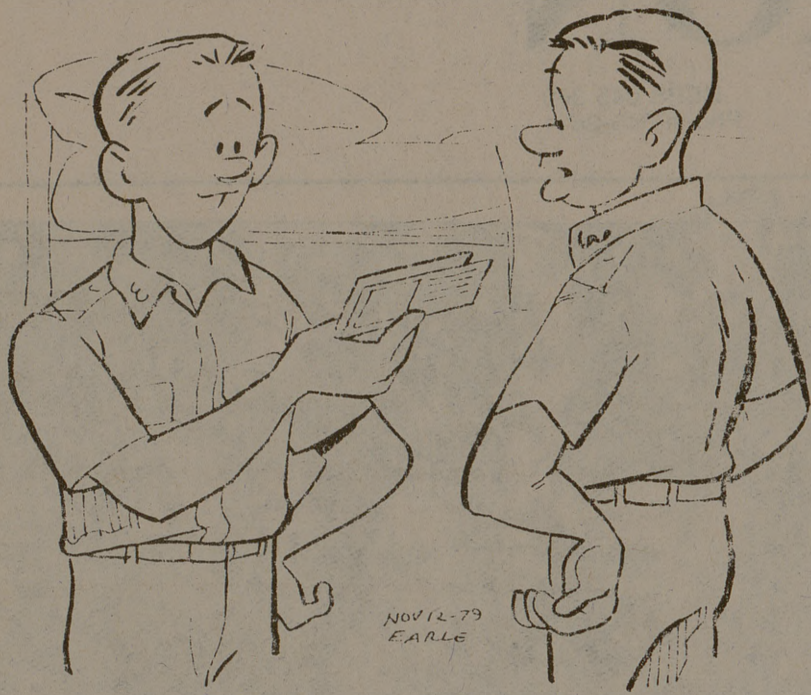


SLOUCH By Jim Earle



"You're absolutely right! They were fifty-yard line tickets, and I'm sure that you would have had the seats that are listed, but next time, don't buy tickets when we play 'Open Date.'"

OPINION

Iran students here can't be blamed

For the first time in the lives of most college students, Americans are united in their feelings of outrage toward another country.

They have good reason: More than 60 of their countrymen are being held hostage in Iran by a group of people who seek the extradition of the shah.

But many who are upset have misdirected their anger. They have failed to concentrate their fury where it belongs: at those who are performing and supporting that act.

Sunday's Houston Post quoted a woman as saying what a lot of people are thinking: "He (Carter) should get every Iranian student rounded up and put in jail."

Students in Sbis Dining Hall led a "Beat the hell out of the Iranians" yell Friday night.

The flaw in that kind of reasoning should be obvious. "Every Iranian" is not responsible for the situation. "Every Iranian" does not support the holding of hostages.

It is also ridiculous for Americans to rough up pro-Iran protesters, as people in Houston did last week.

Those who demonstrate peacefully in support of the Iranians have a right to do so. Americans treasure their freedom of speech and should remember that visitors to the country share it.

General hatred of a nationality because of the actions of some of its members is frightening. It can lead to genocide.

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

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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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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY
NOVEMBER 12, 1979

BRODER

By DAVID BRODER
WASHINGTON — At the peak of the presidential announcement season, it helps to remember that if this is Wednesday, it must be Ted Kennedy, and if it's Thursday, the calendar says it's Jerry Brown.

The young senator from Massachusetts and the younger governor of California enter the Democratic presidential race in vividly different positions. Kennedy is strongly favored over Jimmy Carter, leading the incumbent by a margin no other challenger in history has enjoyed over a President of his own party. Brown, who beat Carter badly in the late primaries of 1976, is scrambling for a toehold in this year's contest, fighting to avoid being squeezed out in the Carter-Kennedy competition.

But despite the difference in their popularity polls, Kennedy and Brown shared a common challenge — how to make clear to the public what kind of alternative they represent in leadership for the 1980s.

For now, the ABC sentiment — Anyone But Carter — fuels their campaigns. But if either of them is to be elected a year from now, he will have to do more than say, "My name is not Jimmy Carter."

It is a fallacy to think that the Democrats can disown their own record simply by denying renomination to the President. It is even more of a fallacy to think that any Democrat nominated next August will have an easier time in November. The combination of high inflation and meager economic growth has proved fatal to left-of-center here ought to talk to Jim Callaghan or Pierre Trudeau.

It will take an exceptional Democratic to win in 1980. And that is where Brown and Kennedy share a burden of proof.

