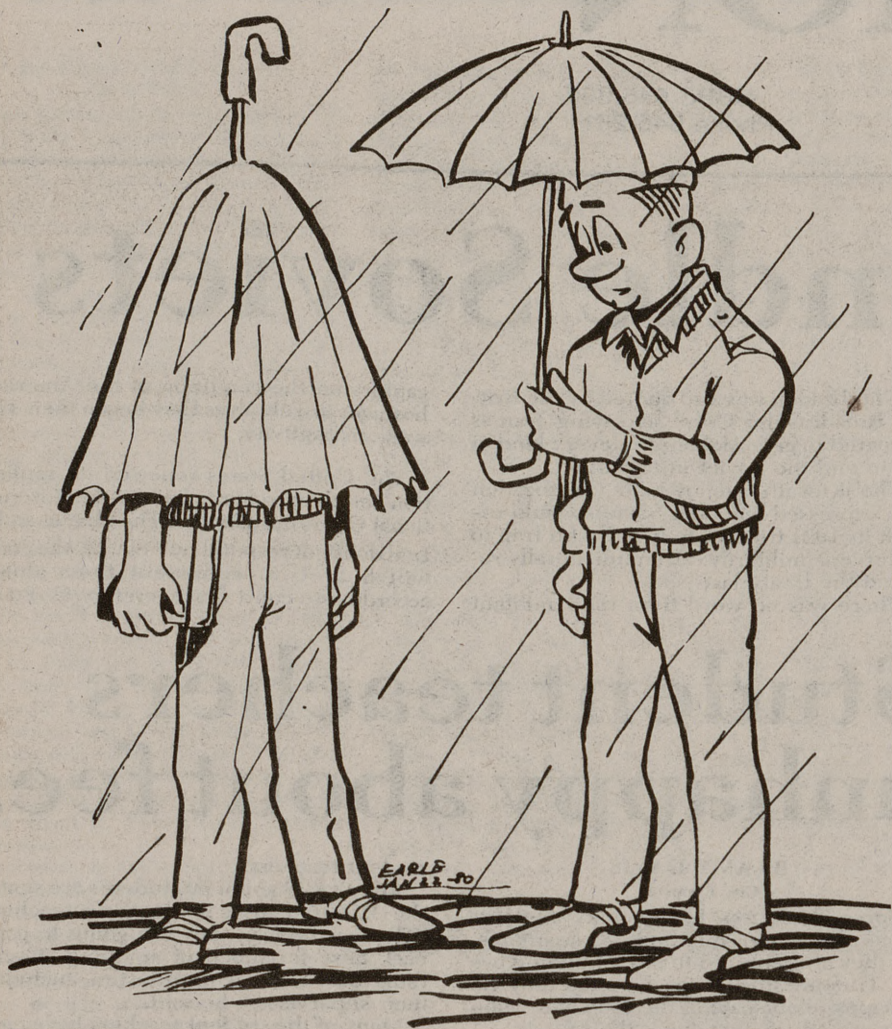


SLOUCH by Jim Earle



"It's unique, but I think it needs more testing before your umbrella design is introduced to the market."

OPINION

Detente never lived

It is said that detente is dead. But how can something die when it never lived?

From its first day detente was a sham, a hallucination of American foreign policy makers. The Russians never subscribed to it, and used it totally for their advantage...

During the detente period the Russians while talking of limiting weapons under SALT I and SALT II, launched the greatest military buildup in their history and lulled the U.S. into decreasing military spending. As a result, the United States lost its supremacy and now is in danger of becoming militarily inferior to the Russians.

There should be no tears for detente. It was a giant dirty trick played on the United States by the crafty, double-dealing Russians. President Carter, who is left holding the bag, should begin at once to rebuild U.S. military forces as rapidly as possible.

St. Louis
Globe-Democrat

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

USPS 045 360

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.

Address correspondence to Letters to the Editor, The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Battalion is published Monday through Friday from September through May except during exam and holiday periods and the summer, when it is published on Tuesday through Thursday.

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the University administration or the Board of

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VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

TUESDAY
JANUARY 22, 1980

Washington window

Republicans trying to broaden party platform for '80 election

Apparently hoping to demonstrate the party's interest in what the voters think, the Republican Party is investing a good deal of time and money this election year in the preparation of a national platform.

