

LETTERS

Developers respond to ratepayers statement

Dear Sir:

Because we are the developers referred to on the front page of Wednesday's Herald, we would like an opportunity to respond to the statement made by the ratepayers group that the "planning process favours developers." It appears that the planning process is under attack because that planning process is not doing what the group wants.

Clearly, if the planning process were designed solely to meet the needs of special interest groups or

developers, decisions would not be in the best interests of the whole community.

Instead, the Town of Halton Hills has a rigorous planning process governed by the Planning Act. This process requires objective technical information (such as water and soil tests, etc.) scrutinized by the appropriate government authorities.

The Beechbrooke proposal was thoroughly reviewed by the Town Planning Staff to ensure that it met all the policies and requirements of

the Halton Hills planning process. Part of that review included such matters as the comments of government authorities on the concerns of the public, both in favour and in opposition. They are recommending approval of this development.

The next step in this process is a debate and vote by Town Council. With advice from its Planning Staff, Council "weeds out" those proposals which do not meet the policies of the planning process and allows those which have met the requirements to proceed.

Since Council is responsible for long term planning for all of Halton Hills, it is important for decisions to be made based on sound planning principles and objective

technical information. If Council were to respond only to the noise and numbers of special interest groups or only to the interests of developers, the general public's democratic rights would go down the drain.

Surely the Halton Hills' planning process is too important to be entrusted to any special interest group or any developer.

Yours truly,

Kent and Lois McClure,
R.R. 1, Halton Hills.

Reader abhors use of army against natives

Editor's note: The following letter was received for publication by the Herald prior to the removal of Mohawk barricades.

Dear Sir:

As I write this today - heavily armed units of the Canadian Army are entrenched and facing members of our native people at Oka, Quebec.

According to information we receive, this massed offensive strength - will, when the order is given, move in a direct confrontation - to clear away the barricades and open up the roads.

This to me is a sad day in history!

Do the people responsible for governing our country - realize what they are doing?

These native people are Canadians! As any of us would do - they are standing in defense of what they believe is theirs.

Is a precedent being set here?

Are there other areas of difference of opinion in future, going to be settled by similar means?

We have gone through wars together!

We have worked hard and long and created a country and society of which we are proud, even though groups of us are different - one from the other.

When we get to a point of holding a gun aimed at another Canadian - something is wrong!

We are losing respect for that other Canadian!

We are losing respect for ourselves!

I beg of the powers that be - to draw back, to solve this impasse by other means before it is too late.


Sincerely,

Lew Ward,
Georgetown

c.c. Mr. Garth Turner, M.P.
Halton-Peel.

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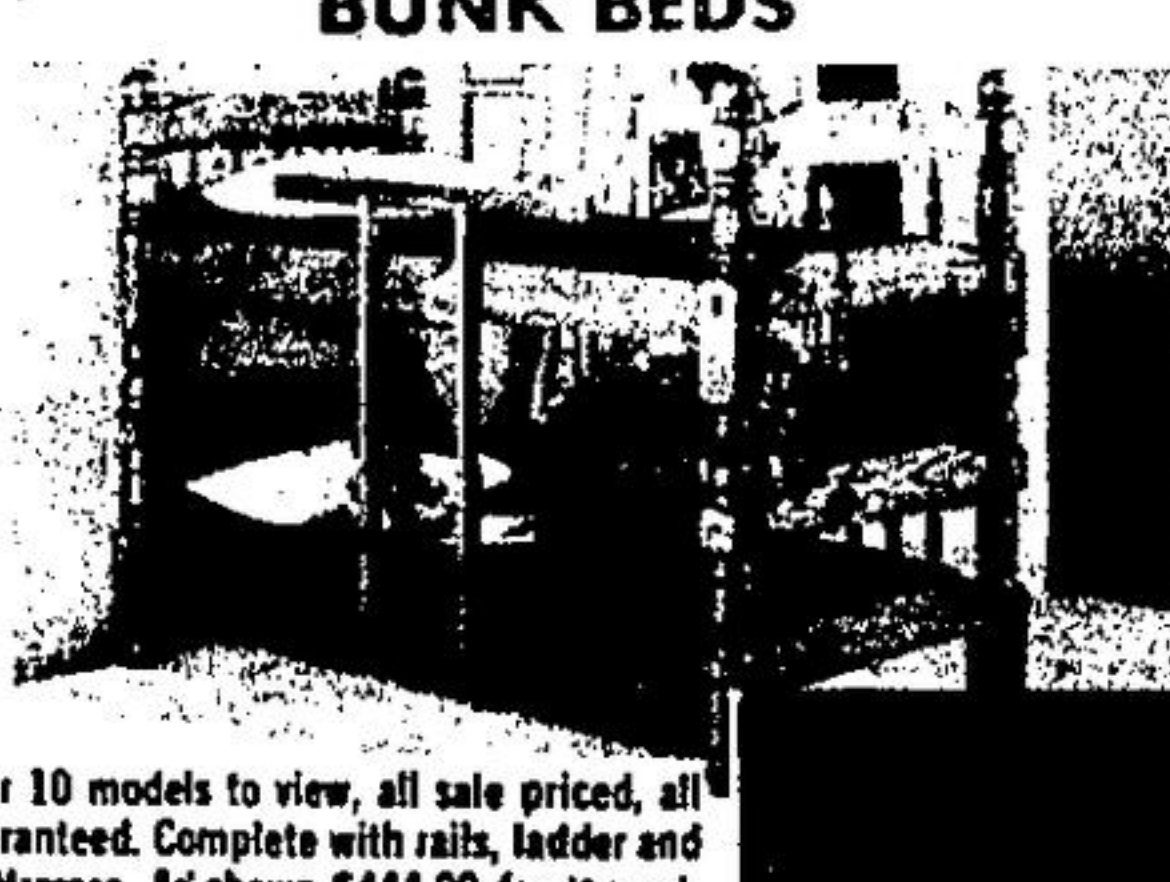
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