

Censorship Vs. Ethics . . .

A TEXAS newspaper editor is hurling charges of censorship at the commanding general of the Eighth Air Force. The editor, Walter Humphries of the Fort Worth Press, says that a recent "lock-out" of his reporters from Carswell Air Force Base in Ft. Worth constituted an attempt to censor civilian news.

The lock-out, said Carswell officials, followed acts by Press reporters that constituted "invasions of privacy" and "bad taste" in reporting interviews with survivors of officers and airmen killed in a recent B-36 crash.

Economy Yes, But Not Inadequacy

THERE is one significant point in General MacArthur's testimony that certainly cannot be repeated often enough. Of all men in the world qualified to make such a statement, MacArthur heads the list.

On two occasions he has faced a fanatical enemy with meager, unprepared, and ill-equipped forces. Both attacks, in his opinion would not have occurred had we maintained strong forces on a "ready to go" basis.

Economy is wonderful, but the concept of appropriating money for weapons only after the enemy is on our doorsteps must go.

Even now we hear rumors from Korea of obsolete aircraft without even obsolete replacements, bombs that won't explode, units perpetually understrength, clothing shortages, and inadequate weapons.

Those who die as a result of these marks of unpreparedness will be highly praised in the resulting citations, but those who survive will question the right of our country to demand that any man fight under such conditions.

An even greater debacle is shaping up in Europe, and the only way to prevent it is to get behind a concerted, all-out, rearmament program. Anything less will mean needless repeated sacrifice of our youth on the altar of stupidity.

You would, no doubt, be surprised to know what some of your friends say behind your back.

Today's Morals Are Higher?

UN Embargo Brings Back League of Nation's Bust

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR. AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

FOR THE second time in sixteen years the nations which compose the world's peace-loving community are about to try an embargo to curb aggression.

Its effectiveness will depend heavily on something which hardly existed the first time—the sincerity of the individual members of the embargoing group.

People everywhere got excited

in 1935 when the League of Nations voted sanctions against Italy after Mussolini's troops invaded Ethiopia.

The British government, which had gotten on the bandwagon only after some serious dillydallying, found itself so popular that it called a general election immediately to extend a term of office which was about to expire.

The league started out with a bang to enforce a virtual blockade against Italy. Arms were em-

bargoed, along with certain financial transactions and purchases from Italy. But oil, coal, iron and steel were never embargoed.

It developed that France's infamous Pierre Laval had made a secret agreement with Britain's Sir Samuel Hoare, before any sanctions were adopted, that they would not take steps leading to military sanctions, naval blockade or closure of the Suez Canal to Mussolini's shipments.

They also agreed on partial dismemberment of Ethiopia to appease Italy. Sir Samuel lost his cabinet job when the public found out.

U. S. Tried to Cooperate

The United States government tried to cooperate with league aims. Having no embargo powers, it obtained a voluntary agreement with the major oil companies not to supply Mussolini.

When Washington was unable to assure Britain, however, that it could control some of the small independent companies, London declined to include oil in the first sanctions.

And later it still resisted as Mussolini's military successes made it appear an oil embargo might lead to military sanctions. Americans and Europeans continued the large part of their business with Mussolini throughout the "incident."

No Undercover Tactics

As the United Nations tries to do something about war shipments to Red China, whose troops are fighting men from some of the seller countries themselves, there is no appearance of such undercover tactics as scuttled the League of Nations effort.

Some of the member countries, such as Indonesia and India, however, have indicated openly that they will not go along. The British ban on rubber sales already is being evaded. And more evasions are likely amid the intrigues of the Far East.

But despite all the shifting and evasion by United Nations diplomats these days, morals do seem to be somewhat higher than in 1935.

Not So Says Security Head

Thefts from Cars Called Crime Rise

By DAVE COSLETT Battalion Co-Editor

HAVE we a "crime-wave" at A&M? Some residents of Vet Village seem to think so. A spokesman from that area complained to The Battalion the other day that numerous cases of theft from automobiles had been reported within the past week or so. All the cars were parked in the parking lot behind "Anchor Hall."



Coslett

Specifically, this married veteran listed a theft last Friday night of seat covers and a bumper guard from one car, a theft earlier in the week of a spare tire from the back end of a pick-up truck and what he termed "numerous" cases of gasoline stealing.

Checking with the office of the Campus Security, we found that all these cases had been reported to them. "Well," we asked, "does it seem that there is a current upsurge in stealing, especially in that area?" Fred Hickman, head of the Campus Security, answered in the negative.

