

'Yes' . . .

A&M'S STUDENT government has an opportunity to be advanced Wednesday night when the campus-wide referendum vote is taken to decide whether or not the students want a President of the Student Body.

The major part of the decision, as we see it, is the needed change in the election procedure. The student body of A&M has become much more interested in student government over the past few years than ever before.

And that alone is a healthy sign that the students are ready to make yet another advancement.

The Battalion is in full support of the proposal which would make the present position of Student Senate President one subject

to student body elections and which changes the job's title to President of the Student Body.

Definite qualifications must be established, however, to insure experienced men for the job.

This portion of the change will be performed by the Student Life Committee, which sets requirements for all campus-wide positions.

A&M sorely needs a top representative of the student body who can actually represent all students.

Vote "yes" Wednesday night and you are giving the college's student government a large push forward.



In General Ike's Army

Vast Pay Differences Can Be Embarrassing

By CARTER DAVIDSON
Associated Press Staff Writer

PARIS, April 10—(AP)—The highest paid soldiers in the world, American GIs, are lining up beside international army buddies who get as little as a nickel a day.

The difference in pay between countries supplying the troops for the Atlantic Pact's European army is one of the vexing problems faced by General Dwight D. Eisenhower and his staff at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE).

The whole idea of the Atlantic Army is international military cooperation. So far, it is working well as Eisenhower and his staff officers get the army organized. But it brings up problems.

A French colonel, for instance, may one day be assigned to command a regiment or battalion of Atlantic troops that may have American, British, Norwegian and French in it. The U. S. top sergeant will be drawing about \$25 a year more than his colonel.

If a U. S. Army captain, on the other hand, ever leads 200-man company of Italians into action or maneuvers, his base pay of \$314 a month will be just about equal to the total pay of all troops he commands. A company of U. S. soldiers would have a total base pay of \$17,000 a month.

Little Friction So Far

So far there has been little friction, if any, as a result of pay differences.

But real problems are feared when the actual integration of troops into an Atlantic army gets under way. Eisenhower's officers are working on it now, but little can be done until the governments of the Atlantic community raise the lower-level army standards. This is being considered in many countries. But in others, such as France, the attitude still is that a soldier serves his country for the glory of it.

The pay differences cited are base salaries only, and take no accounting of "extras" such as food and housing allowances, free travel and free cigarettes.

The rawest U. S. recruit, just out of his draft board, gets \$75 a month base pay, plus \$3 a day for food if there is no Army mess available, and an allotment for dependants. By comparison, an Italian soldier who has advanced to the rank of sergeant gets only \$45 a month, with no allowances to house his family.

Here are the daily rates of pay for private soldiers in eight of the countries supplying troops to the Atlantic Army, without counting "extras."

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| United States | \$2.63 |
| Belgium | 2.50 |
| Britain | .98 |
| Holland | .76 |
| Denmark | .24 |
| Norway | .15 |
| Italy | .08 |
| France | .05 |

Some armies pay their soldiers even less for the first few months. Some have different rates of pay for regular army soldiers

and conscripts. In Belgium, for example, where the regular army private gets \$2.50 a day, a conscript draws only 20 cents a day for 12 months. After that it's 40 cents a day.

A conscript in Holland gets 27 cents, compared to the 76 cents he draws after six months service.

Top Brass Pay Even Worse

In the top brass brackets the pay difference is as bad, or worse. A French general, for instance, draws about the same salary as a U. S. Army second lieutenant, the lowest commissioned grade.

A Danish colonel is paid more than an Italian general, but only slightly more than a U. S. sergeant.

An American general of the three top grades draws an annual check of \$13,500 for salary, food and housing allowances. This is just about twice as much as the pay of a Belgian general, next highest paid officer in the Atlantic army.

Here is the way some armies compare, in the "extras," with the GI's food and housing allowances:

France—Private soldiers and non-commissioned officers get up to six free cigarettes a day. Officers travel for one-fourth price on railways. No housing allowances, free food if at army messes. Free medical treatment.

Italy—Private soldiers get no family housing allowances. Non-commissioned and commissioned officers live in state-owned apartment houses at special low rents.

Holland—Soldiers receive board and lodging. Married officers get a rent and living allowance is assigned outside home area. Unmarried soldiers pay their rent out of their salaries, averaging about \$10 a month.

