Denzel Washington, Oprah & Forest Whitaker’s ‘The Great Debaters’:
The Institutionalization Proliferation of Racism
Attracts the Death Penalty and Life in Prison

Watch trailer

It’s worth repeating what was stated in a recent *Fiefdom* treatise on the same geo-topic:

Everyone in the coalition remembers where they were in late December 2006 when the *Fiefdom* treatise discovered Chinada
principals had institutionalized racism of Africans in Canada. It created an instant firestorm of protest; one that reverberated through the halls of both American superpower and Buckingham Palace.

Since then the partnership has been on a mission as much to save the world from the proliferation of stealth cognition technologies as from the expansion of bigotry; threatening assassination and life incarceration for anyone who would turn back the clock of civil rights.

Usually the documentation of DVD Bonus Features and interviews and how the Chinada High Command reacted occur at the end of an archive entry. However, at times beginning it helps better understand the geo-motivation for feature films and its receptivity amongst those who face the sting of international justice.

Throughout authorship almost every time a reference to coercive diplomacy was identified the malfeasant employed stealth cognition technologies to make the Canadian lawyer feel violated through hypno-itches to his nose. Upon completion of the entry he used the bathroom and a siren was immediately triggered, as were four noise disruptions to tag-team his sense from inside and outside the diplomatic corridor. His late afternoon lunch was also disrupted – the malfeasant causing his nose to itch and jamming his jaw muscles together while chewing. These were signals that those facing the most severe consequences (a) think the coalition is bluffing and (b) if it isn’t are willing to take their chances, looking forward to the show-down that’s imminent and preferring ‘suicide by coalition’ than living a long, peaceful and prosperous life.

Oprah became a coalition partner in September 2004; Denzel in March 2006; and Forest in January 2007.
In this interview Denzel first red flags the fact he’s a coalition partner and then immediately articulates he supports severe consequences.

[The story's] about the little guy against the big guy. It's about the little train that could. I think [The movie's] funny, engaging. I think there are some brilliant performances by these young actors. I think that they're well on their way - you know we found [0:34: Z-J M., protracted Erin M.] three, four really great young actors and gave them an opportunity of [protracted Execution M.] a lifetime as far as their acting career is concerned. They excelled.

View video

In this other interview Denzel first red flags the fact he loved directing and starring in this movie because it provided him the opportunity to express his views as a coalition partner about (i) what should happen to the Chinada High Command – that their mortality is short; (ii) the Canadian lawyer being hypno-tortured and subject to government corruption over decades is a most difficult experience; (iii) that he was asked to become a coalition partner and that’s when he discovered what was going on north of the 49th Parallel; (iv) the tragedy that befell him makes one cry and his emancipation and what his future holds makes one laugh with joy.

Interviewer: Congratulations, this must have been a labor of love.

Denzel: [0:38: Erin M. X3] Ah, what does that mean exactly? That means you usually [Execution M., Erin M.] don't have enough money to make the film but you do it anyway?

Interviewer: I think what this means in this case is that you have a great piece of writing you wanted to do.

Denzel: [0:53: Kernan M. X2; Execution M.] Directing and acting in a picture [Cl.M.] is no easy task. So you better love what you're doing. And I do love what I'm doing. [...] It was a love; it wasn't even a labor.

Interviewer: Had you been aware of this story before?

[...]

It was tough times [during the Depression]. On your way to school you pass the sharecroppers. That was your option at that time.

Interviewer: Is there something about the character [2:16: Denzel: Pfeiffer M.] you're going to take with you from this performance - from this experience?

Denzel: [Erin M.] The whole experience. [...] The movie has -- you laugh, you cry and you cheer.

Interviewer: And what [more] do you want from a film?


In the DVD Special Features segment ‘The Great Debaters: An Historical Perspective’ Denzel again corroborates his belief that those who seek to institutionalize and proliferate racism against African-Americans or Africans of any country ought to face the most severe consequences.

No more than forty seconds into the feature is there the first use of the lexicon. It’s an edited-in clip of Denzel executing a Clooney Maneuver in the foreground to Oprah’s voiceover describing how the actors were “going to actually meet the real people they were going to be portraying” – generating the communiqué that the individuals who were represented in the film were generally were in the same politically and economically oppressive environment as the Canadian.

