

The Battalion



Volume 61

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1965

Number 235

Committee For Johnny Cash Starts Petition Protesting Cancellation

Armstrong Says Viet Cong Fighting For 'Paradise'

By DANI PRESSWOOD
Battalion Staff Writer

Cleveland newspaper correspondent Kenneth S. Armstrong said Wednesday night the Viet Cong are fighting for what they believe is an "instant paradise."

Presenting the first of the World Around Us lectures, Armstrong narrated a color film which provided an insight into the problems involved in fighting a war in this turmoiled country.

A major problem is telling the enemy from the South Vietnamese, he noted. "If he has a gun in his hand, aims it at you and

fires, he's a communist. This is the only way."

Armstrong laid the blame for the conflict on desire for economic gains.

"The war was instigated, sustained and directed by North Viet Nam, and encouraged by Red China for economic riches," he said.

He feels the North Vietnamese are fighting because the communists have brainwashed them into believing they will obtain a "heaven on earth." They believe they will have anything they want eventually.

Armstrong said air power has provided a turning point in the Vietnamese struggle.

"A year ago Americans over there thought we were fighting a losing battle," he said. "Now they believe in time we will win."

He noted a difference in the attitudes of the Americans at home and those doing the fighting.

"All the complainers and critics are here in the United States. There are very few critical Americans in Viet Nam. They feel we are doing the right thing."

Vietnamese life as depicted in Armstrong's film ranged from that of the country's cultural capital of Hue to the villages of the hill people, where people are "still living as they did 3,000 years ago."

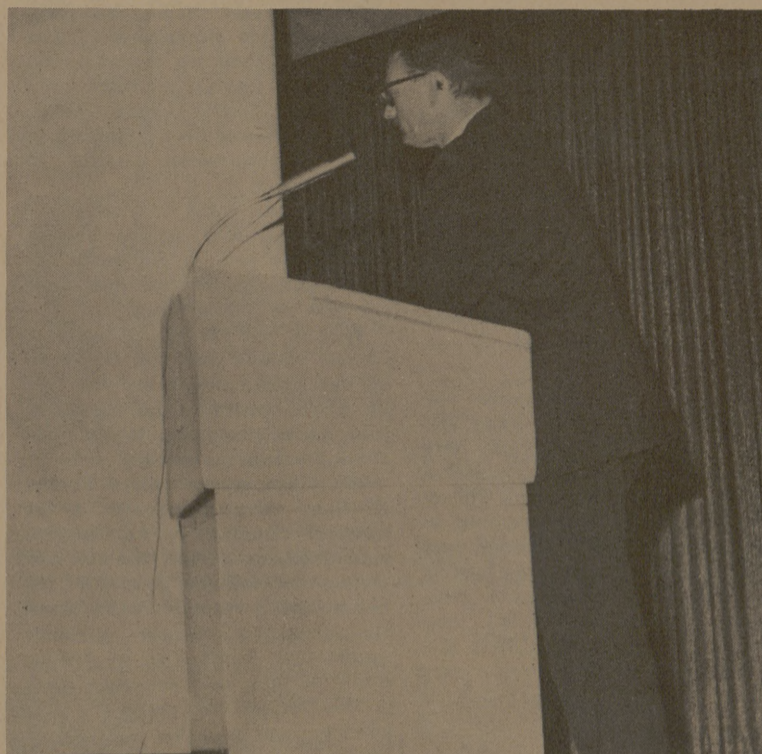
In a country where 80 percent of the natives earn their living off the land and the average income is \$75 per year, the "war is never far away."

Armstrong illustrated the frustration of war with the 25-mile spike-studded wall built by villagers 10 miles north of Qui Nhon.

"Shortly after its completion the Vietnamese forces left the town," he said. "Today Viet Cong are behind the wall instead of outside it, and 4½ million hours of man labor were wasted."

In Plei Mrong and other villages of the high plateau special forces are attempting to transpose the life of the people from that of the Stone Age to the 20th Century. People who hate all other Vietnamese, these Montagnars are being won over gradually by South Viet Nam.

"The Viet Cong are camping in their back yard and are burning their villages," Armstrong said. "The American medic has done more than anyone else to win them over."



ARMSTRONG NARRATES FILM
Kenneth S. Armstrong, Cleveland newspaper correspondent, presented the first of the World Around Us lectures Wednesday night at the Memorial Student Center. Armstrong narrated a color film on the fighting in Viet Nam.

1,000 Signatures Gained By Group

By MIKE REYNOLDS

A petition containing more than 1,000 signatures was circulating Wednesday night by a group of students calling themselves the Committee for Johnny Cash.

The petition read:

"We, the undersigned, wish to make known our position in regard to the Town Hall appearance of Johnny Cash. We feel that the administration's action in cancelling Mr. Cash's performance was 1) an unfair prejudgment of Johnny Cash; 2) an infringement on the authority of the Memorial Student Center Council and 3) poorly timed.

"In view of these facts, we strongly urge that Mr. Cash's contract be renewed."

Cash was to appear at a Town Hall performance after the bonfire. His contract was broken by university officials Friday following what they termed unfavorable publicity stemming from the arrest of the country and western singer in El Paso.

