

Kaleidoscope Magazine

Looks At The Future

...out of the window and the London, east of the river, was visible. He tried to recall the details of the London of his childhood, but he could not. He tried to recall the details of the London of his childhood, but he could not. He tried to recall the details of the London of his childhood, but he could not.

War Is Peace
Freedom Is Slavery
Ignorance Is Strength

1984

A word is crossing the sea.

"The thief cometh not, but for to steal,
and to kill, and to destroy."

DOUBLE HAPPINESS IN A NE

...as deep as complex as blue eyes moved from the dark
one in the large eyes of his eye to the blue of the clouds,
up at him through the air, he heard that he expected the
scene down and still saying.
Suddenly he was standing up, she said finally, "And disappear or was better,"
saw evening when the clothing would last—nothing, we used to as a young man,
said, "The landscape that he was in." That was before the war, it was four years a piece
on in his dreams that he was never
not he had seen it in the end of Winston
might be called it the Golden Country again. He took up his war," said the old
but when nature, with his eyes, and

Kaleidoscope Magazine

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Writers In This Issue

Jane Musser	Ursula Duncan-Manning
Larry Martinez	Manuel Yevenez
Steve List	Johnny Graham

60-Second Interviews

What do you see happening in U.S.-Soviet relations by the year 2000?

William Shay, sociology graduate student:

Oh, goodness. If we make it that far, we won't be discussing U.S.-Soviet relations. We should see the emergence of China as an international superpower. The world would have had to resolve its dependence on power as the way to solve problems.



Lisa Rothstein, junior religious studies and political science:

I see that if we don't get someone into office that's willing to be a bit more different — more concerned and liberal — I don't know if we're going to see a year 2000. I suggest that people work real hard to change the direction we're going.

Alan Fukui, graduate in aquatic biology:

It just seems like we're going back to the Cold War, essentially, because of the jet liner (incident). He (President Reagan) used it as propaganda and, the Soviets used it as propaganda. Relations are definitely on a decline.



Lori Granick, senior business economics and political science:

I hope that the leaders of the U.S. and the Soviet Union become more diplomatic and less war-mongering. I wish that the defense budget would be decreased, and the world would become more aware of the catastrophe nuclear weapons could bring to the world. Ultimately, I wish there were not so much polarization.

Eric Fonstein, junior undeclared:

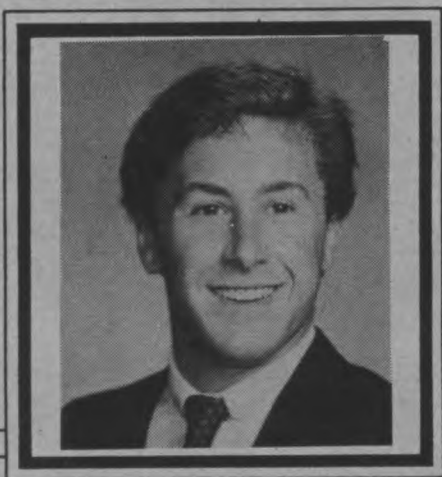
I don't know. Hopefully, peaceful coexistence, but you have to work at that.



Yvonne Borisch, junior geology:

Oh, dear. I don't know very much about politics. I keep myself away from it as much as possible. I'd rather that there not be a war. (It seems that there are) not very good relations going on.

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By JANE MUSSER

He gazed up at the enormous face. Forty years it had taken him to learn what kind of smile was hidden beneath the dark mustache. O cruel, needless misunderstanding! O stubborn, self-willed exile from the loving breast! Two gin-scented tears trickled down the sides of his nose. But it was all right, everything was all right, the struggle was finished. He had won the victory over himself. He loved Big Brother.

— George Orwell, 1984

When George Orwell wrote his horrifying masterpiece 1984 in 1949, the year he chose as the setting of totalitarianism at its most extreme must have seemed pretty far away. Yet clearly, Orwell was commenting not only on what might happen in the future, but also on what was happening in his own age: loss of personal freedom, the increasing involvement of governments in the lives of ordinary men and women, the power gains — often unnoticed, always dangerous — of the few over the many throughout the world. These are not exclusively problems of our age; they have been problems throughout the history of humanity.