No Pay in Norway

Norway—Soldiers get free food and lodgings, plus medical and dental care, also half-price railway tickets. Non-coms and officers pay for all personal needs, including uniforms.

Denmark—Private soldiers, corporals and cadets get free uniforms, food, housing and half-price railway travel. No allowances for officers.

Similar statistics for other countries were not available.

The Germans have no military service now, but when they had one, Hitler made his fighting men comfortable—on European standards at least.

The Wehrmacht paid its soldiers according to length of service, and gave enlisted men and non-coms free housing, food, clothing and medical treatment. Officers got a special allowance to pay for the same things. The German army issued free cigarettes and liquor rations during wartime only, and that amount varied according to whether a soldier was at the front or in the rear areas. Soldiers and officers alike got one mark a day bonus for each day at the front.

German base pay ranged from about 40 cents a day for privates to \$9,000 a year for generals.

The Battalion

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BA Prof To Speak At Florists Meet

E. R. Bulow, assistant professor of Business Administration, will speak to the Fourth Annual Commercial Florists' Short Course which will be held on the campus April 16-18.

Bulow will speak on "I Sold You So." The course will investigate merchandising and sales problems faced by the retail florist.

A. F. DeWerth, head of the Floriculture and Landscape Art Department will be in charge of the program.

AH Students Plan Houston Field Trip

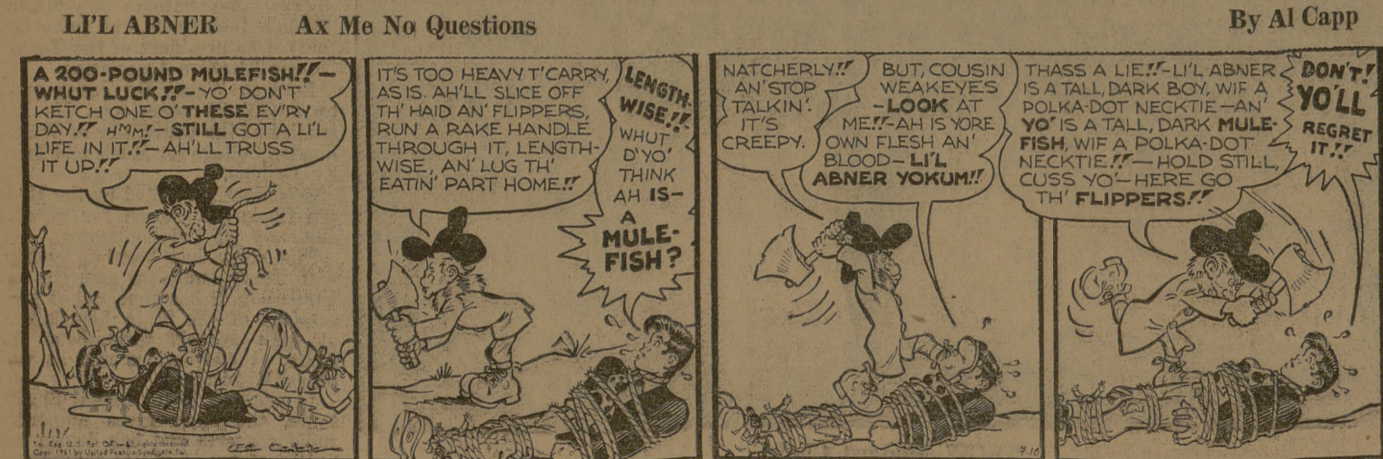
Students in AH 307 will visit the Houston Packing Company in Houston, May 1. This trip is made each semester by the class in order to familiarize the students with the operation of a commercial meat processing plant.

W. W. Bailey, '36, who is general superintendent of the packing house, will welcome the students and supervise the tour of the plant's facilities.

Bible Verse

BLESSED are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake, —Matthew 5: 11.

By Al Capp



Can They Cooperate?

Democracy and Communism

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

BRITAIN'S new foreign secretary, Herbert Morrison, during a speech in London supported the thesis that "international cooperation can flourish despite differences of political systems."

As a generality that undoubtedly is true, but the question immediately arose whether it can be stretched to cover the outsider of the ideologies — Communism. Is there any possibility of cooperation between Communism and Democracy?

