

U.S., imperialism: the newest combo

How does a world governing order led by a single country sound, complete with all the little extras such as complete military backup of the imperialistic system and total ignorance of international leadership mechanisms like the United Nations?

The country presently entertaining the idea "must sufficiently account for the interests of the advanced industrial nations to discourage them from challenging our leadership or seeking to overturn the established political and economic order," according to a document now circulating within the country's highest governing circle.

The document also stated the country would be willing to use military force if necessary to enforce the new system, which includes zero nuclear buildup in neighboring countries. Of course, the country is extremely nervous about weapon capabilities of other nations, because there would be a good chance of it finally getting knocked off the pedestal it has long sat on. Oops — clue number one.

It also opted for "collective action" in world affairs through temporary, "ad hoc assemblies, often not lasting beyond the crisis being confronted, and in many cases carrying only general agreement over the objectives to be accomplished," in lieu of the continued establishment of the United Nations.

Had enough? The suspense too much? Well, don't look now, but the possible self-imposed dictator is us, the United States.

The Defense Department declared in a new policy statement, now in its final drafting stages, that America's political and military mission in the post-Cold War era is to make sure no rival superpower emerges to threaten its standing.

The classified document, which has been passed around the Pentagon for several weeks now, was recently given to *The New York Times* by an official wanting to see this strategy carried out in the public eye. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney may release it later this month.

Scary. Should this Bush-brained scheme actually be carried out, it would set the United States up as enforcer of its self-imposed primacy — a position it has no right to occupy in the first place.

No country should proclaim itself world leader, least of all the United States; it totally goes against everything we supposedly stand for. This imposition of America on the world does not ring of liberty and freedom, nor does military coercion of its victims.

Under this plan, we're setting ourselves up to be our own worst enemy. Instead of trying to heighten our already shaky pedestal, we should be dismantling it while rallying for similar action worldwide.

Just think, Americans were worried about the Soviet Union's ultimate show of power.



LETTERS

On foot

If the Office of Public Safety is serious about controlling bicycles on campus, an effective method would be to assign one or two officers to foot patrol the campus. Such a patrol would be liable to show up anywhere at anytime.

This would also reap some benefits for OPS. Incidents like the recent handcuffing of the professor are damaging to OPS because the officers are effectively insulated from the student body by their cars. Students need to be able to interact with OPS officers in a neutral setting where they can get to know each other and appreciate each other as people, not roles. This would naturally happen with a foot patrol.

Incidentally, foot-patrol officers would be well advised to leave their guns, handcuffs and other hardware at home. Such tools only serve to intimidate people and do not encourage communication.

Ralph Krumdloek
Admissions office

What's the beef

Somebody answer me a question: What's the connection between tires and beef? Rubber and cow? Butcher and mechanic?

Wouldn't it be logical to get a free lug wrench, or maybe a free tune-up with your purchase of tires? I mean, if you're going to give anything away, at least these things are basically related. But no, tire companies are offering "Free Beef" with your purchase of tires.

This is a huge campaign that I would really like to understand. Did these tire companies buy too much beef for their annual company barbecue? Did local beef companies owe these tires companies money and pay them back with T-bones, ground round and top sirloin?

OK, obviously the two companies made some kind of deal. How they got together, who knows? Well, if you do, let me in on it. I'd like to know. I guess there is a fine line between Wendy and the Michelin man.

Jenny Beaumont
Student

Ms. Beaumont,

Good question. First of all, it's Les Schwab, not Michelin. Brian Capp, a member of Schwab's marketing and advertising staff at the company's headquarters in Prineville, said Les started the promotion 28 years ago. Schwab, noticing that his tire sales slumped in late winter, figured free beef would lure customers to his shop. Capp said Schwab also believed a promotion such as this would help out the neighboring ranchers. He was right. Since the campaign began, Schwab has given away \$500,000 worth of meat, and the chain of tire stores has grown.

Although Schwab owns a ranch, Capp said all of the beef comes from USDA-approved cows. Capp said the promotion has spawned a loyal following, but also, understandably, a few angry letters from vegetarians.

Just thought you'd like to know. — Ed.

Bikecology

I would like to expand upon Andrew Thompson's great idea (*ODE*, March 9). This could prove beneficial to all of us.

Since ecology is such an important issue today, why has the University discouraged the use of bicycles on campus? Having the right to ride a bicycle to the campus is one thing, but why does the Office of Public Safety penalize students and faculty for riding across the campus? It is almost impossible for me to get from Straub to PLC in less than 10 minutes without breaking the law by riding on the sidewalks.

Here is my solution: In almost every direction across our campus there are double sets of sidewalks. Why not provide one of them for pedestrians and the other for bicycles?

Another thing we can do is create a better relationship be-

tween students/faculty and OPS. As an example, Officer Scarborough does a very commendable job. Unfortunately, he always seems to follow the "letter" of the law. It is my belief that the "spirit" of the law can often be more effective. When confrontations occur, knee-jerk reactions usually result.

Cooperation and respect have to make things better for everyone.

Jerry Carson
History

Mothers

While students look upon the spring season as a "wind-down" time, there is an organization in "full swing" getting ready for the next school year.

The University of Oregon Mothers Club is probably not well-known on campus. Yet, since it was organized in 1929, assisting students has always been its focus. Among its early accomplishments were contributions to the construction of the infirmary; recording studio in Beall Hall; individual building libraries and, also, the blue carpets in Gerlinger Hall.

Today's activities are focused on financial aid. In addition to making available a revolving loan fund, this year, the Mothers Club will award 10 scholarships. These scholarships include the \$1,000 Golda Wickham Award; the \$500 the Teresa Kelly Janes Award; a speech award of \$400, and eight \$600 scholarships given to undergraduates currently attending the University.

Those interested students with a GPA of 3.0 or above, have community or school service experience and a financial need should watch the personals in the classified section of the *Emerald* after spring vacation for specific details.

Alice Dugan, Chairwoman
UO Mothers Club Scholarships

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