

# Booze on campus is back as an issue



"I cut mine because it started bothering me more than the establishment!"

## Bulletin Board

**Tonight**  
APO will meet at 7:30 in the Library Conference room for a smoker. All interested invited.

**Thursday**  
Student Senate will meet in room 146 of the Physics building at 7:30.

**American Society of Mechanical Engineers** will meet in front of the Memorial Student Center at 7. Aggeland picture will be made.

**Skiing and Scuba Diving Club** will meet in room 301 of Bolton Hall at 9.

## Nixon and the war

President Nixon's bombshell announcement last night of the negotiations between the United States and the North Vietnamese has implications for this nation that are mostly for the good.

They also hold out a hope for the nations most ravaged by that war, North and South Vietnam, and for the whole of Indochina.

It is indeed an odd turn of events for the president who just offered us a heavily military and technologically oriented budget, though odd turns of events are becoming more and more common for "Tricky Dicky."

But the points brought out in Nixon's speech are good and viable points that both sides should be able to work with. They are proposals that resolve the basic differences between the two nations and provide for a future.

Nixon's main concern with the United States in relation to the war is with the POWs. And this is as it should be, for if anyone has suffered in this war it is the POWs of all armies and their families.

Too, Nixon has agreed to set a date for total withdrawal from Vietnam. This in itself is a major step. The president is now willing to withdraw all troops, none of those dangerous token forces or garrison troops left behind to get into trouble.

Aside from the United States involvement in Vietnam, Nixon's proposals for an end to the fighting are excellent.

He calls for a general cease fire in all of Indochina. This is a good point, but one that might be slightly unrealistic. The ending of fighting, and therefore the possibility for expansion, may mean quite a bit to the North Vietnamese, especially since things are going well in Laos and Cambodia.

The hope for agreement that there will be no intervention by other nations in Indochina is also a good idea. The rights of nations to determine their own futures is one that the United States has constantly violated in the past and is one that should be controlled very strictly.

Perhaps one of the biggest surprises in the entire thing is the offer by South Vietnam's President Thieu to resign for free elections in South Vietnam and for the elections to be supervised by an outside party. Following the almost dictatorial elections held earlier this year, this is a major concession by Thieu. One wonders what the pressures brought to bear upon Thieu were to get him to agree to this.

But as Nixon says, the whole thing lies with the North Vietnamese reluctance to accept this plan. It is firmly in their hands now and the way they act, publicly, will determine much.

The plan is a good one, and we feel that most of the world will recognize it as such. This will mean much to the North. It is easy to scream Yankee imperialism and be believed; there has been much Yankee imperialism before, but it is another thing to have the facts out and in front of everybody. The North will hopefully recognize that they will probably lose by refusing this plan, not only in extending a non-victorious war, but in the respect of nations throughout the world.

Too, it may serve to help stop or ease the blow of a predicted major Tet offensive by the North and the Viet Cong. Nixon may have been alluding to this when he said that the plan "lies ignored in a secret channel while the enemy tries again for military victory."

On the home front, it is a major victory for Nixon and a loss for his opposition. If the North Vietnamese do not accept the proposal, Nixon can say that he tried to his fullest extent. If it does succeed, Nixon will have accomplished that which most Democratic hopefuls say they will do. End the war.

May this last be the outcome.

## The Battalion

Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the student writers only. The *Battalion* is a non-tax-supported, non-profit, self-supporting educational enterprise edited and operated by students as a university and community newspaper.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor must be typed, double-spaced, and no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, *The Battalion*, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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**Editor:**  
Many of today's colleges and universities are being confronted with various questions concerning the degree of permissiveness that should be granted to college students on the university's grounds. Among these questions is that of allowing alcoholic beverages on the campus and in campus dormitories.

In deciding whether to allow alcoholic beverages, a university must consider the strong argument used by the University of Houston that "no person should be abridged of his rights or responsibilities under state laws just because he is a student at a college or university."

