

Flag shows aim

Why the flag of Taiwan flown on Oct. 10? The University does not fly the flag of just any government. The flag-flying program is promoted as some kind of good-will gesture to recognize some foreign students on campus.

Actually, only students from certain countries are encouraged to attend schools in the U.S.; those like Iran, Taiwan, Israel, Australia, etc. that are allied to and/or dominated by the U.S. And besides, flying a country's flag is the most clear symbolic form of political support for that country's government.

Flying the flag of the "Republic of China" is an effort to turn back the clock and slander, by way of omission, the monumental advances of the Chinese revolution. The founding of the Peoples Republic of China marked the liberation from all imperialist domination, both direct Japanese occupation and plunder by the U.S. represented by Chiang Kai-shek and the Kuomintang party (KMT).

This slander against the achievements of the Chinese people was championed di-

rectly by some misinformed people in letters about "facts" on Oct. 16. They parroted the distorted version of history pushed by the KMT.

Much of this was refuted by Joe Esherick's letter on Oct. 20. Most important to point out is that it was Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese Communist Party who led the people in fighting the Japanese and it was the "Nationalists" who concentrated their main force against the Red Army, rarely engaging the Japanese.

Jim Carroll wrote in his Oct. 16 letter that many "free Chinese" have "died for U.S. policy in many parts of Asia." This is true, and it is also true that many deluded people died fighting for Hitler's fascist goals.

If U.S. policy stands for freedom, then slaving in U.S.-owned sweatshops in Taiwan is "freedom," living in crowded slums is "freedom" and living under martial law is "freedom."

Another of the Oct. 16 letters stated that the Chinese people "... never voted for Communism." No, they did not — they fought long and hard for it against foreign and domestic reactionaries, and that fight continues.

The best example of this is the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, a political movement in which the millions of Chinese workers and peasants rose up and overthrew the handful of capitalist-roaders who were trying to turn China back. Out of this struggle, they developed "sprouts of communism," like the revolutionary committees that included workers and Party members, instead of one-man management in the factories.

Under the leadership of Mao and the revolutionaries in the CCP (most notably the so-called "Gang of Four"), workers ran cities and peasants wrote plays. The Cultural Revolution, in which all aspects of society were transformed, was a giant step towards a classless society — communism.

The question of which flag should fly in China was correctly determined by Mao when he said, "Only socialism can save China." But socialism is more than flying the red flag; it is society under working-class rule in which the masses of people revolutionize society step by step until all inequalities between people are eliminated.

Today, the red flag still flies in China, but

the current rulers, who seized power after Mao's death, have not kept to the socialist road. Under the signboard of "modernization" they are reversing the gains of the Revolution, restoring capitalism and following the example of Chiang Kai-shek in his all-out capitulation to U.S. imperialism.

The Cultural Revolution started and supported by Mao showed the way to resist such great though temporary reversals on the road to communism. Although Hua Kuofeng, Teng Hsiaoping, etc. are trampling on all the red flag stands for, because oppression under any banner breeds resistance, these new emperors will have no peace.

They have not easily nor completely rooted out or deposed support and supporters of the Gang of Five (4 + Mao). As Mao taught the working and oppressed people of the world, including here in the U.S.: "The future is bright, the road is tortuous," and further, "Red flags will fly everywhere!"

—For the Revolutionary Communist Youth Brigade:
Myra Delay

Shah aids wrong ones

With regard to the Oct. 15 Register-Guard article "The Shah Bails Out Teen-agers' Rock Band," I would like to make the following statement:

Although I am not against helping any deserving human being, I believe that the real motivation behind this royal generosity (designed by Shah's public relations and propagated by the U.S. news media) is to draw favorable publicity for the falling dictator, who has sought to obscure all his crimes.

Where does the Shah get his money from?

The Shah and his family, among the richest (if not the richest!) in the world, have derived their money from many illegal sources, including kickbacks extorted from domestic and foreign firms situated in Iran. From one minor oil deal alone, the Shah Pahlavi Foundation set up in New York as his personal tax haven, received a \$40 million dollar kick-back!

The bribe was allocated through a Swiss bank to the Foundation after negotiations were made by the Pahlavi Foundation and two local oil companies (Exxon and Howard Fuel) in exchange for crude oil deliveries (NY Times, Oct. 26, 1976.)

While the CIA installed and supported shah continues his robbery of Iranian people, only 19 million of Iran's 35 million people enjoy one meal a day, and of every 10 children born in Iran today, five die before attaining their fifth birthday!

