

Corps Staff Overthrown By One-Day 'Confederacy'

By JOHN FULLER
Battalion Managing Editor

Members of Corps Staff awoke Monday morning to find themselves under house arrest, victims of a bloodless "coup" by Brigade and Wing commanders.

The April Fool's Day prank, complete with "Mission: Impossible" overtones, was one of the most elaborately-planned ventures into "good bull" in recent years. Traditional April 1 "Fish Day" activities in which freshmen and sophomores supposedly change roles for one day were virtually overshadowed by reminders that the Corps was being run by a "junta" composed of cadet colonels.

First general knowledge of the coup came at morning formation, when Corps Staff's regular march down the quadrangle was replaced by a formation of the four commanders—John R. Baldrige, First Wing; Richard L. Engel, Second Wing; John W. Morgan, First Brigade, and Carl Feducia, Second Brigade. Following them were Wing and Brigade colors, plus a Stars and Bars flag representing their "Confederacy."

CORPS STAFF officers and sergeants had been barricaded into their rooms by "armed" freshmen, under orders from the junta. Baldrige reported junta's actions on the Duncan Hall intercom dur-

ing morning chow, quoting "Special Order Number 1" which had been readied for distribution on captured Corps Staff mimeograph machine.

"All members of Corps Staff shall consider themselves under house arrest, and restricted to quarters except when attending class," the order read. "This is in accordance with Article 29, Articles of the Cadet Corps. All members of Corps Staff will not wear rank on their collars, and Corps Staff Commanders will not wear green tabs. Corps Staff Commanders are relieved of all responsibility and authority."

A "MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE" flavor was added in the last paragraph: "This coup will remain effective until 1930 hours 1 April 68, at which time this order will self-destruct."

Under terms of the order, Corps Staff was allowed to attend noon and evening formations under an "armed" guard, led by the cadet colonels.

At evening chow, Corps Adjutant Francis Bourgeois announced the return to power at 7:31 p.m. of the "legitimately-designated leaders," to be followed by a court-martial of the coup leaders by Corps Commander Lonnie C. Minze.

The tribunal declared the four leaders guilty of high treason and sentenced them to "execution by firing squad" early this morning. The colonels were to meet near the Corps Staff dormitory in fatigues, prisoner-of-war style, where they were scheduled to receive two volleys each of four ten-gallon trash cans of water.



BSU TALENT SHOW

Lawrence Lippke and Bob Wilkerson, White Band juniors, sing "The Dangling Conversation" at the Baptist Student Union Talent Show Saturday night. Money raised by the show will be used to sponsor two summer missionaries from A&M.

Bulletin Board

TODAY

The Agronomy Society will finalize plans for the Cotton pageant at 7:15 p.m. in Room 105 of the Agronomy Building.

The American Marketing Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 3B-C of the Memorial Student Center.

The Southern Louisiana Home-town Club will discuss an Easter

party at 8 p.m. in the lobby of the Memorial Student Center.

The Texas Student Education Association will have a constitutional meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 2C-D of the Memorial Student Center.

The Meteorology Seminar will hear Dr. William P. Lowry, Assistant Professor of Biometeorology at Oregon State speak on a generalized micrometeorological energy budget at 3 p.m. in Room 305 of Goodwin Hall.

WEDNESDAY

The Finance Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 202 of Francis Hall.

The Hillel Club will see films of the Cotton Bowl at 7:30 p.m. at the Hillel Foundation.

RANGER

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dents than Reveille III, the closely-guarded official mascot. Rev is a 21-month-old Collie.

During his time on campus, Ranger III established himself as quite a character.

He often showed up in class painted in wild colors. His picture was printed in papers across the nation after a Battalion special photographer caught him trying to pull the lever on a dormitory candy machine.

One of Ranger III's last experiences was getting thrown out of the A&M-SMU basketball game for interfering with play. Earlier in the evening, he stood over the SMU bench and growled and barked as each of the school's players was introduced.

JOHNSON

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dent was forced to step out of the picture because the American situation in South Vietnam was becoming hopeless.

But seven or eight months can be a long time. If the bombing cutback generates sufficient pressure on Hanoi from some who have been supporting its war effort, talks before long are entirely possible.



"WITH DEEP SORROW"

John Baldrige, First Wing commander, drops the "coup bombshell" on the Cadet Corps at Monday breakfast in Duncan. Baldrige, Carl Feducia, Bill Morgan and Rich Engel were the leaders of the bloodless coup.

FLORSHEIM SHOES
at
Joia Starnes
men's wear

SHOP

JOYCE'S

Maternity
Infants
Ladies
Petites
Girls
Boys

JOYCE'S

608 Texas

GREAT ISSUES & POLITICAL FORUM

WILL ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

TONIGHT

7:30 P. M. MSC ASSEMBLY ROOM

We're Talking About:

Why Vietnam?

Draft or Dissent

Drinking on Campus

The Problems of The Negro

Why Riot?

Why People Hate

Black Power

Where Do YOU Stand?