

Aussie's eye U.S. defense installations

By JOHN SHAW

SYDNEY — Australians are beginning to awaken to the fact that the United States maintains a network of defense and intelligence facilities here, and they are not sure whether to be flattered or worried by their importance.

Relations between the United States and Australia over these facilities have often been strained, mainly because Australians have little knowledge of their activities and no say at all in the operations.

A growing concern that the U.S. network may be dangerous to Australians in the event of war has prompted suggestions that the time is approaching for review and reform of the arrangements under which the American security establishment functions here.

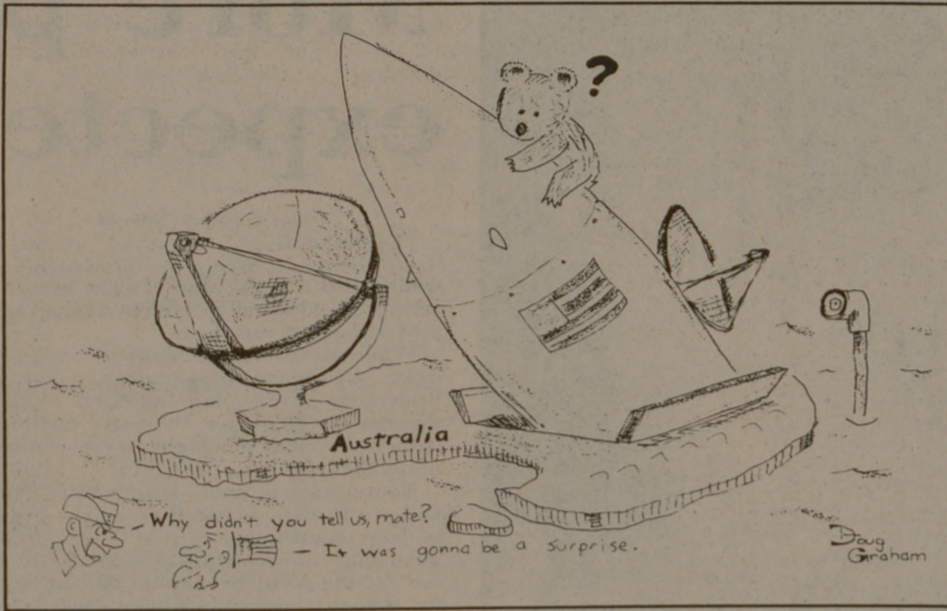
No less a figure than James Killen, the Australian defense minister, recently criticized both the United States and his own staff, contending that he himself has been left in the dark about the strategic role played by certain of the American installations on this continent.

The network of 20 installations here is run by the U.S. Defense Department, the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and such other bodies as the American air force and navy.

It includes the largest computer complex in the Southern Hemisphere, the biggest base for communications with the U.S. Navy's submarine strike force, an essential part of the American early warning system, and a link to a satellite that monitors Chinese and Soviet radio traffic.

The most significant of these facilities, located at North West Cape on the Indian Ocean, is the most powerful of three main stations commanding America's worldwide submarine force. The others are situated at Cutler, Maine, and Jim Creek, Washington.

Former U.S. Defense Secretary James Schlesinger once said in classified testimony that these stations would be among



the "most likely targets" in a nuclear exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union.

When that testimony was declassified not long ago, it created the uneasy feeling here that Australia could be devastated in such a conflict. This feeling has been compounded lately by disclosures of other key installations at Pine Gap and Nurrungar, in the arid area of central Australia.

Nurrungar, run by the U.S. Air Force, is one of two ground stations that are vital to the early warning satellite system. The other station is at Buckley, Colorado.

Pine Gap, controlled by the CIA, consists of six radio domes and a huge computer, and its purpose is the electronic gathering of intelligence from the Pacific region. Served by a satellite over Southeast Asia, it monitors Chinese, Soviet and other military signals and transmissions,

processes them and transmits the results to the United States.

In addition, there are major American security facilities in a dozen Australian cities and rural areas. They deal in electronic intelligence, the detection of nuclear tests, seismic and atmospheric observations, and the tracking of space vehicles.