In qualifying his answer, the KK head explained something about our use of the word "serious" in talking of the reported theft. The report of any theft, he said, is serious.

He went on to say, however, that the cases of which we spoke were, taken together, not what he would consider a serious outbreak of stealing.

Thefts in about the same proportion, he explained, were being reported from other parking areas around the campus. The complainant from Vet Village had suggested that lack of lighting made the parking area behind Anchor Hall particularly susceptible to theft. Hickman answered that by saying that lighting there was not appreciably different or worse than lighting in other areas.

Lighting Costs Prohibitive

Further checking on the matter of possibly improved lighting discloses that there is a good possibility that the Vet Village area, always temporary, may be abandoned if married student enrollment drops at the expected rate next year. It has always been College policy, therefore to spend a minimum on improvements in that area.

Previous attempts to install lighting throughout that area have been stopped by prohibitive cost. An entire new set of transformers and new poles and lines would be needed for such work. Housing authorities report that the transformers are unavailable, even if they were not beyond the reach of the present budget. And poles and lines would prove especially expensive.

Concentrated Living

In answer to the suggestion that the moral level of residents of this area would tend to keep thefts at a low level he explained that such a level is offset by the fact that conditions, especially in the dorm areas, offset any such advantage.

Students are concentrated in dormitories much as persons in large areas are concentrated in hotels. The students, however, seldom bother to lock their rooms either at night or during hours of the day when they are gone from the rooms.

He used that condition to explain a recent series of bill-fold thefts in dormitories.

Not Filed and Forgotten

As for the work being done by the KK's in tracking down stolen goods and finding the thieves, Hickman showed examples of work in that line. His examples offered complaints that reported thefts were filed and forgotten.

Quite to the contrary, many goods are traced and many of the culprits eventually apprehended through careful detective work.

Apparently, then, the purported "crime wave" does not exist. That is no claim that petty thefts are not being committed. It's merely a boast, and we believe a rightful one, that such deeds are being held to a minimum.

Security forces of any kind,

Stephens Elected To Head SA Club

Ted Stephens, junior Mechanical Engineering major from San Antonio was recently elected to the top post of the San Antonio Club for the coming year.

Elected along with Stephens were Jerry Alberts, vice-president; Joe Mattie, secretary; Bobby Dobbins, treasurer; Roger Jensowid, sergeant-at-arms and David Wolf, reporter.

As his first official act as president, Stephens has asked that all members attend the next meeting, Thursday night, to discuss plans for a summer social and a boat party.

Bible Verse

LET THE wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

-Isaiah 55:7.

Would Bombs Bring Stalin?

Russian Riddle Basis In Mac-Truman Fight

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON, May 17.—(AP)—The riddle of Russia is the No. 1 problem in the Truman-MacArthur argument over how to wage the Korean war.

Would Russia come in if we widened the fighting in Asia by bombing Chinese bases in Manchuria? If she did, both sides agree a new world war might follow.

General MacArthur has urged bombing the Manchuria bases as one of several steps he thinks should be taken to end the Korean war faster.

Secretary of Defense Marshall, also a general and a spokesman for the Truman administration, opposes the Manchurian bombing—at least now. So does Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Neither Side Knows

Does either side know whether the bombing would bring in Russia? No. Both can only guess. MacArthur guesses no. Marshall guesses maybe.

It's right there the biggest split comes, MacArthur would bomb and take what he thinks is the unlikely risk of a third world war. Marshall thinks the risk is greater, and wouldn't bomb.

It was MacArthur himself who used the word risk. During his testimony before Senate committees, MacArthur said: "Everything that is involved in international relationships . . . amounts to a gamble, risk. You have to take risks."

General Marshall made it clear the bases in Manchuria would be bombed if it weren't for fear that it might bring Russia in on the side of the Chinese.

Danger Only Deterrent

Marshall told the senators: "If there were no danger whatever of Soviet intervention, I would say that certainly the bombing . . . would start almost immediately."

MacArthur argues that when you're in a fight, you ought to use all the strength you have to win and that when we don't bomb Manchuria we are fighting with one hand tied behind our backs.

President Truman, though, pointed out to MacArthur, in a message to him on Jan. 13, that trying to win a fight is right but sometimes other problems, besides winning that one fight, must be considered.

The message from the President said in part: "Pending the buildup of our national strength we must act with great prudence in so far as extending the area of hostilities is concerned."