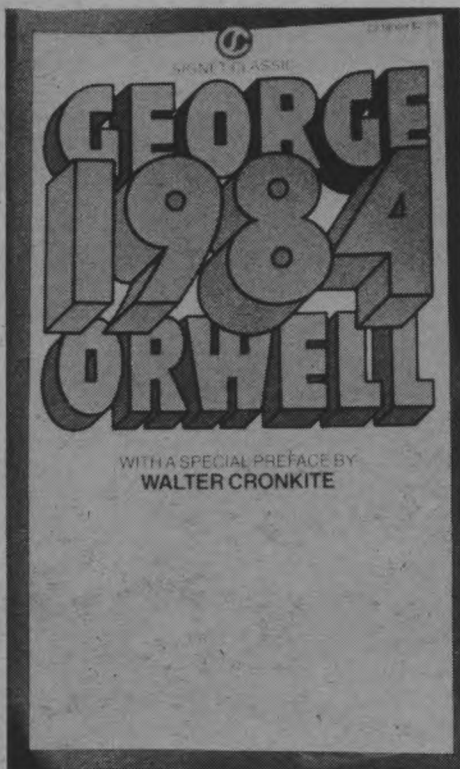
Since the publication of 1984, countless political and social commentators have looked at their own age and drawn frightening conclusions about the accuracy of Orwell's novel as a current prognosis. And now, 1984 is less than three months away.

Western cultural analysts tackling the 1984 question list the Soviet Union or communist China as living examples of 1984's Oceania, the country where Big

1984: Is It Here?

Brother sees all, knows all, controls all. Direct parallels can certainly be drawn: Soviet school textbooks have recently been rewritten to downplay the crucial role of Lenin in Russian history, to whom now only one page is devoted.

The central character of 1984, Winston



Smith, is employed in the Party's Ministry of Truth rewriting the past, and therefore changing it. Thus Oceania has always been at war with whatever country it is currently at war with; the chocolate ration has always been the size it currently is; certain people who lived in the past never existed. It is all accomplished with quick editing and a paper incendiary. Critics of Soviet communism would assert that replacing old textbooks with revised textbooks, rewriting the past to suit the government, accomplishes the same end in the USSR.

In China, again as in Oceania, critics of Chinese communism point to government propaganda in print and on radio 24 hours a day; citizens are seldom out of visual or auditory range.

More astute commentators have asserted that it doesn't take that old evil communism to embody Orwellian totalitarianism, pointing to the simplistic propaganda spewing from our own country's print and electronic media on issues as complex as U.S. involvement in Central America. With mass media support, the U.S. government has been able to leave the majority of its citizens completely in the dark about its activities in various Central American countries.

As Oceania has always been at war with the one and only embodiment of evil, Eurasia, (though Winston Smith remembers a time when Oceania was at war with the one and only embodiment of

evil, Eastasia.), so the evil of Soviet-controlled communism has always been the one and only enemy for the United States. Citizens of Oceania and citizens of America are not told the truth if a lie would better serve the government's present needs.

And even more subtly, a different kind of propaganda is used today just as propaganda was used in Oceania. Think of the number of advertisements you have read, or heard or seen in the last 24 hours that tell you what you should look like, or smell like, or feel like. Certainly, the idea that everyone should attempt to look like the thin and gorgeous models who populate T.V. and print commercials is not as dangerous as the Party's absolute ability to make everyone love Big Brother. Nonetheless, the advertisements that inundate our lives aim specific messages at our most vulnerable emotions. Big Brother would have approved.

Examples of totalitarianism, of governments using their power and control simply to perpetuate their power and control, as in 1984, are easily found. Long after government officials knew what had actually happened, the official Soviet news agency continued telling Soviet citizens that the unarmed commercial Korean airliner shot down by Soviet missiles was "an intruder plane" shot down in defense of the USSR and its people. The United States government is withholding federal financial aid from male college students who refused to register for the draft. Two UCSB students are being directly hit by aid denial. Bits and pieces, even large

(Please turn to pg.7A)

Verse

Summer

Beautiful flower
Once in bloom...now lays
wilted
On the hot pavement.
Summer afternoon
Laundry blowing in the
breeze
Bees hum lazily.

Whitney Woodward

Hair

I drank my pints and cropped my
hair,
I wore my boots like a true soldier,
I marched on demos and spoke in
stands,
I worked damned hard with my
own bare hands.

Then I left my own true world.
They said I'd come to better
things.
Enticed by words, I lost my boots
Grew my hair and wore some
rings.

Succumbed to the role like a lamb
to a lion
I married a man stronger than
Zion.
He told me not to drink or smoke
Because real ladies preferred
"coke".

So I gave myself to the whims of
man,
Cleaned and washed, took the kids
to the can.
But the chain was completed to the
last link
When he said it wasn't for ladies to
think.