To one of the historical figures recalling “[the YWCA] paid me fifty dollars because I was the Valedictorian of my high school class” an edited-in clip of Denzel effecting a Federer Maneuver highlighted how the Canadian was
being enumerated for his services to protecting America’s national and economic security.

Denzel’s first generation of the lethal force – death penalty communiqué came during an interview of himself. He’s attired in the color of justice and behind him a drape is arranged to generate the prison certainty pattern.

They understood – everyone, African-Americans, understood [Erin M.] the importance [Execution M. X2] of education as a way out.

Three of the four historical figures announce they’re coalition partners – having been introduced to the file on Canada and willing to participate in any way they can. One employs an embellished Blair Maneuver to draw a parallel with how African-Americans and how the Canadian were treated; another interviewee high profiles the poverty he was forced to suffer for political and geo-political reasons; and the third a double-handed SNL Maneuver to articulate what the Canadian’s problem with the country’s and Chinese leaders and message was.

Give them the opportunity; even those [protracted Bl.M.] who have been discriminated against; even those who have been denied the privileges will be able to excel; and that is the philosophy that guided us.

[…]

Predominantly, black schools did not have the money [Z-J M.]

[…]

[dbl-h SNL M.]I know that he spoke in defense of human rights for black citizens.

Forest’s interview was geo-politicized by editing-in a clip from the movie where his character gestures and is turned into a ‘gun to the temple’ Richie-Santelli Maneuver because it’s timed to the word “unusual” in the sentence
“[My character] came there to help one Wiley College to teach there, which is very unusual during that time”.

Denzel’s next use of the gesture that signals the use of the most severe forms of objective attainment comes when he queries his guests – the purpose of which was to describe how the “story” of Canada that would never be told except in the history books of the world’s movers and shakers was about how those who defied the United States and the civilized world were put to death to prevent their evil spreading through 21st century humanity:

You told a [Execution M.] story about taking a class with your father. Was he more demanding on you?

Denzel reiterates what he said in an interview supra about how the film was in part inspired by what was going on in Canada:

Henrietta Wells, who Samantha Books character was [Pacino M. X2] based on had heard about Mel Tolson.

Denzel services the Canadian lawyer’s international persona with this geopoliticized question:

As a young boy growing up [Branson M.] in that home did you have an idea that your father was a star or that what was going on at Wiley [College] was special debating all these big schools?

The Great Debaters is a 2007 American biopic period drama film directed by and starring two-time Academy Award winner Denzel Washington and produced by Oprah Winfrey. [...] Based on a true story, the plot revolves around the efforts of debate coach Melvin B. Tolson (Denzel Washington) at historically black Wiley College to place his team on equal footing with whites in the American South during the 1930s, when Jim Crow laws were common and lynch mobs were a pervasive fear for blacks. In the movie, the Wiley team eventually succeeds to the point where they are able to debate Harvard University.
The movie also explores the social milieu of Texas during the Great Depression including not only the day-to-day insults and slights African Americans endured, but also a lynching. Also depicted is James L. Farmer, Jr. who, at 14 years old (Denzel Whitaker), was on Wiley's debate team after completing high school (and who later went on to co-found the Congress of Racial Equality). According to the Houston Chronicle, another character depicted on the team, Samantha Booke, is based on the real individual Henrietta Bell Wells, "the only female member of the 1930 debate team from Wiley College who participated in the first collegiate interracial debate in the United States". Melvin B. Tolson is also profiled, a major African American poet whose papers are housed at the Library of Congress.

The key dialog line, used several times, is a famous paraphrase of Augustine of Hippo (354-430): "An unjust law is no law at all." Another major line, repeated in slightly different versions according to context, concerns doing what you "have to do" in order that we "can do" what we "want to do." In all instances, these vital lines are spoken by the James L. Farmer, Sr. or by James L. Farmer, Jr. characters.

The film depicts the Wiley Debate team beating Harvard College in the 1930s. This meeting actually never occurred. The debate most likely similar to the one depicted by the movie was the match-up between Wiley and The University of Southern California, who at the time were the reigning debating champions. Wiley College did indeed win this matchup. According to Robert Eisele: "In that era, there was much at stake when a black college debated any white school, particularly one with the stature of Harvard. We used Harvard to demonstrate the heights they achieved."

