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letters

Pinko?

This is regarding the article "Conscientious objector keeps dime" Jan. 30 *Emerald*.

The central logical fault in the thesis advanced by Brandon Shepard is that, in fact, he has not been "forced" to do anything. The state has used no force nor power of law to mandate Shepard to attend the University. As an adult (apparently) Shepard has reached the decision to attend the University on his own.

Certainly Shepard had every opportunity to evaluate the University prior to enrollment, providing of course he can read English. And, after enrollment he is free to go out into the free-market and attend a university that does not "violate" his "faith."

Why Shepard chose to withhold his dime from SNUFF and GALA can only be known to him. The logical conclusion however, is that he supports all of the other groups for which he did not withhold funds. What about it Brandon?

Furthermore, I have surmised that Shepard lives in the University dormitories from his address as published in *The Register-Guard*.

I can only wonder if he really isn't a little "pinko" after all living in socialist housing? Come on Shepard, why don't you stick up for your principles and get out of the state-supported housing and get into the free-market?

When it comes tax time someone could ask all Oregonians to ask to deduct all of their tax money going to support Shepard's education and housing. Why should anyone pay for something they don't believe in, especially when the waste is evident?

John Silvertooth-Stewart alumni

Big posture

As we begin to withdraw our "peace keeping" forces from Lebanon we are leaving some explosive baggage behind. The USS New Jersey's 16 in. guns

fired 150 rounds one day, each shell weighing 2000 pounds. 300 5 in. shells were also fired.

Contrary to what we would like to think, this bombardment was not in support of our withdrawing troops. Out State Department has admitted that the Marines were not in an immediately life threatening situation. If so, why were we and why are we firing?

Is our purpose merely one of posturing? To prove how tough and powerful we are regardless of whether or not we intend to stay? How many innocent lives did we take with our hundreds of tons of explosives? How many children did we murder, how many orphans did we create, how many homes did we destroy, fields did we burn?

We don't seem to care much what happens to the people of Lebanon. We make a big deal out of the death of Americans there but we systematically ignore our own murderous conduct.

The United States does have national interests in Lebanon — but none so vital as to go to war over. This is the opinion of our Congress, our people, and (I hope) our president. Are our lives, homes, and security so important, and theirs so trivial?

Is the death of an American any more or less tragic than the death of a Lebanese citizen? There seems to be one major difference: We chose to be there, and we have decided to leave — their country is their home, and they have nowhere else to go.

David Funk

Kudos

It is sometimes said that "the best things in life are free."

This might very well apply to the University Symphony concert on Feb. 7 conducted by Marsha Mabrey. My thanks to all of you for a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The program was interesting, diverse, and very well done. Both the members of the orchestra and Mabrey deserve high kudos for a job well done.

Bayard McConaughy biology

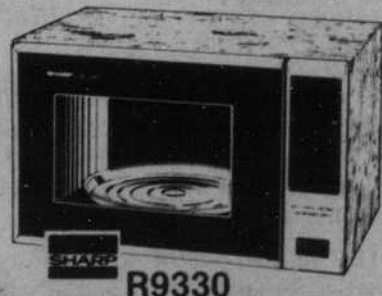
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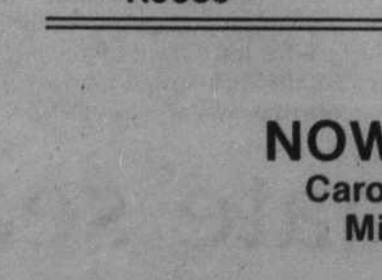


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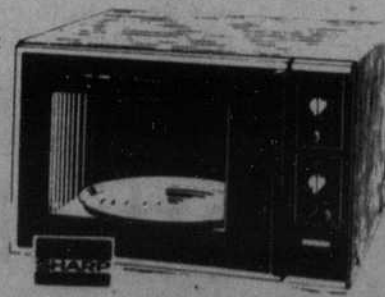


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