Then I turned to my child, my only
hope
She would not be like her mom — a
dope.
I was wise to a world — a place of
men
Though I had failed, she wouldn't
— AMEN.

I would raise her to beat male
domination
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generation!

Cathy Lynch

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Future U.S. Job Market Influ

By MANUEL E. YEVENES

Every year 40,000 people get their law degrees and an additional 250,000 get their MBAs. All of them swell the already-crowded job market. Nevertheless, students always say the same thing. "Well, like, you know, that might be true, but I will just have to make a greater effort. (i.e. I am not the one who will end up unemployed!)." Certainly, nobody considers him or herself a statistic, so the rationale goes "whatever is going on must be something happening to others, not me."

The fact is that traditional fields are overcrowded and trying to picture oneself in a future job becomes more and more difficult. I suggest enlarging one's vision to include



Advertising and Propaganda extend the extend the consumer society all over the over the world.

not only the current U.S. job market but also look at how international events affect the labor market.

Jobs are increasingly subject to influence from the international economy. The U.S. economy is the core of an international system in which events taking place in far away lands have a considerable impact. For example, the oil crisis triggered a recession increasing unemployment and eliminating many jobs forever. A default by major Third World countries could put lots of people out of work, since those loans were made by American banks. The point is that to find a job in the near future it will be necessary to look at the world context.

The economies of Western Europe, Japan and the U.S. are interdependent to the point

that leaders of these nations must consult one another before making major economic decisions. Not so with other countries located in the Socialist Bloc and the Third World. The former are reluctant participants in the capitalist world economy and the latter are subjugated by the developed nations.

As things stand, the process is divided in three production areas: first, there is research and design and planning in the countries of Western Europe, Japan and the U.S.; second, machinery for manufacture is produced in the Newly Industrializing Nations such as Brazil, Mexico, Taiwan, Korea and others, and third, manufacturing of the product itself is done in other countries of the Third World. This international division of labor, one example of which is Atari's transfer of manufacturing to Taiwan last year, determines the kind of jobs that will be available in the U.S.

Another feature impacting the U.S. job market is the maintenance of the international system. Maintenance of the system implies the use of force. Since countries like the U.S. and Western Europe receive the lion's share under the current status quo (The U.S. gets 25 percent of the world's GNP with 4.8 percent of the world's population.), revolutions in the Third World and possible disruptions by competing powers such as the Soviet Union make military buildup part of the international system. Intervention in Third World countries and deterrence of competing powers mean large defense budgets and many jobs. According to figures by the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, about 10 percent of the work force is em-

**Computer Science
Offers Job Security**

By URSULA DUNCAN-MANNING

"Computers are not like hula-hoops and pet rocks. They are not a craze that is going to go away," said Dr. Alan Konheim, computer science department chair. There are already 25,000 computer applications for work, home and recreation, and as Konheim put it, "we have only seen the tip of the iceberg."

Two generations ago it was imperative to learn to drive. "In the next generation," Konheim added, "if a person doesn't know how to program, he is going to find it very difficult to realize his maximum potential."

Two weeks ago I found myself cursing computers as I so often do. Damn them! Why must they always jinx my alpha number? This time my very existence as a student was held in question; neither my reg packet nor my financial aid check had been processed. Fifty other students were in the same dilemma. We were told to be forgiving: computers are human, too. They can make occasional mistakes, but 50 mistakes out of the 17,000 UCSB students processed isn't a bad average. So, I must try to curb my aggravation with automation. If I am not able to, I shall be continually frustrated, because computers are not going away.

Konheim explained that "computerization" is synonymous with "future." Many students have not only given up fighting computers but are now joining.

Job security and financial incentives lure many to computer science. Bill Johnson chose computer engineering rather than English literature, "because there are so many possibilities for people who are good with computers. You can just about work in any city for any company for as long or as short as you want. If you're neither working with computers nor are in some other high demand field, you have to spend time with one company and work year after year. If you ever break off

this long history of working for that company, you forfeit your guarantee of employment. As a computer engineer, I won't be restricted by such norms."

To cope with increased demand, the computer science and computer engineering departments have made their requirements more stringent. While in the past a 2.5 grade point average in certain courses was enough to be admitted to the departments, now nothing below a 2.75 suffices. Though the requirement discourages many, it isn't enough. Despite "scare tactics," many still don't realize how much work these degrees demand. Many are later forced to drop out as sophomores, juniors and even seniors, according to Dr. Henry Nawoj, assistant to the dean for independent studies in the College of Engineering.