GOP officials have scheduled a total of 10 hearings around the country — more than ever before — to seek opinions about what the platform should say.

The opening session — a two-day hearing in Washington — produced a 3-inch high stack of written testimony plus transcripts and video tapes of the oral presentations. That is far more than can be used in the final platform document, but the sounding goes on nonetheless.

Leaving the capital behind, the tempo-

ary platform committee now strikes out for nine other cities where it will hold public hearings to pick up regional and local concerns and listen to individual citizens.

In 1976, the platform committee held just two regional hearings in addition to the sessions in Washington.

This year's effort will cost the party about \$175,000, but the GOP hierarchy apparently feels it will be worth it, even though most political platforms are read through only by the most devoted political activists or observers.

The regional hearings will include morning and afternoon sessions and then continue in the evening, at which time individual citizens — those who were at work

during the day — will be encouraged to show up and speak their piece.

"We're really trying for diversified views," a party spokesman explained.

"We would like to have input from people who do not consider themselves to be Republicans, but who want to say what directions the new Republican administration should take," he said confidently.

At the Washington hearing, party leaders were fairly brimming with optimism that the final platform will be a masterpiece and GOP will win the elections.

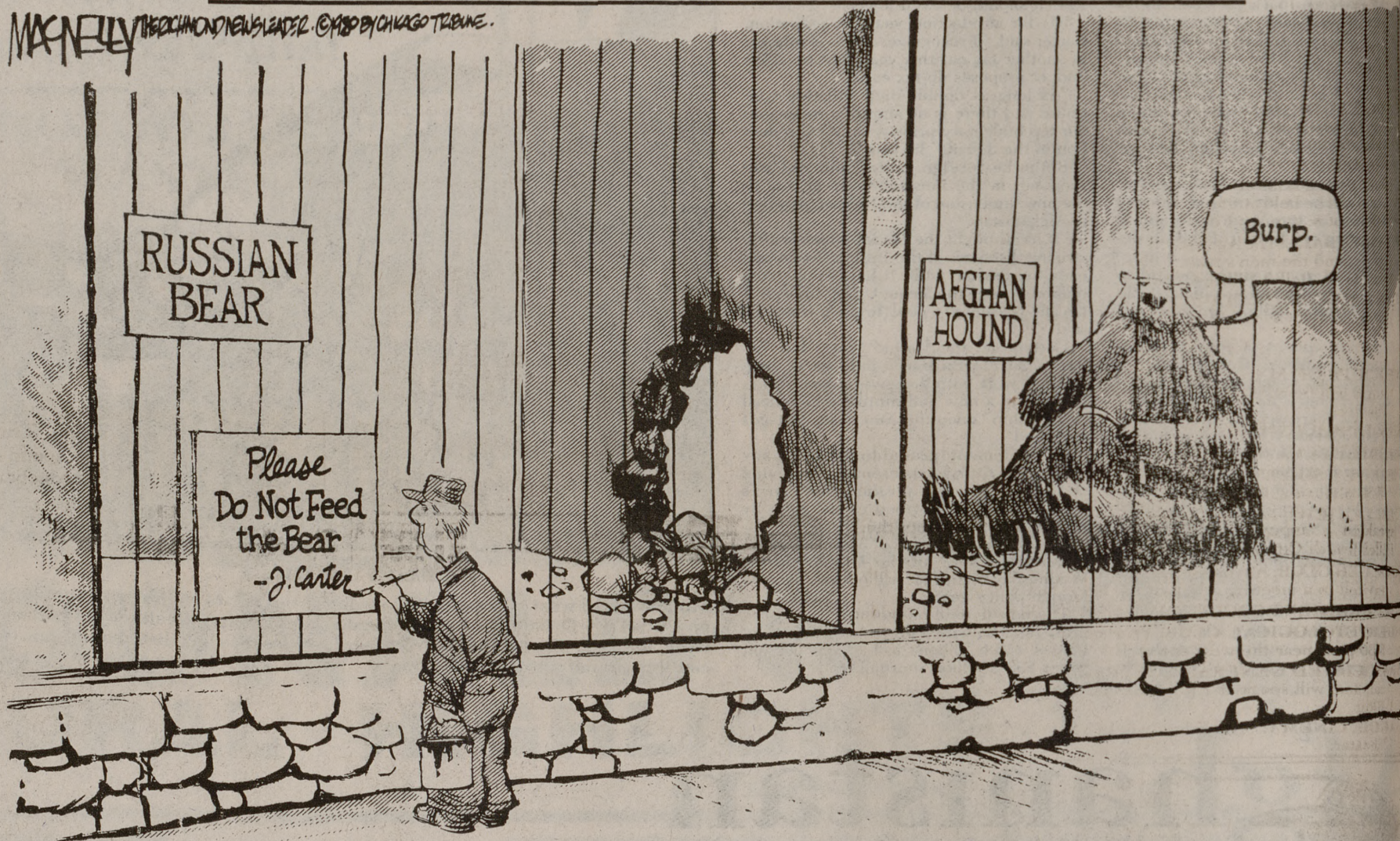
The platform will be "a very honest and candid document that will appeal to the majority of the people of this country," said Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, chairman of the temporary platform committee.

