Page 2 THE BATTALION WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1977 **Opinion/Commentary/Letters**

Europe facing minority problems

By WOLFGANG WAGNER HANNOVER, West Germany

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We here in Western Europe like to think that we, in contrast to Americans, have no minority problems. But in fact we do — and the problems could become worse.

Our minorities are the Greeks. Turks, Yugoslavs, Spaniards, Italians and other southern Europeans as well as North Africans who were invited to emigrate north to perform the kinds of jobs that Germans, British, French, Swiss and Scan-dinavians, with their more middleclass inclinations, refuse to handle.

They became ditch-diggers, garbage collectors, coal miners, street cleaners, waiters and the like. Most of them learned only enough of our languages to take orders.

These emigrants were politely termed "guest workers" when they first arrived, since they were des-perately needed during the labor shortages that developed in Western Europe's industrial countries during the boom years of the 1960s.

With the recession, however, they have become a burden. Many have lost their jobs, but cannot return to their native lands, where unemployment is even more critical. Those who accept welfare bene-fits, to which they are entitled, sometimes provoke the enmity of local taxpayers. Those who continue at menial jobs often incur the re-sentment of the local jobless.

Slouch

sort of tensions that exist in parts of the United States, where the plight of underprivileged minorities is acute

This situation could become ag-gravated in the future with the extension of European integration, which provides for the free movement of peoples across borders. For unlimited numbers of emigrants from the poor areas of the continent could flow without restrictions to the richer industrial cities of the north

So Western Europe may eventually resemble the United States in the sense that urban ghettos could develop on a broad scale. Unlike U.S. ghettos, which are mostly populated by black Americans, ours would be filled with foreigners.

The different countries of Western Europe are trying to cope with significant. Turkey, which has a Hannover daily. But getting rid of the alien workers is not easy, especially when they were welcomed with such fanfare at

the start. Switzerland, which once had the highest proportion of emigrants in Europe, has been slowly pushing them out under drastic laws that make life difficult for all foreigners. In Britain, where unemployment is serious, alien workers mainly come from Commonwealth countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean, and

by Jim Earle

Thus we are beginning to under-stand, to some degree at least, the race riots. All the British have done until now has been to limit fresh emigration.

West Germany, whose economy continues to be relatively vigorous, has been a paradise for southern Europeans. But unemployment here is also growing, particularly among teenagers, and the hope is that the ranks of the foreign workers will thin out over time. That, however, is only a hope.

The negotiations over full Greek membership in the Community may drag on, but they are likely to be successful. When that happens, there will be no barrier to Greek emigration, and their influx into West Germany, Britain and the other northern nations is bound to be heavy

The Turkish case is even more

future problems.

soaring birth rate, is extremely poor. Its population, now 50 mil-lion, will probably double by the end of the century. To vast numbers of Turks, therefore, Western Europe's industrial cities look like Eldorado.

Turkey, like Greece, is already an associate member of the European Community. Under a special agreement, the free movement of Turks into other nations of the Community will be achieved "step-by-step" over a ten-year period. After that, no restrictions

Will remain. With all this, then, we seem to be approaching something akin to the United States of Europe — which may have more of the headaches than the advantages of the United States of America.

Wagner is editor of the Han-noversche Allgemeine Zeitung, the

David S.

Broder

Hey, BILLY, CAN YOU DO RETREADSP

Carter's 'tough' image eroded slightly

Carter was malleable.

works proposal

both privately and publicly, that

broad agreement was reached with

the House and Senate Democrats

on the terms of his tax cut-public

But several Congressional leaders

told colleagues they had a different

impression — that Carter was ready to accede with remarkable haste to

WASHINGTON - For Jimmy Carter, the visible scars of the Sorensen affair had healed even before he stood on the inaugural platform to take his oath as President. But inside the Capitol Building, it has contributed to a view of Carter which contains the seeds of serious

That view, in plain terms, is that Carter can be muscled without risk. It is an opinion that most of Carter's he strengthened the view that he intimates think is dead-wrong. As the new President once said, "Most would not be easy to push around. people, when they get to know me, have decided that I'm tougher than But politicians were surprised when Carter did not protest some

rather blatant "pal-ship" in his Cabinet members' choices of their own subordinates. They blinked at But politics is as much a matter of appearance as reality. And for now, Carter is laboring under the hand-icap of the spreading belief that he the apparent ease with which Senate Finance Committee Chaircan be easily pressured. It did not begin that way. He man Russell B. Long (D-La.) sold Carter on making a veteran Long aide the chief tax policy official in the came out of the election with the reputation of a tough, disciplined,

publicity — unsupported by any of-ficial charges — to reverse his inten-tion to name his own close aide, who expected much more probing analysis of the expensive public works package by the new Presi-Greg Schneiders, as White House dent. appointments secretary. Ironically, even the successful meeting in Plains early this month

It was in this context that the quick coup against Theodore C. Sorensen's nomination to head the to frame the economic stimulus package contributed to a belief by CIA was viewed on Capitol Hill as another measure of Carter's unsome Congressional leaders that willingness or inability to use his muscle Carter himself expressed delight,

It was not until 96 hours before Sorensen's confirmation hearing that the Carter administration got its first warning from allies in the Senate that Sorensen might be in trouble. Vice-President Walter F. Mondale intervened immediately, but Carter himself hesitated until only 48 hours remained.

