

bruin viewpoint

Kimberly Noel, Viewpoint Editor

August 6, 1985 marked the 40th anniversary of the usage of atomic weapons in an attack on Hiroshima; three days later on August 9, 1945, Nagasaki was bombed. This propelled the world into a technically warless nuclear age. Thus the notion of deterrence and the nuclear threat as safeguards keeping the

world peaceful has evolved into a popular one.

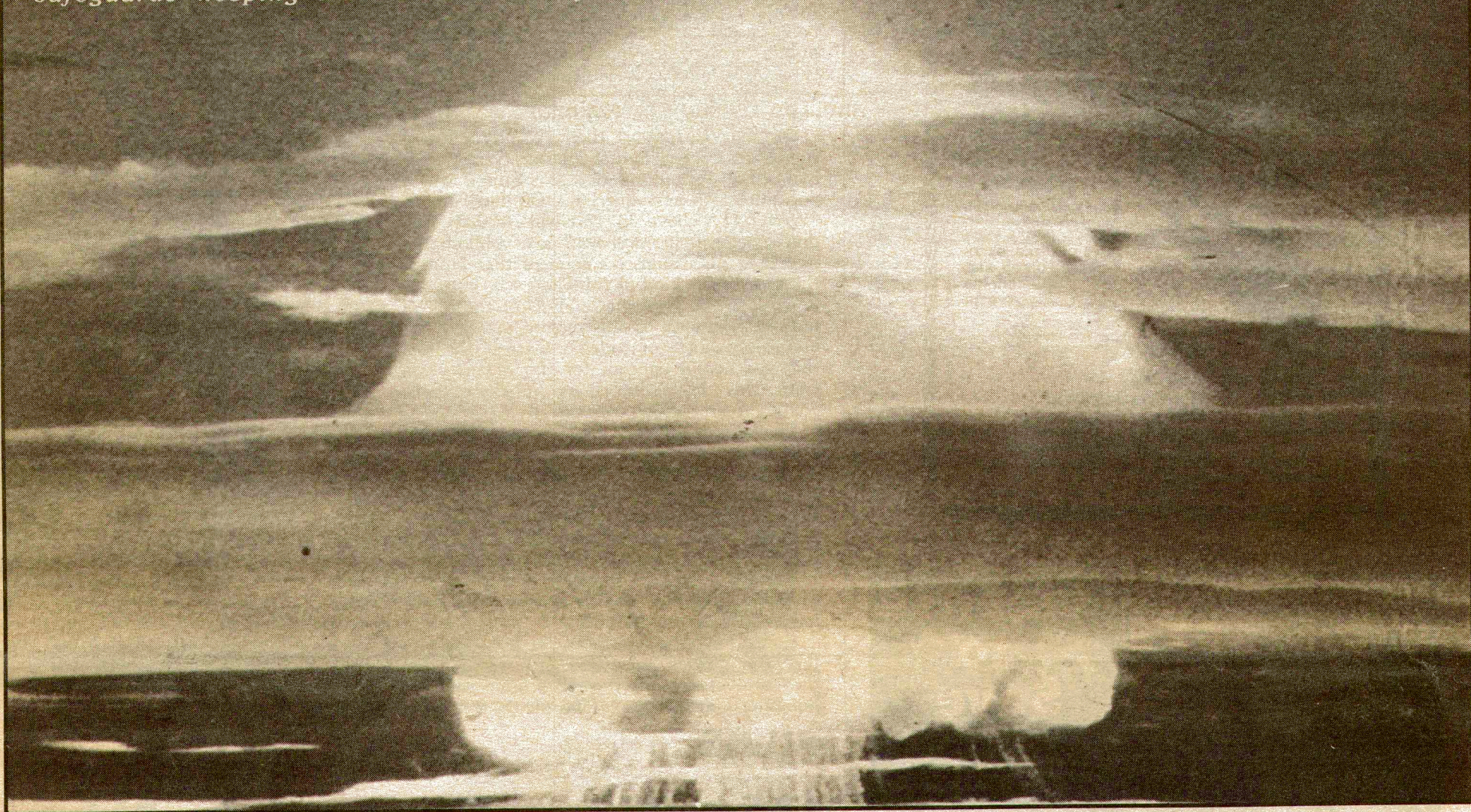
In defending former President Harry Truman's authorization to use nuclear bombs in the attack on Japan, President Reagan said, "I think horrible as it (the bombings) was, we have to say this too — that it did give the world a view of the threat

of nuclear weapons, and I think that should be an aid in one day ridding ourselves of them."

