

THE BATTALION
CADET SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Squirt, this is truly a well-written letter for a date! It has depth and sensitivity, but I think it would sound better if you didn't begin with 'Dear Boxholder'!"

About those letters

The Battalion's letter policy states that letters must be signed though names may be withheld by arrangement with the editor.

This means that the letter writer must personally contact the Editor and explain his/her reasons for having a name withheld. It is up to the Editor's discretion to decide if the reasons are valid.

So, if you don't want to sign your name, get in touch with us. Otherwise don't expect to see the letter in print.

Inquiry told

Smoke seen at Fogg sinking

GALVESTON, Tex. (AP)—A U. S. Coast Guard inquiry into the sinking of the tanker V. A. Fogg heard testimony Wednesday concerning the location of a smoke cloud in the Gulf of Mexico and leaky pipes and fittings aboard the vessel.

Lt. Cmdr. Kenneth R. Gard, a Coast Guard pilot from the Corpus Christi Air Station, told of receiving the report from National Aeronautics and Space Administration pilot Roger C. Zeig about a large smoke cloud off Galveston Island.

Gard said the cloud was located

shortly before dark Feb. 1. He said it was approximately a quarter of a mile wide and covered an area some 15 miles long and dissipated slowly.

Gard said he searched a 20 by 35 mile area around the smoke area at altitudes between 300 and 500 feet Feb. 1 but saw no vessel in distress or spotted any debris.

He told of seeing three or four tankers in the search area and several smaller vessels but it was dark by this time and they could not be identified.

The Fogg sailed from Freeport

with 39 men aboard the afternoon of Feb. 1. Wreckage of the vessel was found last week on the bottom of the Gulf about 50 miles off Galveston Island. Divers who found the wreckage said they discovered evidence of a tremendous explosion.

The ship had delivered benzene to Freeport and had headed into the Gulf to clear her tanks of the benzene residue before going to Galveston. She was still carrying 19,000 gallons of explosive xylene.

Charles Floyd Jr., of Jacksonville, Fla., a pumpman who left the Fogg Jan. 30 in Freeport, told the inquiry board about various pipes, pumps, valves and other fittings which had been leaking or repaired.

He said that in the after pump-room the seals on some pumps were leaking and one time put eight inches of a chemical into the pump-room bilges.

He told of repairing leaks from wing tanks into cofferdam areas in both the forward and after sections of the vessel.

Listen up

BAC versus 'WAC'

Editor:

Obviously, Mr. Mardis is ignorant of the fact that black students also pay student service fees. Funding of the Black Awareness Committee doesn't come solely from any one ethnic group.

Also, I am compelled to remind Mr. Mardis that Texas A&M University is a state-supported institution. The State of Texas is supported by taxes levied on and collected from all its citizens, including blacks. I do not think it hard for Mr. Mardis' intellect to realize that while blacks have dutifully supported this institution indirectly with their tax dollars, they and their sons and daughters had been excluded from reaping the benefits of the educational opportunities at

A&M since its inception. Only within the last decade have blacks been able to put a "finger in the pie."

As for the need of a "WAC," I submit that past and extant programs under the MSC are adequate in this area.

With respect to Mr. Mardis' being asked to vacate to enable a black to replace him, I would imagine that the request was made because of a preference for a friend instead of an abhorrence to live with him.

No, Miss Thompon's statement did not upset me in the least. However, I think that Mr. Mardis himself is perturbed in realizing that discrimination can very well be a two way street!

Marvin Bridges

Services fee allocations

(Continued from page 1)
booklet would be enough for them to publish a better one.

Present at the meeting to answer questions regarding the allocations problem were Tom D. Cherry, vice president for busi-affairs, and R. Clark Diebel, controller of accounts. Cherry said that the reason there was some necessity to completing a plan soon was that the Board of Directors likes to have time to deliberate on a matter.

The board will work on the

budget at its Feb. 29 meeting, but Cherry admitted that the senate was ahead of others who were sending in various money proposals. He said that the details of the fee allocations for next year did not have to be finalized immediately.

"There has to be money for the hospital, regardless of source," he said. "The board does not need a complete fee distribution plan. All that has to be decided is athletics and hospital funding."

After Hartsfield's motion to send the issue back to committee for a final vote at next Thursday's senate meeting, adjournment was voted for, even though two items were still on the agenda.

