



VIEWPOINT



THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY
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TOP OF THE NEWS STATE

Trinity geological trip offered

Trinity University in San Antonio is sponsoring a geological field trip this summer worth four hours of undergraduate or graduate credit. The trip, led by Dr. Walter Coppinger, assistant professor of geology at Trinity, will include volcanic fields at Los Alamos, several western mining areas and the southern Rockies. Students will examine oil fields, lava flows, Precambrian-Mesozoic stratigraphy, a ghost ranch and reef structure in New Mexico and Colorado. Interested students must have completed an introductory geology course and applications must be in by May 1. Cost of the trip is \$680, which includes tuition, transportation, motels, fees and food. In addition, students must be on the Trinity campus June 11-15 and July 2-6. For information, contact Dr. Walter Coppinger, 512/736-7607, Geology Department, Box 359, Trinity University, San Antonio 78284.

NATION

Lance indictment due next month

Justice Department officials have begun setting up a team to prosecute former budget director and Carter adviser Bert Lance, sources say. Department sources said Wednesday prosecutors plan to ask an Atlanta grand jury to hand up the criminal indictment next month, also naming other defendants involved in alleged mishandling of bank funds. Sources said a team of prosecutors is being selected to draft the specific charges in the indictment and, presumably, to carry through with prosecution in Lance's home state. It said the grand jury is not expected to reconvene before April 24 and no indictments could be obtained before then. The Atlanta Journal said Lance's attorneys have begun preparing a defense. National Bank of Georgia loans to the Carter family peanut business, studied during the Lance investigation, triggered a separate probe into the Carter family peanut finances, now in the hands of special counsel Paul Curran.

Court decision 'blow' to teachers

Labor lawyers said Thursday a Supreme Court decision to keep the government out of wage problems in church-operated schools is a blow to nearly 150,000 teachers across the country. Lawrence Poltrok, general counsel for the American Federation of Teachers in Chicago, told UPI the high court's ruling Wednesday placed these teachers in "a no man's land" in the area of organizing and bargaining for wages and working conditions. The Court ruled that the National Labor Relations Board could not force the Catholic bishop of Chicago to bargain with a union representing teachers in two Catholic high schools, Quigley North and Quigley South. The decision said the government violated religious freedom in trying to impose its collective bargaining rules on church-operated schools.

Silkwood spying order denied

A former president of Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corp. testified Thursday in Oklahoma City he had no knowledge of company spying on Karen Silkwood a month before her death, as previously charged by attorneys for Silkwood's estate. Richard Zitting, now of Albuquerque, N.M., said he neither ordered company security officer James Reading to investigate Silkwood nor knew of such an activity. Silkwood's family, of Nederland, Texas, seeks \$11.5 million in a federal lawsuit against Kerr-McGee, saying that negligence caused Silkwood to be contaminated with plutonium a week before her death. Silkwood died in a 1974 traffic crash. She was on her way to meet a union official and a reporter to discuss alleged safety violations at Kerr-McGee's nuclear fuel processing plant at Crescent, Okla., about 30 miles from Oklahoma City.

Defense ends Park questions

Defense attorney Camille Gravel finished five days of cross-examination of South Korean rice dealer Tongsun Park in Monroe, La., Thursday and handed the government's star witness a subpoena ordering him to return later in the trial and testify for the defense. Gravel, defending former Rep. Otto Passman, D-La., from bribery, conspiracy and tax evasion charges, attacked Park's credibility Thursday by noting discrepancies in the South Korean's financial records and reminding jurors that Park faces a 36-count indictment for his part in paying U.S. congressmen cash contributions in exchange for their influence.

WORLD

British ambassador, butler, shot

Gunmen Thursday shot and seriously wounded Sir Richard Sykes, the British ambassador to the Netherlands, and his butler, police said. Police had no immediate motive for the shooting, which apparently was done by two men who escaped on foot. The gunman struck as the ambassador was leaving his home to go to the embassy about 9 a.m. Sir Richard was hit just after he entered his Rolls Royce limousine outside his home in a suburban section of The Hague. Police said three shots were fired. One hit the ambassador and another struck his butler, who was holding open the door of the automobile. The chauffeur, who was sitting at the wheel with the engine running, took both injured men to a nearby police station and then to a hospital where they were listed in serious condition.

Moslems continue Afghani battle

Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, head of the Afghan Liberation Front, said his forces control Herat despite continued counterattacks and air bombardments by troops loyal to Premier Nur Mohammed Taraki. Sibghatullah said some army troops in Herat stood by and did nothing as Shiite Moslem rebels killed communist supporters of Taraki, who seized power 11 months ago in a bloody military coup.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and mild with fair skies on Saturday. Winds are north westerly at 10-15 mph. 15% chance of rain.

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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Reflections

Alan Zentgraf

In the news — unfortunately

Texas A&M is in the news again — and Melanie Zentgraf is being blamed for it.

