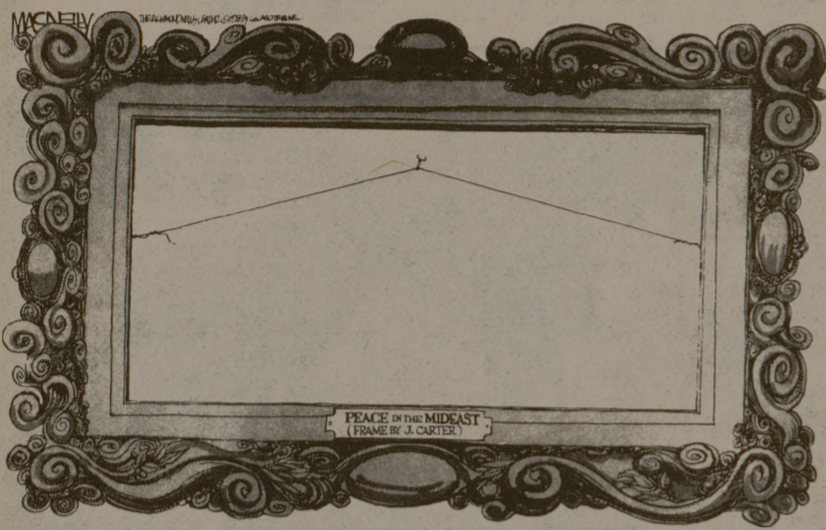


# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY  
SEPTEMBER 25, 1978



## The zip boom

Can't remember your Aunt Clara's zip code? Well, the U.S. Postal Service has a treat for you.

It seems that the five-digit zip code, which has been a fact of life now for 15 years, just isn't long enough. The postal wizards, trying to keep their battered system from collapsing, said the other day that they will move over the next 30 months to zip codes that have, not five, but nine digits.

Now, nine digits are a lot of digits. It may be presumed that the postal authorities did not advance this change lightly. They argue that a letter with a nine-number zip code can be handled more efficiently, because the longer codes will permit mail to be sorted down to individual blocks and even single office buildings.

Fine and good — but what will these nine-figure numbers do to our personal memory banks, which already are overworked trying to remember social security numbers, bank account numbers, telephone numbers, insurance policy numbers and the like?

The price of progress, so-called, is becoming pretty steep.  
Providence (R.I.) Journal

## Some seek peace and some destroy it

By ROBERT OLER

I was surprised as most concerning the outcome of the Camp David summit. While an ultimate peace is far from certain, the summit served, at the very least, as a needed way station on the road to peace in the Middle East.

In this regard Presidents Sadat, Carter and Prime Minister Begin deserve high marks for their personal commitment to peace. While differences remain, perhaps the willingness of these men to overcome traditional hatreds, historical shortcomings and such may see them and all peace-loving men through.

The summit at Camp David also vividly showed the seamy side of a group which has begun to receive some favorable attention in this nation. This group being the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The P.L.O. claims to represent the goals of the Palestine people. The problems of the Palestinian people are both large and many. In a corner of the world where land is scarce and historical hatreds deep, some solution must be found to give them a home. It is not my purpose to advance new solutions. Rather I wish to examine how some are going about seeking a solution.

On one side stand those who seek peaceful change. While the Palestinians have claims, so do the Jews, and the other Arabs. Unfortunately it is impossible to exactly meet everyone's wishes. As such, both sides are following the course of negotiation through the give and take of diplomacy.

Furthermore, they demand this way not by words, but by force of arms. Skyjackings, attacks on busloads of helpless tourists, machine-gunning in crowded airport lobbies, and other senseless acts are their calling card. If they were not attached to a cause these international despots would be out robbing banks, mugging old ladies and attacking little children.

Their true motives are obvious when viewed against those of their contemporaries. While not all Arabs agree with every provision of the accords, some are trying to come up with peaceful solutions.

The P.L.O. is not interested in peace or justice or in giving freedom, much less rights, to the masses. Their only interest is in setting themselves up as a dictatorship. What occurs when this is successful can be seen with even a cursory glance at Uganda. Idi Amin Dada's fun house is nothing less than a prison run by those who should be in one.

Unfortunately, this international banditry is not limited to the Middle East. These types are running the "liberation" cause in Rhodesia, for example. The downing of civilian passenger plane and the butchering of civilians is in the same

league.

I do not agree the aspirations of the blacks in Rhodesia or the Arabs on the West Bank. However, never should we as a nation recognize those who are bent on continued violence and destruction.

For example, Yassar Arafat has promised that the U.S. would pay for its part in the summit. We must make it clear that such promises are made at the P.L.O.'s own peril. Should the P.L.O. attempt armed terror against U.S. citizens at home or abroad they must find a government willing to stand firm against them. While ignoring them at the conference table, we must be prepared to meet such aggression with force. The P.L.O. must come to fear certain destruction in any combat action. Only in this way will terrorists decide not to tread on us.

