

Viewpoint

The Battalion
Texas A&M University

Friday
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Opinion

Internationals valuable asset

By BRIAN L. HOPE

In the April 22 *Battalion* R. W. Collins wrote that "our arms" should be equally opened to our "out-of-state neighbors" and our "foreign friends," inferring that tuition rates should be equally high for both. The premise behind that statement of opinion is misleading. With the exception of several specialized fields, what Texas A&M has to offer is roughly equivalent to those of many other state-and-federally-supported universities. I therefore think it is fair to say that most of the out-of-state students attending Texas state-supported universities probably could receive an equivalent education in their respective home-state university systems. This is a valid rationale for their \$40-hour out-of-state tuition.

The majority of students from "Third World" nations have not had the luxury of such a viable home option. They have

They come not by choice, but rather by necessity

come to American universities not out of choice, but rather out of necessity. Moreover, TAMU offers unique and vital curricula in special fields critically important for future socio-economic growth and development in these students' countries.

So what happens if the R. W. Collinses in the United States have their way? As pointed out by Colin Crombie in his *Battalion* editorial of April 20, most of the international students would face a double burden of a high out-of-state tuition piled on top of ever-increasing American cost-of-living expenses, especially with the job restrictions that they have to operate under. It would be a real "Catch-22" situation, since much of this double burden would often fall on their families back home in countries with average real in-

come levels only a fraction of the American average.

So most of the international students (except for the minority from relatively well-to-do families) would probably have to go home, and their younger peers and

American-trained leaders people the Third World

relatives would be unable to have the opportunity to gain the qualitatively advanced level of education and research not presently attainable through their educational institutions. Not only would the long-term economic development in their countries be adversely affected, but also a lot of whatever good will the United States still has in the non-Communist world.

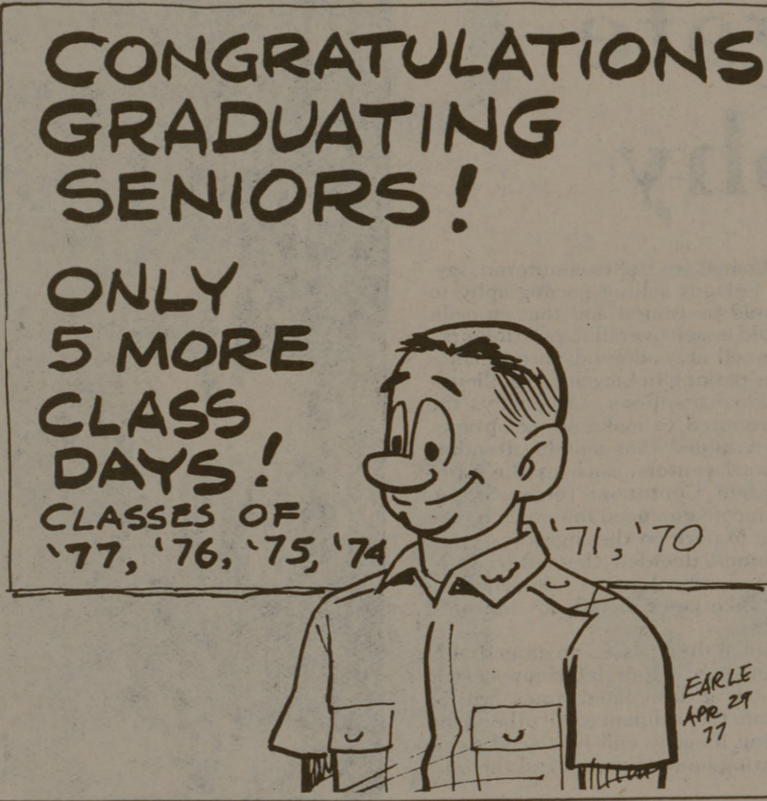
Many of the political leaders, educators, and business managers in Third World nations received their advanced academic degrees from American universities and took back with them not only knowledge and training indispensable for the future of their countries, but also a far greater understanding of the American system and its people. In the long run this serves the interests of the United States far more than the millions of dollars annually going out of this country as foreign aid and military assistance (and sometimes into Swiss

College rings are inexpensive weapons against Soviets

bank accounts!). The academic investments made by the American people in the form of lower tuition rates for international students are only a fraction of what is poured into the coffers of various political regimes around the world. Moreover, the need for these investments will diminish as the universities in the Third World nations become more diverse in their programs and facilities. The future

Slouch

by Jim Earle



returns on these investments will help influence the world in ways far more in keeping with American ideals than most Americans can presently perceive.

I wonder if the R. W. Collinses can understand that every Aggie ring, and every other American college ring, and the finger of an international student "ex" can do far more to frustrate the global aims of the Soviet ideology than any cruise missile or F-16 — at only a fraction of the cost? I wonder if they can realize that every international student attending an American college is a living investment in human freedom and a better world for his countrymen as well as ourselves? Or would these red-blooded patriotic Americans rather see the next generation of young internationals attending universities in Moscow and Leningrad on schol-

arships paid for by the inhabitants of the Soviet realm? Our grandchildren would later find the United States isolated in a different world indeed!

