

Russian Fleet Challenges U.S. 6th

If there is one thing clear in the post-June-war Middle East, it is the growing challenge of Russian influence and shipping in the Mediterranean.

William Beecher, of the New York Times News Service in London, reports that in talks with diplomatic and military leaders in Washington, Brussels, Paris, London, Cairo, and Tel Aviv, there is concern over a Soviet "move to build its non-nuclear military strength far from its borders."

Beecher says until recently there was no permanent Russian fleet in the Mediterranean, and no willingness to challenge the Western military dominance on the waters of the Middle East.

While the British are withdrawing from the Suez area the Russians now have a fleet of between 30 to 45 vessels. "Sir Alec Douglas-Home, the former prime minister of Britain, recently warned: 'The Soviet Union is now permanently established in the Mediterranean and is astride the northern exit of the Suez Canal. They have, as predicted, been offered a base in Aden, which gives them an opportunity, should they wish to do so, to interfere with the only other trade route to Europe round the shores of Southern Africa.'"

Beecher reports that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and President Johnson have separately called for comprehensive studies of the implications to the Western Alliance, and effect on Western influence in the oil-producing Arab countries, with the growing Soviet fleet in the area.

The U. S. 6th Fleet, with 50 to 60 war ships, is presently considered more than a match for the Soviets.

"There have been reports that the Soviet Union is negotiating to take over the naval base at Mers-El-Kebir, Algeria, after the French pull out, probably next month. The base can control the strait of Gibraltar on the western end of the Mediterranean," Beecher says.

The whole matter points to the importance of a settlement between Arabs and Israelis which is agreeable to both sides.

For as Beecher notes, after a settlement "The UAR and other Arab states may ask the United States, Britain and France to increase their economic and technical and perhaps military activities to counter Soviet influence over the destiny of the Arabs."

Defiance to a peaceful settlement on both sides has left the Suez Canal filled with trapped and sunken shipping, an economic loss to Europe, America and the UAR, and provides an increasing influence for Russia, invited or not.

Bulletin Board

THURSDAY
The Waco-McLennan County Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Reading Room of the YMCA.

The Orange County Hometown Club will have pictures made for the Aggeland at 8 p.m. on the steps of the MSC.

The Student AVMA-Auxiliary will meet at 8 p.m. in the South Solarium of the YMCA.

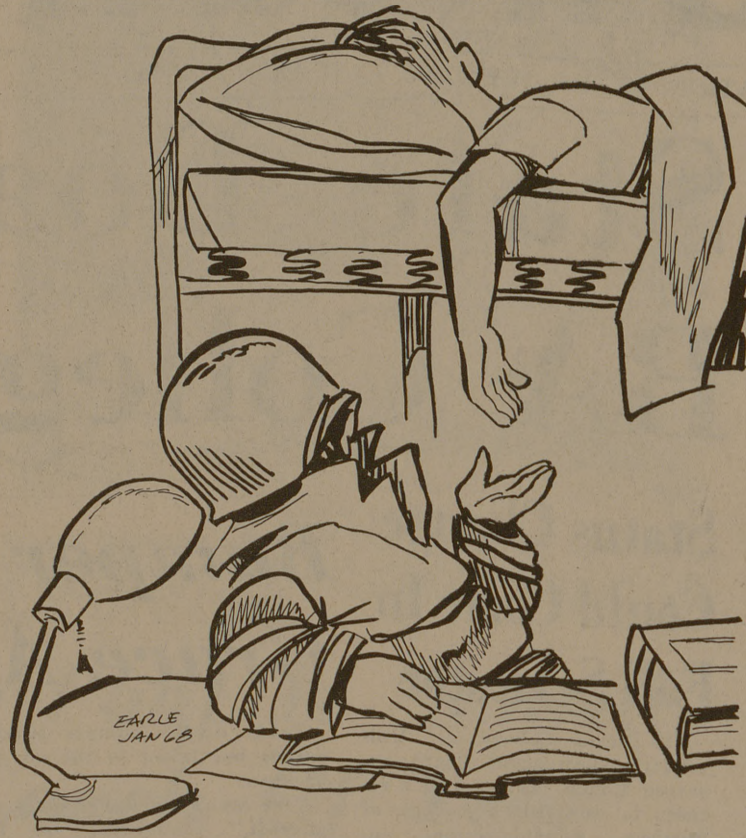
The Amarillo Hometown Club will have pictures made for the

Aggeland at 8:15 p.m. in the Lobby of the MSC.

The El Paso Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 3C of the MSC.

The San Antonio Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 145 of the Physics Building.

The College Station Chapter of the American Meteorological Society will elect officers at the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 305 of Goodwin Hall.



"He said something about two major quizzes this week, but he must have been kidding! He wouldn't give two majors in th' last week, would he?"

— Sound Off —

Editor
The Battalion:
Recently opinions, pro and con, having to do with proper attire have appeared in the student newspaper. It seems undergraduates are in search of an identity. Search no more—you are an Aggie. I attended and graduated as a non-reg much to my sorrow now.

Whether we non-regs like it or not, Texas A&M is a different school. It is no Berkeley, no Tulane, no Texas U. If we want so-called freedom of dress and conduct, there are other institutions. But ten or twenty years from now, what kind of a code will you live by as an Aggie? I just believe an Aggie has more going for him than a graduate of some other school.

It's too bad the Corps is losing ground on the campus, because the Corps is the very heart of

A&M. When the heart ceases to beat, the body dies.