Jerry Brown is never at a loss for words. The words pour from him like a mountain spring, shimmering and sparkling. Partly for his own amusement and partly for political effect, Brown juggles words and concepts that are on the frontiers of public discourse and national consciousness, probing a future of holistic medicine, renewable resources, solar power.

Because he is future-oriented, he sees conjunctions in policy stands that others believe contradictory — exploring space while cutting spending, for example. His embrace of seeming opposites looks innovative to his followers; but to others, it appears as contrived and self-serving as his

Kennedy and Brown must do more than say 'My name is not Carter'

celebrated unconventional life-style. The idea of Brown as a prospective President plainly makes many people ill at ease.

Kennedy is both a man and a myth, a magnificent orator in full cry, who has yet to prove that he can communicate much more than his name when addressing the American people at less than a shout.

His vision is rooted in the simplified abstractions of the Sixties: a world in which wise economists planned economic growth which brought bigger cars and wider TV screens to every family, fresh revenues and new programs to every agency fighting social problems and discrimination, while the profits of greedy big-business were held in check by the fear of the President's displeasure.

That vision has been badly battered by the past decade's experience. But it lives again — at least briefly — when Kennedy pours his full-throated scorn on those who say the world of the Eighties will be one of severe constraints and disciplined choices.

His is a message of hope, but it remains to be seen whether he can make that hope real or have it proved counterfeit. His performance as a candidate will be measured, not just against Jimmy Carter's and Jerry Brown's but against a Kennedy myth which

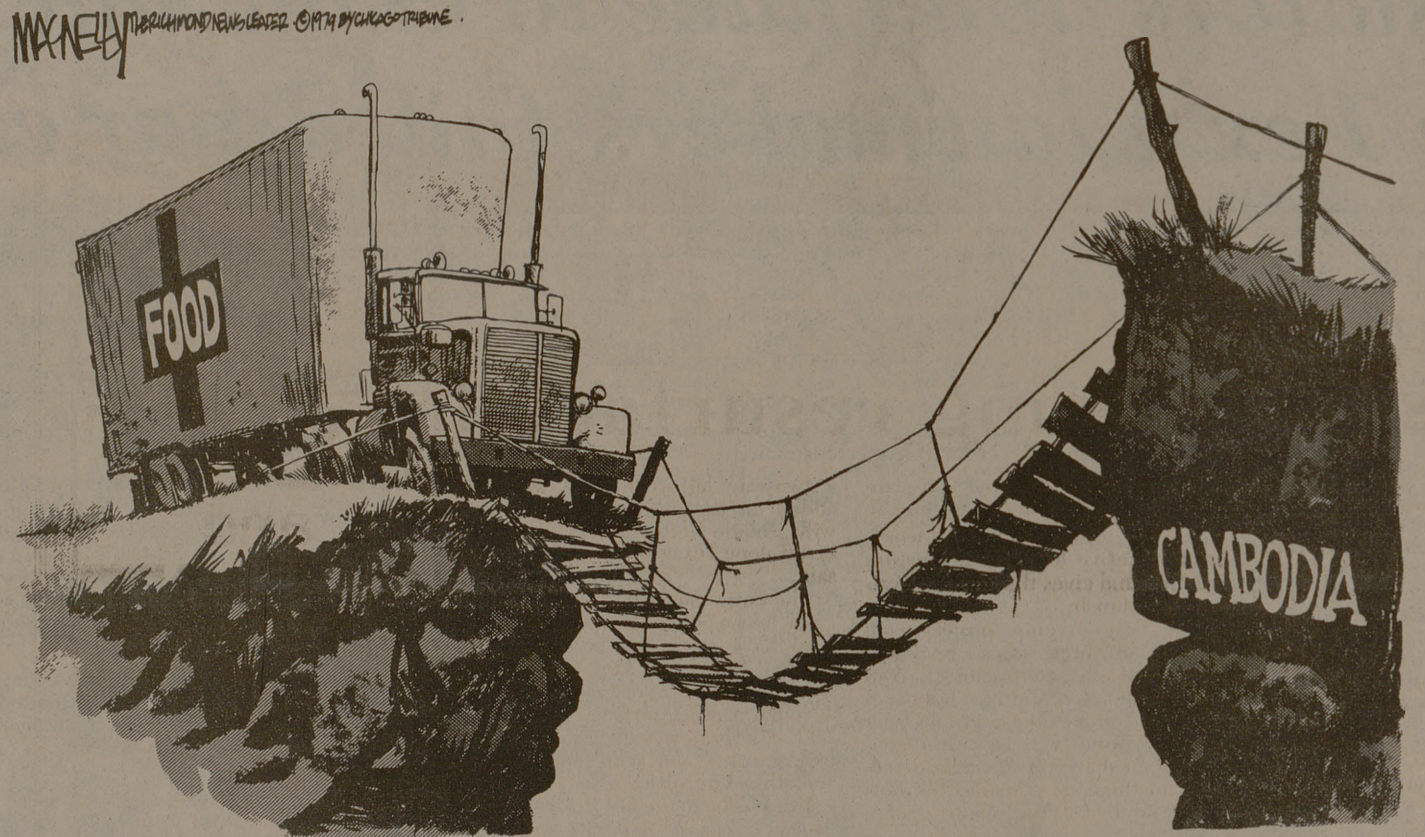
he himself has helped perpetuate. It is the legend of a family who can move a nation, a tradition stretching from John Kennedy to Ted Kennedy's own address to a mini-convention. It is going to myth to sustain.

