

# Viewpoint

The Battalion  
Texas A&M University

Thursday,  
September 22, 1977

## Keep the tower

Easterwood Airport's air traffic control tower is inefficient. At least that's what the Federal Aviation Administration says in a recent report suggesting that federal funds be cut off from the Easterwood tower. That decision would be a major mistake, since it would probably force the tower to close.

The FAA report lists Easterwood's tower among 73 in the country which, according to a cost-vs-benefits formula the FAA uses, aren't paying their way. That formula somehow weighs the smoother operations and fewer delays and accidents which the tower provides against the tower's annual operating and maintenance budget.

One would think from the report that Easterwood Airport is dying of neglect. But nothing could be further from the truth. During the last year the airport's traffic jumped from 88,000 to 104,000 flights in or out of the airport. Between commercial and private flights, and those connected in some way with Texas A&M University, Easterwood has become a pretty busy place.

On paper the FAA cost-benefit formula may seem practical. X-number of flights, X-number of dollars, over X-period of time. But there's a hitch.

The airport business is like every other — customers always seem to come in bunches. At times Easterwood has very few planes landing. But then there are times when half a dozen or more planes all want to land at the same time, in addition to those airplanes "just passing through." That makes for real problems during bad weather. The traffic controllers in the Easterwood tower can now keep airplanes separate by instrument navigation — without the tower, pilots would be coming into the field virtually blind.

Even discounting the safety problems, closing the tower would put a significant transportation crunch on both the local community and Texas A&M. The airport would probably lose its commercial flights. Private flights would also be discouraged from landing at Easterwood — at a time when both the community and the University are drawing more air traffic.

Any move to close the Easterwood Tower would be both an expensive and dangerous mistake. L.R.L.

## An affair to forget

The time had come, the deed is done, now it's best forgot.

That may be the best summary of Bert Lance's resignation yesterday. It was time for Lance to resign. He had tried without success to convince Congress and America of his innocence during last week's televised hearings, despite plenty of evidence to the contrary. People just stopped believing what he said.

Lance took the initiative, finally, to leave for the sake of all concerned. In office, he could never hope to escape the criticism that has embroiled him in recent months. And that criticism has rubbed off on his good daddy Jimmy Carter and right now Carter has his hands full hunting support for his Panama Canal treaties. That's not to mention the countless other national concerns that Carter has had to leave unattended.

America is ready for a rest. Even Washington's political cartoonists and columnists have become stagnant rehashing Lance's trials and tribulations.

The Bert Lance affair wasted enough of America's time. Now it needs to be forgotten. We've got better things to do. L.R.L.

## 'Non-socialism' tough test for Sweden

By PHILLIP M. STONE

United Press International  
STOCKHOLM, Sweden—Sweden's first non-Socialist government in more than four decades marks its first year in power this month but has little to celebrate.

It's been an unhappy 12 months. The krona has been devalued three times, inflation is raging along at 13.5 percent, the trade deficit is headed for \$3.3 billion, industry has swallowed up huge government subsidies just to survive and the stock market—already low—dipped another 25 percent.

Major companies announce layoffs almost daily. Should one win a job-creating overseas contract it is big news. Newspapers publish stories of the so-called "English sickness" as a preview of what may be coming.

For all this, Sweden is still one of the world's richest countries. A British journalist asked in his newspaper, "If this is the 'Swedish sickness' then how do we catch it?"

But for Sweden accustomed to living the good life and telling other countries how to solve their problems, facing up to their own falling fortunes is a new and frightening experience.

In announcing a 10 percent devaluation earlier this month, Premier Thorbjorn Falldin said:

"Not since the '30s have we seen so many crises and bankruptcies hitting even

the large-scale companies as in the past year. This trend is an imminent threat to employment and must be broken."

It was not a situation Falldin envisioned last September when his Center Party together with the Conservatives and Liberals ousted the Social Democrats in national elections.

Even then, Swedish industry was in trouble, but Social Democratic party leader Olof Palme said he was bequeathing the non-Socialists a "well-laid table."

