On Feb. 13, 16 and 22, the Soviet Union engaged in at least 16 acts of espionage against Canada. And yet, amazingly, the Canadian government did

But a Canadian newspaper did react, cataloging the espionage and criticizing the Trudeau Administration for its timidity.

For its reporting, the Toronto Sun and its editor, Peter Worthing, are to be prosecuted by the Canadian government under what amounts to a seditions

Obviously the Canadian government gives little credence to the maxim that the people have the right to know.

In this instance, it would appear that the government is trying to silence those who criticize its actions—and Worthing has been emphatic in taking the Trudeau Administration to task.

The issue of a free press — one without fear of barbaric seditious laws — is a vital concern to anyone concerned with rule by the people. The matter is all the more shocking coming from one of our close allies.

Woonsocket R.I. Call

# Oil and clout battle it out

By JIM CRAWLEY

At Mama's Pizza Parlor, Bill Clements received the yell of Aggies to the tune of "Beat the hell outta Dolph Briscoe." It could have been "Beat the hell outta Ray Hutchison." Clements will be hard pressed to do that on a Saturday four

Bill Clements is living on OIL. That black gold that has changed the face of Texas since Spindletop. He's not a H.L. Hunt or an Ash Robinson but he does have connections in the oil companies of the state. His SEDCO company is a major drilling contractor within the state and around the world.

Ray Hutchison is prima facie evidence of Dallas CLOUT. The former state senator and Texas Republican Party chairman is the wonderboy from Dallas. During his tenure in Austin he pushed the Republican legislators into a never-before prominence within the chambers of the state House and Senate. He then grabbed the reigns of the state GOP to guide it through its civil war between the Reaganites and the Fordians. With that successfully calmed down, he decided the

time was right to take on the likes of the means that you are capable of coalescence. governor's office by running for it. This is where Hutchison stands today. Running against Clements for the chance to break the 100-year tradition of a Democrat in the

### **Politics**

Clements is well-known in the political and bureaucratic circles of Washington. He was a deputy Secretary of Defense from 1973 to 1977 under the Nixon-Ford administrations. For Texans this experi-ence may be wasted. The Texas voter is very anti-Washington and Clements may

be unfavorably associated with the capital. His opponent, the present forerunner in the race, is known to every faithful Texas Republican. He is handsome, composed, articulate and groomed for the governorship. His rise to political stature in Texas was quick and structured to last for years. He is a politician.

You can bring together groups of people, some with different viewpoints for the purpose of getting elected to an office. Politics is like a game, where the winner is the guy who can put together more groups of dissimilar voters than his opponnets. And after football and oil the biggest game in Texas is politics.

Hutchison has proved himself to be a politician. Clements hasn't done that yet. To prove himself as a politician, Clements must be able to please voters from all segments of Texas society. While he has received a lot of money from the oilmen of Texas, support from the reactionary Reaganites and possesses a large-scale PR staff with brains, he doesn't have John Q.

Republican voting for him. Not yet. He could easily be discribed as "lackluster" in comparison to the "flamboyant" Hutchi-Clements is a calculating sort of guy. He'll sit and think over the problem and quietly solve it in a business-like manner. No fanfare or finesse involved. His campaign paper (a PR extravaganza) tries to place him as a candidate that is a "people's man." But, he is one of the first candidates

that doesn't seem to possess a single campaign picture with a smile. A policitican without a smile is usually a politician without an elective office. Voters like smiling politicians. They feel more secure.

Hutchison is beaming. Not because he is guaranteed of winning the GOP nomina-

tion. He's smiling because he knows that is his job as a politician. He smiles for the cameras, for the babies, and for the Republicans. He's also a newlywed. Last month, he married the outgoing Vice Chairman of the Notice I. Transact tick Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, Kay Bailey. This union

can only help to sway some voters.

While Clements has money, Hutchison has people. His organization is from the grassroots up and he knows where and how to use them. His personal manner of campaigning makes him a hard man to beat. Clements will have become a personable campaigner without showing his money.

The necessity for being personable comes from the political fact that most of the voters aren't oilmen or high-class society. They are middle-class. To win you have to appear middle-class. Not too rich and not too poor. Just average.

