news roundup

World

Israel to consider withdrawal from Lebanon — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin said Wednesday he would call a cabinet meeting to decide whether to accept the American plan for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. The plan, proposed by US Secretary of State George P. Shultz, outlines the pullout of 30,000 Israeli troops from Lebanon. The plan does not require Syrian troops to leave the country.

Soviets offer to reduce arsenal — Soviet leader Yuri Andropov offered this week to reduce his country's medium-range nuclear forces in Europe to NATO levels and to reduce the number of warheads, missiles, and planes. Andropov's proposal includes British and French nuclear forces in the NATO level, and would prohibit further deployment of US missiles in Europe. President Reagan called the proposal "encouraging."

Nation

House committee votes to cut aid to Nicaragua — The US House of Representatives intelligence committee Wednesday night approved a bill to cut off covert military aid to Nicaragua. The committee approved $80 million in aid to "any friendly country in Central America." President Reagan did not debate the action, but called the Nicaraguan recipients "freedom fighters" who were opposing a government which had betrayed the principles upon which it was founded.

Catholic bishops denounce nuclear weapons — Roman Catholic bishops endorsed a resolution condemning nuclear arms by a vote of 238 to 9. The American bishops ratified a pastoral letter which stated their "opposition, on moral grounds, to any use of nuclear weapons." The Reagan administration had lobbied for softer language in the letter.

House approves arms freeze resolution — The House approved Wednesday a resolution urging President Reagan to negotiate a "mutual and verifiable freeze and reductions in nuclear weapons." The resolution carried an amendment revoking the freeze if reductions are not performed in a "reasonable, specified amount of time."

Weinberger criticizes failure to strengthen armed forces — Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger criticized the House Armed Services Committee for rejecting the administration's plan to hire 37,000 people for the armed forces next year. The committee instead voted to freeze the armed forces at current personal levels. Improvement in military hardware, Weinberger claimed, is less effective if there are not concurrent increases in military personnel.

Ruckelhaus promises to reform EPA — William D. Ruckelhaus told a Senate committee there had been "in abuse of process" at the Environmental Protection Agency and he would enforce environmental laws at EPA. Ruckelhaus, President Carter's pick to head the agency, promised the agency would make no "hit lists" or "political decisions."

Army may have known of Agent Orange threat — The Department of Defense was aware of the dangers of dioxin, a chemical in the anti-defoliant Agent Orange, two years before the Dow Chemical Company, which makes the chemical, told the government that there was evidence that dioxin was far from being innocent, feminism and pro-life work should be in touch with their own bodies and should affirm their normal biological processes. Abortion seems to send this fabric by providing a way of denying the life which a woman and a man have begun together.

1) True feminism, tired of male dominance in so many areas, calls all to mutuality in decision-making, homemaking and child-rearing. "Weakening abortion as a woman's right — solely her prerogative — far from advancing maturity, feeds into the traditional view that women are mainly responsible for children and that man need not worry about the consequences of his actions."

2) Feminism loudly and rightly protests the uses of women's bodies as objects. Is one surprised, then, to find PlayBoy heavily financing the "abortion rights movement?" The answer is obvious: women's bodies as playthings and who have depersonalized them in the process would naturally see the link to the depersonalization of the unborn life and the quick solution to the consequences of the PlayBoy philosophy. To support a woman during pregnancy, to claim mutual responsibility, to treat the child as a person — all these might be a lot harder for those who have not treated women as other than playthings at other times.

3) It seems to me that a guiding principle of (Christian) feminism has been a rejection of those movements in society which have depersonalized women and made them merely extensions of their husbands or their function (e.g. mother, nurse, sister, etc.). Bacher's feminism would counter that a woman's personal dignity is innate, not derived from her function or relation in the family or society. Where, then, is the sympathy for half the population? How are unborn children — and we — depersonalized when the right to life is linked to other considerations or not?

4) An insistance on the interconnectedness of social issues. In some quarters, however, there is the exceptionism, the "private issue." As Jo McGowan has written: "It's the whole system that has to change. A system that says that the answer to raising crime rates is bigger prisons. That says the answer to the problem of killing people and sparing property is the neutron bomb. That says the answer to the unwanted child is abortion."

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Sports

Red Sox are on a tear — The Boston Red Sox spent the best record in the American League after beating the Oakland A's Wednesday. The Sox now lead Baltimore in the Eastern Division by a half game. Boston's team took five of seven games on a recent road trip and beat the A's twice at home this week.

Weather

Nice weather continues — Sunny today with highs in the middle 60's. Skies will be clear to partly cloudy tonight with lows in the upper 40's. Tomorrow will be partly sunny and warm, reaching the low 70's.

FridaY, MAY 6, 1983

MIT Dramashop presents Play Strindberg
by Frederick Durrenmatt
Directed by David Waggett
Produced by Owen Doyle
Sets by William Fregosi
Lighting by Edward S. Darna
Costumes by Margaret S. Hall
Lighting Design by Marc DInardo

Little Theatre, Kresge Auditorium, MIT
May 5, 6, 7 at 8pm
Tickets: $3.50, $3 w/d

Reservations: 253-4720

Info: 253-2877

SEYMOUR PAPERT
Professor of Mathematics and Education speaks on Technology & Human Development

Monday, May 9, 1983
7:30pm
26-100
Refreshments will be served

Feminism and Profile
Rev. Michael McGary of the Paulist Fathers

What connections are there between profile work and feminism? How can a man think about being a feminist? In much of the literature I have seen, to be a feminist does not require that one be a woman, but that one support acknowledged feminist principles. Many claim the following principles as feminist, and that a woman who adheres to them is a feminist. Head more women would have to acknowledge these. Thus I conclude that far from being opponents, feminism and profile work should be allies. For the following, I am indebted to such writers as Jo McGowan, Juli Looeski, Lacy O'Peele, Elizabeth Moore and Sydney Callahan.

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To quote from Lucy O'Peele of the Profile Non-Violent Action Project: "The abortion debate is usually carried on in these terms by both sides. Either you're concerned for children or you're concerned for fully grown women, not both at once. Little thought has been given to what a response to a different pregnancy would be like if it were based on the assumption that the full development of both people, child and mother, was possible and a matter of ultimate concern to everyone."

Courtesy of the Tech Catholic Community Brompton from the Boston Pilot