Other political observers suggest rather that he left office just when things were

getting worse.

The new leaders for the most part adhered to the Socialists' economic policies, hoping the European recession would bottom out. It did not.

The Social Democrats, in an effort to protect jobs, paid companies subsidies and urged them to keep producing at full steam. The thinking was that hard times would be temporary and once they ended Sweden could start exporting its excess goods.

But the recession is still here and the warehouses are still full.

Recovery will not come easy to a people used to receiving higher social benefits each year. The government recently warned no substantial improvement in the standard of living can be expected next year or in 1979.

And how does the businessman—the man most likely to have voted for non-Socialists—view the situation?

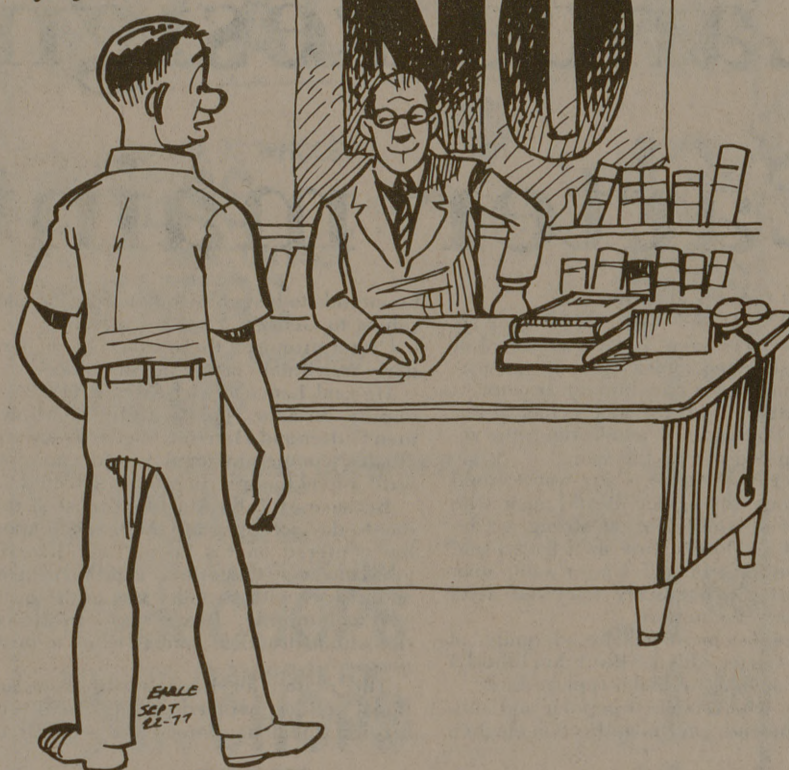
A retired Stockholm industrialist complained many of his stocks had declined 75 percent in value.

"I have no love for the Socialists," he said. "They are responsible for the ridiculous taxes we have now."

But I have to think that if the Socialists were in government during the last year they would have done a better job....

"If things do not get better within eight to 10 months then it will be a catastrophe."

Slouch  
by Jim Earle



"I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MY DENTAL APPOINTMENT IN LUBBOCK THIS WEEKEND, BUT IT CAN WAIT!"

## Investigation 'dogged'

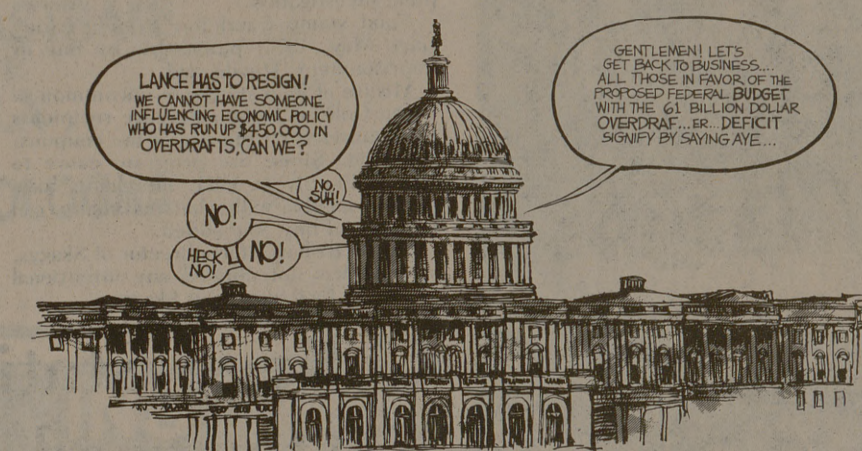
Leon Jaworski's approach to his task as special counsel for the House Ethics Committee investigation of alleged South Korean influence-buying might be summed up in the old saying, "It's dogged as does it." His emphasis — and he says this also reflects the wishes of the House leadership — is expected to be on thoroughness rather than on rushing to wind up the probe quickly.

