

# letters

Dear Editor:

The article in the March 8th SUN and the continuing advertisements have completely and treacherously misrepresented Katimavik and the purpose for which it was created.

Katimavik is sponsored by the Defense Ministry, headed by Barney Danson, and is completely subsidized by The Treasury Board to the tune of \$10 - \$10.5 million a year. It was established to mobilize youth as a reactionary force against the Canadian people and to use as cannon fodder in imperialist wars, the preparations for which we see all around us.

The method employed is almost an exact replica of the method used by Hitler in the 1930's in establishing work camps to mobilize the German youth. In fact, because of the obvious similarities between it and the Nazi youth programmes, Katimavik has been nicknamed "Barney's Brownshirts".

In Katimavik the youth are recruited for a period of 10 months during which they are subjected to intensive government propaganda to convince them to accept the current grave

crisis of the capitalist system and to make them defenders of this system.

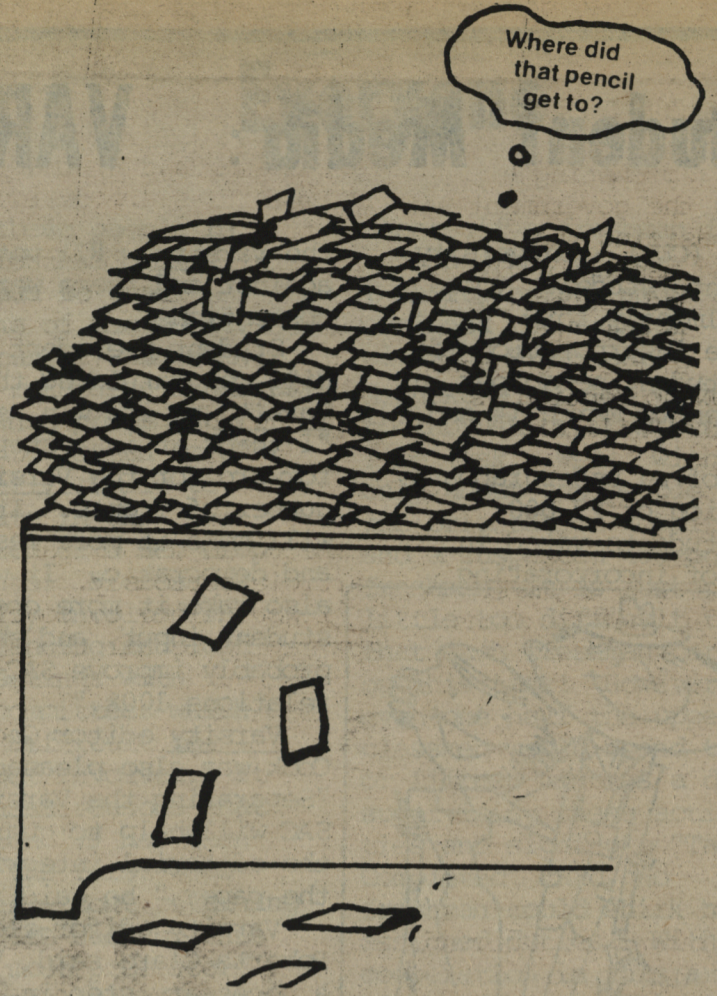
The youth are divided up into 30 camps across the country and carry out tasks "useful" to the community. For this they receive only \$1.00 a day under the pretext that they have no need for more since they are housed and fed (actually they are obliged to live under the worst conditions).

These unpaid youth in fact simply serve as cheap manpower to do work which local workers refuse to do under such conditions.

A "bonus" of \$1000 is given to those who complete the ordeal, but the youth have no right to declare this money as income on which they are eligible to claim unemployment insurance.

But why is the Minister of Defense sponsoring such a project? The Katimavik programme also contains a "military option" under the direction of the Canadian Armed Forces. The youth who are selected to participate in Katimavik are encouraged to choose this option.

In the course of 10 months the youths who choose this option are put through the same basic training as armed forces



## the upei sun

The UPEI SUN is the student newspaper at the University of Prince Edward Island. It is published weekly throughout the academic year by the UPEI Student Union.

Contents are the responsibility of the editor and staff. Opinions are those of the persons expressing them.

The deadline for submissions is the Friday noon preceding publication. All letters and articles must be signed although anonymity can be granted. We reserve the right to edit material for space or legal reasons.

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Our mailing address is UPEI SUN, Main Building, University of PEI, Charlottetown, P.E.I., C1A 4P3. Our phone number is 892-4121, local 387.

## staff

Editor: Maria Driscoll  
Photographer: Lee Donnelly  
Typist: Pat Inghram

John Cairns  
Gerald McKenna  
Maureen Murray  
Teresa MacKinnon  
Jo-Ann Peters  
Kevin Gauthier  
Pat Inghram  
Maureen McCabe  
Nora Cutcliffe  
Rick Teersteege

recruits, including the use of weapons and fascist military discipline. They also receive training in artillery or infantry. In the final stages of training, the participants in the "military option"

are attached to regular units.

The government knows full well that, at present, the youth would oppose obligatory military service. Therefore, in its

continued

## You deserve a break

