

# OPINION

## CIA needs power to work

While not condoning the alleged abuses of the Central Intelligence Agency, we have long felt the administration and Congress have fettered the vital agency with restraints unrealistic in today's world.

Support for this position, while slow in coming, is being more frequently heard in Washington — partly in view of the crises in Iran and Afghanistan and partly because of information on Soviet Union tactics now coming to light.

Details of a secret campaign conducted by the Russians — a bag full of "dirty tricks" to discredit the U.S. among its allies and other nations — were made public last week by the House Intelligence Committee.

The study portrays a clandestine anti-U.S. propaganda drive that reached a peak in intensity and sophistication in 1978 and 1979, the period in which the U.S. and the Soviet Union were wrapping up a new strategic arms limitation.

Heavily bankrolled by the Soviets in regard to money, manpower and equipment, the effort to create tensions between the U.S. and other countries apparently was considered top priority in covert operations of the KGB.

What was happening to the CIA during most of this time? It was being severely chastised for not playing by the rules, held up for public ridicule and chided for not being "open" in its operations.

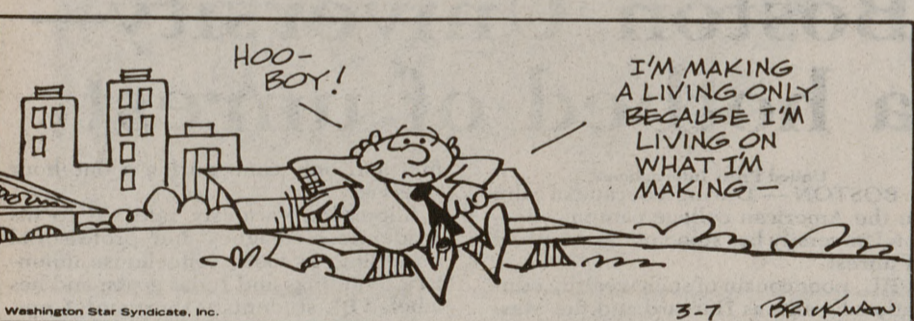
To suggest we do not need a top-notch spy agency is absurd. To suggest that such an agency play only by the rules of the good guys is ludicrous. No intelligence agency in the world can operate publicly and be effective.

It is unfortunate we had to learn the need for a strong, effective intelligence system the hard way. It is regrettable we had to reduce the CIA to shambles and learn what the KGB is doing before we could see how vital the need for our own system.

Amarillo Daily News

## 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.

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. United Press International is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein reserved. Second-Class postage paid at College Station, TX 77843.

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 Regents. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a university and community newspaper. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.

- MEMBER  
Texas Press Association  
Southwest Journalism Congress
- Editor: Roy Bragg  
Associate Editor: Keith Taylor  
News Editor: Rusty Cavley  
Asst. News Editor: Karen Cornelison  
Copy Editor: Dillard Stone  
Sports Editor: Mike Burrichter  
Focus Editor: Rhonda Watters
- City Editor: Louie Arthur  
Campus Editor: Diane Blake  
Staff Writers: Nancy Andersen, Tricia Brunhart, Angelique Copeland, Laura Cortez, Meril Edwards, Carol Hancock, Kathleen McElroy, Debbie Nelson, Richard Oliver, Tim Sager, Steve Sisney, Becky Swanson, Andy Williams  
Chief Photographer: Lynn Blanco  
Photographers: Lee Roy Leschper, Steve Clark, Ed Cunniss.

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

FRIDAY  
MARCH 7, 1980

# Trudeau will have to fight off growing Canadian regionalism

By JACK REDDEN

United Press International  
Pierre Trudeau, elected prime minister 12 years ago on a promise of a strong central government, is likely to spend the final years of his tenure fighting a defensive action against growing regionalism.

The danger of Quebec separation is greater, not less, than it was in 1968 and that area's demand for more autonomy from decisions made in Ottawa has now been joined by provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The tide has turned since Trudeau, a dedicated centralist, came to power on a pledge that Quebec would not get special privileges.

Newfoundland's government is demanding Ottawa transfer control over fishing as well as off-shore natural resources. Both Newfoundland and Nova Scotia are trying to restrict jobs in oil and gas exploration to natives of the province.

In the west, which elected only two Liberals to the federal government — and none west of Winnipeg — the feelings of antagonism to Ottawa are old but never stronger than at the moment.

It is just a matter of time until Trudeau gets into a confrontation with Premier Peter Lougheed of oil-rich Alberta.

Trudeau is committed to lower oil prices

than those promised by the previous Conservative administration — Lougheed is adamant that Alberta will get as much revenue as the Tories promised. His threats have gone as far as cutting energy supplies to other provinces.

On the west coast, British Columbia Premier William Bennett unveiled his government's new budget with an endorsement of national unity but a warning for Ottawa and central Canada.

"British Columbians today," he said, "have little more representation in many of the central institutions that govern the activities of Canada than our forebears did in 1871 when the united colony of British Columbia entered Confederation."

