

Background Of India-Pakistan Feud Over Kashmir

Special To The Battalion
Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of articles designed to acquaint Texas A&M students with issues to be discussed at the eleventh Student Conference on National Affairs Dec. 8-11. Another will appear soon.

On Sept. 1 Pakistani and Indian troops clashed along the Kashmir cease-fire line in the vicinity of Jammu breaking the uneasy truce that has marked the relationships between the two nations since they gained independence in 1947.

Although the United States is not directly involved in the conflict, we have provided military and economic assistance to both India and Pakistan. Economic assistance to these two countries totaled almost three billion dollars over the past three years.

Of particular significance have been grain shipments to India which have helped prevent starvation of millions of people. As soon as the situation flared into conflict, the United States suspended arms delivery to both sides, but food deliveries to either side were not suspended.

The basic difference between the two nations has been smoldering for years and involves the control of the disputed area of Kashmir. In 1947 Great Britain pulled out of the vast subcontinent, leaving Kashmir's status indeterminate. Two years of conflict followed and then the United Nations moved in and established a 470 mile cease-fire line which resulted in India controlling about two-thirds and Pakistan one-third of Kashmir.

Last November the Indian Government extended two articles

of its constitution to cover Kashmir, which, up to that time, was kept apart from India. Pakistan had claims on Kashmir and protested to India and to the United States. Pakistan has requested a plebiscite to let the Kashmiris decide whether they want to belong to India or to Pakistan.

India has refused because she claims that Kashmir is already part of India and feels that this might establish a precedent for all her other states to react similarly. This would mean simply that by majority rule, some of the states in India already divided by such divisive forces as caste, religion and language, could conceivably seek full separation and secede from India. No action resulted from the Pakistani protests. Kashmir is 87 per cent Moslem and has a close affinity with Moslem Pakistan.

SCONA XI In Perspective

The United States has a vital interest in the war because Pakistan is a member of both the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) and the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO)—the two defensive alliances that anchor the Southeast Asian and Middle Eastern outposts of the free world's joint security system—and because India is the world's most populous democracy.

The United States does not want to see these defenses collapse. In the final analysis it may be that the India-Pakistan dispute favors the interests of Red China for it gives her another chance to fan distur-

ances which may enhance her brand of communism in the world.

The United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union joined in a United Nation's effort to arrange a cease-fire to become effective on Sept. 22. There have been minor violations since that time between India and Pakistan. President Johnson insists that the UN be the agency to solve this dispute.

India, with its population of some 477 million and thriving capital of New Delhi, geographically dominates the South Asian subcontinent. It is located about midway between Africa and Australia. Roughly diamond-shaped, India is bound on the west by Pakistan and the Arabian Sea, on the east by East Pakistan, Burma, and the Bay of Bengal, on the north by Tibet, Nepal and the semi-independent mountain

states of Bhutan and Sikkim between India and China. The area of India is 1.3 million square miles (about one-third the size of the continental United States, including Alaska). More than 84 per cent of the people are Hindu, and the remaining 16 per cent are of many other religions.

Pakistan consists of two provinces with capitals at Rawalpindi and Dacca. Known as East Pakistan and West Pakistan, the combined population of the two provinces is 100 million—about one-fifth the size of India. The provinces are separated by the breadth of India—a thousand miles by air and three times that distance by sea.

The two Pakistan provinces differ considerably from each other in terrain, climate, language, ethnic groups, diet, and tradition. In its entirety Pakistan comprises an area of 365,

529 square miles—roughly equivalent to one-tenth the area of the United States. West Pakistan comprises a total area of 310,403 square miles and supports approximately 4.6 million people. It has a southern coastline fronting on the Arabian Sea and is bounded by Iran on the west, Afghanistan on the north and northwest, the disputed States of Jammu and Kashmir on the northeast, and India to the east.

East Pakistan faces the Bay of Bengal and, except for a small strip in the southeast adjoining Burma, is surrounded on three sides by India. The province comprises 55,126 square miles with a population of approximately 54 million people, making it one of the most densely populated areas in the world. About 80 per cent of East Pakistan and 98 per cent of the population of West Pakistan are Moslems.

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Corps-Civilian Problems: Are There Really Any?

If Corps-civilian animosity exists at Texas A&M, there was very little of it prevalent at Wednesday night's panel discussion of the problem.

Six panelists—three civilians and three cadets—found it difficult to point out specific instances which have led to the assumption that problems are present between the two factions of student life.

Whipping out, speaking, attending yell practice, razzing and disregarding traditions drew most comment during the hour session.

The panel members and the audience, however, seemed to consider these antics as mere trivia when compared with the whole educational complex that makes up Texas A&M.