Patriotism, combined with an enlightened sense of self-interest, serves the best interests of all peoples. The "patriotism" that incorporates short-sighted economic selfishness and narrow-minded cultural bigotry not only alienates other nations from us but also subversively alienates us from our better selves. Therefore, we Americans have as much at stake regarding the two bills in the Texas State Legislature — H.B. 2161 and S.B. 856 — as do the international students. All this is why the rationale underlying these two bills should be strongly opposed and they should be voted down.

Hope is an M.A. graduate student.

Top of the News Campus

Announcements on sale in MSC

Several hundred graduation announcements are on sale at the Student Finance Center, room 217 Memorial Student Center. The announcements are left over from the sale that began last Thursday. A limit was set on the original sales so that there would be enough announcements available. Announcements will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

Library open around-the-clock

For every one student graduating next week from Texas A&M, there will be nine more studying for semester final exams. To accommodate those students, the University Library will be open around the clock from Sunday, May 8, to midnight Wednesday, May 11. Dr. Irene Hoadley, director of libraries, noted that the measure will provide only public-area facilities and materials. Desk service and other library staff functions will observe normal operating hours.

Texas

Water could be pumped to arid West

Water from Canada and the Pacific Northwest could be pumped to arid parts of the western United States and Mexico by building huge aqueducts, according to William G. Dunn, a California civil engineer. Dunn has developed the \$50 billion "Rocky Mountain Plan" in conjunction with two other engineers and presented it yesterday to the American Society of Civil Engineers at their national convention in Dallas. The primary sources of water for the proposal are the Peace, Athabasca and Smoky Rivers in Northern Alberta, upper tributaries of the Mackenzie River which flows into the Arctic Ocean. Other sources include the Kootenay and Flathead Rivers and Clark Fork in Western Montana, tributaries of the Columbia River.

Foul play suspected in church fires

Authorities today in San Antonio searched for two suspected arsonists whom one fireman described as "bent on destruction" in connection with fires at two downtown churches. One of the fires routed four priests from the rectory of St. Mary's Catholic Church yesterday. The church's pastor, The Rev. Paul Duffy, alerted by sounds coming from a first floor storeroom, awakened three other priests and led them to safety while thick smoke billowed through the second floor of the rectory. The St. Mary's fire followed a similar blaze that heavily damaged two second story rooms of the Grace Lutheran Church Wednesday night. District Fire Chief J. F. Saldana said both church fires were intentionally started. Damage at St. Mary's was set at \$14,000, and at Grace Lutheran, damage was estimated at \$50,000.

Nation

Panel hears Vietnam soldier's case

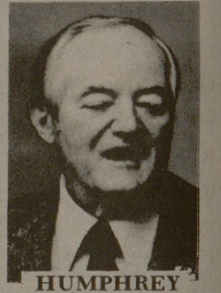
A Vietnam veteran, unable to find a full-time job because of his undesirable discharge, pleaded his case to a videotape camera in St. Louis yesterday. The young man, who asked not to be identified publicly, spent a year on combat duty in Vietnam and then was given a 30-day leave. He went AWOL for 153 days in 1970 after he received orders to go to Germany. The videotape of the man's plea will be reviewed within a couple of weeks by a five-member panel of the Army Discharge Review Board in Washington. Within six weeks after the board's review, the soldier will be notified of the disposition of his case. His discharge could be upgraded to a general discharge. Or, his request could be denied. Many young men are flocking to places where such individual hearings are being held through the country. Each former soldier is accompanied by a counselor, who makes sure the appropriate facts are revealed.

Teton collapse due to designers

Government investigators say Idaho's Teton Dam would not have collapsed last summer if Bureau of Reclamation designers had used all available precautions rather than depend on a mortar shield to prevent erosion of the dam. Eleven persons were killed by the collapse of the 305-foot-high dam and damage to livestock and property totaled \$500 million. The report was released yesterday by the investigators simultaneously in Washington and Denver. The report said designers relied only on a shield of thin mortar called a "grout curtain" to guard against seepage. The report said the grout wasn't enough when cracks formed in the dam's embankment and its earthen core eroded.

Struggle against bigotry isn't over

Sen. Hubert Humphrey, D-Minn., said yesterday that despite hard won civil rights gains in Congress and in the courts in the past 20 years, the struggle to end prejudice and bigotry in America is not over. "It is not enough to allow a man or woman the right to sit at a lunch counter if they don't have the money in their pockets to pay for a meal," the former vice president said. In remarks at the 14th annual Brotherhood Citation Dinner of the Arkansas Region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Humphrey said the nation's democratic institutions are threatened by poverty.



