

Editorial

Release of Daniloff provides new hope

Without prior moral posturing from either the Soviet Union or the United States, Nicholas Daniloff boarded a plane Monday bound for Frankfurt. The details of his release and the rhetoric from both sides came later, as if following him as he flew across the European continent.

Both sides are now claiming victory in the exchange that won Daniloff, convicted Soviet spy Gennadi Zakharov, and Soviet dissident Yori Orlov and Irina Valitova, his wife, their freedom. The real victory comes in hope for clear, determined arms negotiations.

The resolution of the issue came quickly after Secretary of State George Schultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze sat down to negotiate the exchange. The two men must have spoken plainly about the affair, because the solution settled at once the question of Daniloff's captivity, Zakharov's trial and plans for an East-West summit.

This is the magic of diplomacy, that two nations can pierce the rhetoric of a situation to find a solution. In this case, Reagan and Gorbachev, who have so far issued lots of rhetoric but have come up empty-handed on arms negotiations, both obviously value substantial arms talks enough to compromise in the Daniloff affair.

This is in itself good news.

The two nations might have delayed news of the summit, seeking to imply that Daniloff's captivity was not a consideration in pre-Summit posturing. Reagan and the Soviets instead acknowledged, in effect, that Daniloff was merely a pawn used to gain position before the summit. Thus it is important that the reporter was released first, and without trial.

To their credit, the Soviets backed down from their original stance, after Gorbachev had stated plainly that Daniloff was a spy. Moreover, Zakharov was tried and convicted, though he took the face-saving measure of pleading "no contest" — meaning not guilty and not innocent, but abiding by the court's decision.

Reagan's hard stand against a straight exchange of Daniloff and Zakharov was therefore important. The plain fact is that Daniloff is innocent of espionage, and Zakharov is guilty.

It is indeed abominable that an innocent American citizen was imprisoned in the Soviet Union as a political hostage, and that Zakharov, a Soviet spy, will be traded for Orlov, whose only crime is the exercise of his human rights.

However, it is also abominable that both countries stockpile nuclear weapons. It would also be abominable if both nations could not maintain sufficient diplomacy to seek a resolution to the cold war.

In this case, the balance struck is reasonable, though the precedent set is unclear. Certainly the Soviets will think twice before arresting another American reporter, but they may see the opportunity to seize a less visible American as a guaranteed pardon for their spies caught in the United States.

This event is the culmination of a year of building tension between the Americans and Soviets. Reagan drew a hard line for the Soviets with his rejection of the Salt II treaty, his dismissal of a moratorium on nuclear testing and his demand that the Soviet United Nations contingency reduce its staff. When the United States arrested Zakharov on espionage charges, the Soviets framed and imprisoned Daniloff, seeking a hard line of their own.

Hopefully, in resolving the issue, both sides have reached an understanding of the other's position. If this understanding can continue through the summit, then hopes for arms reductions are very good.



Letters

Return KWAX

It is a workday morning and I am in my studio, listening to KWAX. "Fine Arts Public Radio from the University of Oregon." KWAX has been my friend and companion. I send money when asked, and I have also long hosted an interview program with artists ("Art Access").

Now the announcer's voice comes on. It sounds bland and uninterested. (Some refer to this style as "professional.") Anyway he doesn't have much to say; certainly not about what is going on at the University. It's classical background music all day, and in the evening we go on "automatic pilot": music recorded elsewhere. Public interest programs such as University Street and The Oregon Story have been dropped. Those that have hung on, i.e., Art Access and a science program, have been relegated to Saturday afternoons at 5 p.m.

Symbolizing the growing estrangement from the University, the station has now moved from its quarters atop Villard Hall to the old KUGN station off Coburg Road. The reason given is that the UO Speech department needs the space. To me this seems a very poor exchange: a few classrooms and

offices benefitting some students and instructors, versus the University's outreach to a community of thousands.

What we have here is a combination of neglect on the part of the University, which does not value the asset it is giving up, and a station management which has little feeling for the quality that makes a university public radio station.

Who does care besides me? Please communicate with Barbara Edwards, associate vice president for University relations, 203 Johnson Hall. Ask that space be found to bring KWAX back on campus and that it become a real university public radio station once again.

Lotte Streisinger
Eugene

Protection

The true goal of our corrections system has long been debated. The views range from rehabilitation on one side to punishment on the other, with a full range of views in between. There is little doubt, however, that the primary purpose of corrections is to maximize public safety. The criminal justice system should provide protection from victimization by criminals. The failure of the criminal justice system to do this has caused a severe strain on the quality of life in our community. The question of public safety should be of vital concern to the voter.

The Lane County Corrections Master Plan will allow additional jail space as well as a work camp, and a drug and alcohol treatment center. These services will help provide a safe community and protect the public from those who pose a threat to society.

As a member of the Criminal Process Coordinating Council, I am aware of the vast amount of studies and forethought that went into the development of this plan. The package to be presented to the voter Nov. 4

contains the necessary resources to deal with the various offenders presented to the courts. I urge the public to join me in voting for Bond Measure 19 and Tax Base Measure 20.

Linda Solin
Eugene

Pay Equity

An open letter to Paul Olum: Congratulations on your recent \$4000 raise. In light of the fact that it takes many full-time clerical workers at the University nearly 5 months to earn the amount of your raise, we of the Oregon Public Employees Union Clerical Committee would like to take this opportunity to ask you to take a public stand on the issue of pay equity for undervalued job classifications.

Pay equity (that is, pay based on the relative worth and difficulty of jobs and not on historical discrimination) is the OPEU's number one bargaining issue this year. In a recent survey of clerical workers at the University, we found that 20 percent of the respondents had to accept some form of public assistance in the last year. It is obscene that any full-time state employee should be in the position of needing welfare.

For many decades employers have been able to get away with paying, unfairly, low salaries to workers in traditionally female-dominated jobs, but this discriminatory force in the marketplace must be ended. Women, too, deserve to earn a living wage for the honorable and important work we do.

It would be of help to us if you would add your public support to that of our legislators who passed the comparable worth bill.

Please help us by adding your voice to ours in the struggle for pay equity.

Amy Joy Talbot
OPEU Clerical Committee
Thursday, October 2, 1986

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