Source: wikipedia.com

The first scene of the film follows what was then and is today the methodology of identifying a production as coalition-inspired: adding the lexicon in the very first scene. In the film juxtaposed with a college class in prayer is a party of African-Americas singing and dancing. One of the praying debaters is attired in prison certainty.

The next use of the lexicon is when class is commencing. The confidential language is employed here is to underscore that prison is essential for those who seek to turn back the clock on civil rights. The camera pans through the classroom and stops at a female student attired in an outfit that has a coalition identifying three stripes running part way down her back.
Additionally, what has been an oft-employed prison certainty generating technique – casting a striped shadow through horizontal blinds; in this case on the blackboard in the background.

Denzel’s character quotes a passage with the prison certainty pattern cast across a blackboard on which is printed "revolution". The lexicon is embedded in the script.

One of the debaters is choreographed the following way to create the red flag that the kind of bigotry the Chinada High Command and its millions of supporters, followers and apologists propagate seek to diminish the extraordinary nature of some human beings who’s only difference is that they have a different skin color.

I am the darker brother. They said to eat in the kitchen when company comes. But I laugh and I eat well. And I grow strong. Tomorrow I’ll sit at the table when company comes. Nobody will dare say to me “eat in the kitchen, then”. Besides they’ll see how beautiful [Greenspan M.] I am and be ashamed. I too am America.

He goes on with:
Some are teethed on a silver spoon with the stars strung up for a rattle, I cut my teeth as a black raccoon for implements of battle.

At “strung up” and in a context that includes the word “battle” a clip of a student executing an Erin Maneuver is edited-in to articulate the need to teach the bellicose malfeasant a lesson and create a deterrent for future totalitarians, dictators and despots seeking to institutionalize racism.

After class the teacher and one of the young debaters are scripted to be talking in front of the school building. Producers choreograph an extra to walk out the front doors attired in Chinada prison certainty; which is time to:

Denzel: Years ago you disappeared. What happened?
Student: I come and go.

[...]
Denzel: Why’d you come back?
Student: School’s the only place you can read all day, except prison.

[enter Chinada prison certainty]

The youngest debater of the group rushes home to announce to his parents he’s joined the club. When he enters the study his father is reading and then asks him a question. Being attired in prison certainty to the question makes the answer rhetorical in the context of what the movie’s about:

Junior, what is the greatest weakness of man?

The boy answers “Not believing – doubt”, to which producers insert the pattern of prison in the foreground and the colors of China in the background.
As his son is about to make the announcement, his professor father is quoting, and executes a ‘gun to the temple’ Richie-Santelli Maneuver to the remark made attributable to Jesus “Oh you of little faith why do you doubt [R-S M.]” – seeking to underscore the coalition’s tenacious resolve to achieve stated objectives using whatever means are necessary, including lethal military force.

The audience discovers there’s more to Denzel’s character beyond being a college teacher and debate team leader. He’s heavily involved in the 1930s trade union movement, seeking to organize sharecroppers and others in the farming industry. In one scene he’s observed lecturing to those interested; and one sentence in this portion of the script is geo-highlighted:

Farmer: Why don’t you talk about [...] how they killed a hundred sharecroppers for tryin’ to organize.

Organizer: That was 1919 my friend.

Farmer: That was my daddy they gunned down... friend.

[Denzel]: We’re sorry about that. But those men [Farmer: Cl.M.] stood alone. That’s my point. This is 1935. We got the National Labor Relations Board. We got the AF of L.

Translated: The Canadian lawyer doesn’t stand alone in his fight against what cost him twenty years of his life and Chinada’s proliferating paradigm of authoritarian governance. He’s got a global coalition of public and private sector partners – the world’s movers and shakers – backing his search for justice and ensuring stated objectives are achieved.

In one of the debate scenes a member of the team is delivering his arguments and behind him are three pipes from the auditorium organ – used to generate a coalition identifier and prison certainty communiqué. They’re added to “[T]hose days are gone; now there are millions who want to work but find themselves standing in breadlines...” – referring to the ever-
enlarging coalition partnership who are going to be engaged in the fight against the Chinada High Command until they are no more and what it represents is buried with them and those who are nominally culpable will be forced into unemployment and poverty: *Coalition Partners Put the Minimally Guilty and Unwaveringly Loyal on Notice What Awaits Them After Covert Regime Change*. 

