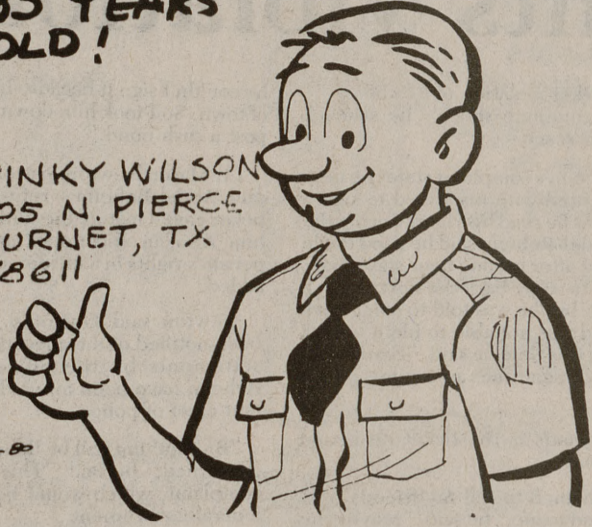


SLOUCH by Jim Earle

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
PINKY WILSON**
AUTHOR OF THE
WAR HYMN
83 YEARS
OLD!

PINKY WILSON
705 N. PIERCE
BURNET, TX
78611



"Let's all send Pinky a Birthday card! He's a good friend of Texas A&M!"

OPINION

'Abscam' unfair to Arabs?

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's "Abscam" anticorruption investigation has come in for criticism from Arab and Arab-American groups for fostering an unfair ethnic stereotype. One critic wondered why the FBI "sting" couldn't have featured bogus Venezuelan or Israeli or Nigerian bearers of bribes.

The problem is that it is somewhat to the side of what the FBI was trying to do. Undercover agents are not in the business of providing edifying or sociologically accurate "role models"; their business, presumably, is to be convincing in whatever guise they adopt. Though all the evidence is far from in, the choice of Arab alter egos proved, at least in some cases, to be a successful one. This suggests to us that if there are charges of "stereotyping" to be made, they should probably be directed not at the FBI but at its gullible targets.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

the small society by Brickman



THE BATTALION

USPS 045 360

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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

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 14, 1980



LETTERS Arkansas game a carbon copy

Editor:
The Texas A&M-Arkansas basketball game was a carbon copy of other games played in Fayetteville. When the Cougars went up to Fayetteville, they played a great game but came out losers. Once they were ahead the refs began calling foul after foul on the Cougars. Once the crowd gets unruly the refs seem to take it as a hint to start helping out. The same thing happened in the t.u. game. They were going strong then things turned against them. Both the Cougars and t.u. lost to the Hogs. The same thing happened to the Ags. Why did the lights go out when the Ags were on a scoring drive with a seven point lead? Was this all accident or planned? Other incidents took place in the second half. Once the fans began throwing ice and cups on the floor the refs took a initiative to start playing too. A foul on Woods tying the game and a controversial foul on Goff winning the game. My point is it is impossible to win in Fayetteville because everyone plots against you. In my opinion, the Ags won the game and are still number one. Beat the hell outta t.u.

Allan Spencer '82

officiating in this conference is the worst I've ever seen and is destroying the game. In recent games, the officiating has been incompetent to the point of ridiculous and has seriously detracted from the excitement of the game and lowered the calibre of play. The problem came to a head in the A&M vs. Arkansas contest when a foul allowed Arkansas to tie the game and another call, described as unbelievable, allowed them to win. It's a shame when a hard-fought ballgame, such as this, is decided by incompetent officials rather than the players themselves.

How can SWC schools expect to attract talented basketball players to participate in a conference which the incompetent officiating limits the calibre of game they can play and often decides the outcome of the game despite what the participants do?

I urge any person who would like to see SWC basketball survive and grow to write to the SWC head office and demand that they improve the officiating in the conference.

Ken Gray
Chip Ollre

which prides itself in honoring the greatest personal sacrifices, why is there no recognition of the personal sacrifices of the Korean and Vietnamese wars?

Argument one: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Sound familiar? Certainly the four "great" wars represent the fullness of love as shown by the number of Aggies who laid down their lives for their friends. Didn't Korea and Viet Nam represent the same thing? We weren't Berkeley, or Kent, or any of the bleeding heart liberal colleges; we didn't protest, we served; Aggies went and died. They must be remembered!