### Letters to the editor

# Battalion endorsement policy criticized

I would like to express my opposition to the practice of candidate endorsement in The Battalion. (April 4, 1978). These endorsements were in the editorial section of The Battalion, indicating that they were opinion. According to a member of The Battalion staff, these opinions were canvassed during a meeting of staff members. The ommission of credit to the people who held the expressed opinions suggests to some readers that the endorsements carry some official weight rather than the simple opinion of a group of some people

Unless these opinions were expressed by the specific reporters who covered the activities of the student government on a regular basis, they carry no more weight than the opinion of any other student in-formed by The Battalion. The description of each candidate found elsewhere in the April 4, 1978 issue was helpful information for student voters. The editorial endorsements added no information that could be considered as "voting criteria" since they were opinions justified with what seems to be very vague reasons.

objected to the practice of Battalion endorsements, my opinion is not new. Private newspapers regularly endorse candidates for political office. The endorsed candidates favor the practice, while persons not endorsed object. The Battalion, the student newspaper of Texas A&M University, however, is in a different position than a private newspaper. Texas A&M students must rely on only one campuswide newspaper for information. There is no other publication to which most of them can turn for opinions

on candidates. The practice of endorsing student candidates should be discontinued in the future, because voters tend to take the endorsements as official statements rather than simple opinion. If the practice is not discontinued, the persons making the endorsements should at least be identified at the time the endorsements are pub-

- Nancy Bunch, '80

### No endorsements

I am writing in response to the "student election endorsements" that appeared in the Battalion April 4. My first question, is who did the endorsing? The editor? The entire Batt staff? Or perhaps the student body? The latter is the only way I can see the Batt making such endorsements. And if this IS the case why have elections? The Batt should represent the entire student body equally. Whoever wrote the article (it was unsigned) placed value and qualification judgment on each candidate. This amounted to free advertising for some and adverse advertising for others. I feel the Batt has no place for such bias judgments on fellow Ags. The timing of such an article left no time for candidates to defend themselves from such attacks. The Batt had already served its function when it ran the pre-election interviews. I hope the Batt will get its BULL together next year and do equal justice for ALL of the candi-

- Sidney A. Neff, '79

Editor's note: The leading section of this page is and has been for the last year The Battalion editorial space. It is a section newspapers reserve to express the paper's opinion on various issues. We at aware of nothing but personal, immediate The Battalion reserve this right to com-

ment as well, and it is clearly the editor's or a staff member's opinion. Readers' comments are likewise printed in the Readers' Forum section. Just as we find it important to express views on issues, for or against, that are pertinent to our readership, so we also feel it necessary and completely within our prerogative to let our readership know how we view the candidates — those we feel will serve the students' needs and those we feel will serve the students' needs and those we feel will not. The notion of endorsements is found universally in the newspaper field, The Battalion being no exception.
To all papers it is a right, many consider it a duty to the readership. If we have an opinion to express, we will express it. As for our student election endorsements, those members of The Battalion staff with experience covering the contested offices chose those candidates whom The Battalion endorsed. No credit line was given to these individuals since their decisions were the official stands of The Battalion.

### Abortion wrong

Upon reading Ms. Taylor's "Pro-abortion" letter (April 4), I am reminded once again of the problems a culture or society faces once it turns, deliberately, from any belief in moral absolutes.

In the past years, we have read articles, letters, and comments in the Batt on every issue from homosexuality to abortion to capital punishment and it is amazingly clear that the pendulum swings strongly in favor of cultural relativity.

With every action, there is a consequence. Apparently, Ms. Taylor and those of her persuasion in their thinking are not willing to be responsible for their actions. I truly weep for them.

But, what do I mean by not being responsible?

It is not responsible to gratify momentary physical drives through sex, and then when becoming pregnant because of doing it because it "felt" good, terminating potential life. What if your mother or mine had made such a decision?

It is not responsible to rationalize abortion so that a person's own selfish desires ("right to pursue 'Happiness') may be gratified

It is not responsible to rationalize abortion by stating the possibility of child abusement as being unfair to the child. For up to "20 weeks", this future child "has no rights", Ms. Taylor states, but then, suddenly, she says it does have rights - the right to not be abused by destroying he/she/it before birth. I am not advocating child abusement, only pointing out faulty logic. She blatantly contradicts herself within two paragraphs. Does the unborn child have rights or not? (Compare Paragraphs 3 and 4, sentences 1 and 2 in said letter. It is impossible to answer my question

from such comparison.)
Finally, I find it interesting that in a culture which is so caught up in depending on subjective truth or experience for validity that there is something in people which strives for objectivity. Thus, we turn to such wonderful measures as "abortion laws" which officially and "objectively rule that "20 weeks" is the magic number,

and thus abortion is made "legal."
As I have read back over her letter, I am struck with a sense of remorse. For it is permeated with a "Do your own thing" or 'If it feels good, do it" philosophy which is

enjoy living? If so, may the Lord spare us His righteous justice and have mercy on us

If you, Ms. Taylor, would like to discuss any of your points or mine, I would be delighted to do so, for this letter is not intended as a grudge letter, but only to present another point of view.