The MSC Council had reviewed the situation Nov. 9 and entertained a motion by Joe Buser, assistant director of student publications, that Cash's contract be broken. The motion failed to gain a second.

The Committee for Johnny Cash was also to have presented a resolution "objecting to the recent untimely and inappropriate action taken against Mr. Johnny Cash, and indirectly against the Memorial Student Center Council" at a noon meeting of the Graduate Student Council today.

The full text of the resolution appears as a letter to the editor on page 2.

The committee expressed that the resolution would probably be presented to the Student Senate at their meeting Thursday night.

The committee is made up of James Weatherby, James F. Crook, John Corns, Lynn R. La Motte, Stephen S. Thurman and James F. Baldauf. The committee is an independent body without recognition from the uni-

versity's administration.

"We wish to present student opinion to the administration. We will give the petition to Earl Rudder at the earliest possible date," Baldauf said.

"Every student has the right of petition and privilege of suggestion and constructive criticism. This does not sanction rebellious protests against constituted authority incompatible with good order. A student may be dismissed or assessed a lesser punishment for participation in any such movement. The Executive Committee will exercise jurisdiction in such matters. It may assess punishment for guilt in specific cases or it may require the withdrawal of any student, whenever in its judgement his general influence is harmful to the morale and successful functioning of the University."

The Committee for Johnny Cash, CJC, also discussed tentative plans to have a petition available for students' signatures today in the MSC coffee shop, the rotunda of the Academic Building and F-1-H of Hensel Apartments.

"We have been actively engaged in communicating with Mr. Cash and his manager and we would like to see the administration change its mind," Corns said.

"We also have reports of some definite interest in an independently sponsored presentation of Mr. Cash on the night he was originally scheduled to appear.

Freshmen Election Filing To Open Monday In MSC

By BOB PALMER
Battalion Staff Writer

Filing for freshmen elections opens Monday in the Student Programs Office of the Memorial Student Center, Harris Pappas, Election Commission chairman, announced Wednesday.

Freshmen have until 5 p. m. Nov. 30 to file for the 14 positions.

Offices contested in the Dec. 9 election are president, vice president, secretary-treasurer, social chairman, five election committee seats, four regular seats on the Student Senate and one pre-veterinary Senate seat.

Freshmen seeking election must have a minimum grade point ratio at mid-semester of 1.25 and must maintain a 1.0 GPR overall. Senate candidates must have and keep a 1.5 GPR.

Pappas said voting will be held for the first time in the basement of the MSC. Another change, will be that students must present their identification cards before voting. ID's will be punched in the lower left hand corner to ensure against foul play at the polls.

On Dec. 1 a meeting will be held for all delegates in the Ballroom of the MSC to instruct them what campaigning procedures will be used during the election.

Last year's election showed a record turnout in a hot contest that even featured a female running for the social chairman.

Another incident of last year's election was the charges of election rules violation, namely having supporters vote more than once. Pappas said that this problem has been eliminated by the increased security precautions.

Evangelist Graham Sees Youth Energy Explosion

HOUSTON (AP) — Evangelist Billy Graham said Wednesday society is expecting the "greatest explosion of sexual energy in history."

"Young people grow up faster," he said. "They demand a voice and have a right to a voice."

The evangelist, who opens a 10-day Crusade for Christ in the Domed Stadium Friday night, spoke to University of Houston students.

He underwent surgery in September and twice postponed the Houston Crusade.

Graham drew laughter from the students when he described beatniks as lonely and added he would like to "shake them, shave them and wash them."

He said the Bible and Christ are the answers to the problems of young people today.

"God created man for purpose," Graham said. "He is interested in you. When man rebels against God, it is sin."

"To a Christian suffering has purpose, something he can experience with peace. Religion to most of us is a tradition. To the early church it was a dynamic, living experience. You cannot think yourself to Christ. You must trust him by faith."

About 2,000 students heard the talk in Cullen Auditorium. An estimated quarter million more heard it through special television circuits to colleges and schools in the Houston-Gulf Coast area.

Breakaway Road Signs Give Drivers Second Chance

You are roaring along the expressway at a 70-mile per hour clip when a tire blows out. Your car careens out of control and hits a highway sign post.

Sudden death or severe injuries have been general results of such crashes in the past. The future may hold a second chance for drivers who collide with fixed objects along roadways.

Research at the Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M may provide acceptable so-

lutions for highway safety in an 18-month study of breakaway road signs.

The \$367,000 project begins Dec. 1. Finances are being provided by federal aid highway funds of 12 states.

Professor Charles J. Keese, executive officer of the TTI, said the first formal proposal for such a study was made in 1960.

"The Texas Highway Department and Texas Transportation Institute were concerned about

hazards caused by large signs along freeways," he said. "As more freeways were activated our fears regarding hazards created by guidance signs were verified by major accidents."

"In the fall of 1963 TTI joined the Texas Highway Department in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads to study the problem," Keese added. "A practical design for a breakaway support was developed. The THD is converting as many designs as

practical on an experimental basis."

