on Residence Colleges at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and has recently visited Harvard University, said the new plan for James is more in line with what is being done at those schools — schools where successful residence colleges have been around long enough to become traditional.

It is this kind of tradition that such moves as this one at James will help build here.



"I'm here for my . . . heh-heh . . . blanket privileges."

Letters To The Editor

Israelis Belligerents, Arab Says

To The Editor:

I have been intrigued by the letters published in the Tar Heel on the situation in the Middle East. I am puzzled with the purpose of the discussion and what it is leading to. Do these letters seek to establish who is peaceful and who is criminal? The U.N. records have answered this question unequivocally for us by at no time reporting any of the Arab states guilty of attacking with their regular military forces territory occupied by the Israelis. On the other hand, the same records show that the Israelis have been found guilty and condemned at least 30 times, six of which were censured by the Security Council because of attacks by the regular Israeli armed forces against Arab territory.

The question being Israeli intentions and plans, we should let Tel Aviv Circles state their views:

"It lies upon the people's shoulders to prepare for the war but it lies upon the Israeli army to carry out the fight with the ultimate objective of erecting the Israeli Empire." (Moshe Dayan, Minister of Defence, from the Arabic program over the Israeli Radio, February 12, 1952.)

"I accept to form the Cabinet on one condition, and that is to utilize all possible means to expand toward the south." (David Ben Gurion, former Prime Minister of Israel, from a speech delivered at a meeting held by the Mapai Party at Beer-sheva in 1952.)

"I deeply believe in launching preventive war against the Arab states without further hesitation. By doing so we will achieve two targets: firstly, the annihilation of the Arab power, and secondly, the expansion of our territory." (Menachen Beigin, leader of the Heut Party, from a statement made in the Israeli Parliament on October 12, 1955.)

The state "has been resurrected in the western part of the land" of Israel, and the independence has been reached "in a part of our small country. Every state consists of a land and a people. Israel is no exception, but it is a state identical neither with its land nor with its people. It has already been said that when the state was established, it held only six percent of the Jewish people remaining alive after the Nazi cataclysm. It must now be said that it has been established in only a portion of the land of Israel. Even those who are dubious as to the restoration of the historical frontiers, as fixed and crystallized from the beginning of time, will hardly deny the anomaly of the boundaries of the new state." (Israeli Yearbook 1951-1952, p. 64;

and 1952, pp. 63, 65.)

If the question be the one raised in the letter addressed to the editor in the Tar Heel, Jan. 7, I tell the writer that Mr. Fergany's point of view, though personal, does not deviate one inch from the point of view of a vast majority of the Arab people on the subject. I have on hand the official Arab Students' Organization's Bulletin which states unequivocally our stand. I would summarize the main points as follows: the Arabs have nothing against the Jews per se; to us Israel is nothing but a link in the uninterrupted attempts of the West to occupy and control our land, suppress and oppress our people and our culture. It is a collusion between Western Zionists and Western Colonialists. It is another form of the successive invasions which the West sent to our region. We resented them all. We resented the British and the French occupations for more than a century, and we will continue to resent the new form of occupation as long as it is there.

If the question be the U.S.'s position, I am not an American to advise the American people what to do, but I would like to see every American read the analysis presented by the National Observer in its issue of Monday, January 8, 1968. In this analysis, the writer gives seemingly a good account of the American losses and the Russian gains from their respective positions despite the big chance the Americans had. It might be a good idea to quote only for those who have not had a chance to read this issue the statement made by the former U.S. ambassador to Egypt, Richard Nolte — "Obviously, the Arab people of the Middle East are of major importance to the United States. They have the population, the area, the strategic location, and a large part of the oil. In dealing with the Arabs, the United States has a bigger potential advantage than does the Soviet Union. We have the investment capital, the technical know-how, the oil-marketing system, the educational attraction, and the tourists; everything but a workable policy. Our main problem with the Arabs, which is perhaps unsolvable, is our close association with and support of the state of Israel. The Arab-Israeli issue is a certain winner for the Soviet Union anytime it wants to make trouble in the Arab World. And Israel, if it continues to rely on a policy of force, can be counted on to help." I would like just to add to the American people, remember who is your first enemy and remember your sacrifices in Europe and Asia to stop the

advance of communism.

The answer to the question of a solution has been reiterated by Arab leaders. It is based on just and lasting peace for both peoples. It rests in the adoption of the United Nations' resolutions. At the top of these resolutions in Resolution 194(111) 11 December, 1948. Paragraph 11 of the resolution reads: "Resolves that the refugees wishing to return to their homes and live at peace with their neighbor should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date, and the compensation should be paid for the property of those choosing not to return and for the loss of or damage to property which, under principles of international law or in equity, should be made good by the government or authorities responsible." The recognition of the right of the refugees to repatriation in accordance with their free choice has been "recalled" by the General Assembly at every regular session since it has held since 1948. Adoption of this resolution simply means:

THE ADDITION of 1.3 million Arabs to the Oriental Jewish population in occupied Palestine will convert the majority of the state to an Oriental state.

ANY ATTACK from the Arabs' armed forces will be remote since it means damage to and killing of the Palestinian people.

THE ARAB STATES' intervention in Palestine is based entirely on protecting the rights of the Palestinian Arabs. The adoption of this resolution will negate this cause.

Any claim that this means in the long-run reconversion of the state of Israel to an Arab state should not be seriously considered. If it may happen, this should produce no fear for any one except for those who insist on realization of their dream "redemption of the Greater Israel." In any event the new state, in the long-run and for the worst (for the Jews) might resemble something like Lebanon to the Christians. The claim that the Arabs returning to their land will work as an enemy force behind the Israeli lines should not be considered except as a proof that Tel Aviv Circles are in no mood to treat them as full citizens and insist on the continuation of the existing state of belligerency and military adventures.

A final word about Nasser's statement which was reiterated in all letters to the

editor as a threat to Tel Aviv. I would like to remind all those interested in the problem that Nasser's oft-misquoted statement was given in a major address in which he tried to explain why he ordered United Nations' forces to withdraw from the Egyptian borders. Nasser stated that he had no choice after being informed that Tel Aviv, in both words and actions was preparing to discipline Syria, except to make it clear to Tel Aviv that any attack on Syria would mean an attack on all Arab states. He notified Tel Aviv that his armed forces stood ready to enter into a full war to destroy Israel "if and only if" Israel attacked. Yes, it was indeed a great menace to Tel Aviv Circles who had already planned and were about to carry out their attack.

Mohamed Selem
P.O.B. 403
Chapel Hill, N.C.

Letters

The Daily Tar Heel accepts all letters for publication provided they are typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters should be no longer than 300 words in length. We reserve the right to edit for libelous statements.

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