For terrorism feeds on fear. A fear that is aimed at the hearts of men and governments and makes them act as stooges. Peace-loving men must refuse to show such fear, refuse to parley with those who peddle it, and instead treat Yassar Arafat as the pirates they are with the contempt they deserve.

### Readers' Forum

Admittedly, the trip to Israel by Sadat and the summit were long shots. But when odds are great, men must dare to rise to greatness. The propaganda of "a comprehensive settlement, justice and recognition of deprived rights" contribute nothing. Only a free people with the courage to shake off the monologue of extremist can achieve peace. This was the spirit of Camp David.

Then there is the side of terror. The P.L.O. sits firmly in this bloody corner. Even before the summit had started, the P.L.O. had denounced ANY possible agreement. Like a selfish child they will have only their way.

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### Letters to the editor

## Carter deserves more respect for Camp David

Editor:

My letter is in response to Oussama Qawasm's letter in the September 21 issue of The Battalion. He has presented us with his views using the free speech right that our "suppression and corruption spreading government" grants him. Well that's cool, but I have some remarks about the political rhetoric that he has written.

To start with, I am not our President's biggest fan; in fact, I disagree with many of his policies and will work to see a Republican elected in 1980. However, I do realize that Mr. Carter was elected by a majority of the American people, so I do feel that the President deserves a little more respect than to be referred to as "Smarty Carter."

If you disagree with President Carter's decisions, then present some alternatives or at least voice a legitimate complaint. Muzzling political rhetoric and calling our President names shows a complete lack of maturity and respect rather than intelligence and concern. Remember, like it or not, Jimmy Carter will be our president until 1980.

Next, I disagree with Qawasm's opinion of the Camp David negotiations. It is my opinion that the President was sincerely trying to solve a bloody dispute between centuries-old enemies and at the same time trying to protect our nation's interests in the Middle East. For once, I applaud the President's efforts and actions. I feel that any action that prevents another outbreak of hostilities and helps develop an understanding between two such enemies is commendable. Again, I do not see any possible alternatives being presented by Qawasm, merely vague gripes.

It is my hope that in the future Qawasm will try to voice his opinions in a credible and intelligent manner instead of using vague phrases. I am always interested in opinion of others, but I hate having to re-read three times to understand.

David S. Lynch, '81

P.S. Mr. Qawasm, who did you vote for in the 1976 elections?

### Why complain?

Editor:

Can you tolerate one more letter about complaints, or really the lack of, as stated in the September 14 issue of this paper?

Is it that important to Mr. Hines that people be dissatisfied or constantly gripe about matters? I feel everyone of us has a lot to be thankful for. Just to be part of the Texas A&M community should mean something to us all.

My home is in New Jersey, and the first thing people ask me is "Why did you come all the way down here?" Why not? This school is rich in spirit and traditions; a quality that has become extinct in many places. An excellent example is Silver Taps, which I experienced for the first time September 5. Let me tell you, it is something I will always remember.

There is quite a bit more to A&M which

made me choose it over any other college. The facilities here, both academic and recreational are excellent. The opportunity for a high-quality education (for isn't that why we're here?) is available to each and every one of us.

Being a freshman, I know I have a lot to learn, but I also know I'm proud to be an Aggie, and I wouldn't settle for anything less!

—Kathy Smith, '82

### A challenge

Editor:

We, the men from Dunn Hall, are writing this letter to refute the illusion many people have that the male residents of the northside dorms (specifically, Davis Gary, Walton, and Moore) are more "red ass" than Dunn Hall.

Tuesday night a large body of Dunn Hall residents traveled across the campus to challenge Walton to a water fight. The only reaction were pails from approximately ten residents led by an ex-resident of Dunn Hall. Seeking a greater challenge, we moved to Davis-Gary, where between fifteen to twenty-five people were coaxed out of the dorm.

Most of the residents of Davis-Gary along with some allies from Moore preferred to shout insults from the safety of their dormitory. The residents of these dorms have a long way to go to regain the spirited, tight-knit image they once possessed.

### Slouch

### by Jim Earle

### 'KKs' are OK

Editor:

It's about time the campus police got some recognition for the work they are doing here. Ticketing is not their only function here on campus, as most people think.

Recently, while both my roommate and myself were out of our dorm room, three ladies took it upon themselves to unlawfully enter our room and vandalize it. This was undoubtedly an immature act of juvenile delinquency. Upon refusal to rectify their childish doings, we notified the KK's.