It was noted in the initial study that further research was needed to find the "best" solution.

"Cooperating agencies agreed that the project should be of national scope," Keese noted. After six months of planning, representatives of the 12 states and the Bureau of Public Roads will meet at A&M in early December to solidify the research schedule.

Keese said TTI will consider vehicle crash research information developed in the aerospace field, the automobile industry and by other agencies to help produce an effective method for saving lives on the nation's highways.

"Some ideas which look impractical now due to costs and other factors might be made practical in the future by American industry," Keese commented.

Keese spoke of the feasibility of using impact attenuation devices to absorb energy.

"Some fixed objects will have to remain . . . ends of bridges and massive supports for overhead signs spanning extremely wide facilities, for instance," he explained. "A possible solution includes redirection of the vehicle through use of guard rails. Another idea is to catch and decelerate the vehicle within the limits of human endurance and safety."

TTI also will study ways to reduce wind loads on massive overhead signs so they can be held in place by less solid supports.

"Preliminary studies indicate we can reduce wind loads 50 percent by using a design resembling a venetian blind," Keese

pointed out. "This information has to be verified and best designs determined."

Coupled with the study, TTI will evaluate the economics of designing signs which will collapse under extremely high wind velocities.

Keese said researchers will construct signs to collapse under light winds, then adapt the information to higher winds.

"Among the information to be determined is the costs of getting

these signs back into service," he went on. "In this way we can determine whether it would be more economical to replace a sign periodically or build a more massive permanent structure."

Another part of the study involves the feasibility of hinge-type signs which would stand up under heavy wind loads by flapping in the breeze.

Future vehicle crashes into road signs may not be comparable to running into a feather

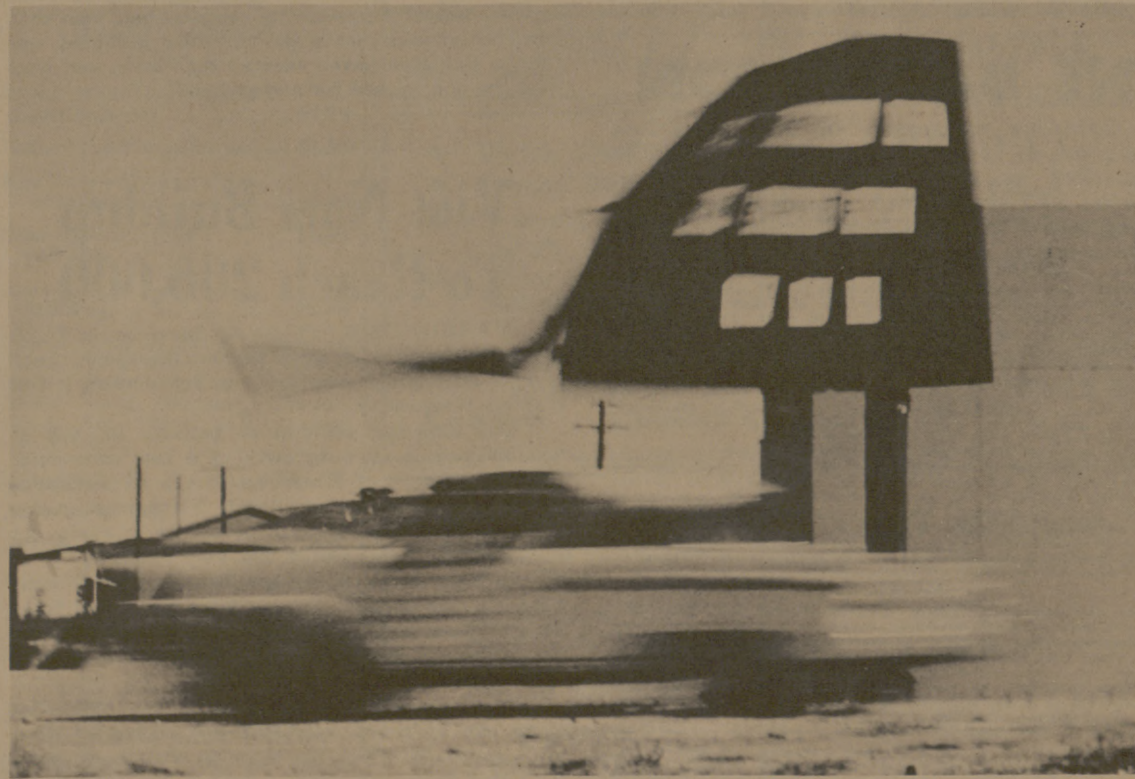
bed, but TTI hopes to make the analogy as true as circumstances will allow.

A car hit a "slip-joint" sign erected recently by the THD near Beaumont. A crushed front end and a dent in the bumper summed up the damage as the driver escaped injury.

Had the man smashed into the sign 24 hours earlier when the permanent standard was still in place, he likely would have been killed, researchers noted.



PERMANENT-TYPE SIGN
... shows result of auto collision with permanent-type sign standard.



'BREAKAWAY' SIGN
... car hits "breakaway" sign and gives driver a second chance to control car.