# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

MONDAY
JANUARY 28, 1980

# OPINION

## U.N. censure will not stop Soviets

After the U.N. General Assembly voted to deplore the invasion of Afghanistan and call for the withdrawal of foreign troops diplomats and pundits described the action as a "major diplomatic defeat" for the Soviet Union.

Rubbish. A few more defeats like that and Russia will be the world's dominant power.

The so-called nonaligned nations which normally vote with the Kremlin turned against it. But they had no other choice. The victim was their fellow member of the nonaligned bloc.

And even in censuring Russia the majority of nations was cautious. The resolution did not "condemn" but only "strongly deplored" the brutal invasion and did not mention the Soviet Union by name.

So. . . the Soviets have a right to feel satisfied. They were slapped on the wrist at the United Nations but they own strategic Afghanistan. And if the furor dies down as it did after Hungary and Czechoslovakia, they will be in place to dismember their next victim, Iran or Pakistan.

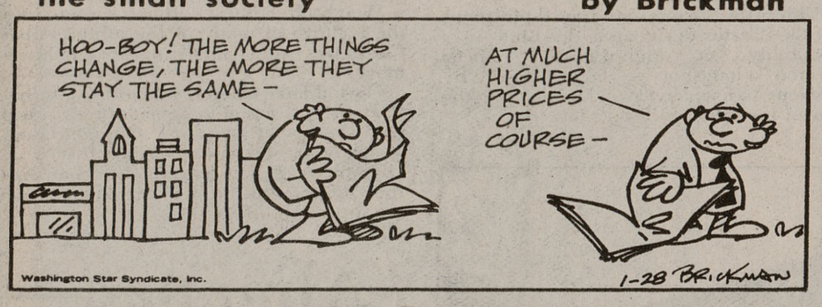
The response of the free world to Moscow's crime has been inadequate. President Carter did not go far enough. And his gallant allies with the exception of Britain are sending signals to the Kremlin that they're not really angry.

West Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands among others are unwilling to disrupt trade with Russia and Argentina and Brazil — which make much of their anticommunism — will not join in any grain embargo. Brazil, in fact, is planning to take advantage of the American embargo to boost its soybean sales to Russia.

If that is the best the West can do, Lenin will be proved right in his remark "When the time comes to hang the last capitalist, they will compete with each other to sell us the rope."

Scripps-Howard Newspapers

**the small society** **by Brickman**





## THE BATTALION

USPS 045 360

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*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.

Mail subscriptions are $16.75 per semester, $33.25 per school year, $35.00 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 216, Reed McDonald Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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*Washington window*

# U.S. should avoid 'crisis' atmosphere

By HELEN THOMAS
United Press International

President Carter has thrown down the gauntlet to the Soviet Union. But a top administration official says the nation should avoid "an excessively emotional crisis atmosphere."

Although Carter himself has moved rapidly to wipe out the vestiges of detente in retaliation for the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, including the prized SALT II treaty, the official told reporters:

"We should avoid generating the impression that we are on the brink of some massive military confrontation" said the official who asked not to be identified.

It is necessary, he added, to keep "a balance."

Furthermore, he said, the United States should continue seeking "positive aspects of our relationships" with the Soviets. "There is a tendency in our public opinion to shift from one extreme to the other."

"The fact of the matter is" he said "the Cold War was never over and detente is not dead either and we are now in a period of intensified tensions."

The official said these intensified tensions require "prolonged, sustained — but measured response — not a wave of hysteria and not bugle calls for massive all-out national mobilization for the creation of a situation of total confrontation."

It will be up to Carter to maintain this balancing act which will be made a lot tougher in an election year.

With his big increases in the defense budget and his bid for new American air and naval facilities in the Persian Gulf Carter himself will face hard decisions as the days go by.

The new dimension of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has dramatically changed the attitude of the White House and the nation and has shocked foreign policy experts.

But they might find even more hair raising the brutal appraisal of the U.S. posture by a long-time Soviet diplomat who has served in his Washington embassy for more than 20 years.

The unidentified Russian envoy was interviewed by Thomas Kielinger, Washington correspondent for the German newspaper Die Welt.

Concerning the invasion of Afghanistan and the murder of Afghan President Hafizollah Amin, the diplomat said:

"Naturally we were asked for help by the Amin forces. This is no lie. This is true. But Amin failed to take into consideration that we had to eliminate him. He failed to cope with the rebels."

On U.S. reaction: "We cannot accept the American propaganda; its wild tone of outrage. It has a 'Foward-based system' in Turkey and the Eastern Mediterranean from where we are being watched and militarily threatened. Why the hell do these Americans get so excited anyway? We [illegible] setting up in Afghanistan our own [illegible] ward-based system' against the West."

On political equality in the world: "The years in which the United States [illegible] the say as to what could be done [illegible] world and what could not are past [illegible] for all. We can no longer tolerate Washington behaving as though it were the [illegible] of contemporary history."

On the Middle East — "The United States has no business in the Middle [illegible] It has lost out in Iran having put its [illegible] on the wrong horse there."

On Oil — "We do not need it at all [illegible] now. We are a world and regional power [illegible] We must have our say with or without [illegible] The threat by islamic fundamentalism [illegible] been very much exaggerated."

With those views being studied as a [illegible] chmark one might say that the [illegible] should fasten its seat belt. Or perhaps [illegible] an East-West summit to hold back the [illegible]

# LETTERS

## *Playboy benefits society with photos*

**Editor:**

This issue about *Playboy* being on campus is making me sick. I have admired women for a while and I feel that I can make what I consider to be a justifiable statement: *Playboy* does not exploit women simply as objects of physical pleasure.