Columnist Jack Anderson revived the issue of sex discrimination in the Corps Wednesday when he blasted Texas A&M for the University's treatment of female cadets. In his column Anderson quoted Zentgraf, a junior in the Corps, and cited some of her complaints about the treatment of women in the Corps, using her as a case in point.

The column was catty, out of date, one-sided and inaccurate on some points. But it highlights the seriousness of the accusations made against Texas A&M's Corps and draws more attention to the actions of the select group looking over the problem.

Many would choose to blame Zentgraf for bringing the current investigation of the activities of the Corps out in the open — in her stirring letter to The Battalion, as well as her quotes in Anderson's column.

She has not brought bad press to the Corps or Texas A&M. If the events and circumstances hadn't been there, there'd be no complaints or stories. No study committee had sought answers to their problems before she spoke up. And years of other work through the "chain of command" within the Corps staff had produced little results.

Aggies shouldn't hide this wound and let it fester, but open it up and let the matter heal.

1 junk mail begets another

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON — During a recent six-month period, one New Yorker received 276 pieces of direct mail, a.k.a. junk mail, from 134 organizations, a.k.a. special interest or pressure groups.

The addressee, a certain William King, evidently felt the postal influx strained his envelope-opening capacity. So he complained to his congressman, Rep. Bill Green, R-N.Y.

Green, in turn, issued a press release alluding to proposals to curb the use of computerized mailing lists.

Green listed the organizations that had King's name on their mailing lists. With few exceptions, they were promulgators of what the average citizen would regard as worthy causes.

In contrast, my unsolicited mail runs heavily to franked reprints of Congressional Record speeches deploring the postal deficit.

But there's no mystery as to why King attracted mostly public-spirited communications. The direct mail industry operates a bit like the Book of Genesis, with one mailing list begetting another mailing list, usually in its own image.

In King's case, let's assume the begetting began when he sent away for a

Humor

Wilderness Society booklet.

Wilderness Society begged Sierra Club, which begged Friends of the Earth, Environmental Action, Pathfinder Fund and World Wildlife Fund;

Wildlife Fund begged Whale Protection League, American Horse Protection Society, Cousteau Society, Audubon Society and Gray Panthers;

Gray Panthers begged Grey Art Gallery, which begged American Museum of Natural History and Friends of the New York Public Library;

The library begged Washington Monthly, which begged Congressional Quarterly, which begged National Committee for an Effective Congress;

The committee begged Dollars and Defense, which begged People and Taxes, which begged Southern Poverty Law Center;

Poverty Law begged Legal Aide Society and National Lawyers Guild, which begged American Civil Liberties Union, which begged National Organization for Women; NOW begged Planned Parenthood, which begged Foster Parents Plan, which begged Mother Jones;

Mother Jones, a counterculture magazine, begged Consumer Reports, which begged New York Apples, which begged United Farm Workers;

The farm union begged Democratic Na-

tional Committee, which begged Americans for Democratic Action;

ADA begged Task Force Against Nuclear Pollution, which begged National Cancer Society, which begged Concern for Dying;

Concern for Dying begged Victims of Handgun Violence, which begged National Coalition to Ban Handguns. And the green grass grew all around.

And what prompted King to send off for that wilderness booklet in the first place? Chances are he was planning a hunting trip.



Cadets hear official denial at 'meeting'

By THOMAS E. MUSCHALEK

In my previous letter (Battalion, March 9) I was careful to emphasize the fact that I was basing my decision to support Capt. Joseph McNabb's action on only one side of the story — McNabb's. (McNabb is facing a written reprimand on his permanent record for reporting a cheating incident going outside military channels.)

This ignorance of the official position was somewhat remedied on Tuesday night, March 20 when Gen. Ormond Simpson presented cadets with his side of the story. The results of his speech were very disturbing to some of us, as was the manner and tone of the presentation.

Gen. Simpson began his address with a very strong denial of any cover-up of the cheating incident and did so in a manner interpreted by many to border on hostility toward anyone who would suggest such a thing. (No cadet ever did). This set the tone for the remainder of the meeting.

The general's outline of the events of the past months fell largely on deaf ears from that point on.

Letters to the editor

Bible's attitude toward gays disputable

Editor: The fact that Dr. Furnish made the statements regarding homosexuality in Wednesday's paper does not mean he is right, as the article suggests. It merely means that he takes a liberal view in regards to interpreting the Bible.

Perkins (School of Theology) is a typical liberal seminary that believes that much of the Bible is not applicable today, despite the fact that the Bible claims to be the perfect immutable Word of God.

A professor from the Dallas Theological Seminary would have made conclusions to the contrary of Dr. Furnish. A study of the gospels will show Christ himself to believe in the perfection, applicability and immutability of the scriptures.

Carter, staff counting on break in inflation

By HELEN THOMAS
UPI White House Reporter

WASHINGTON — President Carter and his advisers are counting on a break in the inflationary trend and an improved economic picture before the end of the year.

