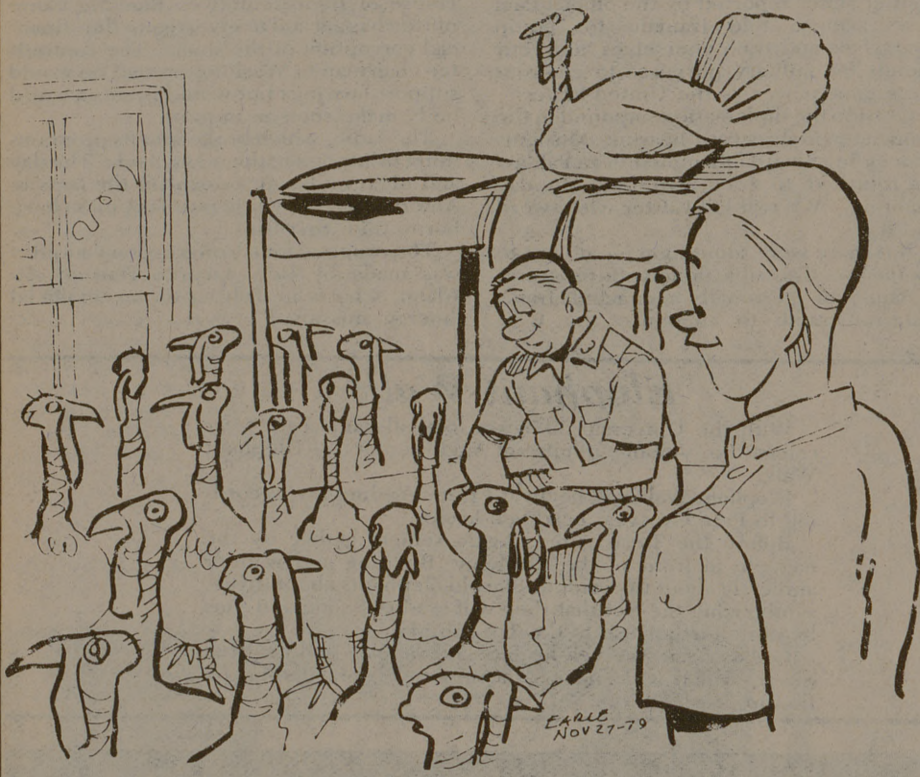


SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"Can we get rid of our Thanksgiving decorations now?"

OPINION

Where is 'Justice' in suit action?

So now the Justice Department is joining in filing a sex discrimination suit against Texas A&M.

In most instances, there would be nothing exceedingly controversial in that.

What's controversial is the Justice Department arranging to have its defendant, Col. James Woodall, released from the suit so that the government can switch sides and join the plaintiff.

On the surface, it appears unethical; reports are circulating that it may in fact be illegal.

At any rate, it's not fair — and if Justice gets by with it, maybe the department should change its name.

More than any other defendant in the suit, Woodall is and has been connected with and responsible for both day-to-day and long-term policies and practices within Texas A&M's Corps of Cadets.

That is in no way passing judgment on Woodall — it's merely a statement acknowledging the role of the Commandant in Corps affairs.

Moreso than President Miller and Dr. Koldus, who view the Corps from a distant perspective, and moreso than Robert Kamensky, who was instrumental in guiding Corps activities for only one year, Woodall is in direct, prolonged contact with the Corps and its activities.

But the Justice Department decided it would rather join the plaintiffs than defend Woodall — so he's been dropped as a defendant.

Holding those in indirect control more responsible than those in direct control — especially so that a politically expedient move can be made — isn't right.

It's not Justice.

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

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 27, 1979

WASHINGTON Rejection of macho approach in Iran boosts Carter's re-election hopes

By HELEN THOMAS
United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter is experiencing the most trying days of his presidency in dealing with the Iranian crisis. He has found that even for a superpower the options are limited.

Carter has chosen the route of patient diplomacy to secure the freedom of hostages taken by Iranian militants who captured the American Embassy compound in Tehran on Nov. 4.

And while his patience may last, there is question of whether pressure may increase for him to do more to show the flag.

In retaliation, Carter has ordered deportation of Iranian students who are in the country illegally, ended imports of Iranian crude oil, and frozen \$8 billion worth of Iranian assets in this country.

The moves have been generally applauded, and Carter has enjoyed the back-

ing of the American people as he seeks peaceful solutions while rejecting Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's demand that Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi be returned to Iran.

The trouble began after the United States decided to permit the deposed Iranian monarch to undergo gall bladder surgery and treatment for cancer in a New York hospital.

Carter and his advisers had known for months the intensity of the anti-shah feelings in Iran and the president had refused all petitions for his entry into the United States as a permanent refugee.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and David Rockefeller, the shah's banker, had lobbied Washington officialdom intensely since last January to allow the shah to live in exile in this country. Kissinger had publicly criticized the administration on several occasions, charging

that the shah had been relegated to the life of the "Flying Dutchman."

Humanitarian reasons prevailed. On advice of Rockefeller's doctor and State Department physicians, the shah was flown to New York for treatment.

From the White House standpoint, the United States could not have done less for a friend and ally of 30 years. In the view of the Iranians, the United States is harboring a criminal who ruled tyrannically and caused the deaths of many of their compatriots.

But all is not lost. Worldwide diplomacy, enlisted in support of the United States, is continuing. Nations with friendly relations with Iran have intervened. Third World emissaries and the United Nations are assisting behind the scenes.