Welcome as a speedy resolution of this sensitive matter would be, the concept of solid, careful preparation before hearings are undertaken must be applauded.

The prospect of the investigation running into 1978, an election year, is naturally a source of concern for members of the House. The shadow of possibly scandalous revelations to come will increase the hazards of standing for re-election — unfairly, in the case of the presumable large majority of congressmen not implicated in the alleged payoffs and acceptance of gifts and favors from South Korean operatives.

The conclusion of the affair already has been delayed too long.

The Willimantic, Conn. Chronicle



LANCER HAS TO RESIGN! WE CANNOT HAVE SOMEONE INFLUENCING ECONOMIC POLICY WHO HAS RUN UP \$450,000 IN OVERDRAFTS, CAN WE?

GENTLEMEN LET'S GET BACK TO BUSINESS. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE PROPOSED FEDERAL BUDGET WITH THE 61 BILLION DOLLAR OVERDRAFT... ER... DEFICIT SIGNIFY BY SAYING AYE...

### Letters to the editor

## Scalpers hoarding student tickets should be stopped

Editor:

I would like to voice a few comments on the ticket situation for the Texas Tech game. Many students who wanted to go to the game were unable to get tickets. Many of these people had already made arrangements for transportation to Lubbock and lodging there.

There seem to be two reasons that stand out as to why many students were denied tickets. First of all, Texas Tech sent us only 2,500 tickets. Surely some of these were given to our band and their dates, which only seems fair. Of the remaining tickets sold, a very large number were not even in the stands but on the grass. So, it appears that Texas Tech was not very hospitable.

The second reason is much more important. The sole purpose of selling student tickets is that students may go see the game. The purpose is not to allow a few greedy, self-centered, unthinking people to make a buck. There were many, many instances of people rounding up as many coupon books as they could and buying the same number of tickets. These same tickets are now being sold for prices ranging up to \$50. Camping out for tickets for oneself and companions is great. However, camping out for tickets to make money is totally unnecessary. This practice should be stopped. I do not claim to have the solution. However, I do know this: anyone who purchases tickets with the intention of

making a profit is not a true Aggie, and there is no place for such people or practice at Texas A&M University.

Scott P. Stringer '78  
Tommy Ascol '79

### Refund due?

Editor:

If only student fees can pay for the construction of dorms, then when are the students going to be reimbursed for the dorms "renovated" into offices?

— Kee Nethery

### Respect-two ways

Editor:

In response to the letter, "Words Do Hurt," (Battalion, Tues., Sept. 20) we male Ags on campus do agree, words can hurt.

The lack of words can hurt to an even greater degree. Words such as thank you, hello and please seem to be sadly lacking in the on-campus female vocabulary.

The women on campus would like to be, "respected as sensitive human beings." So would the men. It is a familiar occurrence for many male Ags, after giving a friendly hello, to receive a cold silence in return.

Even though the male to female ratio at A&M is 2 to 1 it would seem that the females

on this campus could at least respond with a friendly reply. Due to the attitudes of A&M females, which are induced by these odds, the A&M men become the real "meat on the rack." The women can pick and choose as they want with the criterion being only physical appearance, excluding personality and character.

If the women on campus want to be "respected as sensitive human beings," they should show some of the same consideration that they wish to receive.