"Last year 33 computer science B.S. and B.A. pre-majors and majors shifted to other majors offered by the College of Letters and Science," Nawoj added.

Grades are not the only reason students drop out of computer courses at UCSB. For John Yent the 12, 14, sometimes 16 hours a day at the computer center "weren't worth it." Yent said that while he did "develop a deep respect for computer science during that time, I didn't like how it was drastically affecting my personality. Cooped up in the computer room, my posture went to pot, and my complexion got bad. I was so preoccupied with deadlines, that I started not caring about what I looked like or when I'd last read the paper. Then I started asking myself this: 'Is this the sort of person you want to be and be with?' It wasn't." Now Yent is considering a major in psychology.

Specializing in computers does not have such a negative effect on everyone, but there are some on whom it takes an even greater toll. "Hackers" are very bright students who are notoriously good at solving technical and mathematical problems and "have difficulties adjusting socially," said Ralf Gorin, Director of Computer Facilities at Stanford, in an interview published in *Science Digest*.

Gorin attributed the hackers' social deficiencies and compulsive obsession with computers to their tendency to anthropomorphize their computers. A computer is even

Influenced By World Economy

ployed directly or indirectly in the defense industry. In other words, 12 million Americans are employed in defense.

A world economy with the U.S. at its core, an international division of labor and a growing defense establishment mean that the domestic job market will be mainly in the following areas:

(1) **Administration of the world economy.** These jobs will be at the top of the status pyramid and will require highly-trained personnel in fields such as international economics and business, languages, and knowledge of other cultures. Also the ability to manipulate large amounts of information.

(2) **Communications.** These are the nerves of the system and vital to international business. Advertising and propaganda are also part of the effort to extend the consumer society all over the world.

(3) **Peace maintenance.** The military will require increasing numbers to safeguard major trade routes and ensure the functioning of the world system.

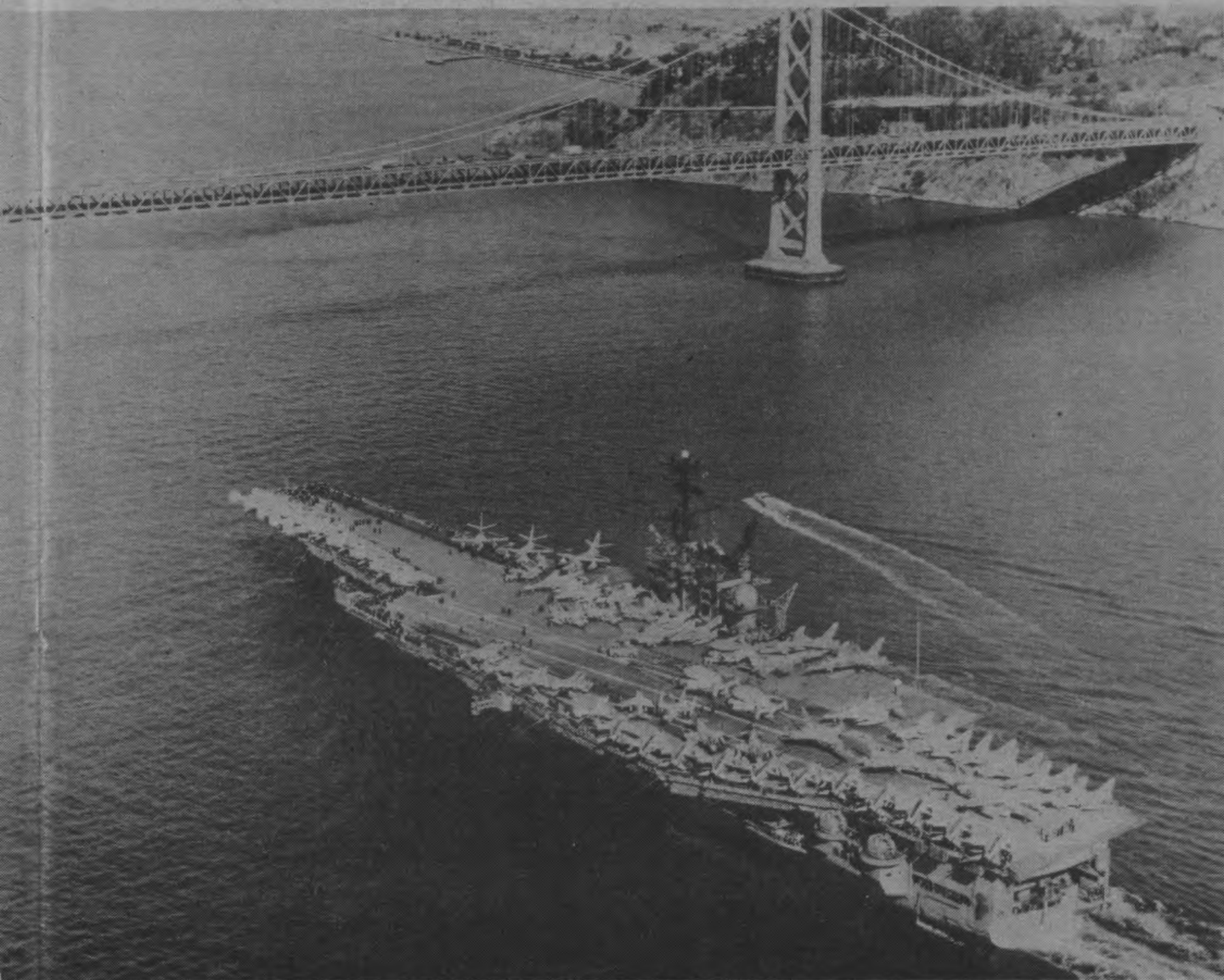
(4) **Finance and services.** The resettling of machinery production and of manufacturing industries in the Third

