

VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 1978

Can Kahn do it?

There was justice in the airlines' week-long wait outside the Civil Aeronautics Board for anyone who's ever been an airline passenger — even if they've never flown standby.

The cause of the queue was the airline deregulation bill signed by President Carter. It opened up hundreds of air routes to markets not being served, and let the commercial carriers claim them on a first-come, first-served basis. The government expects, and so do we, that the new rules will improve air service for cities, including Memphis; ease entry into the airline business and bolster regional airlines, and lower air fares by strengthening competition.

Overseeing the CAB operation was Alfred Kahn, the same man the President has put in charge of his new anti-inflation program. As chairman of the Council on Wage and Price Stability, Kahn will be responsible for monitoring all the major businesses and industries and unions in the country and for seeing to it that they adhere to the voluntary wage-price guideposts the President set out.

That's a major task, and it deserves support, especially when the other choices are government controls or an inflation-induced recession.

But we hope Kahn has learned his logistics before he takes over his new job. If corporate and labor giants have to line up to prove they've conformed with the standards, they may not be so willing to stand behind Carter's plan to beat down inflation.

The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, Tenn.)

Carter's new goals need new help

By DAVID S. BRODER

WASHINGTON — With the election past and the new Congress two months away from assembling, President Carter and his administration colleagues have — for the first time in two years — a kind of breathing space in which they can assess where they are and where they are going.

It is an important time for the President and for the country. The pace of decision-making will be less frenetic than it was two years ago, in the transition period from his own election to his inauguration. But the decisions will be at least as significant in shaping the future of his government and his 1980 political prospects.

The budget Carter submits this January will be in effect until a month before election day. The legislative program he hopes in the next 60 days will define the domestic agenda for the 1979 and 1980 congressional sessions.

If he is able to negotiate to the final terms of a strategic arms agreement with the Soviet Union between now and the end of the year, the SALT treaty will be

the focus of the next great foreign policy debate. If he cannot, the consequences will be felt in defense budgets for the remainder of his administration.

Similarly, with the Middle East talks. An Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty seems almost assured — something no one would have supposed possible when Carter took office. But it is still uncertain whether that agreement will be the first step toward a comprehensive Middle Eastern settlement, or a barrier to its accomplishment.

Most of all, the period ahead is important in the struggle to save the dollar, stem inflation and set the domestic economy on a course which, if possible, sustains growth and, at least, avoids a severe and prolonged recession.

That is no small order. But it is not so intimidating a task as Jimmy Carter faced two years ago, when he set out to construct a government and give it leadership after a shaky election victory.

His skills have developed in the period of apprenticeship, and the priorities for him are perhaps clearer now than they

were two years ago. They can be summarized in three words which he used repeatedly in his own campaign: stability, compassion and competence.

The first two years of the Carter administration have seen significant steps toward the stabilization of the international order. The United States has avoided several temptations for unwise intervention. It has helped significantly in the Middle East negotiations. And it has played a generally constructive role in Africa, the Far East and Latin America. The Soviet-U.S. equation is unsettled, but not unpromising.

The same cannot be said about the management of the economy. It has been a period of severe disruption at home and abroad, and Carter's economic policies have not contributed to confidence-building in either arena. The frequent, sudden swerves in policy indicate the President's own dissatisfaction with the record.

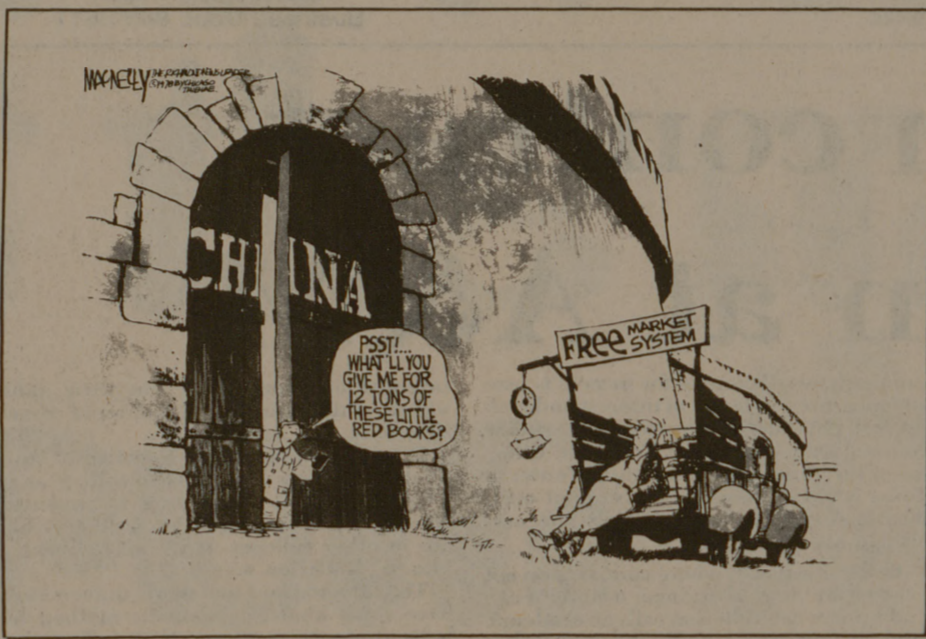
Stabilizing the economy must be his first priority. But that process is inevitably going to be painful. And given the power

balance in this country and abroad, the probability is that the people who will be squeezed hardest will be those who are least able to protect themselves — the citizens of the poor nations of the world and the families on the margins of the American economy.