The campus policeman was promptly at the scene and he acknowledged the fact this was the working of some imbeciles, not just pranksters. We did not want any permanent complaints on file for these girls, but wanted the room cleaned up immediately. The officer, Badge 28, went over to second floor Mosher and apprehended the culprits. After confessing to their deviant doings, he escorted them to the scene of the crime, where he supervised the clean up. We agreed this was just punishment and justice was at hand.

We hope in the future these people will think twice before committing such irresponsible and immature acts. Hats off to the campus police for handling the situation swiftly and justly!

—Joe H. Hickman, '79  
Robin C. Brown, '79  
Jack Burley, '81



"I FIGURE THEY'RE A REAL BARGAIN! WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE YOU CAN MAKE UP TO TWO MILLION A NIGHT!"

## TOP OF THE NEWS

### LOCAL

### Free energy seminars scheduled

Two free home energy conservation seminars are set this week in Room 107 of A&M Consolidated High School. The programs, offered by the Texas Energy Extension Service, are "The Home Energy Audit" and "Making Your Present Home Energy Efficient" on Tuesday, and "Hints for the Energy Efficient Use of Household Appliances" on Thursday. For more information, call the Texas Energy Extension Service, Texas A&M University, 845-8026.

### CAMPUS

### Student clubs must register

All student organizations have until Saturday to renew their recognition for the 1978-79 school year. Signature cards needed for recognition may be picked up in the Student Finance Center, Room 217 of the Memorial Student Center. Organizations may not transact business until recognition is renewed. Information obtained from the cards is used for a mailout of recognized student organizations to area merchants, to refer prospective members to the organization, and to send out invitations to student presidents for the annual student leader coffee, Oct. 7.

### Woodall to speak at A&M Club

Col. James R. Woodall, commandant of cadets, is scheduled to speak at the Brazos County A&M Club meeting Wednesday. He will discuss Corps of Cadets programs. The dinner meeting begins at 6:00 at the Wyatt Cafeteria in Bryan. Reservations may be made by telephoning 845-7514. Ed Davis, club president, said the club's annual scholarship recipients also will be guests. Membership is open to all former students and friends of Texas A&M, Davis said.

### STATE

### Decision on Exxon suit delayed

A final decision on whether to pursue an anti-pollution suit against the nation's largest oil refinery — Exxon Co. USA in Baytown — has been postponed until next month to allow more members of the Texas Air Control Board to attend. TACB Chairman John Blair Friday postponed the decision after only five of nine board members showed up for the regular monthly meeting in Dallas. The suit says Exxon violated pollution standards after recent expansion. Last February, officials said Exxon's own air samplings showed 200 sulfur dioxide violations in eight months. Exxon officials have said they believed they now were or soon would be in full compliance with state law.

### NATION

### Soviets go on trial for espionage

Two soviet citizens, who claim they were on a shopping trip and not an espionage mission, go on trial in federal court Wednesday in Newark, N.J., for conspiracy to obtain American defense secrets. The trial has posed a delicate diplomatic case for the Justice Department, which obtained a delay of their prosecution so it would not coincide with the recent U.S. visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. In addition, federal authorities did not oppose release of the two men without bail after the Soviet ambassador wrote a letter to the court guaranteeing they would not leave the United States. The two men, Valdik A. Enger, 39, and Rudolf P. Chrnayev, 43, employed by the Soviet Mission to the United Nations, are charged with conspiring to pay an American naval officer more than \$20,000 for defense secrets. They were arrested May 20 by the FBI.

### House investigates electric co-op

The U.S. House is scheduled to consider a measure today that would order the Southwest Power Administration to stop charging electric-cooperative transmission fees. Thomas F. Eagleton and U.S. Rep. Richard Ichord have joined with the Associated Electric Cooperative in charging the administration with discrimination against Missouri rural electric customers. The Senate already has approved a similar bill. The Missouri Democrats say the power administration charges the co-operative more than \$2.6 million annually from transmitting power through its lines. The administration's rural customers in five other states — Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Kansas and Texas — do not have to pay similar charges.

### WORLD

### Radiation spillage revealed

A plastic pipe carrying radioactive material from India's plutonium plant into the sea broke and contaminated a "huge area" three to four years ago, the Press Trust of India news agency reported today.

Quoting "higglaced sources" in the Department of Atomic Energy, the news agency said radioactive liquids spilled from the broken pipe and contaminated the ground around the plutonium plant located at Trombay near Bombay. "The whole area of three acres was dug up in a big earth-moving operation and the earth was dumped into the sea," the agency said. Two more instances of "radiation escape" from the Trombay Atomic Complex also were reported to have taken place "three to four years ago."

### WEATHER

It will be partly cloudy today, tonight, and tomorrow. The high will be 80 and the low in the lower 60's. Winds will be East-Northeasterly at 10 to 15 mph and 5 mph tonight. The tropical depression is moving westward and will weaken in the next 24 hours.

## THE BATTALION

### 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.

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