

## The Corps Run By Rumor, Or: What? A Review Today?

"Military efficiency," when spoken of in a historical context, conjures up images of terse, direct orders being carried out quickly and without question.

This image, unfortunately, seems to dim the closer one is to a particular military organization. The Aggie Corps of Cadets is no exception.

While rumors traditionally run wild on both campuses and military posts, the mixture of these institutions in the Brazos Valley Bottoms has today bred the ultimate conglomeration of hearsay and military manner: a Corps of Cadets run by rumor.

Gone are the days of the not-too-distant past when a cadet could check his outfit bulletin board on a Wednesday evening or Thursday morning and see, in an official publication, the orders for the weekend's military activities.

In today's streamlined organization, knowledge of activities is gained by listening to the grapevine, then waiting for some last minute word by verbal command from the initiating staff for confirmation. These commands are sent to the CO's for dissemination to the troops.

While the Army is now engaged in a cram-course schedule of drills to prepare its troops for Federal Inspection, the Air Force is, week-by-week, sweating out drill rumors. A few weeks ago, to everyone's surprise, a Saturday morning drill was announced at the evening meal Thursday.

This week, rumors have circulated about afternoon drills, passbys and in-rank inspections, but not a word has been printed. A good example was Wednesday's pop-review. No written order. An announcement was circulated verbally for CO's and guid-on-bearers to form up on the main drill field for practice Tuesday afternoon. There, the word was given to announce to the troops a practice review the following day. Most CO's gave the word the following morning and/or noon formation, but as of

the night after the review, no order was seen in print.

This has interesting repercussions. Suppose a senior goes to his morning classes on a given day, then decided to go to Waco or "Sam" to see his girl for the afternoon. Or considers an afternoon in the language lab? He engages in these activities, missing noon formation and returning late in the evening.

A couple of days later, he returns to his room to see 10 demerits posted on the door for missing a required formation: a review.

"What review," he asks. He reads the bulletin board, then re-reads all the past orders, only to discover there was no review that day. But alas, it was announced a full five hours before it was to take place, and he sits a restriction for the offense.

Fair? Hardly! A cadet plans a weekend with his girl and family, including a trip, reservations in out-of-town motels and for a night out on the town. By Thursday morning, all is set, and both family and friends have made plans for "their boy" to come home.

Then, at evening chow Thursday, a drill is announced for Saturday. Or maybe he doesn't go, misses the announcement, sleeps late Friday and leaves after his only class at nine.

In the first case, he has to panic and cancel his plans. In the latter, 10 more rams.

Fair? Again, most would say no. If those in places of responsibility would better prepare for their tasks and accomplish them with the discipline and determination of future officers, the Corps of Cadets would take a giant stride in becoming a better place to live and better instill in its Cadets the idea of true military efficiency. "Emergencies" such as these are needless in a well-run Corps, and the current trend should be reversed at once.

CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle

## — Sound Off —



"I don't know much about these things, but it's worth a try."

Editor, The Battalion,

For the perpetuation of poetry at A&M and to the "Lovesick" Tessie who gets no mail I offer the following for what it's worth:

### TO A BLUE TESSIE

Dear Tessie, how are you today? What? You're feeling blue! Well, in these lines I hope to say A word or two to you. Now if you follow me along, A message you will see. I'll show you life is but a song, Just listen carefully. You say you get no letters now, Well—have you written any? If you don't write, I can't see how you can expect too many. There are many A's down here That sympathize with you. But surely crying in your beer Will keep you feeling blue. Get out and live it up a bit, No need to cry and moan— Try smiling! Gather up your wit, And happiness you'll own. If someone has upset your life, Forget it and go on. A heart cannot live on such strife And beat for very long. Poor Tess—your troubles are but few, Just look around awhile. For there will always be a new Fellow to make you smile.

One soon forgets the hurt pain That loneliness can bring. When love appears, see what gain—

Ah, once again it's Spring. So Tessie wipe away that tear And sing a song with me. You'll get a letter have no fear. Just you wait and see.

Gary W. Smith

Editor, The Battalion,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who voted for me in the special election Tuesday. In my new position as Student Issues Chairman I will work diligently to address the goals for which I campaign. I encourage suggestions from a student body and will strive to represent the majority view on all issues.

Sincerely, Sim Lake '66

There's no population explosion problem in Mongolia, a public with 626,000 square miles and only 1,019,000 inhabitants. Many Mongols still live in traditional igloo-shaped tents, that warm a family against temperatures dropping to 50 degrees.

## Of Mice and Men

By Herky Killingsworth

The cream of the crop, those in which the future of our nation rests, the students of the American Universities, and yet I bet there's not over 2 per cent of the TAMC students who know what tomorrow is. Not over 20 students in our entire campus realize that in 1912 in Wimple, Ariz., the world saw the erection of the first dried cactus fence by N. G. Schindelfink.