- Terry Aycock, '78

### Abortion ads wrong

Just because abortion is a legal opera-tion does not mean it should be advertised. Hysterectomies and vasectomies are legal operations, but do you see adver-tisements on them? I have yet to see a city newspaper carry an ad of this nature, that includes the Houston Chronicle and Post. Why the Batt? Is this suggesting females here are more prone to pregnancy than females elsewhere?

A most-needed ad, do you think girls flocked to Houston for abortions or clipped see a girl shopping through the daily newspaper for an abortionist. Abortion should not be advertised. A girl who finds herself pregnant needs counseling and guidance, not the temptation to make a hasty decision that she may regret.

Ignorance is no excuse at this age. The attitude of "it won't happen to me" is more appropriate. I would like to believe A&M students are mature, sensible adults with self-respect and dignity. Aren't we old enough to know the risk of pregnancy and precautions that can be taken so that we don't have to result to such an immoral, murderous act as abortion? Aren't we mature enough to be responsible for our actions? If we aren't, all I can say is "Grow up, kids." If you make your bed and lie in it, you should be ready to handle the consequences. Abortion is no way to handle it, it is a scapegoat for irresponsibility and immaturity.

- Sharon Sherpinskas, '79

### Closed mind wrong

I am writing in response to the antiabortion advertisment in the April 3 Batt. I was disappointed in the closedmindedness of the authors of those letters. Not everyone is against abortions, probably not even a majority of the Batt readers. And those people reserve the right to read advertisements concerning abortions. I'm sure that any reader could find an advertisement about a subject that they objected to and every reader has the privilege of ignoring the ad. Should any legal organization be deprived of its right to advertise? Should the singular opinions of possibly only a few be the reason to dep-

I am pleased that the Batt displayed open-mindedness and does not cater to minority opinions in a country where

— Darrel Bell, '77

### Change system

Editor:
There has been some criticism of the student senate's action to move the seats for disabled persons to the horseshoe. I am in full support of their action. I have seen this consideration section filled with perfectly healthy individuals who simply want

It is unfortunate that the truly disabled Aggies must lose their upper deck seats. The 2 percenters who filled the section will now be moved to a place that will allow more spirited Aggies to have better seats. Some may doubt the section is filled with 2 percenters. Well, after our loss to Arkansas last fall, all of the student sections of Kyle Field remained for a yell practice to show our continued support for the team. A quick glance and you would have noticed that the first five rows, the consideration section, were completely empty. That to me is a bunch of 2 per-

- Steve Taylor, '79

### No 2 percenters

Any junior who has been sitting in the horseshoe will tell you that our present system of distributing student football

legitimately and rightly so bring a date who is an underclassman; however, the abuse comes in when, for example, four seniors go together and four non-date underclassmen use their books to get

senior tickets also. One method that could help prevent this abuse would be to color code or put a meal pass-like sticker on the student I.D. to denote their classification. This way, transfer students wouldn't be penalized. Since there are people already at each ramp, they could quickly check the color of I.D.'s while checking the ticket holder's section, and not allow any underclassmen

in who weren't with upperclassmen.

A less favorable method would be to limit the number of tickets one person could get if they had over a certain number of underclassmen I.D.'s. Example: If five seniors were also getting five freshmen tickets, they could only get four seats together. This would then break up the senior group and make it unlikely they would help the freshmen. Of course, this would penalize any senior who legitimately wanted to sit as a group with five freshmen dates. I feel that this is less an evil than juniors sitting in the horseshoe and other seniors sitting on the goal line because some underclassmen were abusing the system.

- Mark Metyko, '80

### Eyewitness

Editor:

I seek not, in this letter, to comment on the inner nature of man nor to pass judgment on my fellow students. I do not intend to express my opinions regarding the definition of the "Good Ag," and neither is it my intent to voice complaints concerning the infringements that have been made on my personal rights. I only want to

That is to say, if the owner of the brown Pinto cares to know what kind of low-life it is that puts a crease a foot long in someone's passenger side car door and then drives off laughing and joking about it from the parking lot of Olsen Field after an A&M-Astro ball game, just call me. I'll give you the license plate number. You can call the Department of Public Safety in Austin to find out to whom that vehicle is registered. Then you'll know the thoughtful soul that I and about 40 others watched batter your car.

- Gene Fisseler, 845-7071

# Top of the News

# CAMPUS

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## Debaters participate in Chicago

Two Texas A&M University students won five out of eight rounds at the 13th Annual Novice National Debate Tournament in Chicago last weekend, ranking the A&M team 33rd in the nation. Becky Parks, a sophomore electrical engineering major, and Michael Shelby, a freshman political science major were among 198 novice debaters across the nation to receive invitations to the event. Shelby was ranked the 28th best novice speaker. The Southwest conference Debate Tournament is Saturday at 10 a.m. in Rudder Tower.

