



greg wasson

tabled indefinitely

And it's one, two, three, what are we fighting for?

People like Country Joe McDonald asked that question frequently during the late 60s and early 70s. But by then, Americans were already dying in Vietnam. This time, we should demand an answer before the government sentences anyone to perish in the Mideast. What follows is a list, by no means comprehensive, of possible responses to Country Joe's query.

- The best defense is a strong offense.
- Without Mideast oil, Americans couldn't continue the waste and over-consumption we've come to enjoy and expect.
- Russian control of Mideast oil means Russian control of much of the world.

- Russian control of Mideast oil might mean the end of Exxon and Standard Oil's obscene profits.
- Dupont's products don't sell well during peacetime.

ours

- The American way is the world's best and we should impose it by force, if necessary.
- We told the Soviets not to expand, and their actions are an affront to our national pride.

Now, let's apply the balance test so popular with American courts. On one side of the fulcrum, place your reasons for armed intervention. On the other, put

the rationals for not going to war. Again, here's a list of possibilities.

- I don't wear bullet holes well.
- I don't like deserts.
- Oil isn't worth the lives of the first 20 people you pass walking to the EMU.
- We shouldn't give the President the temptation of using the war as an excuse for domestic surveillance and repression.
- The image of a Lane Co. Sheriff, semi-automatic rifle cocked on his hip, pointing at a group of students in the Overpark.
- The bombings and destruction some felt were justified by the Southeast Asian mistake would likely not be repeated.
- Any war would tear apart relationships

— turning son against father, daughter against mother and American against American.

- The image of a student innocently cycling to the grocery store being maced on the streets near campus following a disturbance.

Which way does the balance tip? Eugene singer/songwriter Percy Hilo offers this result.

*Now if by chance you should get sore,
And ask what are we fighting for.
Get ready for your blood to boil.
Our young ones died for Standard Oil.*

*Yeah, war helps our economy.
We'll trade a life for industry.
It could be you; it could be me.
And Patton would be proud.*

yours

Viewer stats

I'd like to thank Doug Williams and the Emerald for the kind words on KOZY. But I would like to clarify a few points on the statistics quoted in the article.

According to a survey conducted by Professional Research Services in 1979, 67 percent of the Eugene-Springfield cable viewers watched the three network affiliates during the time period surveyed. KOZY had 22 percent of the audience that was not watching ABC, NBC or CBS.

Paul Helford
program director, KOZY

Cold power

It is atrocious that the objections to the recent "cold duck event" resulted in the indefinite postponement of the day. Certainly, whatever steps the University takes will do little to ameliorate the major problem of energy conservation, but it should be clear that if any progress is to be made at all, some minor sacrifices are necessary. If the result of enduring only one day without heat is even a small energy savings, could one not simply wear an extra sweater? Or, if relinquishing a single dollar means one can aid a starving child in Cambodia, is there any valid excuse for not doing so? Give up a single cup of coffee! Good grief, all that is being asked is that we take action instead of just talking about it. It is incredibly simple — really!

Holly Gillis
sophomore, english

Human rights

This letter is directed at all the local groups that say they are against oppression. Where is the free Chile Committee, the group to liberate South Africa, the Iranian Friendship Committee and many other groups that advocate human rights? It appears to be business as usual since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. None of these groups has come out publicly against this violation of human rights. The Emerald often makes statements concerning human rights but in this situation they have totally ignored the invasion.

Does it make any difference that the Soviets are the group violating human rights? Previous experience has demonstrated that when the Soviets take over a country they

kill the leaders and many well educated people who could possibly offer resistance against them. None of these local groups has offered to send funds which could be used by the rebels in their fight against the Soviet army. Food and money is sent to Cambodia to feed the remaining population. The rest of the population, anyone who had a skill or an education, was killed by the communist leader Pol Pot. The Soviets play for keeps. Since Christmas day 100,000 have invaded Afghanistan. The death toll has been estimated at 10,000 people. One only needs to look at a map to see other Soviet expansion. These countries include South Yemen, Iraq, Angola, (with help from Cuba), Cambodia and Afghanistan.

To all the campus groups and the Emerald that support human rights: Does your silence mean that you support the Soviet

invasion? Sometimes I wonder if you really support human rights.

John Wells
graduate, labor and industrial relations

Equal chance

I am most appreciative of the heroic position taken by my colleague, Siegfried Engleman, re: University Ponders Tenure Refusals. I value less his position that he won't accept tenure (which may or may not be defensible and, interestingly enough, for him, twelve years were required prior to consideration while most experience the trauma in six) but more his position that he durst estimate "that more than 50 percent of the faculty in the College of Education is 'deadwood' — incompetent in teaching students."

Indeed, "more than 50 percent" cannot be tolerated. Bad enough if it were less than 50 percent. The tender headed among us have long taken the position that students should have an equal opportunity to gain an education. What could be more equal for a student than to have a 50 — 50 chance?

Ziggy has distinguished himself as a researcher so we can assume the estimate approximates absolute certainty.

Because of the recently instituted requirements of post-tenure review, I find myself in the horrifying position of losing the "superstructure for incompetence" to which Ziggy believes we old folks have retreated. I await, with unbaited breath, the subsequent chapter in the Engleman saga — that of telling us who, besides himself, he would list in the less than fifty percent.

Ray Lowe
education

theirs

letters policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of concern or interest to the University community. Letters must be typewritten and limited to three pages, using 65 character margins. They should be triple-spaced. Letters must be signed and the author's field of study or faculty status noted.



'GHOTBZADEH, I HAD THE CRAZIEST DREAM LAST NIGHT — I HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AND NOBODY CAME, BECAUSE SOME STUPID TURKEY HAD EXPELLED ALL THE AMERICAN NEWSMEN. SO, NATURALLY I HAD THE KLUTZ EXECUTED, WHOEVER HE WAS ...'

CLINT EASTWOOD
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