

Room 56-423

Ext. 4707

May 6, 1971

To the Editor
The Boston Globe
135 William T. Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02127

Dear Sir:

I was appalled by the editorials you have run on the Washington May Day demonstrations. Especially offensive was the one entitled "Hurting the Cause of Peace" (May 5, 1971).

You stated that "disruption aimed at fellow citizens ... was disruption directed at the wrong people." But those people were government employees, doing the day-by-day business of a government led by war criminals. Slowing them down on their way to work reduced, maybe only by one or two hours, the burden of guilt these people bear, while serving notice that the people have had enough of mass murders committed in their name. And by murders I mean not just the various My Lai's, but the "legal" killing of Vietnamese, Laotians, and Cambodians carried out by order of our government.

You stated: "the fact that the streets of Washington were like a battlefield .. makes the whole exercise something worse than futile." But the battlefield was produced by the actions of the same criminal administration that wages the war in Vietnam. That war is the futile and tragic reality. Your editorials should be addressed to that reality. Otherwise they are worse than futile -- they are stabs in the back of those who fight for peace.

sel/na

S. E. Luria
Institute Professor