K.C. '79  
D.T. '79  
M.V.V. '79  
S.H. '80



"NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT FOLKS; BUT... IS THERE A DR. KISSINGER ON BOARD?"

## Top of the News

### Campus

#### Miller must okay pass-fail P.E.

A proposal passed by the Academic Council Tuesday suggesting that required physical education courses at Texas A&M University be available on either a regular grade or pass-fail system has to be approved by President Jarvis Miller before being implemented next year. According to the new proposal, a grade of S may be given to students who make a C or above in the required P.E. courses with the grade not affecting their overall grade point ratio. A grade of U could be given for grades below C. There is no distinction between a D and under the U grade.

#### Yell practice will be at the Grove

Yell practice for the Texas Tech-Aggie game this week will be at the Grove on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

### State

#### Injunction against Lo-Vaca lifted

The 8th Texas Court of Civil Appeals ruled Wednesday a Zavala County judge exceeded his jurisdiction by preventing Lo-Vaca Gathering Co. from shutting off gas to Crystal City. The court said that two suits filed against the Houston-based utility company by South Texas city and a resident, Mrs. Bernardo Macias, were "interference" with an earlier decision rendered by the appeals court. The appeals court also removed an injunction placed on Lo-Vaca by Zavala County Judge Jose Angel Gutierrez.

#### Law on massage parlors lifted

A federal judge temporarily barred Harris County from enforcing a new ordinance regulating massage parlors until the law can be tested in court. U.S. District Judge Carl O. Bue Jr. issued the temporary restraining order at the request of 22 massage parlor operators and masseuses who contend the law violates their constitutional rights. Bue, who ruled immediate enforcement would put many of the operators of business without a hearing, has scheduled trial of their complaint for Oct. 25.

### Nation

#### Judge's daughter found dead

The daughter of the judge presiding in the Don Bolles murder case in Tucson was found shot to death Tuesday in her apartment. Police said it was an apparent suicide. However, officers said the investigation into the death of Lynn Thompson, 24, a student at the University of Arizona law school, was continuing. Her father, Judge Bolles Thompson, left Phoenix for Tucson, apparently postponing the trial of Max Dunlap and James Robinson, accused of first degree murder in Bolles' death.

#### Colorado farmers call for strike

A group of Midwestern farmers have circulated more than 150,000 handbills calling for a farmers' strike unless they are given 100 percent parity prices for their agricultural products. "Unless our demands are met by midnight, Dec. 13, 1977, we will be forced to implement the following measures: we will not sell any farm products; we will not produce any more agricultural products and we will not buy any agricultural equipment or production supplies," the handbill says.

### World

#### Voters defeat nude swimming

Municipal voters voted Tuesday for the San Diego City Council to take the no-swimsuit option away from nudists at Black's Beach, the nation's only beach where sunbathing in the buff is legal. Proposition D, directing the council to outlaw nude swimming, passed 86,110 to 70,884. The voters' decision meant the apparent end of the three-year experiment with a nude beach.

#### Power failure strikes Quebec

A "small white porcelain gizmo" blew out on a major power line in Quebec's far north Tuesday, plunging much of Canada's most populated province into darkness for up to eight hours. Hundreds of persons were trapped in elevators, air traffic was halted or diverted several hours and police cars screamed through Montreal streets in response to burglar alarms tripped by the on-again, off-again power flow. But there was no evidence of the looting that plagued New York City during its blackout July 13-14.

#### Police free 6 in labor camp raid

Police have raided a labor camp in Australia where elderly persons were forced to work as slaves. They were kept filthy, parasite-ridden and forced to live on meager diets. Police Tuesday described conditions at the camp in the outer Brisbane suburb of Belmont as the "worst case of human degradation" they had seen, calling the scene a "bush concentration camp." Six men were rescued in the raid Tuesday, all suffering from parasites and malnutrition.

### Weather

Clear, partly cloudy and warm through Friday. High today low 90's, low tonight low 70's. No rain today or tomorrow.

## The Battalion

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