No more "Ole" Army, no more Twelfth Man, no more spirit. All that is left is just an empty school where confused undergraduates grope in search of an identity.
Jim Hoy '51

By VERN SANFORD

Texas Press Association

AUSTIN, Tex.—Texas Liquor Control Board activities occupy a widening spotlight.

Complaints of wrong-doing by some board employees will be aired at a hearing before LCB members and Administrator Coke Stevenson Jr. here January 29.

Gov. John Connally has praised the board for firing of seven men over incidents involving questionable sale of a confiscated truck and alleged mis-handling of 11 bottles of contraband liquor.

Dallas Dist. Atty Henry Wade called on the Texas Department of Public Safety to investigate the LCB after his staff came up with what he termed a "protection" scheme involving board agents. Grand jurors in Smith County also are probing a claim that one liquor license was so quickly granted that local law enforcement people had no chance to object.

JUNIOR COLLEGE PROGRAM

Only minor objections were heard as the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, held a public hearing on its new plan for dividing the state into 52 regions. Plan would allow each region at least one junior college.

Project envisions basic post-high school education at junior colleges, with upper-division college work done at senior colleges and post graduate work at the major universities.

Only objections to the plan were from Chambers of Commerce and similar organizations. Some did not like the way the board lined up the regions, leaving them with little hope of having their own junior college.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINION

County commissioners courts are not bound under the new open meetings law to permit live broadcasts of meetings or the taping of proceedings for delayed broadcast, Atty. Gen. Crawford Martin held.

In other recent opinions, Martin concluded that:
• Anti-lottery laws are not violated by service stations which give away free cards entitling holders to win prizes.

• A city can impose its building restrictions on junior college districts and require them to pay regular building permit fees.

• State Board of Examiners in Basic Sciences does not have authority to deny certificates of proficiency in chiropractic to an applicant otherwise qualified by law who presents evidence of having taken the required college credits.

• State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers can employ an investigator to assist in performance of duties.

• It is the obligation of the state to bury indigent patients who die in state hospitals or on furlough from state institutions.

• Local governments can bring suits to end water and air pollution controls without approval of state agencies.

• Insurance companies subject to gross premium receipts taxes are also subject to sales taxes.

• County commissioners have right to erect gates paramount to that of landowner's to erect gates, when in best interest of public.

• Federal Bureau of Investigation cars authorized emergency vehicles.

• Texas Water Quality Board may adopt prescribing fees for copies of documents filed, but has no authority to distribute free papers and other documents affected by process.

• Criminal trial witnesses are entitled to diem compensation for the one day only regardless of the number of cases he testified in that day.

• Peace officers' fees in misdemeanor cases governed by Article 5301 of Code of Criminal Procedure, felony case fees by Article 1029 and district clerks' fees in felony cases by Article 103.

STATEWIDE SCHOOL PLAN

U. S. Office of Education and the State Office of Education have given their approval to the Education Agency's plan for developing a state program for coordinating the long list of federal/state and local education programs.

Plan includes "integrating, coordinating and using presently diverse educational programs in state on a limited number of high priority areas and populations."

Idea is that local school districts — after decided that federal and state programs want to participate in — file only one application which would go through the state to the federal level. Then, when it's time to report back what grant money was used for, only one report from the various programs would be necessary from district.

DRAFT QUOTA SET

February draft quota for Texas is 1,161. This is compared with 1,659 for January, 53 December, 1,159 for November, 977 for October, 1,180 for September, says Col. Morris State Selective Service Director.

February figure is five per cent of the total call of 23,300.

Local Selective Service Boards have been instructed to schedule 4,590 men for pre-industry examinations in February — a reduction from ordered in January.

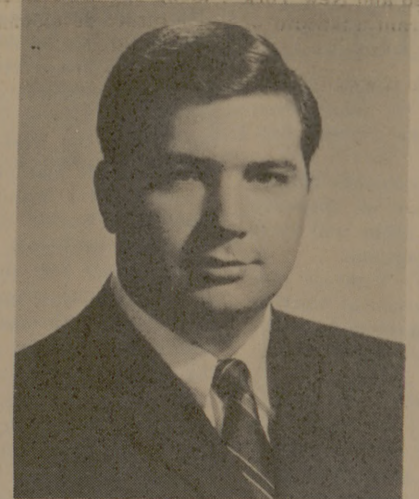
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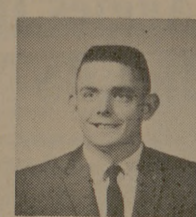
Charles Johnson '62



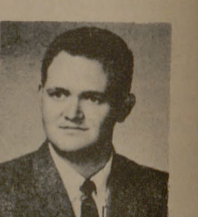
Larry Greenhaw '64



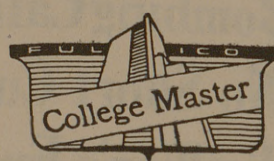
Charles Thomas '64



John Ferguson '67

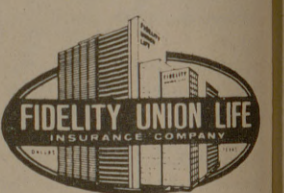


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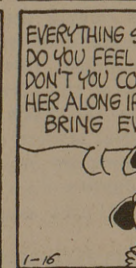
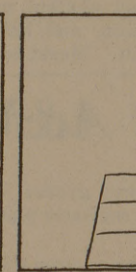
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