The American presence here is almost invisible. Most U.S. personnel working in populated places are in plain clothes, and those who wear uniforms are stationed in remote spots. North West Cape, for example, is 750 miles from a city.

Though it is close to Alice Springs, a ranching and tourist center, the Pine Gap installation is in a special zone. Its enormous consumption of water prompted rumors that it was the site of a nuclear energy plant. As it turned out, the installa-

tion's employees were found to be passionately attached to air-conditioning and iced drinks.

Questions about these facilities and their potential impact were raised lately, when it was learned that North West Cape is due to be reinforced to match a change in the U.S. nuclear-armed submarine doctrine from deterrence against surprise attack to a policy of counter-force attack. New equipment will be installed at North West Cape starting in 1980.

The Australian government and legislature only heard of this change recently, and from press reports rather than official advice from Washington.

The embarrassing disclosure prompted Defense Minister Killen to hide the United States for the lack of "proper courtesy" of not informing him of the change at a base that is, strictly speaking, a "joint facility." He also instructed his own staff to be "more alert," calling their failure to advise him a "blemish" on their record.

But it will be difficult for even Australian officials to keep tabs on American activities at the installations since they are U.S. facilities even though they are theoretically supposed to be managed jointly.

The conservative government now in power here does not doubt the basic need for the U.S. installations, and Killen's remarks were calculated to head off the opposition labor party, which has been critical of Australia's security link with the United States.

But this suggests that the issue of the American facilities could become the subject of political debate, and it might be wise for both the U.S. and Australian governments to educate the public here on the value of the installations.

(Shaw, a columnist for the Sydney Sun, writes on current affairs in Australia.)

Resin factory fire injures three

Three men were seriously injured and eight firemen suffered burns Sunday in San Antonio after fighting a fire for two hours at Maner Corp., a resin and glue factory. The three workers could not regulate the pressure controls for resin vats, said authorities. The men were listed in critical condition with second and third degree burns.

Two killed near Dallas by sniper

A sniper fired apparently random shots onto a highway outside the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on Saturday killing two people in passing cars, Irving police say. The victims, in separate cars, were identified as Steven T. Gauden, 12, of Plano, and Raymond Andrews, 43, of Arlington. Both were shot in the head with a high-powered rifle, but police could offer no motives for the shooting. One shot came from a service road while another car was fired at from an overpass, police say. But, they would not lend credence to speculation that the sniping followed the plot of an NBC television program "CHIPS" shown earlier Saturday in which a boy fired BB pellets at passing cars from an overpass.

Head of insurance board named

Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed Rep. Lyndon Olson Jr. (D-Waco) as chairman of the State Insurance Board on Thursday, after the Senate rejected Hugh C. Yantis in August. Yantis was named acting chairman of the board by Briscoe after Joe Christie resigned to run for the U.S. Senate, but was blocked for appointment by senatorial courtesy—the legislative tradition requiring a senator's approval when his constituents are nominated. Olson, a three-term House member, was instrumental in the legislation of a state-wide adult probation system and was a House sponsor in 1975 of legislation creating the Texas Public Utility Commission.

Asbestos research questioned

A grievance board at the University of Texas Tyler Health Center, where research on cancer from asbestos is being conducted, formally dismissed Dr. Emir H. Shuford Jr., a biostatistician, on Friday for overstepping his authority. Shuford was fired by Dr. George Hurst, hospital superintendent, for ignoring instructions and violating protocol in conducting his business at the center. Shuford responded to the firing with charges Hurst had mismanaged the hospital and failed to organize a program committee required by federal law to evaluate research of asbestos poisoning. The program involves testing workers exposed to asbestos, which research indicates can cause cancer years after exposure. National Cancer Institute officials said they will look into Shuford's complaints and conduct an audit before awarding a contract to another hospital in the spring.