World will require a mass influx of capital. International banks will also facilitate the transfer of profits from poor to rich nations.

(5) **Science and technology.** The advancement of science will be crucial in maintaining the U.S. position at the center of the world capitalist economy.

(6) **Leisure and education.** The new economic structure with the U.S. at the center of the world economy will mean fewer jobs and larger numbers of permanently unemployed. Leisure will consist of non-economic activities such as plain entertainment or other non-material goals. Education will be crucial to retrain and entertain the unemployed mass. Learning will become an end in itself.

Looking at the job market in this way can help those who must decide what to do with their lives, and also motivate others to consider alternative professions to the usual law school or MBA kind of stuff. Furthermore, thinking about the world might make you aware that the road to happiness also depends on people far away, and on keeping well-informed about what is going on here and overseas.



Twelve million Americans employed in defense.

easier to humanize than cars, boats and other inanimate objects that are commonly treated like friends. For people who spend most of their time in the computer center and consequently don't have much social life "the computer can act as just another escape," Gorin explained.

I think I'll take an elementary computer course, not to escape but to do exactly the opposite: to face the reality of a computerized world. I should at least attempt to overcome my present computer alienation before I give up this "New-Tech" society for a commune in the hills. Computers are here to stay and I'd better come to terms with them.



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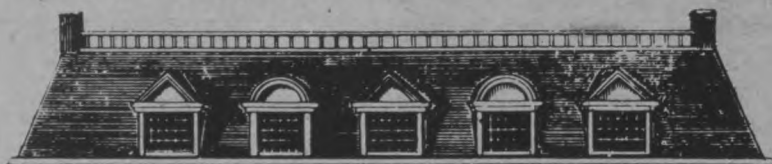
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By STEVE LIST

After a hiatus of three years, U.S.-China relations are on the mend. Last week Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger visited Peking and entered into negotiations with Chinese leaders. They discussed high-technology sales to China and stronger military ties between the two nations. Weinberger's visit came in the midst of heated rhetorical exchanges between the U.S. and the Soviet Union over the Korean airliner incident and arms limitation talks currently proceeding in Geneva.

Sino-American relations reached an impasse in 1981 during similar negotiations. At that time, China submitted a list of high-tech items it wished to purchase from the U.S. Many on the list were "dual-use" items, meaning they had both military and civilian applications. A wary Pentagon approved only 11 on the list for sale, classifying 65 others as "sensitive" and a security risk. This proved to be a major irritant in relations between the two countries.

At present China is undertaking a massive industrialization and modernization campaign with emphasis on the military. Compared to the West, the Chinese army is primitive, with largely outmoded weaponry and technology. To attain the World Power status it seeks, China must upgrade its forces. The U.S. is the recognized leader in sophisticated weaponry systems, and good trade relations could greatly benefit the Chinese in this area.

After U.S. Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige visited Peking earlier this year, new liberalized guidelines for technical sales were set up between the two nations. Since these new guidelines have been in effect, 32 of the original 65 "sensitive" items have been approved by the Pentagon, and 11 more are likely to be included if China pledges not to pass them on to other countries. These include some defensive weapons such as anti-aircraft and tank guns.