Or at least that's what the Hallmark Calendar of Historical Headlines says.

Every day is important. Headlines are constantly being made: March 3, whipped out to Randy Matson; Feb. 17, thrown out of English class for falling asleep; May 28, put on new Senior boots; May 29, saw doctor about blisters on feet.

Hallmark has now compiled all of these famous occasions and immortalized them in history. In the introduction they say, "You will not only be well informed, but you'll be wanting to make some headlines of your own this year... like you do every year! All 365 days (count 'em) are numbered and in correct order for greater convenience... we'll thank you to keep them that way...!"

By studying the calendar we find that next week is just chock full of great occasions. That math quiz Monday will have to play second fiddle in importance to the inauguration of rhinoceros services between Durban and Cairo which occurred in 1901. On Wednesday, the ninth, in 1799, Meerce Toynbee stamps out voodoo in Haiti, and gets athlete's foot. Saturday, March 12, in 1548—Pomerania, Klingspor, Freechstein, Bohemia, Scholckia, and Morumba sign their famous treaty known as the "Six Pact."

May is a tremendous month for history. No written records are found to include Mervin Snurd-

grass obtaining his B.A. degree in fertilizer science.

Nor is there any mention of the final review, boot dance, ring dance, or final calculus quiz. However on Saturday, May 7, 402, in Thing, China—Jang Lung broke the work ricksha speed record by wearing roller skates. Two days later in 1675, Malobuena, Spain, the Oila Well was dug by frenzied flamenco dancers. In 1572, on May 14, in Peru—Spanish Conquistadors found Eldorado, the City of Gold, only to discover it was built with U. S. foreign aid.

Also we find in July on the 19th, in 1698, in Bloodigoode, England—William of Orange falling from a tree. The results of history long ago can still be seen today for on July 15, 4009 B.C., in Gerclies, the temple janitor at Milos dropped the statue of Venus. And to think that they don't even let out of school on that memorable day. They do let out school on July 4, because of some famous writing-book, or something.

Speaking of sports, and I wuz, on Aug. 6 in 437, Farley Hurley won the Roma "500" with a rear-engine chariot at the Coliseum in Rome. How about that, sports fans? On Aug. 13, 1229, Onng, Braunschweig, ... King Blurwit the Superstitious proclaimed the day as August 12B.

In 1957, Aug. 15, the Age of Reason ended in the U.S.A. Can't reason that one out but it obviously must have a reason. Two days later in 1375, Hurgamalitz Greenland, Bommis Naeshorn built a 128-story igloo.

September has to be the most famous month of all. It's in Sunny September that I will start my 14th year at A&M. But notice the draft board hasn't got me yet. However, in other history it's just another month with the tops going to Sir Henri de Laubans-Thneep who made his armor

out of postage stamps thus creating the first coat of mail. And that was over 900 years ago. Two days later on Sept. 23, 1927 in Preen, Ga., the Memphis Jug Band gave its first all-Brahms concert. Later in 1284 in Yoiks, England, Theobald Oops won the annual jousting tournament by telling the funniest joust. I didn't catch all of it but it started out with, "Say have you heard the latest Aggie joke, well..."

October and November, though seemingly unimportant, turned out to be the top history making months. Events include the October 7, 1933, purchase of 7,894,653 sports car wheels to use for petty cash in Yap; Columbus discovering America on Oct. 12, 1492; Columbus buying 493 Indian blankets on Oct. 13, 1492. Oct. 25, 1066 in Hastings, England, where the Saxons were conquered by the Normans, also the Freds, Irvings, and Charlies, and one day later in 1877 in Turkey—Schlie-mann discovered that the Trojan Horse was only a gigantic beer keg.

I realize that history isn't everything to many Aggies, but if you could only see the newspapers of the days. Instead of some girl scantily clothed (if clothed), each month has a history making front page. In January we find "Shakespeare Plays the Palace" with news stories about the Globe Theatre cracking down on rowdiness, is Queen Liz telling all?, etc.

February's paper of the day is "Orgy Raided... Cleo Pinched!". March is all about Galileo being nabbed at tower on drunken charge for dropping metal balls.

Later we find the "Custer-Sioux Rumble", "Nero Suspect in Rome Fire", "Crazy Chris' Sets Sail Today", "Michelangelo Gets Sistine Job!", all along with the news of the day and time.

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EDITOR ..... GLENN DROMGOOLE  
Managing Editor ..... Tommy DeFrank  
Sports Editor ..... Gerald Garcia  
News Editor ..... Dani Presswood  
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