Perhaps these "problems" between civilian and military students have grown out of proportion for hardly any reason. Certainly both groups have internal difficulties, but from the reaction Wednesday night they have had little effect on student body harmony.

Perhaps these "problems" have resulted from jealousies within each group. In a non-compulsory society that encompasses A&M today, such envy should not create animosity since each student has had a choice of military or civilian life.

Perhaps these "problems" are due to a lack of understanding and an error of generalizing. Failure to recognize that all students—Corps and civilian—are here to gain the best possible education could be a source of friction. Classifying all civilians as "grouchy non-regs" or all Corps students as "barbarians" could be another sore spot.

Perhaps these "problems" have come from misinterpreted humor. Good-natured ribbing taken seriously has possibly been a trouble maker.

Perhaps these "problems" stem from a lack of communications between the two groups. It is hardly likely, however, since civilians and cadets attend class together, participate in activities together, drink coffee together. Any lack of communications has not been between civilian and Corps students active in campus activity, but

Strictly Peanuts

It is comforting to learn that in a day when nuclear power could wipe us off the earth women can still make such a fuss over peanut butter.

Demanding their money's worth of peanuts in every jar of peanut butter, housewives have beseeched federal authorities to distinguish between crunchy peanut butter and gooey peanut spread.

The fate of peanut butter - jelly sandwiches sticks with these crusaders.

THE BATTALION

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EDITOR GLENN DROMGOOLE

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"At TU last week this meant 'We lost two' and this week they use this sign!"

between civilians and cadets who have nothing more to do than pick out minor incidents of disharmony.

Or perhaps these "problems" do not even exist, except in the imagination of a few narrow-minded individuals.

Whatever the reason, these problems seem ridiculously insignificant when placed in perspective with the complete educational network.

More important issues are at stake.

Why 2 Houses?

Two men, standing together on a packed bus headed for work, were talking.

"Where are you from?" one asked.

"South Side," the other answered.

"Really? So am I. What Street?"

"Thirty second."

"I live on that street. What house?"

"That little red apartment building at 1594."

"Say, that's where I live. Which apartment?"

"Apartment B."

"No kidding? I do too. What's your wife's name?"

"Mary."

"Mine is too. Does she have long black hair, blue eyes and a mole on her forehead?"

"Yeah."

"Shake hands, man. We're husbands-in-law."

The Texas House of Representatives and Senate are approaching this relationship. Action of the U. S. Supreme Court in 1964 caused the legislature to be reappointed this year, with both houses based entirely on population.

An unnecessary duplication of duties, powers, expenses and representation has resulted in a feasibility study of the unicameral legislature system.

Rep. Will L. Smith of Beaumont proposed a one-house system during the Texas legislature's last session and plans to make another attempt in 1967.

At least 25 states sent delegates to Nebraska this year to study that state's unicameral legislature, the only one in the United States.

A one-house legislature, proponents argue, would operate much more effectively and efficiently and less expensively.

Why? Smith's proposal would consolidate 181 legislators from two houses into a 100-member house. Each official would be directly responsible to about 95,000 people.

Texans would save about \$400,000 a year on legislative salaries alone, with other savings incurred on travel expenses, special sessions, secretaries, printing and other miscellany.

The conference committee would be dissolved. Under the committee system, 10 men have final control over revenue bills, appropriation bills and other major legislation.

Sixteen Senators can kill or pass any bill, and three men from each house can decide the fate of all legislation in conference committee.

Under the proposed unicameral legislature, 51 votes would be required to determine all action, with no conference committee needed to work out compromises.

Opponents will argue that one house will prevent a check system from prevailing, but what kind of check will two husband-in-law houses provide?

They will argue that the federal government has two legislative bodies. State government, however, is considered local, not federal, government by the Supreme Court. A much closer parallel can be drawn between state and city governments, where there is only one city council, one school board.

But the decisive challenge will be presented by the legislators themselves, 81 of whom would lose jobs under the plan.

The plan deserves the consideration and investigation of each representative whose responsibility it is to provide jet-age Texas with streamlined government.

ON OTHER CAMPUSES

TEXAS
There was an ad run in the Austin American-Statesman Wednesday. Seems that the teapigs just don't know how to lose. The ad advertised a set of large orange spotlights suitable for illuminating a large building. "Haven't been used in three weeks," the ad read.

OKLAHOMA
The students at Oklahoma University sure can't give anybody lessons on how to lose gracefully. After losing to Colorado two weeks ago, several students built a fire in the middle of the campus and the protestors against a losing football team burned their season tickets.

NORTHEASTERN
Northeastern University in Boston has the answer to all campus parking problems. They do not intend to build parking lots. They have two multi-story parking garages on the drawing boards to alleviate the situation.

