

# Correspondence

## To a Young Christian Radical

To the Editors: The letter "To a Certain Young Christian Radical" (*Worldview*, June) offers an analysis of the intellectual instability and guilt of the young radical and is quite convincing. Despite the rejoinder of Robert G. Hoyt ("A Response From a Not-So-Young Sometime Christian Radical"), Inge Lederer Gibel's arguments make good sense. While Mr. Hoyt may feel uncomfortable about what she said, the reality of Christian acquiescence in Arab propaganda commands our attention.

I have only one additional comment to offer. The Arabs of Palestine already occupy 80 per cent of territorial Palestine, and Hussein sits upon a Palestinian majority. Since the original Balfour Plan was to grant a Jewish National Home in Palestine whose borders would stretch from the Mediterranean to Iraq, Israel is entitled to the West Bank. Her reasons for sovereignty are more than security and less than the arrogant reasons of manifest destiny. They are primarily reasons of legal precedent and simple justice.

I wonder, however, if by joining in the speculation concerning a Palestinian state in the West Bank, Ms. Gibel is not undermining Israel's position, which is based upon the compelling record of the international proceedings from 1917 continuing under the League of Nations Mandate and the United Nations. Let us remember, as does Arafat, that Jordan is also Palestinian. Possessing neither land, it is easier for Arafat and his cohorts to muster Arab support for a thrust against Israel than it would be for an assault upon Jordan. It is time young Christian radicals as well as middle-aged former radicals see the Middle East in its true historical context rather than within the parameters of a quasi-history that, for them, begins in 1967.

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## "Carter on Apartheid"

To the Editors: Ross K. Baker's article, "Carter on Apartheid" (*Worldview*, May), was highly informative and much needed. But it carried a tone of pessimism that I do not share. I really believe that President Jimmy Carter and U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young can get something done toward ending the horrendous system of racial separation in South Africa. Furthermore, I believe they will, with the help of God and of those people in South Africa and America who believe in the dignity of the human person as a child of God.

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## Fixing China With a Glittering Eye

To the Editors: An ancient ex-mariner with some knowledge of the subject was bemused at Miriam and Ivan Londons' revelation of a "surprising aspect of life in contemporary China" ("Prostitution in Canton," *Worldview*, May). True, he was never in Canton, and his information is restricted to observations during a four-year period from the spring of '27 through '31, mostly made on the sleazy side of Shanghai's Soochow Creek. Embarking in rickshas at the Bund launch landing, we would hasten to a first drink—if American seamen, at the Broadway Hotel & Bar, a longish stone's throw past the Creek; if British, at Frank's Place, a bit farther on.

The Londons' questioning of a young ex-Red Guard: "If you could recognize the roadside chickens [prostitutes], couldn't the police?" Yes. But during that time—1970-73—conditions in Canton were very confused....

Confused? Steaming up the Whangpo in May, 1927, we had passed the anchored dozen or so cruisers and destroyers of an international flotilla—American, British, French, and Japanese—with guns peaceably holstered in white canvas covers, as though paying a courtesy call at any friendly port. Not so with the machine guns manned by British soldiers at principal street intersections that we passed with a tinkling of ricksha bells downtown. Pedestrian traffic flowed around their sand-bagged emplacements as un-

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# WORLDVIEW

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The purpose of *Worldview* is to place public policies, particularly in international affairs, under close ethical scrutiny. The Council on Religion and International Affairs, which sponsors the journal, was founded in 1914 by religious and civic leaders brought together by Andrew Carnegie. It was mandated to work toward ending the barbarity of war, to encourage international cooperation, and to promote justice. The Council is independent and nonsectarian. *Worldview* is an important part of the Council's wide-ranging program in pursuit of these goals.

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Philip A. Johnson, *Publisher*

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