



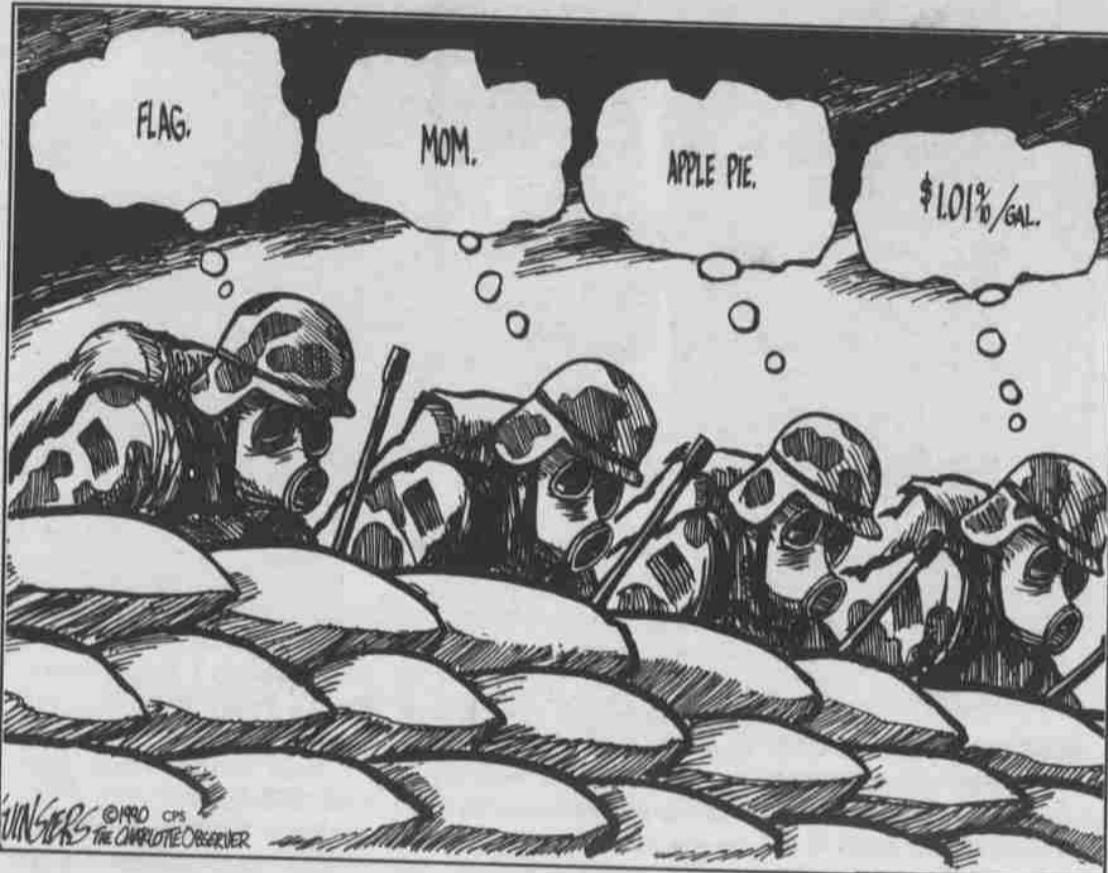
THE YELLIN' REBEL

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Campus anti-war rallies draw little interest

"Tacit approval 'until shots are fired?'"



It was going to be a show of student opposition to the United States' military intervention in the Middle East.

But only about 20 University of Illinois-Champaign students showed up to protest at the September rally.

The lukewarm turnout was, in fact, typical of student anti-war demonstrations that have been held nationwide since President Bush announced Operation Desert Shield, in which he sent 40,000 U.S. troops to defend Saudi Arabia against a possible Iraqi invasion.

Rallies generally have been sparsely attended and erratically held.

Student Desert Shield opponents say the vaunted campus anti-war movement, born in the days of Vietnam, will come to life soon.

The issue "is whether people will accept a military confrontation," maintained graduate student Robert Naiman, who organized the Illinois demonstration. He thinks it will take a while for it to take hold.

"There wasn't anything specifically set up for this issue," he noted. "It's simply the shock of the new. It takes a little bit of time for people to react to the situation."

Others attribute the anti-war movement's slumber to students' unwillingness to concede there really may be a war.

"There won't be any (anti-war protests) here unless shots are fired," said John Doherty, student body president at Santa Clara (Calif.) University. "I don't think the majority of students think there will be a war."

Polls show opposition
He thinks students tacitly agree with Bush.

"There are very few people who disagree with protecting Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries," Doherty added.

Even while student dissatis-

faction with U.S. intervention in the affairs of the Nicaraguan and El Salvadoran governments seems to ride high, "our actions seem to be more justifiable in the Middle East," said Rice University Political Science Professor Richard Stoll.

National polls do show younger people (18-29 year olds) consistently are the most critical of U.S. policy on the issue, although a majority still supports the government.

The younger segment of the population has been the group "least supportive" of military intervention, said Leslie McAneny of the Gallup Organization, based in New Jersey.

In a recent Gallup Poll, 68 percent of those 18-29 years old approved of Bush's handling of the crisis. Eighty percent of those 30-49 approved, and 73 percent of those 50 and over endorsed the president's actions.

What's more, a smaller percentage (68 percent) of the younger segment approved of sending troops than did the middle age-group (81 percent) and older people (74 percent).

Historically, younger people are more supportive of government actions than their older counterparts, Stoll said.