TWU
The seniors of Texas Woman's University celebrated "66 days til '66" on Oct. 26. Now this is a fine continuing tradition, but would someone please tell me if they are going to get together on campus in the summer of 1968 if school hasn't started by Sept. 26.

Or even better, how are they going to celebrate in 2000? Will they meet during the Christmas holidays?
No, it just isn't practical.

PEANUTS



MINNESOTA
A University of Minnesota coed, wants to know just how many incidents she is entitled to after paying a \$20 incidental fee.

ANGELO
We missed it but the Tarleton J-Tac caught it. If you think the Arkansas team had trouble hearing last year in Kyle Field, and if you think we gave a sorry outlook to our image, listen to this.

"At Angelo State College, football players could not hear the signals because of an unseemly racket raised by fans as they pounded metal railings with axe handles!"

ARIZONA STATE
Also from the Tarleton paper: A coed from Arizona State University was undecided whether or not to attend a Halloween costume party. She is blind, and her seeing-eye dog would have to accompany her. This, she thought, might prove awkward. After finally deciding to go, she was surprised to win first prize with her costume of a fire hydrant.

SAN ANTONIO
One of last year's editorials of the San Antonio College Ranger stated that the only thing patriotic about the school was the color of the trash cans. The school colors are Orange and so were the trash cans. This year, they have been painted grey and some students are unhappy.

New Play May Be Best Ever

My presence at the casting of "Death of a Salesman" about six weeks back didn't exactly bring the house down.

It succeeded in landing me a minor part in this widely discussed play though, and that's why I was there. The quality of this drama is so impressive, I wanted to play some role in its production at A&M, no matter how small.

The play won a Pulitzer Prize for its creator, Arthur Miller, in 1949 and acclaim for it has continued to mount in ensuing years.

Director C. K. Esten calls it "the finest American play of the century." You'll find no other modern dramatic work analyzed as frequently in literature and philosophy courses as this one.

Miller cuts to the nerve of modern American society and his incision has left a lot of people asking themselves some pretty serious questions about their lives.

To produce a play of this magnitude is a rare opportunity for a theater group but it's also a formidable challenge. Something really memorable or something keenly disappointing usually results from meeting such a challenge.

How well the Aggie Players have met this one will be answered next week, when they stage a six-performance run.

I've naturally observed the show closely and have watched it take shape from the beginning. At first you didn't see how it could all possibly fall in place, there were so many details that had to be worked out.

Assembling of a cast only a first step. There were lines to be learned, movements to be mastered, a set to be constructed, costumes and hand props to be obtained, lighting and music to be synchronized, and publicity and ticket sales to be arranged.

As the days passed, the loose ends gradually began to fall in place. On some nights rehearsals went pretty good and on some nights they didn't.

Then at the beginning of this week, the tempo picked up considerably. Everyone seemed to realize that opening night was just around the corner, and their performances reflected it. Some improved only a little from their past work but others didn't even resemble the same actors they had been two or three weeks earlier.

Like a good football team, the production jelled this week, on the threshold of opening. We reacted to scenes we had witnessed many times before like we were seeing them for the first time. Each night, often heard

lines would take on new meanings and I understand a little bit more about the play each time I see it. It's a pretty good recommendation when people who have been watching a scene regularly for six weeks are still moved by it, but that's what has been happening.

Now, only a weekend separates "Death of a Salesman" from opening. A lot of time, anguish and sweat has gone into this production, and of course there've been some light moments too.

What really counts though, is what happens out on Guion Hall's stage beginning at 8 o'clock Monday night. But what I've seen so far is any indication, audiences for this play may well be witnessing the finest production in the Aggie Players' history.

And I've got a feeling that word-of-mouth advertising, always the best kind, will produce the strong attendance next week that this show justly deserves.

Mortimer's Notes

FOR THE RECORD: Seems like there might be a little hanky-panky going on in the north dormitory area during big football weekends

Those new dorms with open fronts to the street are quite accessible

And not just a few students have taken advantage of this location to show female companions what the inside of a room looks like

Jim Butler, Battalion sports editor of 1963-64, returns to the Golden Industrial Crescent tomorrow to take over duties as sports editor of the Bryan Daily Eagle

And while we're talking about the Eagle, we must give credit where credit is due

Nita Newberry, society editor, certainly deserves a pat on the back

Anybody who can write daily stories about social life in Bryan College Station must be one helluva reporter

It seems a bit unfair that the Teague dinner tonight is scheduled at the same time as Jan Peerce's performance

Peerce impressed students Thursday night as "a down to earth guy."

He promises to be "in" with student thought during his show, scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. . . . See 'Ya Round.—Mortimer.

By Charles M. Schulz