NATION

Klan holds rally three years late

Three years after he first sought use of a high school auditorium for a Ku Klux Klan rally, Grand Dragon David Duke urged 400 listeners on Sunday in Baton Rouge to go home after the meeting and do their duty to increase the white population. Duke waited three years for the chance to speak because the East Baton Rouge School Board would not rent the hall to the Klan on orders from the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1975. But, in August the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that "even groups of bigots" were entitled to use public facilities and the Supreme Court upheld that ruling. Duke told the crowd that black and minority populations are growing at a much faster rate than that of whites. About 50 klansmen in white robes and hoods sat among crowd. One black man sat in the middle of the audience.

Fire from heater kills four

A pre-dawn fire believed caused by a wood-burning heater swept through a split-level home Sunday in Elvins, Mo., killing four persons. Fire Chief James Carver said the blast may have stemmed from an excessive build-up of heat inside the home. Neighbors told authorities they heard an explosion shortly before fire fighters arrived, but Carver said there was no reason to believe the fire was set. The victims' bodies were found in two bedrooms along with the family's pet dog. Carver said the family probably died of smoke inhalation and warned of the hazards of wood-burning heaters.

WEATHER

Fair to partly cloudy and slightly warmer this afternoon. High today 50 low tonight middle 20's. Winds will be variable at 5-10 mph. Outlook for this week will be mostly cloudy and cooler with a new cold front moving in on Wednesday.

THE BATTALION

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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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Fingering foot-faulting Findley

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON — The current issue of The Washingtonian magazine offers an "inside" look at "the good, the bad and the ugly" in the now adjourned 95th Congress.

It includes more than 20 lists of lawmakers who distinguished themselves in such fields as publicity grabbing, temper fits, boring speeches and backstage deals. It might appear that these categories would run the gamut of congressional character defects, but any veteran observer of life on Capitol Hill could enumerate a good many more.

There was, for example, no mention of Rep. Paul Findley, an otherwise strait-laced Illinois Republican who is regarded by those in the know as Congress' most flagrant foot fault.

On virtually every serve, according to informants who have seen him play tennis, Findley steps over the base line in violation of the rules.

It is not, these sources say, a case of occasionally dragging a toe a silly millime-

ter too far in one's zeal to get more body into one's serve. This is a blatant case of trespassing with both feet.

When Findley serves, which he does with a great deal of vigor, he takes two or three quick little steps, somewhat reminiscent of Johnny Unitas dropping back to pass, only forward. Momentum then

Humor

carries him right onto the playing surface before he strikes the ball.

Why has such a chronic, habitual transgressor not been previously exposed and duly pilloried? This, after all, supposedly has been a year when Congress was acutely sensitive to misconduct among its own.

One answer may be that foot faulting is sort of the halitosis of tennis — even your best friends won't tell you. In a "friendly"

game, calling attention to foot faults is considered picky.

There are, of course, notable exceptions.

President Carter is reported to call foot faults on his opponents in matches at the White House. And Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, confessed in an interview that he is something of a stickler.

"What do you mean your best friends won't tell you?" Bentsen scoffed. "I call a foot fault every time I get aced."

Nevertheless, at the public court level this particular infraction generally is overlooked. The guilty party, momentarily stunned by the surprise and wonder of having gotten his serve over the net, likely is unaware that his foot almost went over the net too. His opponent, if he notices the encroachment at all, politely ignores it.

But Bob Davis, a member of the Washington Area Tennis Officials Association, says it is not only "legally permissible" for one player to point out another player's intrusion; it behooves him to do so. Fur-

thermore, an offending player is ethically obligated to call foot faults on himself.

"Foot fault rules are part of the game, like the one bounce limitation," Davis will tell you. "If you don't observe them, you aren't playing real tennis."

If asked, Davis also will disabuse you of any notion that linesmen in professional tournaments abide by an unwritten code of calling only the most glaring foot faults.

"We're very strict," he insists. "Some of those guys would walk half way to the net if they thought they could get away with it."

Davis disputes proposals by other tennis statesmen that servers receive a warning before a foot fault is called.

"There is no reason it should be treated any differently from any other rule," he says.

But friends say Findley's tennis vice is so deeply ingrained they despair of his ever overcoming it. As one occasional opponent put it, "When you play against Findley, foot faulting is something you have to learn to live with."

