

Commentary

Policy Continued from Page 2

supportable, what are you left with to back your position?

The national-security doctrine is one rock to crawl under. This bottomless pit of paranoia renders unremarkable foreign leaders who dutifully kiss the American flag while they are supported in brutal wars against their own people. This position's proponents don't ask whether a foreign government poses a perceptible threat to the United States. They ask whether a foreign government is sufficiently compliant not to pose a potential threat. The national-security doctrine

places foreign interests and lives subordinate to our own.

Another refuge is doctrinaire anti-communism. This convenient and popular feat of logic allows us to condone any form of brutality against communists as self-justifying. If you follow this line, you are in good company. Medieval European Catholics employed doctrinaire anti-Protestantism. With primitive weapons technology they successfully and piously massacred entire communities. The Conquistadores believed that Indians who did not

volunteer for Christianity and slavery were possessed by the devil.

Given what are apparently the facts about Nicaragua (by all means, see for yourself), supporters of the administration have two choices. The first is to submit recent events to revisionist interpretations, thereby allowing at least two appealing justifications for Nicaraguan policy. The second is to turn to thinking in terms of a universally reviled political ideology, the mere naming of which is too potent for present sensibilities.

Letters

Satirical right

Apparently, Mr. Scott Lewis needs to learn how to read. In his letter he states that the College Republicans had posted a sign on the door that said, "SOVIET FREE ZONE." (ODE, Oct. 14)

If he had read the clearly legible and visible words that followed, he would have understood that poster. It reads: "SOVIET FREE ZONE. NO RUSSIAN ATTACKS PERMITTED." It scares the hell out of me that Mr. Lewis is unable to understand political satire.

Mr. Lewis shows his intolerance toward the College Republicans and to our right to make a satirical commentary about domestic issues, such as the nuclear free zone legislation.

You could have asked me or any other of our members to read to you the words (written in basic English) and explain to you the simple message (it isn't directed at the Soviet government or their policies).

I invite any student or faculty member to visit our office at any time. I will gladly show you the poster, explain its satirical message, and gladly engage in a friendly, tolerant debate about the impact and influence of "FREE ZONE" legislation.

And to the many individuals

who stopped in at our office and inquired about purchasing a copy of our poster. I regret to inform you that we have only one, which will be given to the first individual who donates \$25 or more to the College Republicans.

I would like to thank you for your support, as we had dozens of people who came to our office to join our organization.

Timothy A. Cushing, Chair
University College Republicans
Room 16 A, EMU

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

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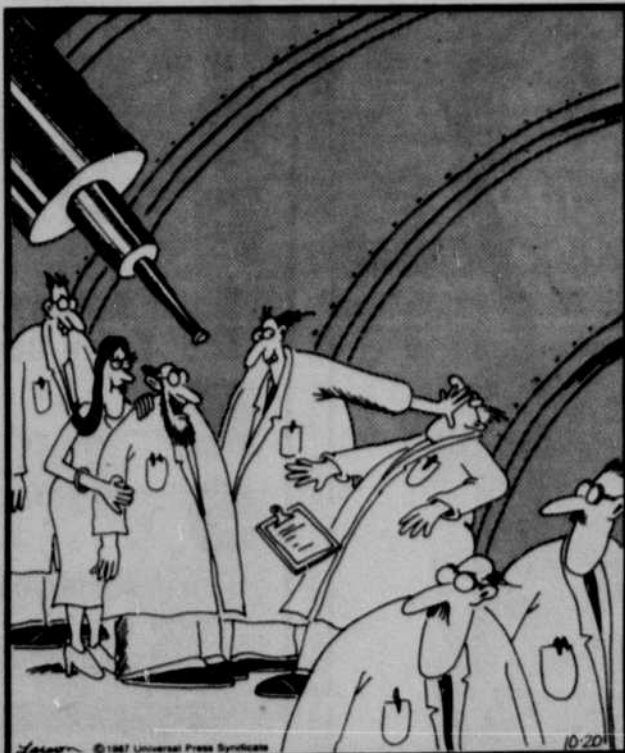


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