The actual platform will not be until July when the official platform committee gathers just before the Republican national convention in Detroit.

The 105 members of that committee be furnished with transcripts of the hearings and will be able to watch the tapes of the witnesses who testified.

Party officials have another use in mind for the video tapes — probably some hours worth — they will accumulate the next several months. The tapes will be culled down to about a 15 minute segment that will be shown to the assembled delegates in the Detroit convention hall.

And if the television networks refuse to show to the voters at home, so much the better, say the Republicans.



LETTERS

Crowd cooperation OK at "Alien"

Editor:

Hey Ags!
Thanks again for your patience and cooperation in crowd control during the showings of "Alien" and "Halloween" in Rudder Auditorium last weekend. It's not often we have back-to-back movies with crowds numbering over a thousand people waiting for the next show. The 9:45 showing of "Alien" had an audience of approximately 1400 people and there were approximately 2100 people waiting to get into the midnight showing of "Halloween." I'd like to bring up several points to remember when attending on-campus movies or other events being held in the Rudder Theater Complex. Please keep in mind that:

• Although we try to avoid running back-to-back showings, it's bound to happen at times. Increased movie rental has forced Aggie Cinema to go to an earlier starting time (7:30) and we are faced with two showings of the same movie in the

same evening. I suggest consider going to the movies Saturday night since the crowds are usually smaller and quieter. If you should have to wait for an earlier movie to finish, please be patient and cooperate if you are asked to stand elsewhere so we may maintain crowd control.

• The Rudder Theater Complex is a fine facility and care should be taken to keep it in good shape. Please don't pull leaves off the plants while standing in the lobby. Care should be taken while watching movies, also. Rowdy behavior results in broken chairs. Eating, drinking and smoking aren't allowed in these facilities to help keep the seats and carpeting stain-free. Excessive drinking before shows usually results in numerous stains as Ags empty their evening full of liquor onto the carpet. This damage can possibly result in additional charges to MSC Aggie Cinema, which in turn will result in higher ticket prices.

• Tickets for all our weekend movies are available at the MSC Box Office, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Buy your tickets during the week and avoid waiting in the ticket line before the feature.

• Finally, remember that these movies are worked by students who aren't paid but enjoy serving fellow students and enjoy seeing good movies. Courtesy on the part of all involved results in an enjoyable evening for all.

Thanks again for your cooperation at the movies this past weekend and we look forward to seeing all of you at future shows.

Andy Hartman
Vice Chairman, Midnight/Sunday Evening Series, Aggie Cinema

Friend remembered

Editor:
None of the incoming freshman, nor,

sadly, do many upperclassmen know one of our most respected friends died in December.

Amer Sheikh was a graduating aerospace engineer; he would have graduated Magna Cum Laude. In addition, he was active in the Muslim Students Association and the Pakistan Club, a member of numerous professional associations, Greek societies; he was the finest Team Man we have ever known.

He would be twenty-two years old. It is sad that a young man of such qualities should meet a tragic end as it is the last thing anyone would think to happen. But though he has left us, his memory will remain fresh in our hearts forever.

Maria-Elena Andino
Saleem Karim

THOTZ

By Doug Graham

