

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 3, 1978

Tax program myopic

The anti-inflation program that President Carter unveiled contains a number of good ideas. But its chances of slowing the dangerous wage-price spiral are slim unless much more than he proposed is done.

Perhaps the most encouraging passage in Carter's nationwide TV address was his admission, at last, that government "is one of the causes" of inflation. Until recently he acted as if business and labor were the culprits, while government — the good guy — was blameless.

Carter's aim of trimming the deficit to \$30 billion in the fiscal year starting next Oct. 1 would be more anti-inflationary if he did it this year.

The president stressed his program's fairness. However, if powerful unions flout his standards, there is almost nothing he can do. Carter boasted that he had "vetoed bills that would undermine our fight against inflation." Nevertheless, the country would be better off if he had vetoed a few more, such as the farm bill which lifted food prices and the inflationary increase in Social Security taxes.

In fact, Carter probably could do more to fight inflation with one telephone call than with his entire new program. He ought to ring up his appointee as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, G. William Miller, and urge him to restrain the growth in the nation's money supply.

Over the last six months the basic money supply has grown at a 10.2 percent annual rate. That is far above the Federal Reserve's top target of 6.5 percent. And that is a main cause of today's double-digit inflation, although listening to Carter you would never know it.

Scripps-Howard Newspapers



The great pin-up debate

By DICK WEST
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Back in the age of innocence, before someone invented magazine centerfolds, the Ridge Tool Co. in a burst of corporate boldness began distributing free calendars ornamented with pinup pictures.

Although community standards and calendar art have changed a great deal since then, Ridge has stuck with its original girl-in-swimsuit motif.

You might think that to the contemporary male eye these poses would seem more quaint or nostalgic than provocative. But Ridge insists that a photograph of the female form partly concealed by beachwear is more alluring than an anatomically explicit shot.

Dubious about that theory, I decided to

test it out by prematurely hanging a copy of the just published 1979 Ridge calendar by my desk.

The results were inconclusive.

The first person to notice the calendar was Elray Limpert, a congressional employee and war veteran who is still active in the Army reserves.

Humor

As soon as his eye fell on the upcoming Miss January, he called himself to attention and gave her a snappy salute.

"I'm glad to see you finally doing something patriotic," he said. "I was beginning to have doubts about your loyalties."

"Since when has a tool company calendar become an affirmation of one's Americanism?" I asked.

"This, my dear sir, is the type of pin-up that won World War II," Limpert reverently replied.

I said, "Then you agree that pictures of girls in bathing suits are more sexy than nude photos?"

"Not only more sexy but militarily superior. It was only after calendar girls without swimsuits became available that we lost the war in Vietnam."

Not long afterward, however, the calendar was espied by Henry Upbash, a young journalist, male chauvinist and ogler.

"What happened to that poor girl?" he cried. "Was she in an accident or some-

thing?"

"Whatta you mean 'what happened?' I don't see anything wrong with her."

"Why is the front part of her body all blanked out that way?"

"She's wearing a bathing suit, you dummy."

Upbash gave a low, modified wolf whistle. "Wow! I knew from reading the letters in Penthouse that there were a lot of kinky photographers around, but this is the first time I ever came across a fetish like that."

"There is nothing sordid or unnatural about a picture of a girl in a swimsuit," I remonstrated. "It's all in your mind."

Upbash shook his head. "If Mother Nature had meant for calendar girls to be camouflaged, she would have given them polyester pelts."

Letters to the Editor

Traffic violation fines lopsided

Editor: I got a ticket for driving without a current safety inspection sticker, a violation by 12 days. After contacting the police department, I found the fine to be \$18.50. In many cities this violation is excused after a receipt for an inspection is presented — but not in College Station.

In College Station the fine for RUNNING A RED LIGHT was quoted to me as \$16. And what a surprise this is.

It seems I should have run a red light, apparently a less serious crime, and I would have saved \$2.50. But nobody likes a complainer so I'll only warn all other Aggies to watch that little sticker on their windshield. None of us want to become criminals.

—Joe Kuhn, '80

comment about another outfit knows he runs the risk of being taken "to the quad," an act the I-1 freshman attempted to perform on the B.Q. referred to in Miss Huston's article. In the same manner, when I made a comment about the B.Q.s last year, I expected and deserved the retributions I received. Through it all, no ill feelings were harbored between the B.Q.s and the ORD ORDs.

Relying on nothing more than second-hand information as a source for her article, Miss Huston has served to do nothing more than create tension between two outstanding organizations on this campus. Unless Miss Huston can learn how to validate her sources of information, I suggest that in the future, Miss Huston limit her comments to praises for the band instead of malicious gossip which only serves to give the Corps of Cadets a bad name.