"Steps which might in themselves be justified and which might lend some assistance to the campaign in Korea would not be bene-

ficial if they thereby involved Japan or western Europe in large-scale hostilities."

"In reaching a final decision about Korea, I shall have to give constant thought to the main threat from the Soviet Union and to the need for rapid expansion of our armed forces to meet this great danger."

Pacific War More Dangerous

But MacArthur told the senators: "I think the greatest risk we could run is not engaging the war in the Pacific. I think that is infinitely greater in its potential destructiveness to western Europe than if we let it run indefinitely."

Marshall and Bradley don't agree that MacArthur's ideas for ending the Korean fighting fast would work.

Why does MacArthur doubt that Russia would be pulled into a world war if we bombed Manchuria? (Russia has an agreement to come to China's assistance if she is attacked. So far no attack has been made on Chinese territory but only on the Chinese in Korea.)

MacArthur was asked that question by senators.

Mac's Reply

MacArthur gave this reply, sharply briefed down here: "He doesn't think Russia will be pulled into a war by anything that happens in Korea or Asia unless the Soviets are ready to go to war anyway and want to. He said he doesn't think Russia could wage 'all-out' war in Asia very long."

Besides bombing Manchuria, MacArthur urged these steps against the Chinese Communists:

Three Steps

● An economic blockade to keep the Chinese Communists from receiving supplies and materials they need.

(This country has had such a blockade of its own. But some of our allies have been sending stuff

WM Students Plan Tour of Mexico

Wildlife Management 300, a summer field course, will be partially devoted to the banding of some 20,000 White Winged Doves, says Dr. Leonard Wing, professor of Wildlife Management.

Twenty Wildlife Management students are scheduled to make a trip which will carry them into the Northeastern section of Mexico in the vicinity of Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon counties.

The first three weeks of the course will consist of the banding work and the last three will be a study of the flora of Northeastern Mexico.

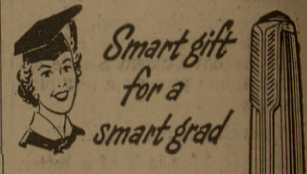
to China all through this fighting. Now they're talking of stopping that. So MacArthur's suggestion probably had some effect.)

● Throw a naval blockade around China's coast to be sure supplies don't get through.

(Marshall said such a blockade would "leak like a sieve," since it would involve trying to halt Russian vessels. That in itself might lead to war.)

● Arming, training and using Chiang Kai Shek's Nationalist troops on Formosa against the Chinese Communists. He says Chiang has about 500,000 men that could be used.

Bradley said the Nationalist "had very limited capabilities, particularly on offensive action."



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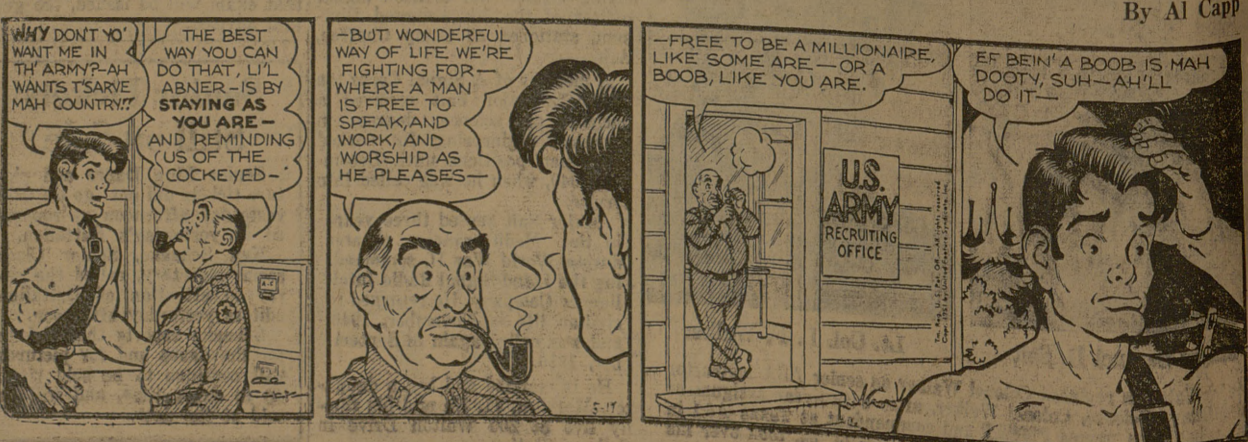


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L'L ABNER The Unknowing Soldier



By Al Capp

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$3.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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