During the course of the Vietnam War, while public support for U.S. involvement steadily decreased, young people actually were more supportive of the war than their older counterparts, Stoll said.

"The image we have of all college kids out protesting the Vietnam War is really not an accurate picture," he said.

Stoll doesn't foresee much student opposition to Desert Shield without "a combination of American casualties in conjunction with a military stalemate and a resumption of the draft."

"Waiting for body bags"
Anti-war students have in-

see ANTI-WAR page 4

Ed Koch speaks at UNLV

by Tina Crinte
Assistant Editor/News

"I believe if the United States packs up and goes home without destruction it will all have been a wasted effort," said former New York Mayor Ed Koch, in reference to the current conflict in the Middle East.

In a lecture sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Eugene Warner Lecture Series on Oct. 2, Koch voiced his opinion on various topics such as the Middle East, anti-Semitism, and his reelection. Approximately 1,000 people attended.

Describing himself as a "liberal with sanity," Koch warned that the stability in the Middle East was being threatened by the

"very dangerous" Saddam Hussein whose "raping" of Kuwait would eventually result in starvation and a lowering of living standards.

"When you are invaded and win [the United States] you don't have to give it back," Koch said. Koch said he thought President George Bush was doing a "good" job so far.

A question was raised from a member of the audience which provided reflection back to World War II and the plight of the Jews. Koch said he felt at that time in history Jewish leaders did not do enough as well as the Jewish

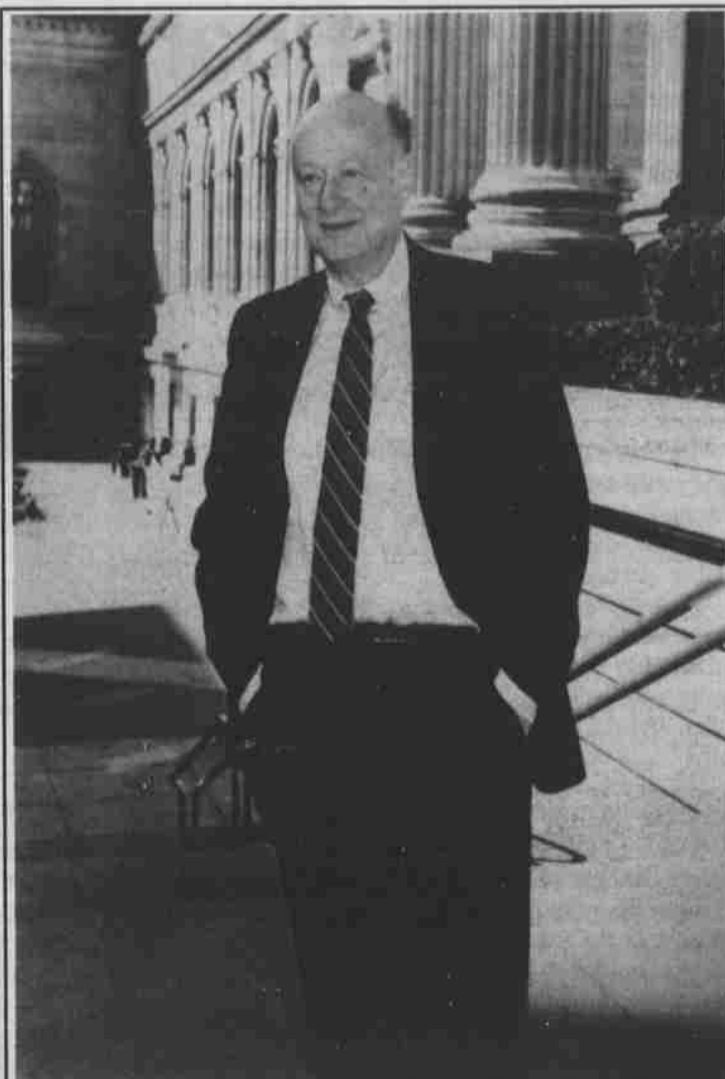
community in the United States to help those in Europe.

Calling himself a Zionist [supporter of the Jewish nation] Koch expressed his concern for the "spread of anti-Semitism throughout the country."

"ADL is the number one Jewish advocate organization in America," Koch said, but he commented that still not enough was being done to remedy the continued prejudices.

Other issues raised included Koch's opinion on New York's current mayor, David Dinkins. "On a scale from one to ten, Dink-

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Ed Koch - visited UNLV recently to give his opinions on life and politics.

Days without computers:
185

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Computer lab fees cancelled

UNLV President Robert C. Maxson announced Wednesday, Oct. 3 the cancellation of UNLV's computer lab fees. The cancellation will save university students more than \$150,000 this year, he said.

"We are pleased that we could offer this savings to our students," Maxson said. "We are strongly committed to developing computer literacy in our students, and we will continue to do whatever we can to encourage them to use the fine computer facilities available here at UNLV."

The university was able to discontinue the computer lab fee due to additional revenue generated by the recent University of Nevada System tuition increase. Formerly, UNLV students enrolled in computer classes paid \$25 per course per semester for use of computer labs on campus. Now, \$1 per credit goes to the creation and maintenance of numerous computer labs for all UNLV students.

"We recognize that most of our students come from working families. Many are themselves working to pay for their educations," Maxson said. "We want to save them as much as we can. We may be the only university campus in the nation that doesn't charge a parking fee, and we are delighted to be able to eliminate computer lab fees."

Maxson added that the university is building a new computing lab in the residence halls and enhancing the lab in the campus library.

Also, a new computer lab is being built for the Graduate Student Association.