The new Congress will be at least responsive to the pressures of the middle-class and affluent as the old one was. So Carter will have more challenges to prove his compassion by protecting the powerless than he did in the last two years.

All this will provide a real test of his administration's political competence. The President does not like criticism of his appointees, whether it comes from inside or outside the White House. But the fact is that some of them have plainly been found wanting — mediocre or worse.

He will never have a better opportunity than the next two months afford to look around the White House, the Executive Office Building and the departments and ask his own question: Why not the best? (c) 1978, The Washington Post



TOP OF THE NEWS

CAMPUS

Zukerman concert canceled

The Pinchas Zukerman concert scheduled for Tuesday has been canceled. Zukerman canceled his concert due to an illness in his family. Refunds for individual ticket holders will be made in Rudder Box Office. Season ticket holders will be offered another show in place of the Zukerman concert. Rudder Box Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Architecture work on display

Fourteen faculty architects are showing some of their recent work in an exhibit this month at the Langford Architecture Gallery at Texas A&M University. The exhibit includes photographs of commercial architecture, residences, restorations and interiors. The exhibit is free and open to the public through the end of November. Langford Architecture Center Gallery is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Small fire in Krueger Hall

A clothes dryer located in the first floor of Krueger Hall caught fire Sunday afternoon. The fire was contained until the College Station Fire Department arrived. No damage other than to the clothes in the dryer was reported. Fire officials said they are not sure how the fire started.

STATE

Ridgley called to testify

Defense lawyers plan to question FBI photographer George Ridgley, the only witness during the trial of T. Cullen Davis to testify he saw meetings between the defendant and an informant whose murder-for-hire allegations resulted in Davis' arrest. Ridgley testified Friday he photographed Davis in Fort Worth Aug. 18 and 20 on a restaurant parking lot where prosecutors claim Davis slipped FBI informant David McCrory \$25,000 to pay for the slaying of a divorcee court judge. Judge Joe H. Eidson, 60, was not harmed and helped authorities plan a staged photograph to persuade Davis that the judge had been slain.

NATION

Willie Nelson in trouble with IRS

Country and western singer Willie Nelson is at odds with the Internal Revenue Service and has had a \$71,991.75 tax lien filed against his 83-acre mountain estate west of Denver. IRS officials said the lien was placed on the property last week as a result of Nelson's alleged failure to pay withholding taxes during the fourth quarter of 1977 and the second quarter of this year. The lien said Nelson failed to pay \$22,282.80 on July 24 and \$49,708.95 on Sept. 11 in employment taxes, which are withheld for employees' income tax and Social Security payments.

Hotel collapses, burying 3 men

A hotel being prepared for demolition in Tulsa, Okla., collapsed prematurely Saturday, burying three workers beneath tons of rubble. Emergency crews attempted to contact the workers while rescuers worked to remove the steel beams and shattered concrete covering them. The workers were in the basement of the 19-story building when it fell. The condition of the men was unknown.

Ford may face major car recalls

The Federal Trade Commission is being asked by the government's Consumer Protection Agency to order Ford Motor Co. to disclose alleged defects involving 1.8 million cars made from 1974 to 1978. The Bureau of Consumer Protection alleged there are defects in the engine camshafts and rocker arms of the Pinto, Mustang, Bobcat and Capri models that could cause engine failure as early as the first 200 miles of use.

Protest letter sent to Carter

A number of prominent Soviet artists, including prima ballerina Maya Plisetskaya, sent a telegram to President Carter last week on behalf of a singer arrested for trespassing during a civil protest in Minnesota. Dean Reed, an American-born singer popular in the Soviet Union and East Germany, went on trial Thursday in Buffalo, Minn., on charges of trespassing during a protest at a power line construction site. Reed lives in East Germany.

WORLD

Setback in shah's negotiations

The shah's efforts to negotiate an end to the worst civil strife in Iran in 15 years have received a setback with a key leader of the opposition vowing to fight against the regime. Karim Sanjabi, leader of the broad-based opposition alliance of five political parties, said, "We will continue our struggle," adding the National Front was "not prepared to form a provisional government or participate in a coalition." Sanjabi wants the shah's abdication and seeks to return Iran to strict Islamic rule.

WEATHER

Cloudy with a 20% chance of rain. High today 80 and low tonight mid 60's. Winds will be South Easterly at 10-15 mph. Outlook for the week will be 30% chance of rain Tuesday and turning cooler towards the weekend.

