

editorial

Reagan is effective in dealing with crisis

The presidential election of 1980 took place while President Jimmy Carter was frantically trying to gain the release of the America hostages held in Iran and Republican candidate Ronald Reagan was standing in the sidelines condemning Carter's handling of the situation.

Carter's impotence in relieving the situation and Reagan's appearance of strength was a strong force in swaying the election in Reagan's favor. The election results were reinforced when the hostages were released the day Reagan was inaugurated and when a few days later Reagan stated "Let terrorists be aware that when the rules of international behavior are violated, our policy will be one of swift and effective retribution."

Now, in the face of a hostage crisis that bears resemblance to the situation that took place in Iran and has left one man dead and forty still in captivity, Reagan appears to be as helpless as Carter was in relieving the situation. However, to leave it at that would be to do an injustice to Reagan.

Following other terrorist attacks, such as the 1983 bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, the Reagan Administration delivered some strong statements promising retribution to those responsible. But, in none of the cases was retribution delivered.

However, though Reagan told the hijackers to release the hostages for "their own safety" and threatened to hold Shiite Moslem leader Nabih Berri responsible for the hostages' safety, he has not delivered the same broad threats of retribution that have followed other attacks. It appears that he has learned the danger of promising something that he is unable to or has no intention of delivering.

There are also some important differences between the Iranian hostage crisis and that of Lebanon. When Americans were taken captive from the American embassy in Iran, we knew that those responsible were Iranians who supported the Ayatollah Khomeini. In this case, though we know that the hijackers are part of the Shiite Moslem group, we cannot determine the country behind the attack. This, as Reagan pointed out during a June 18 press conference, makes retribution difficult.

Further, it is ineffective to threaten people who have identified themselves as Shiite Moslems, people who have historically been willing to sacrifice their own lives for their causes.

Reagan has also avoided the pitfall Carter allowed himself to fall into during the Iranian crisis. Reagan, by continuing with scheduled appointments and by focussing on other issues such as his tax plan, has refrained from allowing the crisis to engulf his job as president.

Reagan has done a good job of trying to achieve the delicate balance of protecting the lives of the Americans now being held hostage and preventing future attacks. Reagan's refusal to make concessions to the terrorists will devalue the use of terrorism as an effective tool for obtaining demands. At the same time, his placement of priority on the lives of the hostages and proceeding with negotiations are sincere efforts to bring the hostages home alive.

And in order to protect other Americans from terrorist action, Reagan has urged the Department of Transportation to extend the "armed air marshal program" which involves the random placement of plain clothed armed air marshals on airplanes to act as deterrents to hijackers. A spokesman for the Department of Transportation said that the department is considering this request and has also proposed a bill to Congress that would give the secretary of transportation the authority to immediately stop airline transportation to any airport found to have deficient security.

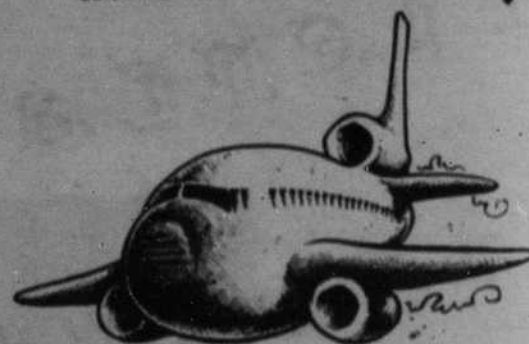
In addition, Reagan has also asked U.S. airlines to consider discontinuing flights into Athens as well as request that Americans refrain from using the Athens airport in order to pressure Greece into revamping the airport's security. He also asked Americans not to enter Middle Eastern nations that do not "publicly condemn and disassociate itself from this atrocity and call for the immediate release of our citizens." These measures are in addition to the bolstering of security that has taken place throughout Reagan's term of office.

Reagan's shift of priority onto the safety of American lives rather than retribution signals a new, more realistic approach to terrorism for the president.

(DOZEN SHIITE GUYS)



(PLANELOAD OF INNOCENT PEOPLE)



6-19

BENJAMIN
CARTER

THE 13 WARNING SIGNS OF IDIOCY

Opinion may hurt student groups

The opinion handed down by Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer may have some serious implications for campus student groups funded through incidental fees if the Oregon State Board of Higher Education chooses to abide by it.

The opinion forbids the use of incidental fees to fund support of an Oregon ballot measure and, if this isn't enough control for the OSBHE, the opinion would also limit funds for other political activities to programs "under the supervision or control of the board" that the board finds "advantageous to the cultural or physical development of students." Further, it would be necessary for the board to determine that the activity would "directly benefit the collective interests of the students who must pay the fee."

This opinion appears to be a direct effort on the part of the attorney general at the request of the Oregon House Republican Leader Larry Campbell and Bill Lemman, the vice-chancellor for Higher Education to tighten the reins on the activities of certain student groups. It is difficult to overlook the fact that Campbell is employed by Pacific Northwest Bell which was a major opponent of the ballot measure that established the Citizens Utility Board. CUB was heavily lobbied for by the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group. Also, Lemman makes it no secret that he opposes the use of incidental fees to support the South African divestiture suit.

There is also evidence that some College Republicans pushed for the opinion as well. Lemman claims that he asked for the opinion at the request of students, and David Ridenour and Doug

Green, who are both College Republicans, have been associated with the request for the opinion.

The opinion directly threatens the ASUO's support of the divestiture suit and the very existence of groups such as the Oregon Student Lobby, the Survival Center and Student Campaign for Disarmament. The other alarming feature is the vague language that specifies the qualifications student groups would need in order to use funds to advocate other political issues. The opinion gives the OSBHE the broad power to determine for the students what is and what is not "advantageous" for them. It leaves the temptation to the OSBHE to support funding issues they agree with and to forbid funding issues that they don't agree with all too vulnerable.

If the OSBHE takes the opinion to heart, the only recourse for groups who want to advocate political issues that have been denied IFC funds for the purpose, is to use revenues other than IFC money. But for the 72 of the 75 IFC funded groups that receive nearly all of their funding from IFC, this could be a difficult task.

Ideally, perhaps it should be that student fees are only spent to represent the collective interests of the students as a whole. However, the OSBHE with the support of the College Republicans, whose views do not coincide with the majority of the views of the students on this campus, are poor candidates to determine this. Fortunately, the OSBHE, which already has the power to veto certain uses of IFC funds and up until now has rarely intervened in IFC decisions, can ignore the opinion. We suggest that it does.

Good increases need consistency

The allocation of funds totalling about \$24.4 million to the University during the 1985 Oregon legislative session marks a significant increase over the last biennium's allocation. The increase was largely a result of the lobbying efforts of Eugene Mayor Brian Obie, Charlene Curry, governmental relations director, and faculty members that chose to lobby for salary increases rather than seek better pay at other institutions. They deserve many thanks.

University salaries received a 16-17 percent

increase, and \$14.4 million was contributed to the establishment and support of a science building and various science programs.

However, while the endowment did represent a substantial increase, legislators should realize that this type of funding is needed on a regular basis. The salary increase just brings wages up to par with that of other institutions and will need to be kept a top legislative priority if the University hopes to retain the level and quality of faculty it enjoys now.

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