

SALT II Negotiator calls Star Wars a "Hair-brained" idea

by Scott Hildula

Former arms control negotiator Paul Warnke says President Reagan's "Star Wars" defense concept is little more than a loyalty test to see which administration staffers will back the idea.

Warnke, who headed the U.S. team in the SALT II talks under President Jimmy Carter, told a filled Herrick chapel and a nuclear weapons class Tuesday that current arms talks in Geneva are "at the crossroads" and lacking real leadership from the United States.

"President Reagan has to show that he's a good leader as well as a great communicator," Warnke said. "He hasn't done that yet."

Warnke said the current American negotiating team is drifting and leaderless "with no clear signal coming from Washington." In contrast, he said, the Soviet delegation has a clear chain of command from Moscow.

He said an agreement is essential because no significant action has been taken in the area since June of 1979. The current arms control agreements are

very fragile, he said.

Addressing the "Star Wars" concept, Warnke said that prior to Reagan's strategic defense initiative speech, "there probably weren't more than 10 people who thought it was anything but a hair-brained idea."

"Since then, the president has made it a test of loyalty," he said.

Warnke said Reagan's "Star Wars" dream isn't such a bad idea as long as only research is funded and not development and deployment, since anti-ballistic missile systems are easily overwhelmed.

The problem with the concept, he said, is "Star Wars" has evolved from "stardust and moonbeam to the great pork barrel in the sky" as people jump on the band wagon to take advantage of the money being thrown around.

The irony of the situation, said Warnke, is "Star Wars" is essentially an ABM system, one that the United States convinced the Soviets was bad idea in the past.

Warnke said it is not surprising the Soviets don't like the proposal. Such a system, he said, could potentially allow the United States to wipe out the Soviet intercontinental ballistic missile forces and still have a U.S. arsenal ready for a first-strike attack.

Building any type of defensive system before working on serious offensive weapons limits just leads to an accelerated arms race, Warnke said.

Warnke sees excellent prospects for some type of agreement following a summit conference between Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev's probability of leading the Soviet Union into the 21st century should make him amenable to being "an architect" of future peace, Warnke said.

"I'd like to see a summit meeting where the two charmers get together and try to out-charm each other," he said.

SEA gives detailed divestment proposal to Trustees Today

by Kenneth Forrester

Coinciding with the Board of Trustees' annual spring meeting, the Students to End Apartheid have submitted a new and revised proposal for partial divestiture of the college's capital from companies operating in South Africa.

Quoting Bishop Desmond Tutu — "We don't want Apartheid liberalized. We want it dismantled. You can't improve something that is intrinsically evil." — The SEA has come up with a plan that co-author Chris Karis calls "a much more comprehensive proposal for divestment that examines the moral implications of investment in South Africa."

Calling for limited divestiture, the proposal centers around a criterion that reads: "Grinnell College shall only invest in securities of corporations which are annually evaluated as being in the most advanced category of Sullivan Accords compliance and which do not provide strategic or technological support

to the Republic of South Africa.

Under the guidelines set up by the proposal, there would not have to be any change in investments with companies that either complied with the Sullivan accords, for which there was an insufficient information, or which had to submit a Sullivan Accord proxy.

The only investments that would have to be divested would be those with companies that had either failed to sign the Sullivan Accords, those that had failed to comply with the Sullivan Accords, or those that had either strategic or technological involvement in South Africa.

For Grinnell College approximately 20% of the total endowment is invested in corporations operating within South Africa. Approximately three-fourths of this is in violation of the proposal's investment criteria, which means that \$31,694,670 of the college's holdings would have to be divested.

Addressing the issue of whether or

not the college could afford to do this, the proposal points to Michigan State University and the University of Wisconsin. Both of these schools, in 1978, were successful in plans similar to those proposed at Grinnell.

Chris Karis, when asked whether the college would lose money, said, "it depends on, literally, the institution that is divesting, but the benefits far outweigh the costs." He added, "Grinnell College's investment policies are so dynamic and successful they have an excellent chance of not losing money."

In showing student support, the proposal points to the recent passage of an all campus referendum opposing apartheid by a six-to-one margin (436-74). It also points to the fact that Students to End Apartheid is the oldest student activist group on campus, having actively worked for changes for more than fourteen years.