President Reagan may be on the verge of accomplishing what seven presidents before him have failed to do: to the meeting of East and West Germany. Of course, I am talking about the new treaty being proposed to eliminate intermediate range nuclear missiles (INF treaty). This seems to be an idea better suited to Ries than to the man who once called the Soviet Union "The Evil Empire."

A recent New York Times/CBS News Poll found that nearly two-thirds of the approximately 800 people surveyed favored the proposed treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union, and almost as many believe the Soviet Union will sign on to such a treaty.

What these 553 Americans fail to realize is that cheating in this case is immoral; the game is over as soon as it is begun. The Soviet Union has no need to cheat when it enjoys a three-to-one edge in conventional forces. The argument can be made that the United States can negotiate with the Soviets to reduce the numbers of conventional forces. Unfortunately, talks in Vienna aimed at reducing the size of the conventional arms buildup have been going on for nearly 14 years. If no incentive existed for the Soviets to negotiate before INF, there is no reason to believe that such an incentive will magically appear afterwards.

It may then be laid to rest that we can measure increased our own conventional forces in Europe. Maintaining conventional forces is considerably more costly than maintaining nuclear weapons. But not only do we have to maintain these forces, they first have to be built. The United States will have to at least triple the size of its current forces to gain parity (assuming Soviet and acceptable command by the Soviets). With the Democrats in Congress clamoring for cuts in the defense budget, neither a tripling nor an increased maintenance program seems likely.

Do not be fooled into thinking that the INF will leave a nuclear free Europe. So-called "broken-field" nuclear weapons will remain, as will French (primarily short-ranged) and British missiles (assuming these countries can withstand the attacks of their disarmament groups).

With the only conceivable bat- tledied being West Germany, the prospects for this region are rather grim. If the West Germans countryside becomes overrun with Soviet troops, a decision will have to be made whether to concede the territory to the Soviets. Nikita khrushchev, is likely to please either the average West German or American soldier stationed there.

Assuming a reluctance for a much intensified US military commitment in Europe, the troops currently stationed in West Germany are sacrificial lambs ready for slaughter. (Please turn to page 5)

Column/K.J. Saeger

Germans need nuclear shield

Reported to pornography charges

Student responds to pornography charges

Opinion

Edited note: The Tech received a copy of the following letter, written by an individual not associated with an authorized student affairs official to The Tech, which strives for the development of ideas to style the free flow of information and ideas. It seems inconsistent with its charter, inconsistent with the image of the school, and counter to the objectives of the school.

The videotape that I am about to view violates the policy statement on sexually explicit films of MIT, and my defense is as follows:

- It seems particularly inappropriate for a school such as MIT which strives for the development of ideas to stifle the free flow of information and ideas. It seems inconsistent with its charter, inconsistent with the image of the school, and counter to the objectives of the school.

- The videotape that I am about to view has been expressly held in the City of Cambridge, not to be observed under contemporary community standards applicable to the City of Cambridge.

- The April 1986 policy statement of MIT is confusing and extremely unclear.

- To the extent that the policy does contain a definition, that definition is a content based definition expressing a particular political philosophy. Although I personally may agree with the philosophy, censorship based upon the substance of a particular political view is inconsistent with our cherished values. I defend the rights of people to hold and express different views.

- The MIT policy only applies to sexually explicit films which are usually shown to mass audiences. It does not apply to video tapes usually shown to smaller groups. MIT has not ever expressed their opinion as to whether to extend its controversial film policy to video tapes, and, if it were to, whether that policy would apply to personal viewing, viewing with a group of friends, etc.

- The MIT policy, to the extent that it bars non-obscene films, is a clear violation of my personal viewing, viewing with a group of friends, etc.

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