—Bob Hilmo, '79
I-1 Commanding Officer
Larry W. Haag, '79
Aggie Band Head Drum Major

Editor's note: this letter was accompanied by eight other signatures.

Squashed friend

Editor: This past Saturday the Aggies squashed Rice. Not wanting to be outdone, at least one male came over to Fowler Hall Saturday night to do his own squashing. This conqueror-to-be did not pick as lively a foe as Rice, however. Instead, he chose to vent his wrath on our beloved Delaney, the jack-o-lantern we spent all afternoon carving.

Delaney was on his usual perch outside our first floor room Saturday night, and we

were out socializing when this maniac accosted Delaney, carried him upstairs, then bombs away him to the sidewalk below. Later that evening, we cleaned up what was left of Delaney — which wasn't much — out of the quad.

I cannot fathom that anyone could lower themselves to such destructive action. I will not venture as to whether this murderer was an Aggie, though I pray he wasn't. I also cannot see any reason for this action, except that this fool wanted to crack open our pumpkin to see if there were any brains in it he could borrow.

—Ann Tessem, '79

Ad policy 'un-Aggie'

Editor: In regard to the half-page ad that SMU took out on Nov. 2 in The Battalion, I cannot comprehend your decision to print it.

If your intent was to rally the 12th Man to Dallas, you goofed. I only hope that the 12th Man doesn't rally around your doorstep late one night.

I cannot believe that The Battalion is in such financial straits as to be forced to accept such a repulsive advertisement. But if such is indeed the case, may I suggest printing a smaller paper?

I quote from the staff box, "The opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article." It seems they are one and the same.

Apparently you feel that it is all right to slur such fine symbols of Texas A&M University such as the football team, Reveille, yell practice, alumni, and the fightin' Texas Aggie spirit.

I strongly disagree with such an advertising policy, and believe that a campus newspaper should reflect the sentiment of the campus and local community.

Last, may I repeat that oft-quoted phrase, "Highway 6 runs both ways." It also runs into I-45 which will take you straight to the heart of Dallas.

—Carol Austin, '82

Editor's note: The ad you mentioned was a paid advertisement, bought by SMU. It is The Battalion's policy to accept all ads, except those that advocate violating the law, may be grounds for legal action, or violate common decency.

The advertising section of a newspaper does not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or newspaper staff.

The advertising section is itself just another forum for freedom of expression in the newspaper.

If an A&M group had wanted to buy ad space in The Battalion, and most likely the SMU newspaper, it would have had the same rights.

Waggies defended

Editor: In response to the letter written by Holly Huston and company on Oct. 31, you three are to be congratulated on your stupidity, for it certainly showed in the letter you wrote to the Batt. Did it ever occur to you that if a member of the band had

broken a Waggie's hand he could have been possibly slapped with a lawsuit?

You mention the fact that if a Waggie cannot take such a firm handshake then she should not be in the Corps. It appears from your letter that you three are not members of Texas A&M's Corps. For one thing, I doubt you could take the pressures these young women are exposed to.

I know of several women who are in the Corps and they are not only proud of their accomplishments here at A&M, but are very much ladies, something maybe you three could learn from them. Have you three stopped to think that maybe the Waggies are the backbone of A&M?

I am non-reg, have never been in the Corps, however, I did serve in the armed forces during the Vietnam era, so before you get on your soapbox and tell me I should find out what life is like in the Corps, don't worry, Babe, I've had my taste of military life.

I am just as proud as any other Aggie when Texas A&M's Fightin' Aggie Band marches on Kyle Field. But I do think you should stop and think before you put down a proud group of young women on this campus, and that is the women members of Texas A&M's Corps.

—Jonathan Copeland, '79

Corps impressive

Editor: I am not a member of the Corps, although sometimes I truly wish I was. I might be in uniform right now if only I had seen a better presentation of the Corps early in the summer.

At pre-registration in mid-June, there was still doubt in my mind if I should join the Corps. I noticed tables around campus for the Corps.

Looking at the C.T.s behind these tables, I got the impression that the majority of C.T.s were like them: skinny, weak looking (mentally as well as physically), and not the type that I would like to live four years with. (Please take no offense: first impressions rarely reveal the truth.)

This helped make my mind up early that the Corps was not for me. If only I had talked to one of them, I would probably have found out differently.

So I prepared myself for college, but not for the Corps. Then came fish camp, and the Corps was put in a different perspective. I was now impressed by presentations and members of the Corps, and it looked pretty good. But it was too late, for my mind was made up.