I have had opportunities to compare *Playboy* with other forms of "adult entertainment" and I believe that no magazine or film depicts the beauty of women as well as *Playboy*. It has been clearly stated by *Playboy* and by others that the emphasis is on the beauty of the whole woman and not just the physical attributes. This includes other characteristics such as personality, intelligence, etc. Why do people continuously insist that this is not so? I think it is extremely short-sighted to overlook this. Why not criticize similar art forms, which have depicted women in the past and have been around for years? They do not emphasize what else was beautiful about women except their physical form. If this is considered art, then *Playboy* is indeed an art form superior to this.

Webster's dictionary defines exploitation as "improper use of another person for one's own profit or advantage". I am sure that some people think that the depiction of nude women is exploitive and sinful. I can see how it is defined as sinful (it's too bad that I might go to hell just for that), but I feel that the depiction of beautiful women — if they do not object — should not die out, regardless of how cheapened other magazines or lifestyles make them and the whole sex issue out to be. I do not believe beauty is improper if viewed as it should be (and much of the profits of can be verified to have been put to good use.) I conclude, therefore, that Playboy is a benefit in a society of declining morals.

**Noe Gutierrez, Jr.**
**(This letter was accompanied by 42 other signatures)**

## *Hello to WW III*

**Editor:**

Contrary to your article in the January 25, 1980, Battalion, not all Aggies agree that registration for the draft is needed, wanted or morally right. Rather, many people believe that reinstatement of the "Selective Slavery" system is nothing more than an invitation to another Vietnam. To send our young men and women off to fight some vague Soviet threat clearly points to an incumbent president's desperate attempt to bolster his lackluster position in the polls. What some people will do for power . . .

Further, asking the Commandant of the Corps for his opinion in this matter is not unlike asking Exxon if they would like to see an increase in gas prices. He's getting paid to support it.

Some of us still believe that this is a free country where individuals have the right to support or not to support military aggression in the world, by the U.S. or anyone else. Sometimes dissent is more patriotic than blindly following orders. Sabre rattling has never ended war and never will. And unbridled nationalism has killed more humans than any other force in the world (with the possible exception of religion).

See you in South America for World War III.

**Davis Northcutt**

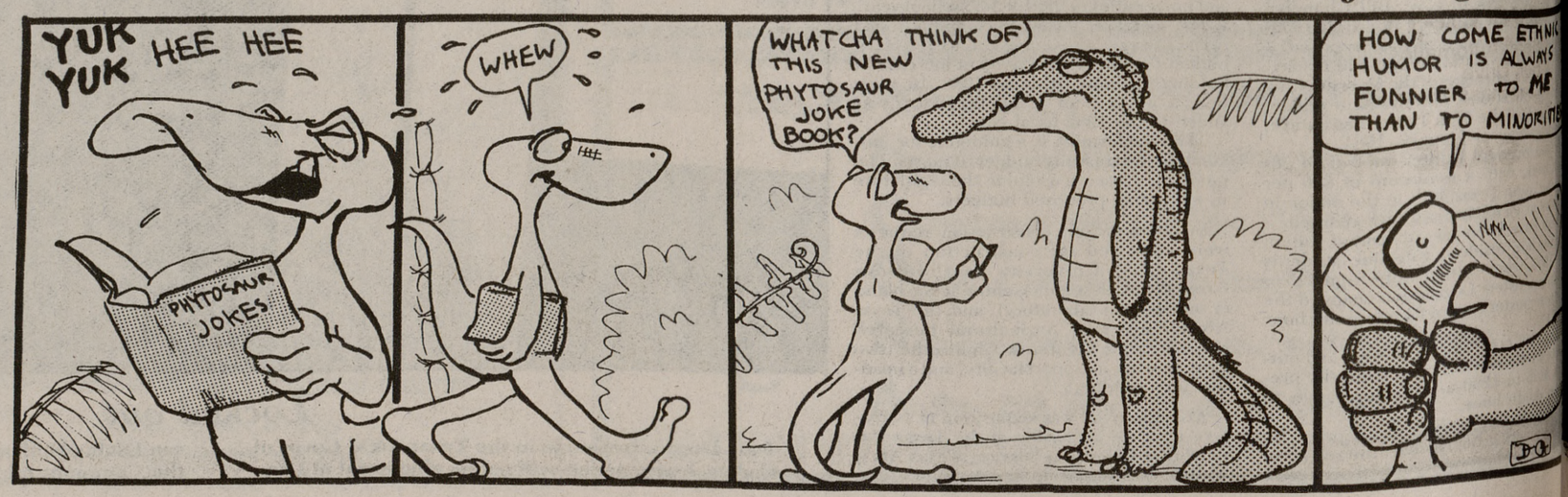
## *Cagers thank fans*

**Editor:**

We, the members of the Texas A&M basketball team would like to express our appreciation to the fans who were present at the A&M-Arkansas game last Tuesday night. Special thanks also go to the Aggie band for their contribution in the win over Arkansas. Their rendition of "Sweet Georgia Brown" and the solo by James Deer were especially enjoyed by all of us.

After spending so much time on the road, it was great to be able to play in front of such as enthusiastic crowd. You made that night we won't soon forget.

**The Texas A&M Basketball Team**

# THOTZ

*By Doug Graham*