Other obstacles still remain between improved relations, most notably Chinese disapproval of Reagan's arms sales to Taiwan. Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said at the start of Weinberger's visit that it is good to enhance contacts between the two countries, but more important to remove the fundamental obstacles which remain. He added that the issue of Taiwan is at the crux of the matter.

Despite this warming in U.S.-China relations, the Chinese are striving to maintain their "non-aligned" status and good relations with the Soviet Union. At Weinberger's welcome banquet, Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping reaffirmed that the Chinese seek and pursue a policy of independence. He then emphasized that China will never attach itself to any big power or yield to any foreign pressure.

Some observers doubt the judgement of this move towards the Chinese. Political science professor Robert Wesson called the move "part of the strong anti-Soviet policy of the Reagan administration. (They're) looking for allies here or there without asking many questions as to what they're like."

Wesson likened the policy to "saying the Argentine

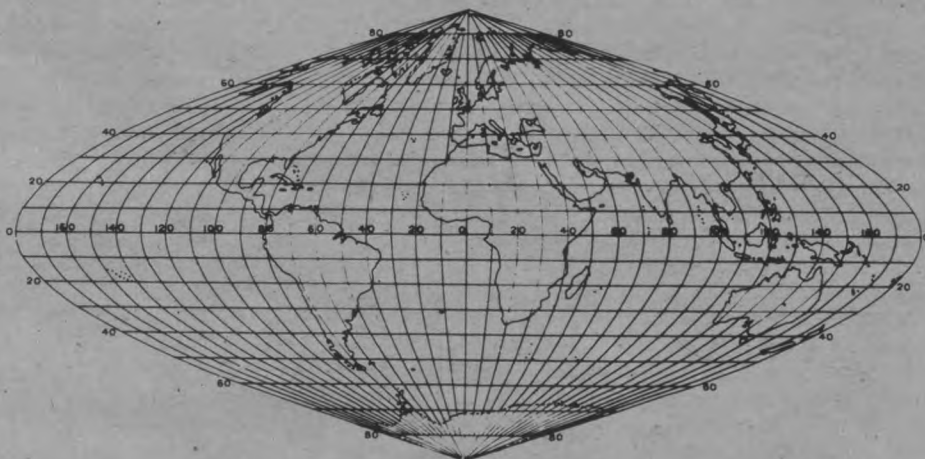
World View

U.S.-China Relations

generals are good because they're anti-communist." In effect, the Reagan administration is stating that the Chinese are good even if they are communist, because they're anti-Soviet. In Wesson's opinion, the move might actually be "psychologically disadvantageous" for the U.S., depending on how much closer Sino-American ties anger or frighten the Soviets.

The "three bones" of Chinese contention against the Soviets are the invasion of Afghanistan, Soviet support for the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia, and the Soviet military presence on China's northern border. "If the Russians were under any pressure to make concessions under these lines, I think it would probably be positive, particularly in the case of Afghanistan," Wesson said.

Wesson predicted that the Chinese desire for U.S. goods might mean "pressure off Taiwan" as an issue between



the U.S. and China. Furthermore, Weinberger's visit could have positive effects on the U.S.-Soviet arms control negotiations occurring in Geneva.

UCSB Political science professor Michael Gordon agreed with Wesson's assessment of U.S. motivation for selling arms to China: "to put more pressure on the Soviet Union." The pressure conforms with "the Reaganite view that the Soviet Union is not only a major adversary country... but it's a country that constantly needs to be faced with more and more pressure."

Gordon said the secondary motivation lies in repairing the damage done by Reagan's campaign promises, "which were, in effect, sops to the right wing." Reagan halted the improvement in U.S.-China relations initiated by the Carter administration by adopting the attitude that China is "another communist country" with which "we shouldn't be too chummy." Reagan said we could supply Taiwan with advanced weapons systems, and "the Chinese government could either like it or lump it." Now the Reagan administration has realized that its Chinese and Soviet policies were not in the best interests of the U.S., because they alienated both countries. The U.S. still wasn't "able to bring the Chinese card into play with the anti-Soviet campaign."

Another factor in the move toward China, Gordon said, was the fear that China would not merely be neutral toward the U.S., but that the Chinese would send "signals to the Soviets... about some kind of rapprochement."

"China's leadership fully understands the kind of game the Reagan administration is playing and is not going to be lured into simply being a manipulative tool in an anti-Soviet coalition. They probably are going to play both sides off against one another," Gordon said. Gordon added the Chinese would probably not give the U.S. much diplomatic or military cooperation.