Rosalynn improves after surgery

First Lady Rosalynn Carter is back in the White House and in "great spirits" today, one day after undergoing surgery to remove a non-cancerous lump in her breast. Aides said the 49-year-old First Lady was up and about the White House within three hours of the 40-minute operation performed at Bethesda Naval Hospital yesterday afternoon. Doctors discovered the lump about 2 p.m. EDT during Mrs. Carter's routine six-month gynecological checkup, according to her press secretary, Mary Hoyt. President Carter was immediately informed of the discovery and was told his wife was going into surgery. "I think it's personal," Mrs. Hoyt said. "This is all she wants said about it. Had it been a malignancy it would be something else."

weather

Partly cloudy and mild with a high today in the mid-80s. Low tonight in the mid-60s. Continued cloudy and mild tomorrow. Precipitation probability is 20 per cent both today and tomorrow.

Readers' Forum

Quality is the featured attraction

By CHIP DEMOIS

The Arts and Crafts Fair held April 26 and 27, in my opinion, was more than the article in Wednesday's *Battalion* pointed out. Although we appreciate the publicity and accept it graciously, I would like to bring out my interpretation of the fair: what it was and what its goals were.

The MSC Crafts and Arts Committee, of which I am chairman, sponsored the fair. Our purpose as an organization is to bring the crafts to A&M. The Arts and Crafts Fair is usually the culmination of months of work for many A&M artists and craftsmen who do not have the chances or the money to participate in fairs throughout Texas. The fair enables these people to exhibit their work and make back some of the investment in time and money put into their work throughout the year.

The idea behind moving the location from the MSC fountain area to the Academic Building area was to reach a broader spectrum of students and faculty alike who do not ordinarily go by the MSC. I personally feel that

there were more people observing this fair than in any previous one and far more than the 500 persons quoted in Wednesday's *Battalion*. The fair has grown from something of a flea market to a show of quality work by skilled A&M artists and craftsmen at prices that students can afford.

The article in the *Battalion* was appreciated as I mentioned (except for a small misprint near the end of the article: "Everything is a lot more reasonable (than) at home..." The word "than" was left out and I have received very polite apologies from the *Battalion* editor for the error).

My purpose in bringing my views of the fair forth is to point out the crafts as a creative and cultural field that does not have the monetary overtones that the article last Wednesday pointed to so frequently.

And to Ms. Cummings who was quoted in the article Wednesday, we don't have a lot more time than you or anyone else, we just use it productively! And I invite everyone to do the same by getting involved in the crafts.

Editorial anonymity under fire

United Press International

BATON ROUGE, La. — A state legislator said Thursday his proposed law to make unsigned editorials in Louisiana newspapers a criminal offense would not violate the First Amendment.

"It doesn't limit their freedom of speech," said Rep. Mike Hogan, D-Lake Charles. He has introduced a bill that would fine editors up to \$500 and send them to jail for up to six months for publishing an editorial without the author's name.

"It's no more an infringement of First Amendment rights than requiring names be included on letters to the editor," Hogan said.

He said newspaper readers have a right to know who is interpreting the news on editorial pages and he wants published opinion pieces signed.

Hogan, a former Lake Charles police chief, said the idea for such a law occurred to him when he read an editorial critical of an action in which he was involved. The editorial, Hogan said, was based on erroneous information and he said he had no way of challenging the statement.

"The average citizen is at the mercy of the newspaper," he said.

Hogan said he was willing to soften the penalties in his bill.

"I don't think a jail term would really be necessary for this kind of offense," he said. "But no law is effective without some sort of penalty."

Hogan said he hasn't checked with an attorney on the constitutionality of his bill.

Readers' forum

Guest viewpoints, in addition to Letters to the Editor, are welcome. All pieces submitted to Readers' forum should be:

- Typed triple space
- Limited to 60 characters per line
- Limited to 100 lines

Submit articles to Reed McDonald 217, College Station, Texas, 77843. Author's name and phone number must accompany all submissions.



Things go better with Coke

It's the quick refresher! At the game, the beach, among friends... yes, wherever you meet active people there's Coca-Cola to quench that hot, dry thirst. Why, even blowgun-toting pygmies go better with Coke!

The Superpowers are spending billions on arms and defense. Now rebels of Shaba, a province of Zaire, in their attempt to secede from the mother country, have flouted

accepted 20th century technological warfare and manned their forces with spear and blowgun packing pygmies. Powered by Coke.

It seems that the enemy is spooked by pygmies and that the pygmies have an insatiable craving for Coke. Little warriors, high morale...one very cheap war economically.

Could it be that the Pentagon and Kremlin have gone techno-

crazy and turned simple and effective battle tactics into a runaway monster of expensive and unnecessary proliferation while the primitives of another continent make as much headway with subcompact models fueled by soft drinks?

We've often wondered what these great strategy centers have been hiding all along. I think it's their embarrassment.