

U.S. has vital world commitment contends public affairs specialist

By IRJA ORAV
Of the Emerald

The worst outcome of the Vietnam war is that the credibility of the political system has been stretched, said Brewster Denny in an afternoon talk Tuesday to a group of ROTC students.

For many Americans, an excellent constitutional system seems to have failed stated the dean of the University of Washington Graduate School of Public Affairs in his discussion of "American Foreign Policy."

"We have to look to strengthening, ventilating and changing our institutions to make them work," said Denny.

The authority on American foreign policy posed several questions about the decade of the 1970's in terms of isolationism and internationalism.

He said a main issue in this decade is that of resigning from Vietnam.

"But does this mean resigning

from the world?" he asked. Denny stated that even when we resign from Vietnam, we will have some responsibilities and that we have to find and define those responsibilities.

Another question he put forth was whether there are any places and circumstances where United States interests are so vital as to require military commitment.

"Some people say 'no,' but then what about such places as Berlin and the Middle East? But if no such vital places exist, then there is nothing left to talk about. If the answer is 'yes' then we have to ask which places they are, and how much commitment do we give them?"

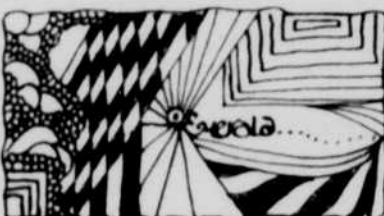
Another question Denny posed was "How serious is a threat from the USSR and China?" He said now that we know there is no monolithic movement, we don't have to deal with the straw man of the monolith.

"The balance of forces has changed and there is a nuclear parity," he said. He said that

Japan was becoming an important power and asked "What will Asia look like after the Vietnam war?"

There is a possibility that Japan will develop nuclear weapons and perhaps Japan will keep Asia secure.

Denny concluded by saying that our primary job is developing political institutions. He said he did not mean political attitudes, but techniques and the capacity to make judgments about the life of a village or area.



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