Letters to the Editor Aggie, Texas fans size up the schools

Editor: Being a Longhorn I would like to comment on Max Triola's letter to The Daily Texan.

First: If the state flag of Texas is a symbol of all Texans as you state, then why did the Corps try to stop the flag from being presented at Kyle Field last year?

Second: I take the yell, "Beat the hell outta t.u. (the university)" as a compliment.

Third: Concerning your statement on A&M not having cheerleaders but yell leaders, that is your loss and not ours.

Fourth: Sitting behind your goal and in your horseshoe will make us feel right at home, that is where we have been for the last several years.

I would like to apologize for those so-called Longhorns who were throwing things at the game. There is always a few bad apples in the barrel.

Good luck against Iowa State.
—Wayman Gore
The University of Texas

Editor's note: The following is a copy of Max Triola's letter appearing in the Daily Texan Dec. 7:

I'm an Aggie and I'd like to make a few comments about things which were done during Friday's game.

First: The state flag of Texas is not the personal seal of t.u. It is the flag of all Texans, not just those who happen to be enrolled in your small secular school.

Correction

In Thursday's (Dec. 7) edition of The Battalion, a letter regarding the actions of a Corps member at the Texas game was incorrectly attributed to a Bryan Smith of Bryan. The letter was actually written by Steve Smith of Bryan, a 1977 graduate of UT Law School.

The Battalion regrets the error.

Second: Of the fraternities visibly active at A&M, Alpha Phi Omega is one of the few which I would consider pledging to. It is a respected and appreciated service organization, not a cheerleading section for the Aggie team. Displaying the "Hook 'em Horns" sign while holding the Texas flag is inappropriate. Attempting to break through the Aggie "Boot Line" is rude and shows little understanding of Aggie traditions or common courtesy.

Third: If you don't like "Beat the hell outta t.u.," think how I feel about "Poor Aggies." Nobody likes a sore loser, but everybody hates a poor winner.

Fourth: Aggies do not have a "Homecoming." We do have Bonfire in the fall and the Cotton Pageant in spring. We do not have cheerleaders, we have yell leaders.

Fifth: I hope you enjoyed your seats this

year, because next year you'll be sitting behind our goal line and in our horseshoe among our students.

Sixth: It is ludicrous to see so much ill will and misunderstanding between two of Texas' largest and finest schools. Hopefully when we meet next year on Kyle Field things will have straightened themselves out.

Good luck at El Paso.

Hark the herald...

Editor: Last Tuesday night, a very wonderful and heart-warming experience befell our Christmas caroling ensemble.

Only wishing to spread Christmas love and cheer, our group assembled in front of President Miller's home on the southern

marks I've heard from "spirited Aggies" ("Highway 6 runs both ways, Mosley!" and "Who needs that mo--r fu--r anyway? We can do fine without him!," to mention a few).

Reader's Forum

On the sole basis of Mr. Mosley's refusal to "hump it" at a particular game and his rude reproach to the unruly crowd, how can the student body so unfairly condemn him as "ungrateful," "not a true Aggie," or "egotistical and self-centered"?

There is no way in this world that I or anyone else can guess Mike's reasons for his behavior. Maybe he's been under a lot of pressure lately, perhaps he was just depressed, or worried, or maybe he hates A&M and everything about it (except himself).

I don't know. Neither do you. Give the man a break; he has a right to

be here. He has a right to his own opinions, whatever they may be (yes, even if against the faultless Ags).

Aggie spirit is not to be believed. I'm sick and tired of seeing coaches, football players, and other "stars" (e.g., star quarterbacks) loved with all the power of Aggies when they perform spectacularly, discarded when they "fail," and then mourned again when they leave.

Hypocrisy? No, hypocrisy is too much an understatement; back stabbing would be a more accurate term. This behavior of Ags has grown intense these past few years, and the pattern appears to be static:

Shipman was humiliated;
Walker was humiliated;
Bellard was humiliated;
Is Mosley next?
If this is the Spirit of Aggieland, I don't have the heart to be an Aggie.

Jim Rogers is a freshman electrical engineering major from Houston.