However, the prospects for economic benefit derived from better U.S.-China relations are good. Currently, U.S. oil companies are bidding for offshore oil concessions. ARCO is already exploring its concession off Hainan Island and Occidental, EXXON and Shell have recently won contracts for offshore areas.

Gordon is pessimistic about the diplomatic effects of Weinberger's visit, saying there might be some diplomatic gain for the Reagan administration "no matter what the Chinese decide to do as far as it frightens the Soviets."

Tomorrow

This morning my love
Was not a red, red rose
But rather
A set of ivory teeth
That snarled at me un-
caringly.

Tomorrow, my love,
What will you be?

Johnny Graham



It took God
six days to create
the Heavens
and the Earth...

and Monty Python
ninety minutes
to screw it up.

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The Future Is Here

(Continued from pg.3A)

chunks, of our personal freedoms are taken away. And only 78 days separate us from 1984.

George Orwell was surely a brilliant social and political commentator. The work he left behind has stood the test of time: 1984 is no less applicable today, and is perhaps more so, than it was when he wrote it in 1949. Personal freedoms disappear, worldwide, nationwide, campuswide. The power of the few over the many grows.

In Orwell's time, several brilliant so-called anti-utopian novels, including his own 1984 and *Animal Farm*, and Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, were written, partly in reaction to the utopian novels of the 19th century. Utopian literature was based on the possibility of a perfect existence, a perfected man. Anti-utopians of the first half of the 20th century showed man at the mercy of powers over which he had no control. Man was not perfected, but perverted.

What do the best political and social commentators of today suggest? Since Orwell wrote in reaction to the visions of his literary forebears, how do artists today react to Orwell's vision, with 1984 closing in on us? Were his horrifying images of a government based on power for power's sake — power maintained and exercised through human suffering — actual indicants of our present age? And, if so, can anything be done to avoid 1984 and beyond?

To compare one of the most brilliant novelists of all time to a modern rock singer is taking tremendous liberty, I know. However, with 1984 breathing down our necks, it is hard to ignore the words of one of today's most articulate social and political critics. Singer-songwriter Prince has answered for himself the question of what can be done in a troubled age. Just as Orwell's writing was reflective of his post-World War II, Cold War troubled times, so Prince's music is reflective of our nuclear age:

*Life is just a party
And parties weren't meant
to last
2000, zero, zero
Party over, oops, out of
time
So tonight I'm gonna party
Like it's 1999*

— Prince, "1999"

The year to worry about is not 1984, for that is much too close. Setting our sights further forward, the year 2000 can become the one to fear. With that, we have 16 years to add to those three months; 16 years and 78 days for dire predictions and horrifying visions of what the future may bring. Or, as Prince suggests, 16 years and 78 days for getting the most out of our present.

U.S.-China

(Continued from pg.6A)
So the most recent move in the global chess game has been made. Its ramifications are not yet obvious to even the most informed observers. But some things are apparent. First, the Reagan administration is continuing its efforts to isolate the Soviet Union on a strategic and diplomatic level. Second, China now seems to be in a position of strength between the two Powers. It can gain military technology from the U.S. while giving relatively few concessions, and can continue with its efforts towards better relations with the Soviets. But China is immersed in the game also; to continue with its much needed modernization campaign it needs help from the West. It also needs to maintain security on its Soviet border. To do both it must not alienate either.



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By LARRY F. MARTINEZ

Do you like to travel, hear strange voices and accents? Me, I think the lilt of Japanese women's voices is really sexy. So, let's go to Japan, for FREE! My friends and I looked up the national code for Japan and called any old number. If someone answered we hung up because we didn't want to pay for the call. We were in Germany where you pay by the exact amount of time connected, so if someone answered we just hung up and it cost about five cents.

We tried this one-ringer banzai until we got a disconnected number. Sure enough, there SHE was: the Japanese operator with the sexy voice, undoubtedly saying in Japanese, "I'm sorry dude, you've got a disconnected number." She kept saying it over and over...and it was free! This kind of instant world-wide communication is here today, and it's possible largely through the work of noisy machines orbiting the earth one-tenth of the way to the moon.

Communications satellites are affectionately called "birds." They are the highest and most valuable flying fowl these days. They bring you almost all of the pay cable television programming; they also allow multinational corporations to link their computers together (ever wonder how you can use Visa and American Express Cards all over the world?). They make possible military operations anywhere on the globe with complete and instantaneous communications. Communications satellites have made the earth, literally, the electronic village of Marshal McLuhan's vision in the 1950s.