It is ironic that Trudeau, the man who went to Ottawa to stop Quebec turning inward, should be prime minister when the regions of Canada are increasingly demanding changes in the traditional power-sharing that appear to be erecting barriers between provinces.

The predominant strength of central Canada has been unchallenged for a century. There was grumbling in the past about the economic structure, which provided high tariffs to force the purchase of Ontario and Quebec's manufactured goods.

Now the demand for a change is being

backed by the one irresistible force — the growing economic power of Canada's formerly backward and dependent regions.

Oil has turned Alberta into the wealthiest of the country's 10 provinces. Newfoundland is still Canada's poorest province but is confident the exploratory wells off the main island will prove there is enough oil and gas to go the same direction.

Nova Scotia looks to the treacherous wind-swept sands of Sable Island to give the energy-poor province the natural gas it needs — and of course fights for sole jurisdiction over the seabed mineral resources that Trudeau wants to share.

Trudeau spoke repeatedly against this rising regionalism and the Conservative endorsement of it during his 1979 election campaign but almost ignored the subject until very near the Feb. 18 vote that returned him to power.

"Canada is not a 'community of communities' where a lot of little feudal states try to get together to give some power to the national government," Trudeau said of the previous Conservative government's view of Canada.

"The people of Canada want to vote in this election to say clearly that they want a government which will govern for the whole country, not for one province against

the other, not for one part of the other."

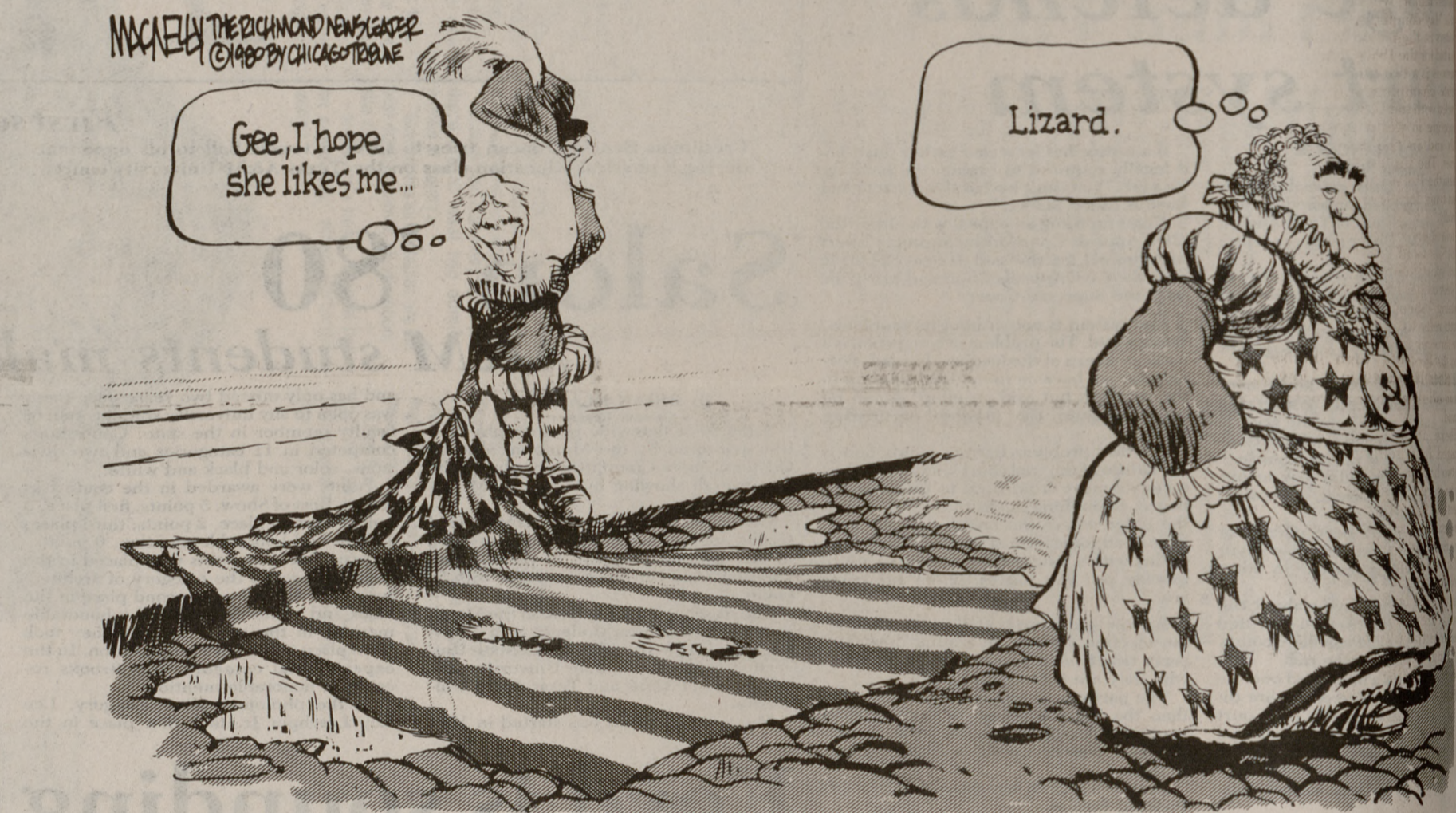
They did — and they didn't. Ontario, which most agree has been the most during the last century from a economic framework of the sparsely populated and now needs western oil, back to Trudeau.