You say that there's still time, that it's never too late, that I wouldn't be a frog if I jumped before bonfire; but it's too late for me. You may try and talk me into it and tell me how great it is, and I may agree and give you a maybe, but deep down I know it's too late.

Even though I'm not in your ranks, you're still the best damn outfit on campus and my respect for you is immense. Many of my best friends are C.T.s, and sometimes when I'm with them, I feel almost like a member of the Corps. Almost.

—Jeff Schwarz, '82

TOP OF THE NEWS CAMPUS

New freshman executives picked

David Porter and Rick Sager were elected president and vice-president, respectively, of the class of '82 in run-off elections held Thursday. Porter defeated Johnny Weinbaum 149-100 and Sager beat Sally Takacs 151-91.

Agriculture call-in show Nov. 8-9

Dr. E. E. Burns, food science professor with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, and Dr. Bobby Ragsdale, a range management specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, will join 33 other scientists and educators in a national telephone network Nov. 8 and 9 in Washington. Burns says a toll-free telephone network will allow people to call in and discuss with authorities such things as food safety, dietetics, nutrition, food production, fertilizers, pesticides and food additives. The number is 800-424-5156, and lines will be open both days from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Leon Russell scheduled at A&M

Town Hall announced Thursday that Leon Russell has been scheduled to perform at G. Rollie White Coliseum Nov. 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets will go on sale Monday at the Rudder Tower box office. Student reserved tickets and non-student date tickets will cost \$4 and \$4.50; student general admission tickets are free, but must be picked up at the box office.

Memory of computer to increase

Texas A&M's computer will increase its memory capacity by 50 percent Sunday to meet increased usage demands. Dr. Dick B. Simmons, Data Processing Center director, said 2 million bytes, or characters, will be added to the maximum main memory capacity. Power will be disconnected at 7 p.m. Saturday, and the computer should be usable again by Monday at 8 a.m. The process of checking out books from the Sterling C. Evans Library will be slowed Sunday because of the work, because the computer is used in also handling circulation. While it will still be possible to check out materials, library spokesmen are urging faculty and students to check things out before or after Sunday.

STATE

Briscoe seeks disaster status

Gov. Dolph Briscoe said Thursday in Austin that he has asked the U.S. Small Business Administration to declare nine Texas counties disaster areas because of drought conditions. The declaration would make residents of the counties eligible to participate in a federal disaster loan program. Counties involved in the request are Hansford, Hidalgo, Hutchinson, Karnes, Lamb, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Farmer and Trinity.

Nutrition research center to open

The world's first child nutrition research center will begin operation in January in laboratory space at Baylor College of Medicine and the Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. Doctors the two establishments said Thursday the center will deal with a program largely ignored in the past — the fundamental nutritional needs of children. The National Children's Nutrition Center lab will be funded with a \$1.5 million grant supplied by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Science and Education Administration.

WORLD

Dollar registers gains abroad

The dollar skyrocketed more than 4 percent against the Japanese yen Thursday in its biggest single gain in five years and opened dramatically higher across Europe Thursday in response to President Carter's dollar-rescue plan. The dollar rose in Zurich, London, Frankfurt, Paris and Milan, but dealers cautioned that initial euphoria would wear off quickly and continued recovery depended on follow-through from U.S. authorities to halt the dollar's steepest decline in the post-World War II era.

Survivors from crash return

Ten crew members of a U.S. Navy reconnaissance plane that crashed last week off the coast of Siberia arrived Thursday at Yokota Airbase in Japan along with flag-draped coffins containing the bodies of three dead crewmen. The survivors were greeted at the airbase near Tokyo with full military honors. Navy authorities said the men probably would stay in Japan about two days to undergo medical examination and administrative processing before they return to their home base at the Moffett Naval Air Station near San Francisco.

156 feared dead in ferry sinking

A Philippine ferry boat was rammed and sank in the Sulu Archipelago, and Philippine Naval authorities in Manila said Thursday as many as 156 of the 234 persons may have perished. The incident occurred Monday night in the waters between Balud and Bangkungan Islands in southern Philippines, 650 miles south of Manila. A Navy spokesman said word of the incident did not reach Manila until Thursday because of communications problems.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and warm with winds East South Easterly at 10 mph decreasing to 5 mph tonight. High 80 degrees and a low of 60. There is a 20% chance of rain today, increasing to 50% on Saturday.

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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Slouch by Jim Earle

BY THE TIME THIS ISSUE IS PRINTED, THE CORPS WILL BE IN DALLAS. THE CIVILIAN STUDENTS WILL BE IN DALLAS, THE FACULTY WILL BE IN DALLAS, SO WHY SHOULD I DO ANYTHING IN A CARTOON FOR NOBODY?