In the 1970s the oil crisis caught people's attention and their pocketbooks. Now a new resource will increasingly be a subject of contention and possible conflict, much as oil was. But this resource has no substance, weight, color, or sound. It is instead a location in space. It is the geostationary orbit. As one Rockwell Corporation (builder of the Shuttle) analyst said, "It's as important to the U.S. as the Straits of Hormuz or San Francisco Bay." What is it, then, this geostationary orbit?

The geostationary orbit, or GEO, as it is sometimes called, is a flightpath around the earth at an altitude of 22,300 miles. A satellite in GEO moves in "synch" with the rotation of the earth, completing a revolution in 24 hours just as the earth

International Conflict Provoked by "Birds"

does. In this way the satellite appears motionless, or "stationary", to an observer on the earth. There is a big advantage in this. If the satellite doesn't move, the tracking and receiving antennas that communicate through the satellite don't have to move either. This is the only orbit with this property.

Picture it then as a large ring around the earth, centered over the equator, with about two-hundred fifty shiny stars with big, blue solar panels sparkling along its circumference. These are the communications satellites that make cheap telephone conversations to Japanese operators possible. Since the satellite can "see" over 40 percent of the earth's surface from any location in GEO, any two communicators on that 40 percent can talk to each other over the satellite for the same price, regardless of their distance apart!



Mechanical birds allow conversation with sexy Japanese operators.

However, "Space, the Final Frontier" is getting crowded. There simply is not enough space in space for all the communications satellites that companies and nations want to put up in GEO. If the communications satellites are too close together, dish antennas on earth can't pick them apart. When this happens you get a mixed-up and jumbled picture on your TV because your antenna is getting two signals at once.

If the problem with TV isn't bad enough, consider the complexity of a communications satellite relaying about 12,000 telephone conversations at one time. Any interference from neighboring satellites makes for a lot of complaints.

That's exactly what's heard in international organizations such as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva, which is responsible for divvying out the roosting spots for the birds in GEO. The nations without satellites are worried that when the time comes for them to place their bird up, there won't be any good spots left in GEO. They are demanding that the ITU reserve GEO parking slots for them.

The wealthier nations already have satellites and are developing new ones with even greater communications capacities. They prefer the present "first-come, first-served" system in the ITU for parcelling out the slots.

The biggest user of GEO is, of course, the military. About two-thirds of all U.S. military telecommunications is via satellite. The U.S. even lent Britain use of our satellites for their Falklands skirmish, so London could talk to the fellow Brits on the Malvinas beaches, just as President Carter could talk directly to U.S. commandos in the Iranian desert during the 1980 so-called hostage rescue mission.

The importance of geostationary communications satellites is so great that there is an arms race of sorts between the Russians and Americans to see who can first develop an anti-satellites weapon.

The result of this space arms race is that the military needs more and more GEO parking slots, making it even more crowded for the peaceful commercial users who only want to show Star Wars on benign home viewcreens.

So the next time you watch a movie on one of the pay cable channels, you may think to yourself, "Gee, this garbage comes from space!" I wonder how you say that in Japanese?

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By DAVE ANTHONY

Although by name it may sound like an annual convention for elderly people of Mid-western or Southern origin, the Twelfth Annual Old Time Fiddlers' Convention, which is scheduled for this Sunday Oct. 16, is a long standing tradition which, in fact, holds a little something for everyone. Besides old-time fiddlin', the convention will provide a wide variety of picnic foods, from beans and hot dogs to wine and beer, as well as square dancing competition open to all attending.

For those not familiar with the convention, in past years it has been held on the UCSB campus at the varsity baseball diamond. This year however, due to a loss of financial support from the Arts and Lectures department, the event has been moved to the Old Stowe House on 304 Los Carneros Road, in Goleta, next to the old railroad depot.

Featuring over 100 contestants of both professional and

Fiddlers Gather



amateur status, the convention will provide for the expected crowd of 800 to 1,000 people the oldest and the newest in the art of fiddle, banjo and guitar playing, as well as old time singing and anything else the wide range of contestants might wish to try. The only rules of the relatively low key and casual affair are that no electric music may be played and that all music entered must be at least 50 years old.

Despite loss of Arts and Lectures support, convention coordinator Peter Feldman seemed optimistic. "Things may go a little slowly this year, simply because until a few months ago we really weren't sure if the event would continue. Now however, with the backing

we've gotten from Goleta Valley Days, The Goleta Valley Historical Society and the Santa Barbara Society for Traditional Music, the outlook for future years seems quite good."

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