# STATE

### Briscoe pushes for superport

Gov. Dolph Briscoe met with federal officials Wednesday in Washington to discuss plans for a state-owned offshore oil superport as an alternative to an unsuccessful private bid towards the project. Briscoe and former Rep. Bob Casey, chairman of the new Texas Deep Water Port Authority, discussed with the U.S. Transportation Department officials "the most expeditious" approach to the \$700 million proposal which requires federal licensing. The new authority was created following the failure of Seadock Inc., a private houston-based consortium that was unable to hold its financing after federal licensing restriction became known last year. After Exxon, Gulf and Mobil with striction became known last year. After Exxon, Gulf and Mobil withdrew their majority support for the proposed 2.5 million barrel-perday superport 26 miles from Freeport, Texas, Seadock announced it would dissolve. Texas supporters of the idea have expressed fear that a similar Louisiana project may beat them to available business.

## NATION Inflation rate to stay high

Unless corrective actions are taken, the nation's inflation rate will remain "hopelessly stuck" at current high levels, the Council on Wage and Price Stability warned Thursday. "The risks of higher future inflation are far greater than the possibility of deceleration, White House inflation monitoring agency concluded in a special report. The study also criticized President Carter's insufficient anti-inflation strategy announced in January. Carter and his economic aides are currently working on a new anti-inflation program which will be announced next week. It will be aimed at stepping up the fight agrainst the inflation entired. Thursday's recent the inflation entired. against the inflation spiral. Thursday's report was released shortly after the labor department reported wholesale prices rose 0.6 percent in March. That was down from 1.1 percent in February.

## Wayne recovers after surgery

Actor John Wayne, 70, the rugged hero of western and war movies managed to eat his first bite of food and climb out of bed for a minute Wednesday, 48 hours after open heart surgery in Boston. "Wayne's convalescence continues on schedule," said Massachusetts General Hospital spokesman Martin Bander. "He sat up for a few minutes and stood briefly by his bedside for the first time. He took liquids and ate a small amount of soft food by mouth since the operation." Doctors are working to keep Wayne's lung clear of secretion, apparently caused by bronchitis, through a series of respiratory exercises. Doctors reported Wayne's heart — with the aid of a new valve taken from a pig's heart — was functioning well.

## WORLD Soldiers killed in shootout

Palestine Liberation Organization officials Thursday said three Israeli soldiers had been killed by guerrillas and their bodies would be exchanged for Palestinian prisoners. Military sources in Tel Aviv confirmed that the soldiers were killed in a shootout. A PLO military communique said the three were killed and their vehicle captured wednesday when they attempted to advance toward a querrilla region. Wednesday when they attempted to advance toward a guerrilla position at Ras Al Ain, about three miles south of the Palestinian-controlled port city of Tyre. The incident was seen as the most serious breach to date of the 16-day calm that has prevailed in the south while United Nations troops and Lebanese police units attempted to establish themselves between Israeli and Palestinian positions. Such an exchange would call for indirect negotiations between Israel and the PLO, although Israeli leaders have vowed never to negotiate with what they regard as a band of "murderers.

### Bomb kills two in police office

A bomb exploded in a police station early Thursday in Buenos Aires, killing two persons and injuring two others, police sources said. The explosions at 2 a.m. demolished the office of police inspector Carlos Washington Carvalho, killing him and another person in his office who has not yet been identified. Two other federal police officers at the 47th precinct station house were wounded by th explosion. The bomb may have been in the briefcase of someone wh had been arrested in the area of the station house, the news agency Noticias Argentinas said. Police Chief Edmundo Ojeda and army officers rushed to the scene of the explosion to start the investigation.

### Princess ignores press criticism

Princess Margaret made it clear Thursday she has no intentions of retiring from public life in the face of mounting criticism that her friendship with a younger man has impaired the image of the royal family. The relationship of the 47-year-old Princess and a 30-year-old budding pop singer, Roddy Llewellyn, has drawn "crisis" headlines in British newspapers. The stories suggested the princess was so engrossed with Roddy she was neglecting the royal duties. The princess is known to be unhappy about her expected divorce from the Earl of Snowdon but expects to resume official engagements as soon

# WEATHER

Mostly cloudy, mild and humid today, tonight and Saturday with a chance of showers Saturday afternoon. High today upper 70s, low tonight mid-60s. High tomorrow upper 70s. Winds from the southeast at 8-16 mph. 30% chance of rain tomorrow afternoon.

# THE BATTALION

LETTERS POLICY LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

Address correspondence to Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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MEMBER