To those students, who have been able to escape the confines of the "on campus living policy," this question seems to be rather remote. Yet to those dormitory students who support campus activities after 5:00, aid in the financing, maintenance and literal existence of the dormitories, and participate in dormitory and campus wide government, are denied their rights as United States citizens due to the narrow mindedness of our university administrators.

Another aspect that must be considered is the purpose of limiting on-campus drinking to those who are legally of age. If it is to remain neutral as an institution, it would allow each individual his own choice. To allow alcohol on campus is not to show favoritism or disfavoritism, but rather to grant each individual his own choice in this democratic system. The present policy does

not allow individual freedom, but rather denies everyone their right to choose.

Does the present liquor on-campus policy really limit the consumption of alcoholic beverages, or does it merely change the point of consumption? I can hardly be led to believe that any individual with a desire to drink is going to deny himself that privilege. In an attempt to fulfill that desire, the individual is forced by present policy to leave campus. This creates a problem as now the person is on a highway and must drive from the point of consumption back to the dormitory which increases the possibilities for accidents. So the University's present policy does not seem to solve any problems but merely add to them.

University life is to better prepare each person for the acceptance of responsibility once he is removed from these ivory covered walls, yet the administration sees fit to remove legal elements from our collegiate learning experience. I would suggest that students back their dormitory and campus wide organizations such as Civilian Student Council and Student Senate in an attempt to change this undemocratic policy.

William Hatherill

We were in error about liquor being prohibited by state law. It is a rule made by the Board of Directors. We apologize for this mistake.—Ed.

**Editor:**

I would like to comment on the critical remarks you made in the editorial "Nixon's State of the Union" in the January 21, Friday, *Battalion* concerning Nixon's proposed \$900 million for increasing technology. As with most misty-eyed, foggy-brained, self-styled liberals, you criticize technology because it is technology without delving further to ascertain what that technology encompasses. Surely you would agree that improved mass transportation is among the nation's highest priorities—after all, improved mass transportation is necessary to counter the increasing number of cars and the concomitant pollution, and you seem unhappy that "scarcely a representative amount" will be spent on "pollution research and prevention." Similarly, you would surely agree that better, more comprehensive health care is among the nation's priorities—you claim "there is no indication of funds to help deter the turmoil in our cities," and the liberal line holds that poor health care is one of the causes of this turmoil. In light of this, I believe you might be interested to learn—since you have obviously so far not bothered to inform yourself of these facts—exactly what Nixon said about the \$900 million for technology. He said it would involve projects "designed to improve our everyday

lives in ways that will range from improving mass transit to developing new systems of emergency health care that could save thousands of lives annually." He also noted that portions of this \$900 million will be oriented to attacking other of our urgent domestic problems. Isn't it amazing what one can learn by looking at the actual facts rather than rotely reciting an old, wornout liberal line!

Nixon further elaborated that some of this \$900 million will be used in seeking out and perfecting new pollution-free sources of energy. Since he didn't elaborate further and since you obviously don't know what he did say about the \$900 million, you surely don't

know what he didn't say, how much of that \$900 million will be directed toward forms of pollution research you attack it any way. It is so typical of the yapping on the left—you scream for pollution research, for mass transportation, and for improved health care, then hypocritically and hysterically attack the very technology actually aimed at those problems. May I suggest that a constructive folly is to make some effort to inform yourself and particularly to do some rational thinking. The experience might be refreshing—for you and your readers.

Ralph H.

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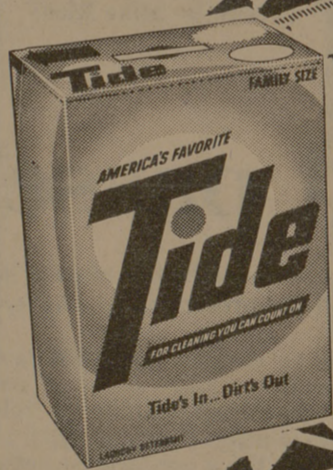
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