Another debater takes the podium and when the triple pipe assemblage is observed again, it’s timed to “…they create desolation…” In geo-terms that’s a reference to what lays in the wake of Canada’s political and corporate leaders and their Chinese associates as experienced by the Canadian, millions of Canadians and hundreds of millions more if they’re not stopped.

There’s a scene which begins with Denzel’s character tapping his glass at a dinner table hosting the debating team after a victory a total of eight times to announce that it’s gotten offers from ivy league schools. It’s not the subject-matter of the announcement that’s red flagged; rather what’s observed at the conclusion of the scene that leads into this one. It’s in the sheriff’s office. A sharecropper who attended the trade union meeting just fingered Denzel’s character as the main organizer. To extract this information the police had just beaten his face to a pulp. Producers thus offer a graphic representation of how livid they and their coalition partners are at what Chinada malfeasant have done and propose to do as they try to march across the world with racism as a tenant of their governance style.

At another debate producers choreograph a boy extra to execute a ‘gun to the temple’ Richie-Santelli Maneuver so in the editing room it could be timed to “you know the boys know all too well the white man’s resistance to change” to reiterate the coalition’s commitment to use the most aggressive
tactics known to ensure race relations continue to evolve towards ever greater degrees of enlightenment.

Just how brutal it was for African-Americans up to and including the first half of the 20th century is graphically portrayed in a lynching the debaters run into as they’re driving to an event. While the scene isn’t geo-politicized it certainty assists in understanding the fear coalition partners have about what would likely transpire albeit in other forms should racism return and in a manner that reflects the ‘fiefdom’ or medieval nature of Canadian governance.

Still shaken by what they saw, the team returns home, including Denzel’s character. As his wife beams at him about a letter sent to him to which she knows the contents, anything she says won’t fully mitigate the terror he and his students felt nor the disappointment he feels at its first loss after a string of victories. But it sure helps.

Wife: So...

[Denzel]: We lost [the debate].

Wife: Oh, I’m sorry. [Denzel: Diaz M.] Ah-um, this came.

[Denzel]: Harvard! What’s this?

Wife: Go on open it and read it. [...] Outloud.

[Denzel]: “Dear Mr. Tolson [protracted Z-J M.] Thank-you for informing us about your historic victory over Oklahoma City. [One of your students told us] about your [Gutierrez M.] undefeated season. [...] We wish to extend an invitation to [Federer M., Erin M.] ... We wish to extend an invitation to debate the Harvard Premier League.
This is a statement of intention of the most significant and historical kind, articulating that it will be Democracy 2 Imperialistic Authoritarianism 0.

And it conveys a desire amongst the partnership that at the time of this archive entry’s authorship foreshadows his election to head the Custodian-in-Council and his trip to the United States to meet and celebrate with his clients, colleagues, partners and associates.

When the students assemble at the train station to travel to Boston producers choose a train for its color scheme, China, and wardrobe the marching band in the color of justice. The trains ID number is observed on the front of the steam engine to be "201" – a coalition identifier; and the caboose cab’s number is “1511” – a China identifier. This very cleverly metaphorically describes who’s going to run the train of civilization throughout the 21st century and who’s going to take up the rear. The colors of China are most pronounced during this moment.

When they arrive at Harvard and are shown their rooms, the members assemble to receive a letter from the debate executive, providing new instructions for the event. A Clooney Maneuver is chosen to red flag and generate the next communiqué. The young student thinks it’s money. The geo-gesture is timed to “We have been informed by...”. This is yet another indication back in 2007 of the coalition’s intent of delivering the Canadian’s damages.

As the Harvard debate begins the announcer says the following – which is red flagged with a -S-h-h Maneuver delivered by a member of the audience. It is the coalition confidentiality gesture and timed to “We welcome the distinguished team from Wiley College”. The team being referenced here is the coalition partnership, which has insisted since 2006 that its existence
and mission be kept out of the public domain; with serious and immediate consequences for anyone who breaches that secrecy.

Producers acknowledge the multi-perspectival link between the coalition and the Canadian as the president of Harvard continues his introduction:

Harvard University celebrates its **three** hundredth anniversary this year and [q-Cl.M.] in Franklin Delano Roosevelt as the **fifth** president of the United States.