That's a mighty important question in these dangerous times of political turmoil. Upon the answer must depend our attitude towards the Red ism.

The answer is, I think, that there may be cooperation on some lines between Communist states and non-Communist states. There can be no real cooperation between Communism and any other ideology within the borders of one nation.

As to partial cooperation between Communist and non-Communist states, we had an excellent example in the alliance during the last world war. However, that was a matter of life and death—and danger makes strange bed fellows. No such partnership is likely among Red and non Red elements within one nation.

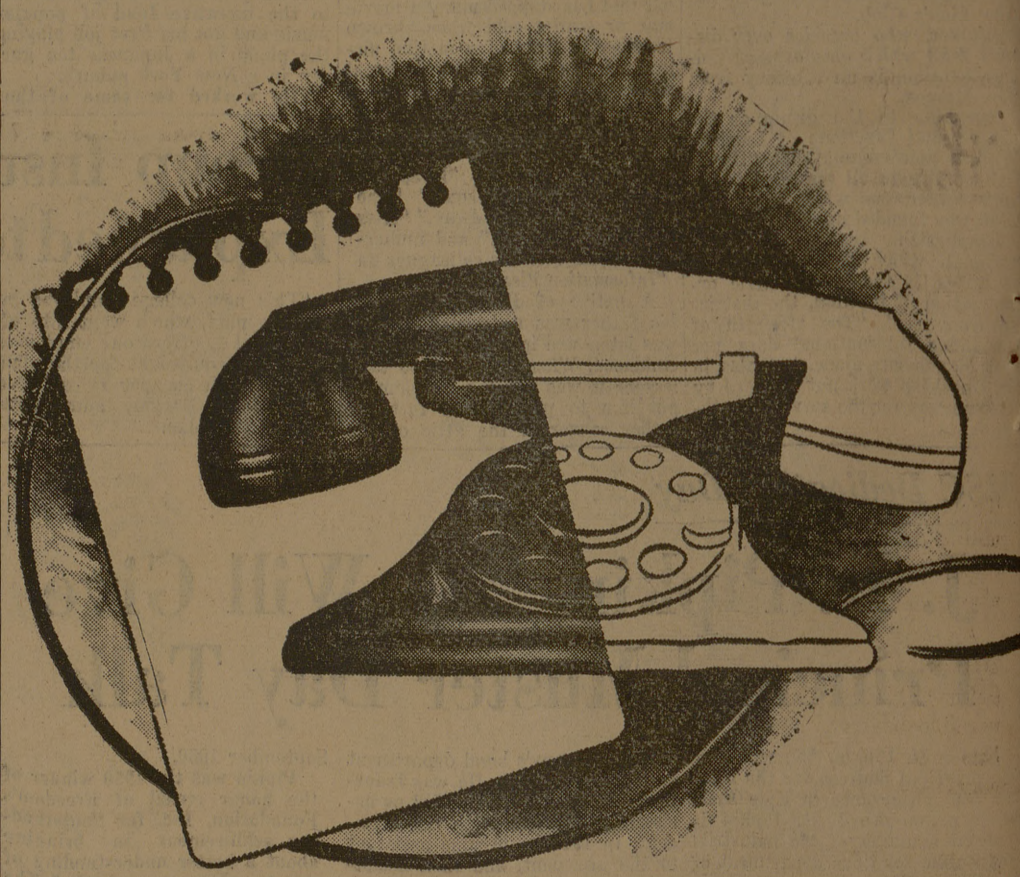
Why? Because if a Communist party gets a foothold in a largely Democratic country, the Reds give their allegiance, not to their national government but to Moscow. This is so true that when a serious difference arises between Red Russia and a democracy the Communist citizens of the democracy will side with the Soviet Union. Indeed, this fact provides Moscow with one of its most useful weapons in waging its world revolution for the spread of Communism.

Every non-Russian Communist is

Drunk Writer Fails To Affirm Writing.

Los Angeles, April 10—(AP)—Dr. Vernon Bronson Twitchell, 42, was picked up asleep on a neighbor's lawn last night. Police booked him as drunk. Today he pleaded guilty and was fined \$25.

Dr. Twitchell, a Harvard PhD, is the author of "Living Without Liquor."



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