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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Government 'Itching' For 'War With China'

To the Editor of The Gazette:

All of the public statements being issued from the White House indicate quite tragically the extent that the President has come under control of the military-industrial establishment about which ex-chief executive Eisenhower warned Americans in one of his moments of greatness.

The official "line" emanating from the government is, of course, that we were "invited" to come into Viet Nam by the South Vietnamese government.



(Have there been nine or ten governments since then?) and we'll stay there until we feel we are no longer needed, or words to that effect.

In one of the many coups that have occurred, it is well known all over the world — with the possible exception of the United States — that the whole messy business was engineered by the CIA. Apparently Diem, who was cruelly murdered, was not co-operating too well with our plans for his country.

If the government were willing to be

honest with us, they would tell us they are "itching" for an all-out war with China. Perhaps the government has even decided at last to "unleash" Chiang Kai-shek on the Chinese mainland after, lo, these many moons and after, lo, those many billions of aid to the aging old gentleman. I cannot think of anything more satisfying to the Russians than to see the United States and China in full scale conflict in Asia.

THE SILENCE on events in Viet Nam is deadening. It seems to me that it has been a tradition of free societies, particularly ours, that given the full and accurate facts, the people can decide what is best for their nation. This premise, however, appears to have been shelved by our government when U.S. actions in Viet Nam are concerned. Having read in a national magazine a list of regulations for reporters in that area, I am truly shocked.

Military men will establish censorship regulations at the drop of a brass hat. They frequently make the assumption that they know best what the American public — including the soldiers — should be told.

The point is that such censorship — allegedly in the "public interest" — is pretty close to mass brainwashing, is an affront to America's national conscience and violates the very principles that the armed services are said to be protecting.

M. R. HAGERTY

## Stifling Freedom

To the Editor—The recent developments in the Dominican Republic are a sad reflection on our foreign policy. From the beginning the American people have been deceived by the administration as to its role in that country. To be sure, we had an obligation to protect American citizens but since that has been accomplished, further presence of United States troops is unwarranted intervention.

The political philosophy of our government is an obvious paradox.

Domestically, we adhere to the democratic principles of free elections, free speech and the inherent right of the people to voice their grievances and protests.

Our foreign policy is something quite different. It is the stated position of the CIA, which, like it or not, determines much of our international policy, to support military dictatorships which suppress all of the rights and privileges which we in a democracy value so highly.

The late President Kennedy stated, "There is little value in opposing the threat of a closed society by imitating its arbitrary restrictions."

It is time now that the administration ceases crying communism at every liberation revolt throughout the world. Only when we discontinue our support of the enemies of democracy will we gain respect and support of all freedom loving people.

DAVID F. FLAVIN  
Braintree