But no university no matter how grand or illustrious its history can afford [60 MM] to live in the past. So in the spirit of [R-S M.] tomorrow I introduce to you today [q-Cl.-60 MM] the debaters from Wiley College.

Mr. Farmer [SNL M.] will argue first in the affirmative.

As announcer departs the podium: **three** stripes on his robe’s sleeves]

Additionally, producers draw attention to the coalition’s intent on having no devolution of civil rights anywhere in the world. And to ensure that’s the case lethal military force and the death penalty will be utilized by today’s protectors of the dignity of the individual.

The Wiley College team seeks to convince the audience that “civil disobedience is a moral weapon in the fight for justice”. He begins with:

How can civil disobedience ever be moral? – I guess that depends on one’s definition of the word.

... to which one of the university faculty members on the stage behind him is choreographed to execute a 60 Minutes Maneuver; the geo-purpose being to underscore the ‘moral’ dimension of the coalition’s fight against the Chinada High Command. It holds the high ground and endeavors at all costs not to surrender it to 21st century evil.
The historical example given is that of Mahatma Gandhi.

In 1919 in India ten thousand people gathered at Amritsar's Jallianwala Bagh to protest the tyranny of British rule. [...] General Reginald Dyer trapped them in a courtyard and ordered his troops to fire into the crowd for ten minutes. 379 died. Men, women, children shot down in cold blood. Dyer said he had taught him a moral lesson.

This was a turning point in British rule of India:

The British military commander, Brigadier Reginald E.H. Dyer, ordered his soldiers to fire at point-blank range into an unarmed and unsuspecting crowd of some 10,000 men, women, and children. They had assembled at Jallianwala Bagh, a walled garden, to celebrate a Hindu festival without prior knowledge of the imposition of martial law. A total of 1,650 rounds were fired, killing 379 persons and wounding 1,137 in the episode, which dispelled wartime hopes and goodwill in a frenzy of postwar reaction. [...] The Jallianwala Bagh massacre turned millions of moderate Indians from patient and loyal supporters of the British raj into nationalists who would never again place trust in British "fair play."

Source: onwar.com

The statement of intent is again made that the use of lethal military force will be employed to prevent the proliferation of institutionalized racism. Added is that those who are taken out this way is not limited to men. Given how much the Chinada membership is also comprised of women, producers make the point on behalf of the coalition that they too will face these severe and irreversible consequences for their abominable complicity.

Harvard’s team responds with a rebuttal that is filled with the lexicon:

From 1914 to 1918 for every single minute the world was at war. Men laid down their lives. Just think of it: 240 brave young men were hurled into eternity every hour of every day and every night for four long years. 35,000 hours. Eight million, two hundred and eighty
one thousand casualties. 240 – 240 – 240. Here was a slaughter immeasurably greater than what happened at Jallianwala Bagh.

Casualty statistics vary from sources to source. The total of the digits in 8,281,000 is 19 – a China identifier. That’s immediately followed by the lexiconic equivalent of the sign of the devil – 666. Chinada principals wanted the coalition in the spring of 2006 to appreciate that is what they revere.

The Harvard debater goes on to articulate what costs will be borne by coalition forces:

Fighting for your country with violence can be deeply moral [gallery: q-Cl.M.], demanding the greatest sacrifice of all: life itself.

Wiley College returns to the podium to deliver the communiqués that (i) the malfeasant in behaving contrary to domestic and international law must accept what punishment is meted out by the coalition – having been put on notice like statutes do what follows from their crimes against humanity: (ii) employing the most severe options on the table isn’t anarchy, it’s effecting the rule of law and protecting the social order from Canada’s secret paradigm of governance which is truly anarchistic; (iii) coalition partners draw their own inspiration from the trials, tribulations and achievements of their Canadian colleague;

Gandhi also believes that law breakers must accept the consequences for their actions [professor #1: Bl.M.]. [professor #2: 60 MM] Does that sound like anarchy? [Harvard debater: Harry M. X5, R-S M.] Civil disobedience is not something for us to fear. It is, after all, an American concept. You see Gandhi draws his inspiration [professor #3: 60 MM] not from a Hindu scripture, but from Henry David Thoreau, who I believe graduated from Harvard and lived by a pond not too far from here.
Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862), American transcendentalist, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, essayist, and poet wrote *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* (1854).

