

Class strata summarizes government, tells Marxist

By HEATHER McCLENAGHAN
Of the Emerald

"What we see in the United States today is a government that can be characterized as a 'dictatorship of the bourgeoisie' — not a dictatorship in the fascist sense of the word, but a dictatorship in the Marxist sense of class domination," socialist Richard Healey told an audience on campus Monday.

Healey, political secretary of the New American Movement (NAM), explained his organization's movement for democratic socialism in the United States. While NAM supports the world's socialist countries, it does not

align itself with any one, attempting instead to build a movement based on what NAM perceives as the unique characteristics of the United States.

"Today we see the United States in a period of enormous crisis," Healey said. "We have a crisis in the economy, a political crisis, a crisis in democracy, a crisis in the cities, a crisis of racism — the list goes on and on.

"If we look at this country in terms of its political crisis, we see the attack on democracy the ruling class itself has managed to launch," Healey said. "Take, for instance, the Trilateral Commission that Jimmy Carter and his

staff rely on so heavily. The Trilateral Commission — a Rockefeller think tank — came up with the conclusion that there has been an excess of democracy in this country."

Healey finds the growing list of crises culminates in the crisis of the individual in American society.

"The crisis of the individual is evident when you divest people of all their ties with other people," Healey said. "When you live in a system where all political power has been taken from you; when you live in a system of competition where you cannot trust anyone; when you live in a system where a ruling-class dominated media

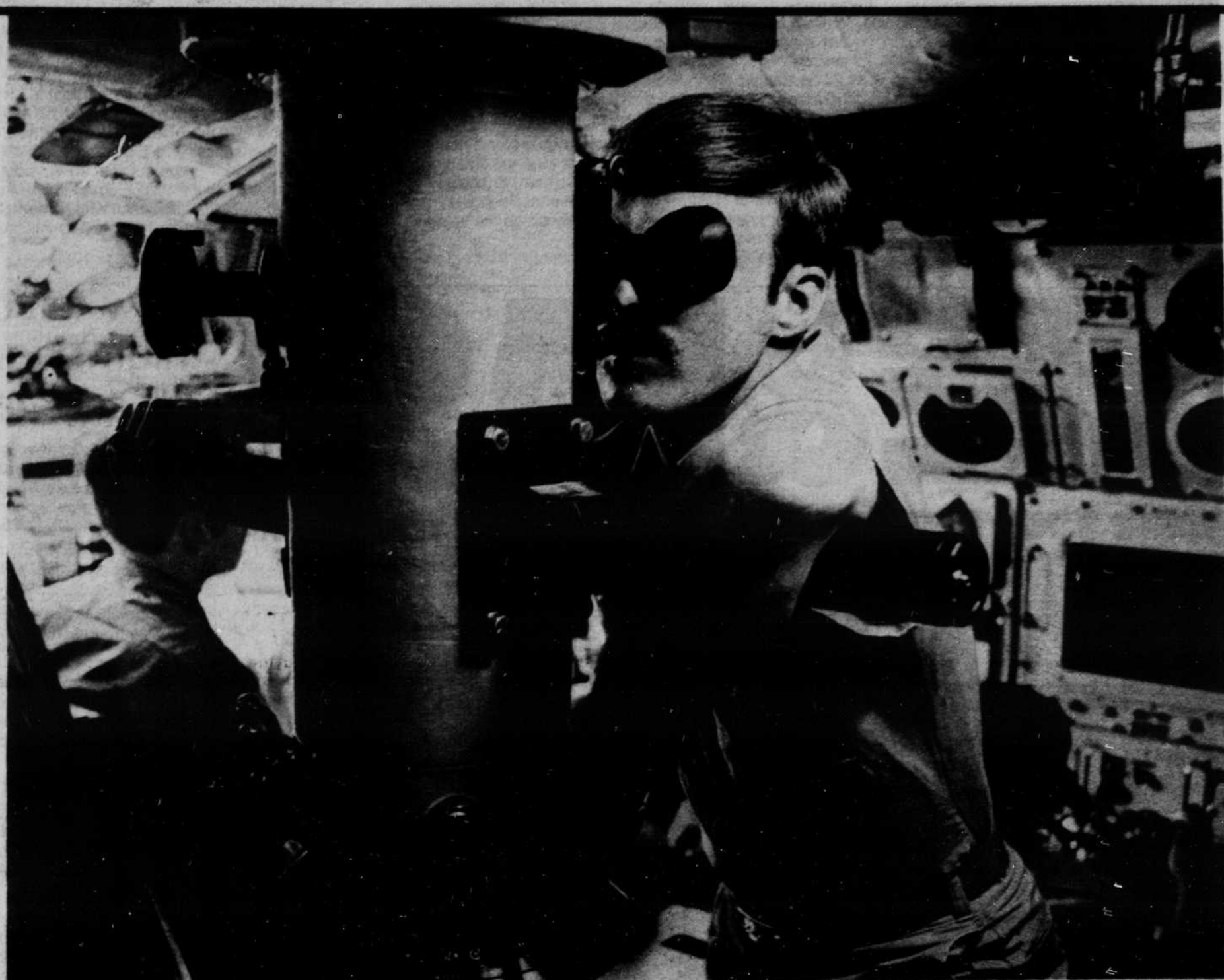
tries to divest anyone of a class notion, you find yourself powerless, competitive and frustrated."

Healey feels the most graphic example of the crisis is in "the strange proliferation of books about security. Books like 'I'm OK, You're OK' or 'I'm Not So OK, But I'm Alright.'"

Healey predicts a long, hard struggle ahead for revolutionaries in the United States.

"We face the strongest ruling class in the world," Healey explained. "If we have a revolution in this country nobody is going to get through it easily. By the time we get around to revolution in this

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