von Geusa: Reflections on the China trip

By Frans A.M. Ailing von Geusa

In the following letter to Plato’s Reader, the author comments on the following topic:

Inside a cave, a group of men are chained so that they can only see the shadows on the cave wall. They are prevented from moving around, so they are unable to turn their heads. Behind them is a fire blazes and, between them and the shadows on the wall, is a Personenfront. Some men are talking to the men in the shadows. One of these men, Plato’s words, ‘The truth would be obscured by their shadows.’

According to the author, the chain of events in this letter is:

1. The group of men is chained.
2. They are prevented from moving around.
3. They can only see the shadows on the cave wall.
4. They are unable to turn their heads.
5. They are talking to the men in the shadows.
6. Plato’s words, ‘The truth would be obscured by their shadows.’

The author then goes on to discuss the implications of these events for the social and political climate in the United States.

The letter begins with the following opening: ‘Inside a cave, a group of men are chained in such a way that they can only see the shadows on the wall. They are unable to turn their heads. Behind them is a fire blazes and, between them and the shadows on the wall, is a Personenfront. Some men are talking to the men in the shadows. They are unable to move around, so they are unable to turn their heads. Plato’s words, ‘The truth would be obscured by their shadows.’

The author then goes on to discuss the implications of these events for the social and political climate in the United States. He argues that the United States is in a state of denial, where the truth is obscured by the shadows of power and privilege.

The letter concludes with the following closing: ‘Plato’s words, ‘The truth would be obscured by their shadows.’

To the editor:

Dear Editor,

I have been following the ongoing debate about the role of the United Nations in the resolution of the situation in the Middle East. At the same time, I have been closely following the developments in the United States, particularly the response of the US administration to the growing military conflict in that region.

I would like to express my concern about the current state of affairs in the United States. It seems to me that the US government is actively promoting a policy of containment of the Soviet Union, which is leading to an increase in tensions in the region. This is not in the best interest of the United States, and it is also contributing to the destabilization of the region.

I believe that the United States should take a more active role in promoting peace and stability in the Middle East. This would require a willingness to engage in constructive dialogue with all parties involved, and a commitment to working towards a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

I urge the US government to consider the views of the people in the region, and to work towards a peaceful resolution of the conflict. Only then can we hope to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Letters to the Editor

The Tech

By Norman Sandler

With the approach of the 1972 presidential election, millions of students (approximately 300,000 in the Boston area) have been exercising their right to vote for the first time. This has the potential of being the most encouraging election in recent history, as it has been seen, with two liberals in the running for the Demo- catic nomination and Nixon up against a new challenger for the first time. Students will have the opportunity to determine the outcome of the election to a large extent.

I have been very interested in the fact that a majority of the students on campus feel it is unfair to give others who are not students the opportunity of shaping the course of history for the United States over the next four years. This is especially true in light of the fact that students are not catching on to the importance of the election, and are not realizing their importance in the political arena this year, reflecting much to student involvement, even if it entails simply registering to vote.

The Mass primary will be significant in the "72 election due to the comparatively early date it is held. This is because it is the first election in which the second part of the Rusk-Trum- pelman agreement is due to take place. The results of the election will be watched carefully, as they will help to determine the future of US-Soviet relations and the direction of US foreign policy.

The point here is that although the primary and the campaign fall approximately at the same time, the loads increase and the weather is not the same. This is why, in the past, students should register to vote. By doing so, they are ensuring that their voices are heard in the campaign and that they play a role in shaping the future of the United States.

I urge all students to register to vote on time, as this is the only way they can ensure that their voices are heard in the campaign.

Sincerely,

[Signature]