On the night of Nov. 4, in an exemplary interview on CBS, an American public got its first view of a Kennedy that only the Washingtonians have known.

The emotional focus was on the standstill anguish of his halting marriage. But more revealing was his stumbling inarticulateness when he wanted to be President, differed in policy from Carter, and had failed to sway Congress on chosen issues.

Jerry Brown would smother the clichés in his California campaign rocks that could be exposed in the coming campaign melts the ice reveals the man.

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ANALYSIS PLO could shake its terrorist image by helping to free hostages in Iran

By ALVIN B. WEBB
BEIRUT, Lebanon — The PLO's dispatching of a delegation to try to save the lives of up to 65 American hostages in Iran could cap the diplomatic success story of the year.

By injecting itself into the stalemate that has stymied an American crisis team in Washington for five days, the guerrilla group could gain international respectability and shed its terrorist image.

The stunning diplomatic initiative of Yasser Arafat also could chip away at U.S. policy of not dealing with the Palestine

Liberation Organization directly because of a commitment to Israel.

U.S. sources in Washington Wednesday confirmed there had been indirect contacts with the PLO concerning its diplomatic effort the PLO stressed was humanitarian and was not prodded by anyone.

"We would welcome help from anyone," a State Department said as the embassy drama dragged into its fifth day last week.

In Beirut, speculation swirled that the Carter administration had called on the PLO and its leader for help because of Arafat's warm relations with Ayatollah

Ruhollah Khomeini.

But a more solid reading indicated the PLO, increasingly alert to score diplomatic points, seized an opportunity for minimum risk and maximum gain — saving Americans and earning the thanks of Washington, which some day might be translated into talks with Washington.

Arafat authorized a two-man delegation to go to Tehran and "use all possible means ... to secure the safety" of the Americans.

Western observers, sensing a diplomatic triumph in the making, believe if there is one organization the increasingly erratic

Khomeini might listen to, it is the PLO, which has an office in Tehran.

Playing a role — perhaps the role — in freeing the Americans held by the PLO's students might be the PLO's ticket into the ranks of legitimacy and Carter under strong domestic pressure talk with the organization.

A CBS-New York Times poll last week showed 42 percent of Americans who have heard of the PLO say the States should negotiate with it despite objections of Israel, which calls the organization a terrorist group.

LETTERS Off-campus coordinator wants ideas on ways to meet day students' needs

Editor: We feel that many off-campus students are unaware of the numerous services available to them. One of these services, designed especially for off-campus students, is the Off-Campus Center in the Department of Student Affairs. Our purpose is to meet the needs of the off-campus

student. Obviously, with 23,000 people, this is a difficult task; therefore, we are asking for your suggestions on ways to accomplish this goal.

Some of the services we now provide: — listings of current housing vacancies — a roommate locator service — information on leases — help in resolving tenant/landlord conflicts (including repairs, maintenance, security deposits, etc.)

— a system for voicing legitimate complaints regarding housing management — roommate counseling — car pool referral service — general information and tips on living off campus (including costs, transportation, security, etc.)

Since it is impossible to know the needs of every off-campus student, we would

appreciate any suggestions on improving our services to you.

We feel that every off-campus student can benefit in some way from the services we offer. We are located in the Lounge (directly across the street from the YMCA Building). So, please stop by and see us.

— Jan Wiersma
Off-Campus Coordinator

Writing the editor

The Battalion welcomes letters to the editor on any subject. However, to be acceptable for publication these letters must meet certain criteria. They should:

- ✓ Not exceed 300 words or 1800 characters in length.
- ✓ Be neatly typed whenever possible. Hand-written letters are acceptable.
- ✓ Include the author's name, address and telephone number for verification

THOTZ

