

Letters

Sound familiar?

Germany, 1938. We've come a long way. Since the war of 20 years ago, we have had a great depression, high inflation, high rates of crime and unemployment. Other nations ridiculed us.

But all this has turned to the better. Adolf did away with the guilt for the war. He gave us jobs, brought down inflation and made our defenses strong. He calls good what is good and evil what is evil. The Olympics two years ago showed to the world how we Germans can excel. Now our nation is standing tall. Sure, some say that the secret police are everywhere and that we used to have more rights. But that had only led in to chaos and terror, hadn't it?

I am young and can't remember the war. But I do remember what followed it and how we pulled ourselves out of the mud. I am proud to be a German and that I am not one of those weenies, Jews and Communists who have exploited this great nation long enough. I am a German and I feel good about it.

Now let us switch the actors, time and place of our story. The time is 1986, the war was Vietnam and Adolf is Ronald. Jews and Communists are Arabs and Communists, Germans are Americans. I am you. Fit at all?

Klaus Volpert
Eugene

Puzzle blues

This is a call to arms for the improvement of morale as well as brain cells across campus. Students everywhere are crying, "Where's the crossword puzzle?" and appropriately so.

Just as I have fought for free speech and the continuation of Doonesbury, so too do I fight for my daily dose of crossword. I have wasted too much time staring blankly at half-page advertisements when I could be challenged with the greatest vocabulary-building tool of all time.

I demand the Emerald staff realize the immediate need for a daily crossword puzzle in the paper and begin printing one.

Bill Gallagher
Student

Fine coverage

I wish to thank the Emerald for the fine coverage given to G. S. Sachdev, Indian classical flutist. Often, it seems that excellent musical events are barely noted by the Emerald, so the story for this event was especially welcome.

The Committee for Musical Arts exists largely to bring guest musicians to the University. We strive to provide events which would otherwise be unavailable in this community. That necessarily leads us to have artists who are not in the mainstream of Western music (thus being not well-known), including those of other cultures and those performing late 20th-century or "modern" music, or other less-known or less-usual music.

Because our guests are often not well known, it is especially useful to have the Emerald help the committee inform the campus community of these events. This is a university, and as such, must offer myriad opportunities for the enjoyment and edification of its students. The Committee for Musical Arts serves as one organ of the University to provide such opportunities.

Thanks to the Emerald for its help in publicizing the opportunities at this fine university. The Committee's next event is the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, March 9.

Ray Morse
ASUO Committee for
Musical Arts

Military tools

Flack of another kind than from the exploded space shuttle Challenger now rains down. Media bombard us about technological spinoffs from shuttle research — innovations enriching our mundane lives.

Polls hastily taken ensure us, yes — the majority "want the shuttle program continued" (regardless of cost in tax dollars, the deficit, the nation's safety net); yes, the eager public, "largely unafraid," would feel honored as passengers aboard future shuttle missions.

"To reach for the stars" has an emotional ring dear to the ears of our histrionic government (less so, perhaps, for filmmaker George Lucas — his

legally owned trademark — "Star Wars" — is federally judged usable publicly to describe President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative).

Throughout these propaganda-like slatherings, the one word describing the shuttle's true, primary purpose is missing. That word? Military.

Subverted to military use, shuttles have made at least four classified military payload missions. The craft will play a key role in Reagan's pie-in-the-sky Star Wars show. (Concurrently, scientific space exploration programs flounder in favor of military exploitation of space.)

Does the 13-year-old Grants Pass girl (who believes U.S. space exploration programs should continue and is busily fund raising among children to replace the space shuttle) know what she's abetting? And what percent of her parents' income is tax allocated to the military?

The bottom (missing) line causing governmental worry is not how many civilian passengers the space shuttles can carry, but how great a military payload.

"To the stars," indeed.

Kay Wells
Eugene

Dispel myths

General Foods insults women in its ad about eight ways to get a man to ask you out again. It assumes that:

a) a woman knows little or nothing about sports, and probably doesn't care.

b) a man is all a woman lives for and worries about, and that she has no concerns of her own beyond not being caught putting on lipstick.

c) the man takes the woman out and pays for the date, then expects to be asked up to her place.

Thankfully, the men I know like a woman who is informed about many different things, enjoys going to dinner no matter who pays, and doesn't expect me to only listen.

Please, in the interests of helping dispel the old sex stereotypes, do not accept ads like this in the Emerald, or in other publications for that matter. Men and women will both gain.

Delores Chess
PPPM

Omission error

In his latest distortion ("No distortion," ODE, Feb. 7) Glen Sacks claims he is "showered with vague but angry charges that I'm misrepresenting the Afghan war." "How?" asks Sacks.

Let me offer one revealing example.

Sacks quotes the New York Times (Dec. 26, 1983) saying "the use of Soviet military power in Afghanistan is minimal." "Minimal!" exalts Sacks. This is because Sacks adds — quoting the same Times article — "the reconstituted Afghan army is willing to carry out ground operations against the insurgents!"

Here is the Times' quote: "This minimal use of Soviet military power can be attributed to the ubiquity and effectiveness of air power in the form of fighter bombers and helicopter gunships and to the willingness of the reconstituted Afghan army" (my emphasis).

The omission of the phrase

"ubiquity and effectiveness of air power" is telling, especially considering how ruthlessly the Soviets employ air power against Afghan rebels and civilians alike. As I noted in "Never say die" (ODE Jan. 24), it is the Soviets' promiscuous use of firepower (i.e. airpower) — combined with scorched-earth tactics — that has "caused hundreds of thousands of Afghan casualties." (See Commentary in The Oregonian, Feb. 7) "left thousands of Afghan villages in ruins" (Helsinki Watch, Dec. 1984) and made "parts of the country uninhabitable" (U.S. News, Jan. 20).

This is just one example of how Sacks misrepresents the Afghan war by manipulating information "from major bourgeois newspapers" to "support" his points.

Mr. Sacks, consider a career in journalism. Send your resume and recent clips to Pravda — they'll hire you.

Tom Visoky
Journalism

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(open 7 days a week from 11:30 to 10:00 p.m.)

ALL FORMER OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS
Tomorrow afternoon there will be counselors from your previous Oregon community colleges on campus.
They want to talk with you about how things have gone for you at the University.
They'll be in the EMU from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M.
Here are the colleges who'll be here and where to find them.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE	ROOM IN EMU
CENTRAL OREGON	CENTURY ROOM A
CHEMEKETA	ROOM 110
CLATSOP	CENTURY ROOM B
LANE	ROOM 111
LINN - BENTON	CENTURY ROOM C
MT HOOD	ROOM 108
PORTLAND	ROOM 109
SOUTHWESTERN	CENTURY ROOM E
UMPUQUA	CENTURY ROOM F

YOU'RE INVITED TO STOP BY AND VISIT WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF YOUR PREVIOUS OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE.