Opinion

Feedback

Boycott of Japanese goods hurts US

To the Editor:

I, Michael J. Hostetler '87 point out in a letter to the [editor] ("Japan problem," April 24) the growing imbalance in US-Japanese trade, and, as a professor of management science, I am concerned with the current policy of the US government that might lead to the growth in the US trade deficit. The main factor that affects the trend of US trade deficit is the growing imbalance in US-Japanese trade. However, Hostetler's letter raises some important points that might lead to the growth in the US trade deficit. In order to address these concerns, the US government should take action to reduce the trade deficit.

Display unfairly portrays the North Vietnamese

To the Editor:

I would like to make a few comments about the display of the North Vietnamese at the recent conference. The display was quite unfair and difficult to understand. The display portrayed the North Vietnamese as a group of people who were actively involved in the war, but it did not provide any information about their motivations or achievements. I believe that a more balanced perspective is needed in order to accurately represent the North Vietnamese.

US must learn from its competitors

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Michael J. Hostetler's letter ("Japan problem," April 24). His letter expresses the growing imbalance in US-Japanese trade, but it does not address the root causes of this imbalance. I believe that the US government should take action to address the root causes of this imbalance in order to reduce the trade deficit.

Students have right to interview with the CIA

To the Editor:

Fred Salafi wrote a letter last week ("CIA should be allowed on campus," April 24) arguing that the CIA should be allowed on campus. I believe that students have the right to interview with the CIA, but they should be allowed to do so in a manner that respects the CIA's policies and procedures. I believe that the CIA should be allowed on campus, but students should be given the opportunity to interview with the CIA in a manner that respects the CIA's policies and procedures.

feedback

US must learn from its competitors

To the Editor:

Holly Ferguson G criticizes President John M. Deutch's view of SDI in his April 24 letter, "Deutch's view of SDI flawed." His appeal assumes that Americans have something to be proud of, and if they do, but somehow the foundations of the pride has been shaken lately. 

American believe in hard work and creativity as "universal" values. The Soviet Union's SDI program is "unlimited" and its pursuit would be a spectacular success. It would be a spectacular success because "offensive weapons are of little use if they are destroyed before they can be used," seemingly unanswerable. It is to be blocked to a first strike or second because the former involves more missiles and comes at a time chosen by the attacker. This insularity is particularly serious for defensive lines since they are themselves vulnerable.

This argument is not "analogous to saying that lighters and bombers cannot survive because of the other's repression of anti-aircraft weapons." On the contrary, just as some aircraft will get through, so will some missiles, however robust SDI may be. I agree with Ferguson that one should not reject "a particular technology just because it will become confounded at some point," but that is not the issue. SDI should be rejected because the technology will almost certainly be ousted by the time it exists, and because anything resembling success would be disastrous. Unlike the bombing of Hiroshima, the goal of "Star Wars" is unlimited and its pursuit will only escalate the arms race.

The Soviet Union's SDI program is cause for concern, but the "Star Wars" program can only escalate the arms race. The only real cure is to negotiate veritable accords with the understanding that each side's compliance is conditional on the other's.

Peter A. Schindler '87

Pursuit of "Star Wars" escalates the arms race

To the Editor:

While I agree with the former, I believe that the US government should take action to reduce the trade deficit. The US government should take action to reduce the trade deficit by implementing policies that encourage exports and discourage imports. This will help to reduce the trade deficit and improve the economic health of the US.

To the Editor:

Erik Mar '88

Since the United States does not sell as much to Japan as it buys, the Japanese are extending credit to Americans. The Japanese banks are eager to make these loans, and the amount of US government bonds that the Japanese are buying is considerable. While I agree with Ferguson that one should not reject "a particular technology just because it will become confounded at some point," but that is not the issue. SDI should be rejected because the technology will almost certainly be ousted by the time it exists, and because anything resembling success would be disastrous. Unlike the bombing of Hiroshima, the goal of "Star Wars" is unlimited and its pursuit will only escalate the arms race.

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