He is known to have made calls to only three supposedly friendly senators, and, apparently discour-aged by their cool reaction, pushed

On the morning of Sorensen's scheduled hearing, Mondale con-At this early stage, Cate prisingly, is in need of massive same speech about the need

tinued to mount a public det the nomination on the NBCI Show. An hour later, Hamilt dan, Carter's top assistant, to on same NBC interviewers, "It sible" Sorensen might with

as, in fact, he did two hours Carter's own passivity in the of this rebuff, like his quick of Schneiders, has created a pression the new Presider have to correct.

He faces an assertive Com Stu well aware of its own power ready to push them as far as lows. In the space of 24 hor dis week, Sens. Alan Cranston Calif.) and Abraham A. R (D-Conn.) both found occas state publicly, for Carter's that Congress is not "going over and play dead."

is originally apparent. even dangerous, campaigner and political infighter. By standing up to pressure from a variety of interest groups in the choice of his Cabinet,

"FRANKLY, I NEVER CARED FOR COFFEE, BUT AT THESE PRICES, I FIGURED THERE MUST BE SOME-THING TO IT THAT I WAS MISSING!"

Battalion

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trol You'd think a painful struggle amid painful change would trigger conflicts. But not so. I have never

Editor:

known staff members of any other organization so cheerfully and genuinely helpful at every turn. Their consistent efficiency kept me marveling — and progressing in my research.

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whatever suggestions they made, notably a doubling of the public works authorization from \$2 billion Treasury. to \$4 billion. "I was surprised it was so easy," said one leading House Democrat, They were surprised when Carter allowed a brief flurry of adverse

British control guns by requiring licenses and reason for ownership By RUDOLF KLEIN

LONDON - We here in Britain are astonished and often baffled by the controversy over gun controls in the United States. For our own regulations have proved so effective for more than a half-century that we cannot quite understand why the issue should still be the subject of debate elsewhere.

This is not to suggest that laws that function in one society will necessarily work in another. Yet, as we observe the ravages caused by the proliferation of weapons in the United States, we cannot help but believe that Americans ought to share the basic premise of our gun legislation — that violence is di-

possession of a weapon is a privilege rather than a right. Licenses are granted by the police, who register all guns, and it is up to applicants to justify their motives for ownership rather than an obligation of the authorities to explain their reasons for refusal.

Applicants for a weapon of any kind must first fill in a three-page form, which requires among other things the guarantee that the gun will be stored out of the reach of burglars. The applicant must also produce evidence that he has never been convicted of a criminal offense or suffered from mental disorder. He can be denied a license as well if

to collect information on his back-

ground. Any "character defect" can

prompt a rejection of his request for

that their weapons are kept in se-

even heavy drinking.

a licens

dicated on the simple principle that cure places. But self-defense or the protection of property are not re- no compunctions on the part garded as adequate reasons for permits

Solven these restrictions, it is not surprising that in all Britain, with a population of 50 million, only 250,000 licenses for pistols and rifles have been issued. Contrast this with the United States, which is noti mated to have 90 million guns of no licenses until only a fer various sorts at large.

It should be pointed out that the rules governing the possession of shotguns here are less stringent than those controlling other weapons, largely because the politi-cal parties have been reluctant to put restrainte on huntars. About put restraints on hunters. About States.

But between amnesties, th government about enfor

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ectly attributable to the availability of firearms.

British law on the matter is pre-

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he has a record of alcoholism or 800,000 shotgun licenses have been Next, the applicant will be interissued since 1968, when a new law viewed by a police officer, who is requiring the registration of these also likely to conduct an investigafirearms was passed. tion among the would-be gun own-er's neighbors and friends in order

No system, however rigorous, can prevent the illegal ownership of weapons, and the police are hesitant to crack down too strongly on the illicit possession of guns through house searches or other measures that might violate civil liberties.

Finally, the applicant must per-suade the police that his possession of a weapon is necessary, and this is From time to time, though, the government announces amnesties not easy. Gun collectors and memunder which illegal weapons can be bers of approved rifle clubs are gensurrendered without penalty, and the diminishing yield from this pro-cedure indicates that the pool of un-licensed guns is gradually drying up. In 1946, for example, 76,000 erally given approval, on condition guns were turned in, primarily by soldiers, who had brought them home as souvenirs from World War II. In 1968, an amnesty brought in 25,000 weapons.

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Crimes involving firearms age about 1,700 per year than 40 of these offenses re deaths. In more than half cases, the weapons used are air guns, and the category cludes imitation pistols employ

holdups.

Rare as these incidents a worry the British, because quency of crimes involving has doubled over the pas This means, in my view, spect for the law may b eroding under the pressure change that is breaking d old-fashioned middle cla that were once so solid in

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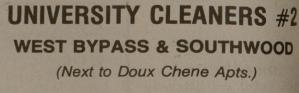
But these values are s tively firm, and they accou success of gun controls b Britain is strikingly peac because it can effective

weapons. It can outlaw we fectively because its citize that protection of the so more important than the de individuals.

Klein, a senior fellow at l Center for Studies in Social writes on social issues in E

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