But I think we have to recognize that the presence of our nuclear weapons as a deterrent have kept us at peace for the longest stretch we have ever known, 40 years of peace."

Are nuclear weapons a strong deterrent forcing peace among nations or have we been fortunate in avoiding another Hiroshima and Nagasaki despite the escalation of the arms race?

Write a letter expressing your opinion on this or other matters of interest to Bruin Viewpoint.



Viewpoint

Operation Acronym

By Mitchell Bard

Bard's Eye View:

Early in his first term, President Reagan received a lot of publicity for his handling of the air controllers' strike. As you will recall, since their strike was illegal he fired all the controllers in what was seen by many as a case of federal strike busting.

Since then we have heard very little about the air controllers, but there have been a large number of strikes by employees of the various commercial airlines. Well-misplaced sources have brought to my attention an attempt by the Reagan Administration to bring airline unions into line by covert means. The code name for the operation is "Acronym."

Operation "Acronym" involves the unprecedented cooperation of the government bureaucracy. Here is the plan. The FBI has placed all union leaders under surveillance while CIA agents tapped their phones.

Both acted under the direction of the NSC and with the blessing of DIA at DoD. The budget for the operation was approved by OMB and has thus far been hidden from CBO audits.

A secret memo I have obtained detailed the progress of the operation. The CAB has refused to respond to union demands for regulation of fares and the FAA has offered the airlines its expertise from the PATCO strike in union busting.

The NLRB has asked the airlines to consider employee ownership plans in an effort to relieve their financial burden, but the SEC, acting on instructions from the FED, has prevented such a proposal from being included in company proxy statements.

The FTC has also gotten into the act by approving airline advertisements depicting greedy flight attendants preventing passengers from receiving lower airfares. The effect of this operation thus far has been to allow the airlines to pressure their unions for wage concessions.

My source, who could only identify himself as "Loose Lips," said ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, PBS, and the BBC were deliberately misinformed about Operation "Acronym." He knew, however, that you can't lie to the Eye.

Bard, a graduate student of political science, is a published columnist.

Viewpoint

Foreign policy: an iron fist

By John Dupuy

Any nation's foreign policy must be centered around power, security and prestige maximization. At the very least a nation cannot have its local influence diminished nor can its borders ever become threatened.

These simple maxima are even more important when the nation concerned is a superpower. The case we are concerned with is the United States in Central America.

In my opinion U.S. policy should not be concerned with idealistic bunk of "spreading democracy" or being a "good neighbor." American policy should be based upon keeping the Soviet Union out. Why should the Soviets be kept out? Well, it is not that they are the biggest mass-murderers in history, or that they are responsible for militarism, bad ecological management or primitive living standards.

The reason they must be kept out is indeed not ideological, but pragmatic. If that means a mere \$53 million to pay for equipment and training for special forces in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador then go ahead.

Why should we be so namby-pamby about sending over help to protect our interests? Americans behave like scared ants whenever we have to deal with the likes of a Pinochet or Galtieri. Realism must guide us to our eventual triumph. We must seek inspiration from De Gaulle, Tallyrand, Ludendorff, Metternich and Bismark.

We conduct ourselves in the manner Daffy Duck would if he would be advised by Pee Wee Herman. To fight the Soviets that is not good enough, and \$53 million isn't enough. We need a foreign policy of iron and blood, not mush and jello.

Dupuy is a junior majoring in political science.

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