ASA's Side

(A copy of this letter was sent to The Tech. It was written before the ASA field hearings on the Ergo dispute — Editor.) To the Ergo Staff:

When the ASA Executive Committee have watched these past weeks as increasing amounts of information have been appearing that we think is somewhat slanted in its representation and somewhat misleading, in the hope of clearing up the matter of what exactly is happening we want to explain as best we can.

To date the Executive Committee has informed Ergo that we believe serious enough questions have been raised as to the overall validity of Ergo's use of its present office to warrant a serious evaluation of the situation. In addition, we have set dates for hearings on the questions of space by those who wish to apply for space or offer opinions on the subject as the initial activities. In as much as no activity that currently has space is immune from the considerations of having its space removed we do not feel that we have made any real decision with respect to Ergo as of yet. Rather we have tried to indicate the seriousness that we believe is inherent in Ergo's current situation.

At the time that the space review is concluded and the decisions of the Executive Committee become known, any organization that feels that it has been treated unfairly can request that an appeal board be appointed to judge its case. If the activity is unhappy with the board's action the decision may be overturned by a 3/4 vote of the ASA. We do not believe that these procedures are in order until the Executive Committee has made its decisions. If there are specific questions as to procedure that you would like to address to us we will be more than willing to answer you.

Forest Kroetter '75
ASA Executive Committee
March 11, 1975.

Iranian Naive?:

(Continued from page 4)

India — who had US and Canadian investors and had made her own "peaceful" nuclear explosives.

I see nothing immoral about the Institute charging the Iranian government — or any other foreign government or organization — the full costs of our services. As Professor Hansen, the Iranian government approached the Institute with the request for a special program. There is no reason for the Institute's endowment to underwrite this — or any other special program — since the government can afford the full costs. I believe that the regular students here from all foreign countries are satisfied on an equal footing with everyone else, and the endowment underwrits all our educations.

Once even the first covncern is to insert the spinning spear (or bow and arrow, or fire, etc.) for the sake of its being "useful" make them, the problem of how to influence people to use responsible technology that can be used for good or bad purposes, the reason that we are teaching is more and more "one dimensional."

The recommendations alone can be used to gain information in the world but are not in themselves evidence that the applicant as can be imagined. Both dimensions are needed if we are to be fair.

What is going to happen for lack of international cooperation within the University is a great and greater dependence on uniform externally determined examinations (shades of MIT entrance exams). What we then look forward to is an increased forced uniformity among comparable departments at different institutions. This is a deviation from our curricula of a totally unacceptable dimension.

If only we could perceive how truly fortunate we are to be able to have such freedom in our minds the needs of the individual is the long term, and not the short term training requirements.

Letters

(The Tech welcomes Letters to the Editor, and attempts to print all letters it receives. Typed letters are preferred. No letter that is unsolicited or which does not identify the writer's MIT affiliation can be accepted for publication. Please make letters brief. The Tech reserves the right to edit letters which are unnecessarily long.)

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Karl Taylor Compton Lecture

"Art, Technology, and History"

by

Cyril S. Smith

Institute Professor Emeritus

4:00pm, April 10, 1975

Lecture Hall 10-250