"Alex Dade (Sr-Eng) was completely mistaken in moving for an early adjournment of the meeting," Sharp said. "There was only about 15 minutes worth of business left on the agenda. I hope in the future things of this nature don't occur in responsible government."

"It was terrible for the senate to vote that way (41-25-3)," Clay exclaimed. "They have an obligation to the students, and they're not doing their jobs when they vote to adjourn with two items left."

The unfinished business included the method of voting on the proposed constitution in the senate and a motion regarding relations between the senate and the College Station City Council.

U.S. mounts new strikes, Hanoi claims two planes

SAIGON (AP)—U. S. planes mounted a new series of strikes inside North Vietnamese territory Wednesday, American military sources said. Radio Hanoi claimed two planes were shot down, and a number of pilots were killed or captured.

The U. S. Command declined comment. The command has a policy of revealing aircraft losses only after search and rescue operations for any downed pilots are completed. It says early disclosure might endanger chances for rescue.

If the Hanoi claims are substantiated, it would mark the first American aircraft and pilots reported lost over North Vietnam since the five days of heavy air raids last Dec. 26-30, when more than 1,000 strikes were flown and 12 planes were lost.

The U. S. informants and pilots gave only scant details of Wednesday's raids. They said most of the strikes were in North Vietnam's half of the demilitarized zone and that there

may have been some further north.

The sources would not disclose the targets, but said some of the strikes were "protective reaction." This means pilots can attack enemy antiaircraft defenses considered a threat to U. S. reconnaissance planes flying over North Vietnam or planes bombing enemy supply lines anywhere in Indochina.

Radio Hanoi claimed that a number of jets attacked populous areas of North Vietnam's two southernmost provinces, Quang Binh and Vinh Linh.

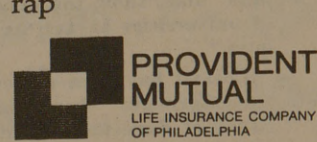
The informants did not disclose the number of planes or strikes, except to say the raids were substantial.

Earlier, a senior U. S. military source noted that North Vietnam had moved surface-to-air missiles to near the DMZ where they could hit American planes flying intensified air strikes in the northern quarter of South Vietnam in a massive campaign to crush an expected enemy offensive.

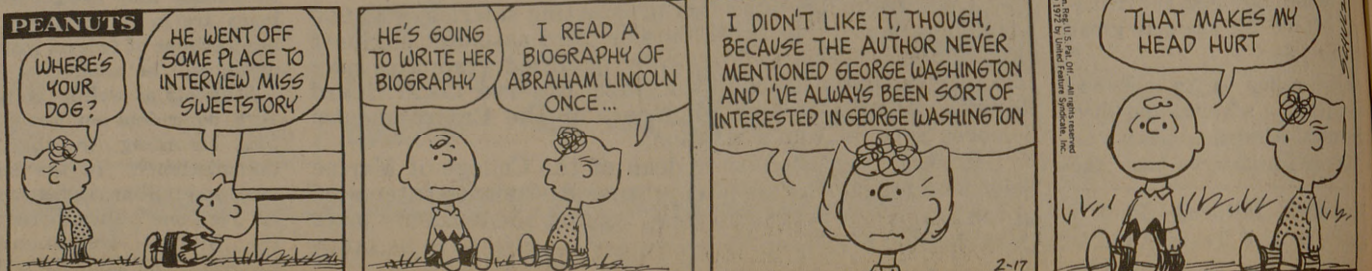
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1 49

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These loans are available for summer travel and study abroad by Texas A&M students.

The applications will be accepted at the Student Programs Office of the MSC UNTIL 4:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 18, 1972.

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S-T-U-V Feb. 21-25
W-X-Y-Z Feb. 28 - Mar. 3

Make-up Week March 6-17

NOTE: Students needing pictures for job-applications or other personal use may come ahead of schedule.

CORPS SENIORS: Uniform: Class A Winter - Blouse or Midnight Shirt.

CIVILIANS: Coat and Tie.

PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN FROM 8 : A.M. to 5: P.M.

NOTE: BRING FEE SLIPS to UNIVERSITY STUDIO
115 No. Main — North Gate
Phone: 846-8019

The Battalion

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