In the recent earthquake in northeastern Iran, where more than 30,000 people have died, one reason for the extremely heavy casualties was that the buildings in the cities and villages affected were made of mudbrick and were totally unable to withstand the weakest catastrophe; therefore the entire city of Tabas has been leveled to the ground and the majority of its inhabitants have perished.

No more than a dirt road links Tabas and Ferdos, the nearest city about one hundred miles away. For the smaller settlements in between, they are totally cut off and unreachable!

Now surely one of the most elementary signs of modernization in a country is the construction of highways facilitating communication and transportation. Yet vast regions of Iran are deprived of these. Where, then, is the "modernization" that the Islamic leadership in Iran is accused of opposing?

Vast sums of money have been spent in recent years, not for the improvement of the economic and social condition of the people, but for extravagant ceremonies such as the coronation and the 2,500th anniversary of the monarchy, and for equipping and arming the Iranian army. The shah has even been able to boast that he commands the fifth best-equipped army in the world.

However, now did the army respond to the catastrophe caused by the earthquake? Five days after the earthquake the survivors were still reported to be "without food, water and shelter, the ruins of devastated towns and villages were still being evacuated, and yet only 10 of the thousands of the helicopters owned by the shah's regime were utilized for aiding the earthquake victims. The rest were assigned for shah's martial law surveillance!

When asked on CBS interview (Evening News, Sept. 20) why was the emergency aid delayed to the victims of the earthquakes and why the excavation of ruins was taking so long, "his imperial majesty" replied that the religious convictions of the people prevented the use of bulldozers!!

If Iran is unique in the world by virtue of the frank and unashamed tyranny of its ruler, by virtue of the extreme savagery of its regime, and by virtue of the unanimous support accorded to it by all the major power blocks in the world, U.S. imperialist, Soviet and Chinese imperialist and the Zionist expansionist, it is also unique in another compensatory way: the existence of a determined and active movement of Islamically inspired resistance to the regime!



No matter how much support the shah gets from the U.S. government and other "allies," no matter how much the true facts in Iran are being systematically distorted by the U.S. news media and recently by a handful of opportunistic "leftist" elements, the Islamic movement in Iran, led by Imam Khomeini, will prove to the world and to the history that the genuine struggle of the Iranian people will defeat all its obstacles toward the final victory.

"How often by Allah's will has a small force vanquished a big one; Allah is with those who steadfastly persevere." Qur'an, Baqara:249

A. Ghafari
Sophomore, physics

Mayor praises Weaver

News stories appearing in Oregon during House Committee consideration of Senator Jackson's Northwest power bill have unfairly described the role played by Congressman Weaver as "obstructionist" and suggested that his hidden agenda is to kill the bill through delay.

That simply isn't so.

The City of Portland played an active part in the discussions with Congress, and was in close and regular contact with the members of our delegation.

All expressed a strong interest in passing legislation as soon as possible, consistent with an open process; and all made clear that amendments which would strengthen the bill, and unite rather than divide the region's interests, would be welcomed.

Congressman Weaver, being the only Oregon Congressman on the Interior Subcommittee, was in a position to offer such amendments. Most of these, it should be observed, were accepted by the Chairman and the subcommittee. The incident between Congressman Weaver and the Chairman which occasioned the charge of obstructionism was actually more misunderstanding than dis-

agreement, and was ironed out by mutually-agreed to language only a day later.

There will be no bill this year, but the explanation for that lies more with the backlog of legislation in the Senate Energy Committee (which was unable to even schedule discussion of the bill), than with delay on the House side, where Congressmen Meeds and Weaver cooperated to proceed marking up the bill.

I expect that there will be a bill passed out of Congress by next summer. That expectation is based on a perceived growing willingness by all parties to accept some compromise of their ultimate demands, as partners in a regional enterprise must.

While certain principles must be reflected in the bill — wholesale parity rates for residential consumers, public participation and accountability, conservation that produces both real savings and equity, and cost-effectiveness as the test of new electric generation — there should be flexibility on the ways we accomplish these.

By his real and continuing contributions to the process, Jim Weaver has shown he understands this. He has been a constructive force for a bill, not an obstacle in its path.

Neil Goldschmidt,
Mayor, City of Portland

letters policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters and opinion columns containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Letters and opinions will be run on a first-come, first-served basis. Both letters and opinion columns must be typewritten, using 65 character margins, and should be triple-spaced. Letters and opinions must be signed and the author's field of study (or faculty status) noted.