Writing on such varied topics as Economy, Reading, Winter Animals, and Solitude, Thoreau spent just over two years in a cabin he built on the edge of Walden Pond on the property of Ralph Waldo Emerson. It was a place for him to find solitude while he wrote, but for his ever-questioning mind it was also an experiment in self-reliance and living close to nature.

Source: [http://www.online-literature.com/thoreau](http://www.online-literature.com/thoreau)

Harvard’s team returns with a majority is always right argument, seeking to justify segregation and all laws passed pursuant to that political culture cannot be undermined by moral arguments.

The beauty and burden of democracy is this: no idea prevails without the support of the majority. The people decide the moral issues of the day. Not a majority of one.

Wiley rebuts the argument with:

A majority doesn’t decide what is right or wrong. [R-S M.] X2] Your conscience does. So why should a citizen surrender his or her conscience [and] kneel down to the tyranny of the majority?

Producers edit-in a clip of the debating team leader’s wife who’s at home listening on the radio. She’s attired in prison certainty (chain link fence) which adds emphasis to the communiqué that the ‘deciders’ are the coalition and they shall within the rule of law address the challenges before them and use execution and prison as a means to contain and neutralize the Chinada threat and fix Canada’s institutionalized dysfunctionalities.

Harvard responds with:

My father is one of those men who stands between us [Sorkin ID] and chaos – a police officer [McGraw-Jackson M.; prison certainty]. [...]

Nothing that erodes the rule of law can be moral no matter what name we give it.

The powerful applause that follows inspires the Wiley team and the young debater rises and draws on the terror he felt when witnessing and almost a victim of the lynch mob. As he begins a clip of his father by the radio with the family is added – he’s effecting a ‘gun to the temple’ Richie-Santelli Maneuver.

In Texas they lynch Negroes. My team-mates and I saw a man strung up by his neck and set on fire. We drove through a lynch mob. Pressed our faces against the floorboard. I looked at my team-mates. I saw the fear in their eyes. And worse, the shame.

What was this [professor: 60 MM] Negro’s crime that he should be hung without trial in a dark forest filled with fog. Was he a thief? Was he a killer? Or just a Negro? [gallery: #1&2: Erin M.s] Was he a sharecropper, a preacher? Were his children waiting up for him? And who are we to just lie there and do nothing? No matter what he did, the mob was the criminal. But the law did nothing, which left us wondering ‘Why?’.

My opponent says ‘nothing which erodes the law can be moral’. But there is no rule of law in the Jim Crow south*. Not when Negroes are denied housing, turned away from schools, hospitals and not when we are lynched. St. Augustine said [clip: father: R-S M.-Z-J M.] “an unjust law is no law at all”; which means I have a right, even a duty, to resist with violence or civil disobedience. You should pray I choose the latter.

*During seven Civil Rights cases in 1883, the Supreme Court of the United States of America ruled that the force of federal law could not extend to individual action because the 14th Amendment, which provided that "no state" could deny citizens the equal protection of the laws, stood to prohibit only in the cases of state action. As a result, the slogan "separate but equal" lost its validity, particularly in the south. Many white southerners embraced a racial ideology that held that African Americans were "retrogressing" as a result of the being granted their freedom. This racial ideology was manifested in what was called "Jim Crow Laws." These laws allowed for the disenfranchisement of blacks and did not take long to extend segregation into almost every aspect of southern society.

Source: [http://cti.itc.virginia.edu/~aas405b/intro.html](http://cti.itc.virginia.edu/~aas405b/intro.html)
The first use of the lexicon draws attention to what most people in Canada’s security apparatus are – those of the working class who’ve been recruited into a diabolical plan to perpetuate the vile status quo and which includes Chinese *de facto* governance. Then the communiqués turn retributive again, underlining the unjust nature of Canadian governance and the coalition’s determination to use lethal military force and capital punishment to achieve its transparent goals, including delivering the rule of law to all citizens.

The applause after the delivery of the final segment of the debate was thunderous. As the history books confirm, Wiley College won and thus set a milestone of significance for the evolution towards a just American society. The coalition – created and spearheaded by the U.S. – knows all too well what it would mean for humanity to allow the Chinada ideology of bigotry and hate permeate through civilization. And its membership appreciates very well that military might will be required since diplomacy proved inefficacious.