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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The playboy of the Third World

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON — It is reported that a visitor from Pakistan recently topped off a night at a Dallas disco by leaving a million dollar check as a tip — only to stop payment on it later.

I have no idea what caused his change of heart. Details on how he felt the next morning or whether he had a wife to reckon with were unavailable.

Humor

Potentially, however, the incident has the makings of a sequel to Dorothy Parker's classic short story "You Were Perfectly Fine." Let us see if we can imagine the scene the morning after:

A plush hotel suite. Our hero awakens and starts trying to get his bearings. His mouth tastes like a dromedary's saddle blanket. All of his teeth are sheathed in little furry golf club covers.

Eventually, after enough blood has rained from his eyes to restore limited vision, he perceives his wife seated at the scritoire. She is writing to her attorney. "Hoo, boy," he croaks. "What a party! Or did I work out with the Dallas Cowboys

and get trampled on the head by Too Tall Jones?"

"It was a party all right," comes the tight-lipped reply.

"I was afraid of that," he moans. "I remember going shopping at Neiman-Marcus and buying a rack of furs, and I seem to recall insisting on dropping by a disco. But after that it gets a little fuzzy. I hope I didn't do anything I might regret."

"Calmly. No, dear, you were perfectly fine. I'm sure the other customers didn't mind a bit."

"The other customers? Mind? Did I get belligerent with the people at the next table or something?"

Frostily: "To the contrary. You were perfectly cordial. You insisted on buying everyone in the house \$75-a-bottle champagne."

He rocks back and forth with his head in his hands. "Jeepers. That must have cost a bundle. Was that as I was leaving?"

Frigidly: "No. That was before the dance contest."

"I'm almost afraid to ask, but did I have anything to do with the contest?"

Chillingly: "Nothing to speak of beyond demanding that the club change its policy against dance contests. When the manager intervened, nobody could blame you for



getting up and starting to stalk out."

"I have a strange feeling that I unfortunately didn't make it past the door. Did I bump into something?"

Coldly: "You walked perfectly fine. You could have made it easily if that waitress had not run after you and promised to ar-

range a contest if you came back."

"I see. After going to that much trouble, I sure hope I enjoyed it."

Glacially: "You must have. You gave the two winners checks for \$500,000 each."

He weakly drops his head back on the pillow. "Did I remember to tip the waitress?"

Soviet's remarks anti-Semitic

Gay facts distorted

Editor:

Although "Today's Student" is considered a journalistic joke by a great many enlightened Aggies, the libellous statements appearing in it occasionally reach such damaging proportions that a recital of facts becomes necessary.

As students concerned with the humanistic as well as the journalistic aspects of literature distributed on our campus, we wish to offer in rebuttal one of the best documented and most recent studies on homosexuality.

The following information is drawn from "Homosexuality: A Study of Human Diversity" by Allan P. Bell and Martin S. Weinberg (Simon and Schuster, 1978) which reports on a detailed investigation by the Institute of Sex Research founded by Alfred C. Kinsey.

— Homosexuals appear, on the whole, to be as psychologically well-adjusted as heterosexuals.

— Homosexual men and women tend to have more good, close friends than do heterosexuals, and among those close friends; heterosexuals are included.

— Homosexuals do not indulge in sexual violence, rape, or seduction as frequently as heterosexuals do.

— Homosexual males are not as likely to make objectional sexual advances as are heterosexual males.

— Homosexuals are neither more nor less sexually active than are heterosexuals.

— It is not true that a majority of homosexuals spend a good part of their lives cruising in search of sexual contacts.

— We do not do justice to people's

sexual orientation when we refer to it by a singular noun. There are "homosexualities," as there are "heterosexualities," each involving different, interrelated dimensions.

We have quoted extensively from a review Ashley Montague, (Psychology Today, August 1978). It is hoped that concerned individuals will seek out the Kinsey studies and inform themselves on this very crucial social issue.

— D. Valois, '78
R. Wheeler, '81
L. Heemer, '80

Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by 23 other signatures.

Time for awards

Editor:

This is the third semester that I've read letters to the editor. I think it's time that I contributed. I would like to congratulate Mohamad Abilmona in his reply letter of Nov. 9 to Diane Blake's article ("Lebanese, Arab students disagree on war").

Surely, Miss Blake, you must realize what great friends of ours the Arabs are. After all, who else would sell us oil at such reasonable prices, demonstrate against their government in our country and support such happy-go-lucky fraternities as the PLO! Friends like them ...

In reply to W.T. Decker's letter of Nov. 9, I would like to say this: Obviously the author of the note you quoted did not see the literally dozens of parking places in the girl's lot behind Keathley Hall.

Correction

In Friday's Battalion (Nov. 10) it was incorrectly reported that the Houston Cougars were put on NCAA probation for recruiting violations involving player Danny Davis.

The Cougars were placed on probation for violations involving Darrell Shepard, not Davis. They have since been taken off probation but are still restricted from appearing on television until after the 1978 season.

— Ron Bucchi, '81