The suggestion that some of the hostages may be put on trial in Iran as spies is viewed as an outrage and may further inflame the

explosive situation. Some have spoken of the potential for a "disastrous" consequence.

Despite the release of some hostages, the attitude at the White House seems to be stiffening, if anything, as Carter has demanded the release of American captives.

Carter has established a reputation as a man of peace who rejects the approach of many of his predecessors has not needed to prove the military of the United States, but is confident of the nation's power.

He told the families of some hostages that he is not interested in how tough he can be, or in demonstrating leadership qualities in that way. He has a background, he realizes his position, and hopes for re-election are the outcome of the Iranian crisis.

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Should Silver Taps be once a month

Yes ...

By TRACY W. COX

The Student Senate will hear the second reading of a bill dealing with one of Texas A&M's most precious traditions — Silver Taps. The bill proposes that Silver Taps be held, if necessary, on the first Tuesday of each month. The present system requires the ceremony to take place on each Tuesday (if necessary after the death of a student).

Awareness of Silver Taps will be increased if the ceremony is held monthly. More students will know about the date of Silver Taps. Faculty will be encouraged to turn out the lights in their offices. Students would be more courteous during this one solemn ceremony. Simply, the whole University would be aware that this special day is set aside on behalf of students who have died during the previous month.

Increased awareness will undoubtedly urge greater attendance at Silver Taps. Larger attendance does enhance the ceremony for it proves that more students care about its significance.

Silver Taps will be made more emotional and inspiring — more meaningful. Thus, the student body will participate and cherish the ceremony with greater dedication.

Many believe that a less spontaneous Silver Taps ceremony will depersonalize and degrade the ceremony. Silver Taps is already standardized to some degree. The event is held almost every September (after the summer break) and every January (after the Christmas break). The issue is not standardization but moderation. The Senate bill proposes a more meaningful memorial to students, not a depersonalized uninspiring occurrence.

Tracy Cox is a student senator representing juniors in the College of Business.

No ...

By PERIE R. PITTIS

Most everyone is agreed there is need for increased awareness of Silver Taps. Many miss Taps. But increased awareness is a function of publicity, not scheduling. Silver Taps should call for a bordered notice on the front page of The Battalion Monday and Tuesday the week of Taps. It should be announced on KAMU radio and television, as public service announcements.

Silver Taps is a very personal ceremony. Coming to Taps is a personal decision. Those who come are there despite any inconveniences that arise because of spontaneity of Taps. The meaning and essence of Taps is this: A person sacrifices time and activity to remember a fellow Aggie student, an irreplaceable part of the A&M.

The significance of Taps is not measured by the numbers of people who attend. Those who come from the immeasurable feelings of those students in attendance. The hundred Aggies genuinely concerned with the loss of a fellow student are much more significant than 30,000 students in attendance because it is the evening's scheduled activity.

Scheduling conflicts can never be resolved. There are too many campus activities which for one reason or another will fall on the first Tuesday of the month or on any other pre-designated day.

To pre-designate Silver Taps is to institutionalize and depersonalize a most personal tradition. Silver Taps was never meant to be convenient. It is meant to remember those Aggie students who are forever gone from Texas A&M.

Perie Pittis is an off-campus senator representing Ward 4.

LETTERS

Editor:
We were very embarrassed and angry about the so-called Midnight Yell Practice held at the Key Beer Warehouse in Fort Worth Friday before the TCU game.

First of all the location was changed unexpectedly, so when we arrived at Whiskey River (the scheduled location) we found an abandoned establishment, bearing no indication of the whereabouts of Yell Practice. After about 30 minutes of phoning all over the city we got directions to an out of the way beer joint.

When we arrived we found a smoky, filthy redneck hangout charging \$2 to get in. (The first time I ever heard of paying to get into a yell practice.) At midnight we started wondering if we were in the right place because nothing was happening.

By 12:30 the yell leaders jumped on stage and accompanied by the "Texas Express" version of War Hymn (out of tune) led us in some yells and told two grody stories (which we couldn't hear), and that was it.

We were embarrassed for our school, as we had told our friends how great Yell Practice and A&M traditions were. Let's get it together next year.

— Steve Langsdorf, '83

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

physics, biology, and chemistry. Although most of the members are undergraduates, our roster boasts graduate students and staff members.

Last, we were not at G. Rollie White merely to play catch, we were there to practice a team sport called Ultimate. Ultimate is a sport which is rapidly growing in popularity in the United States. Rutgers and Princeton (the first two colleges to play football) have extensive Ultimate programs. Some colleges feature Frisbee in their physical education programs.

Ultimate resembles soccer in the way it is played. The disc is advanced down the field to a teammate in the end zone for a score. Not only does this take skill, but it takes a great amount of endurance and stamina since one does much running on the

120 x 40 yard field.

Texas A&M is represented by the same teams, and we needed the field floor in order to practice for a tournament which we attended in Austin on Nov. 18. There were five other teams around Texas at this tournament. We practiced outdoors, but the early morning and impending cold forced us indoors.

If you or anybody else would like to know what we are doing and what Ultimate is, you are invited to attend our game on Sundays at 3 p.m. on the main floor.

— Frank
Secretary-Treasurer
Disc Association of
Editor's note: This letter was accompanied by five other signatures.

Frisbee club facts

Editor:
Dear Mr. Wheeler
I read your letter to the editor in the Nov. 20 issue of the Battalion concerning

Midnight Yell in Fort Worth tavern causes embarrassment for some Ags

THOTZ



By Doug Graham