But clearly the western regions of the Quebec native's view of unity — a mood also apparent in provincial governments that fight to receive strong support.

Trudeau in the past has been given the provinces what they want, although many think he is now conciliatory, in his speech on the night returned to power he talked of a central government.

Under the constitution Ottawa rule provinces for the national government has been hinted in the past on matters as Alberta's threat to cut off energy in order to get world prices. But Trudeau's powers without popular support are extremely dangerous.

Like it or not, Trudeau will probably on the defensive in his final term, defend of the growing regionalism, minimize the flow of power to provincial governments until the pendulum



# LETTERS Government by people, not computer

Editor:  
I am writing in response to the "Computer may aid marriages" article in March 5th's Battalion. This article deals with plans for computers that would aid people in making decisions in areas such as voting and marriage, a "... kind of mass production of intelligence, ..." as the sociologist developing the program calls it.

The very idea of such functions being carried out by a computer abhors me, as it should any individual concerned with preserving freedom and morality in society. Can decisions made through a computer's "analytical thinking" involve morals and basic human rights? And, if so, who is to

program these ideas into a computer?

I'm not in any way saying I'm against computers. They are invaluable in almost every facet of our culture. But there exist certain decisions, (about things like politics and marriage), which should be made by human brain, however "muddled" it is with feelings and emotions. According to the article, cheap versions of computer programs to "relieve" our minds of such decisions could be on the market within five years. The idea certainly is tempting, as it appeals to the laziness and self-doubt in almost everyone. But we must always keep in mind that ours is a government "of the people, for the people, by the people" —

not computer.

Kathy Johnston

## Women's team happy

Editor:  
The views expressed in Wednesday's letter column ("Soccer Ignored") concerning the men's soccer team do not reflect the views of the Texas A&M women's soccer team. We do appreciate the support we have received from the Intramural Department, the Battalion staff, and the student body. As an extramural club, we are the reigning state champs representing Texas A&M University. With the backing we

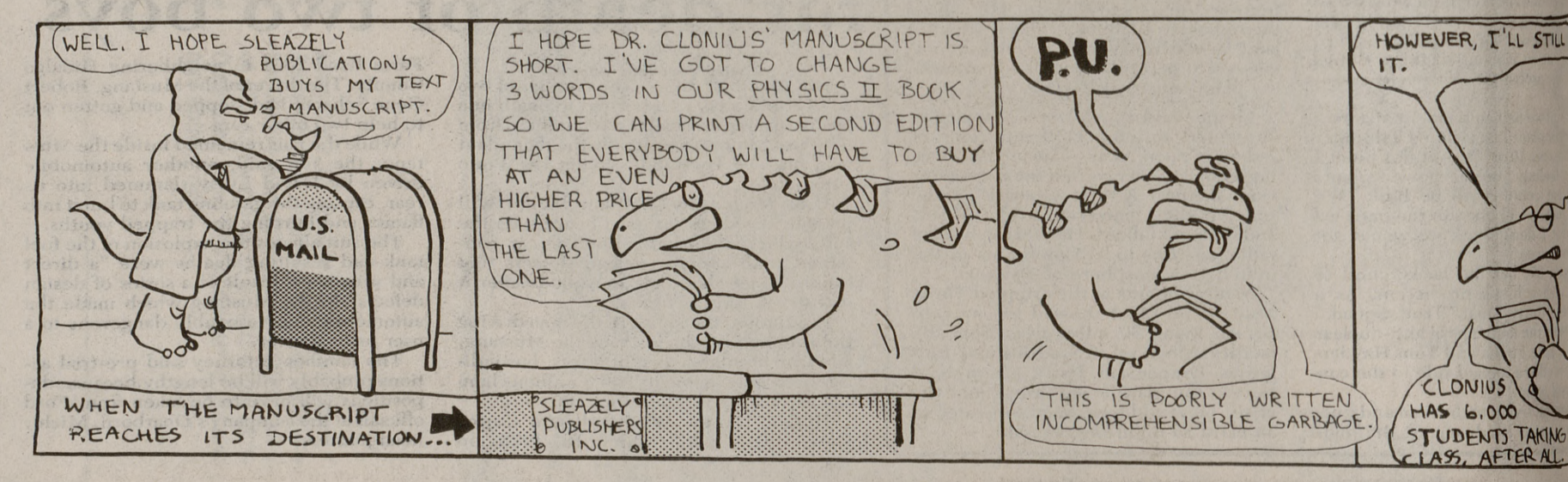
have received, and with the continued support, our level of competition can increase.

President Donna Elmer  
Coach Alan Hines

## Correction

Three students were misidentified in the picture appearing on page 1 of The Battalion. The cadet doing pushups is Giebel, and seniors Stuart Sasser and man Linkenhoger are members of pany B-1.

# THOTZ



By Doug Graham