So far, Carter has resisted some of the more drastic remedies such as wage and price controls or stimulating a massive recession throwing millions out of work, to bring inflation under control. And advisers like inflation fighter Alfred Kahn have threatened to quit if controls are ever sought by the administration.

But Vice President Walter Mondale warned a group of visiting editors last weekend that they should not "expect good news for some time."

"We are putting all the factors in place," he said. "We have a tight budget. We are cutting current services, spending in the next budget by some \$17 billion, which is really tough, and almost unprecedented."

He said the beneficial effect of the program of voluntary wage and price guidelines will not show in the consumer or producer's price index for some time.

"We have in place a tight monetary policy, and we think this is the way to go," he added. "It is going to take some time. We are not at all satisfied with the inflationary rate today. It has to come down."

There is a growing grumbling in the land and unless there is an upturn in the economy soon, the pressure will increase on Carter to do more in a mandatory way.

There also is the question of politics. Carter will be a vulnerable candidate and an easy target for opponents if inflation persists. He and his aides realize that a Middle East triumph will serve him in good stead, but it won't stop voters from thinking about the pocketbook issues.

There is a White House awareness that the continuing inflationary spiral will have

some effect, at least, on his reelection chances.

The oil shortage and rising gasoline prices are adding fuel to the inflationary flames. Drivers will be paying more for gas and homeheating bills will inevitably be going up. Just how much remains to be seen.

And so both Carter and the first lady are beginning to warn the American people that sacrifices will have to be made to help the nation over its energy shortage hump.

In a speech at Springfield, Mass., Mrs. Carter did not mince words. She told a gathering spotlighting volunteerism:

"Prices will go up because of inevitable shortages. Should we whine or complain? Of course not. If gas costs 5 cents more per gallon, we can slash 10 or 15 percent from the amount our families use. We can cut out unnecessary trips. Ride the bus. Drive slower. Form a car pool. Let's try walking for a change."

All this, she added, should be done in a patriotic spirit, "with a smile."

Kahn has said that he will have considered that the president's program has failed if there is no improvement by early summer.

Carter's advisers are clearly shocked, and dismayed by the double-digit rise in wholesale prices.

As a result, the administration is getting a lot tougher, especially with business and the monitoring of the voluntary compliance in the wage-price field is being stepped up.

The loss of Iranian oil. The shrinking of the beef herds and other outside factors have added to the darkening economic picture.

But Carter and his advisers are expecting a turnaround by the middle of summer. If that does not happen, he may need a major reassessment of his voluntary program.

Further into the speech, General Simpson gave the definite impression that "the instructor involved" used extremely poor judgment and acted in a rude and hostile manner. Knowing Capt. McNabb as I do, I can not believe that he could act in such a manner under any circumstances. I firmly believe that the captain was forceful but polite in his approach, and

Reader's Forum

was acting in accordance with his own professional and personal values. Frankly, the prevailing attitudes of those who know McNabb was one of resentment that Gen. Simpson would imply such things.

Finally, at the end of the speech, Gen. Simpson allowed no questions or comments. Maybe the cadets don't have a right to question, but if that is the case, then why bother informing us at all?

It was certainly evident at the end of the

meeting that there was more than one agitated cadet leaving with unanswered questions.

The dismay is certainly most acute among the Air Force senior cadets. I and many other May commissionees are greatly disillusioned by the proposed actions of our chosen service.

If such situations do occur, what will our decision be? Will we be punished if we do as we see fit? If that is the case, plans must be changed from career service to fulfilling a commitment for some cadets.

The overall effect of the meeting was to re-anger some cadets, and to initiate unnecessary feelings of hostility in many others. The cadets are reasonable people and, as a whole, do appreciate the apparently hostile attitude conveyed by the general's speech.

The facts of the story, in my opinion, still don't seem to warrant the punishment given Capt. McNabb.

Thomas E. Muschalek is a senior political science major at Texas A&M.

Read here Leviticus 18, Romans I and John 17.

—Russell Dodds, '82

Hwy. 6 runs ...

Editor: In reference to the article "Columnist blasts Corps," I would truly like to know what (Melanie) Zentgraf is trying to do to the organizations she holds so dear (or does she?). By bringing national attention to the so-called discrimination practiced by the Corps, she is degrading the Corps of Cadets, Texas A&M and herself.

I have always been under the impression that the actions of all Corps members, male or female, reflect on the Corps of Cadets and Texas A&M as a whole. If Zentgraf can't hold her own without attracting notoriety, she has no right being in the Corps of Cadets.

Why is she here at this university anyway? To lobby for women's rights or to be a member of the Corps of Cadets? If Zentgraf does decide to leave Texas A&M due to suffering grades and "relentless hectoring," the Corps of Cadets, the University and especially the Waggies will be better off without her.

—L. Lozano, '81