Argument two: "Neither Korea nor Viet Nam were declared wars, and represented the worst possible motives of our country. Recognizing the dead of those conflicts would be just like recognizing the conflicts as wars." Ah yes! Imperialist America; what price valor; manifest destiny. As if the Spanish American war was a justified conflict — Thank You Yellow Journalism for setting America's war machine in motion. And the Mexican American war was certainly justified, as was the chaotic slaughter brought upon Mexico by American soldiers. What price victory? And of course we had to become involved in WWII! What price glory? And who knows how America became involved in WWII — there's more to it than just Pearl Harbor. But let's not forget Korea and Viet Nam were imperialist wars.

Argument three: "It wasn't a popular war, and people might be insulted by such a symbol." I'm insulted that this school, this student body, has waited 25 years since Korea and 10 years since Viet Nam, and has not acted appropriately. I'm ashamed! This is Texas A&M, land of the free, home of the... those men were just as much a part of the Spirit. I want those men recognized!

Argument four: "But that's what the M.S.C. is for!" Wrong! It says for those who died in the four great wars. The list of dead soldiers ends with the Class of '48 (Making him a fish in 1944 — old enough to die in 1945). I see no '50, '52, '55, '64, '67, '69, or '70. I contend that the M.S.C. is for the souls of those Aggies who died in the wars America won; where's the famed Aggie respect for those Aggies who dies in wars American didn't win?

Argument five: "It's not something that can just appear, it's something that should be donated." In four years I've seen four classes give three useless gifts to the University. (I withhold comments on the gift of

the Class of '81), but '78, '79, and '80 failed to do what should have been done to give the most sincere and genuine honor of those men who died to establish a memorial in remembrance of those men who died to establish presents and gifts possible. Now depending on the Class of '82, please fail me or the many others who believe do, it's an important aspect of the Aggie land. I believe those men who Korea and Viet Nam deserve as respect from all 30,000 students, as they died in the four great wars. They memorial which would daily remind all who pass by.

In Honor of the Valiant Efforts of Texas Aggies Who Gave Their Lives in Democracy's Greatest Test: Korea 1950-1953; Viet Nam 1964-1975
George R. Gage

Patriotism reaffirmed

Editor:

In reference to Oscar Alvarez and Burk's letters, I would like to comment on one those fortunate Americans who had a chance to live in Europe. My father, officer in the U.S. Army, living in West Germany, I had a great course in patriotism. Despite all the sightseeing tours that I could have wanted to see the wall that divides separating the free from the oppressed. Upon leaving West Berlin by train, we went through West Berlin I remember the streets of neatly packed houses, children played in the streets which reminded me of my childhood in the States. But then we crossed the border a cold atmosphere.

The same houses that lined the streets W. Berlin lined the streets in E. Berlin there was a difference. There was no one on one of the streets and there were children playing. Silence. That was enough to reaffirm my support for my country. As an Aggie and an American going to register and if I'm drafted, I'll proudly go. I want my children to live life I did. If you think that is "imperial servitude" that is your opinion, but think of yourself; think of your children your family whose livelihood depends on your actions.

Ben Boer

Kudos to Hog fans

Editor:
After their lucky victory over the Aggies last Tuesday night, I felt compelled to send my congratulations to the University of Arkansas and its fans. Congratulations for using inefficient, unqualified referees who feel they have better things to do than allow a tied basketball game to go into overtime. Congratulations for being the most rude, immature fans in the SWC who think the main objective of attending a basketball game is to see how much garbage one can throw on the court. But most of all, congratulations for attending the University of Arkansas because I would be ashamed to have fans of your type attending Texas A&M University. I am more proud than ever of Texas A&M and its basketball team, both of which are number one teams in the Southwest Conference.

Glenn Creamer, '81

Letter is distressing

Editor:
I am disturbed by the selfish attitude of Richard Leanardon who complained about the non-resident use of Common luxuries. What a bunch of cry-babies! You should be grateful you have such facilities and gladly share them. If the Commons residents did in fact pay for the t.v. rooms, why did every dorm's room rates increase when the Commons was built? My 50-year-old dorm has paid for itself several times, and the rate increase wasn't just for inflation. Next time you're sitting in your 3rd floor sauna or walking down the hall to the washers and dryers or maybe even (God forbid) waiting for a pool table, you better be thankful for what you have. Don't complain, you don't even have mold!

Gregg A. Jacobson

Memorials needed

Editor:
I would like to re-open the case in favor of war memorials in honor of those former students who served and died in Korea and Viet Nam. I've heard all the arguments, I've listened to all of the rhetoric, and I am prepared to ask my question; at a school

Referees hurt SWC

Editor:
As an avid basketball fan, I would like nothing more than for the SWC to have a strong basketball program. However, the

THOTZ

