

Slouch By Jim Earle



"It just must be cheap material. When I was a freshman, they were baggy."

Politicians seldom return home again

by Wesley G. Pippert
United Press International

WASHINGTON — There's an old saying that when they move to Washington, they don't go home again.

George McGovern told a reporter a few days ago that despite representing South Dakota in Congress for 22 years he rarely goes home any more — or even back to Capitol Hill.

Two other unsuccessful presidential candidates — Hubert Humphrey, the 1968 Democratic nominee, and Barry Goldwater, who represented the Republicans in 1964 — did go home to Minnesota and Arizona. But they quickly ran for reelection to the Senate and returned to Washington two years later.

The exception to this, of course, is former presidents. Unlike Britain, where former prime ministers and Cabinet members keep their seats in Parliament and can continue to advise and criticize in official capacity, American presidents leave town.

Jimmy Carter has been back to Washington only a couple of times since he returned to Georgia in defeat in 1981.

Gerald Ford and Lyndon B. Johnson had carved out much of their adult lives in Washington — in many respects, they were more the products of Washington than of their native Michigan and Texas. But when they left the presidency, they also left Washington.

Ford did not go back to Grand Rapids but to new digs in California. He comes back to Washington seldom, the most recently to go to a dentist. He stopped by the Oval Office for three minutes.

Richard Nixon left in 1974 in disgrace, and he, too, has come back rarely — for the signing of the Israel-Egyptian peace treaty and enroute to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's funeral.

But that is not true of most other politicians.

Walter Mondale moved back into his

Washington, not Minnesota, home after living four years in the vice president's residence on Naval Observatory Hill. Two former chairmen of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee — Frank Church, D-Idaho, and J. William Fulbright, D-Ark. — have continued to live in Washington.

So do other former senators — James Abourezk, D-S.D.; Dick Clark and John Culver, two liberal Iowa Democrats; Jack Miller, R-Iowa and John Sherman Cooper, R-Ky.

Why do they stay? It's not that they don't know their own turf. McGovern remarked — with probable accuracy — that he knew nearly every square inch of the vast state of South Dakota.

There are family reasons. Their children, often reared here, look to Washington as their home town. Most of them probably marry and live in Washington, too.

There is the power — and accessibility to it — in Washington. Power generally cannot be bought even with money. It may be stronger than even the nostalgia of past happy days.

McGovern and his wife, their five children grown, sold their beautiful Japanese-design home in Washington and moved into a town house a few blocks from the White House, which he sought in 1972.

A former college professor, McGovern teaches one day a week — at Northwestern University, American University in Washington and the University of New Orleans during successive semesters, and Innsbruck, Austria, this summer. He also gives two or three speeches a week.

It's not all work. A pianist when he was a student pastor, he has resumed taking lessons and the network cameras recorded him diligently playing some Scott Joplin ragtime in his first recital.

Religion should get equal time

Editor:

Today, as I was walking from Francis Hall to the language lab in the Academic Building, I passed by Harrington Center which, I have noted, has become a center for proselytizing the Christian faith on campus. I stopped and listened for a bit and then went on my way to do battle with French.

Later, as I was walking back to my office, my mind boggled with the mysteries of le futur antérieur, I noted that another speaker was on dock. I stopped and listened for a while and then went on my way.

Later, as I was passing on my way to lunch I noticed that still a third speaker was spreading the message. I again stopped to listen for a bit before going on to the C. After lunch the scenario was repeated.

Let me say most emphatically that I do not object to the presence of these speakers. I do feel that a college campus is a good place for people to engage in these sorts of demonstrations. I must say, however, that I do find them to be a bit repetitive. I stopped to listen each time in the hope that something different might be being presented. Alas, I was disappointed. The topics varied a bit but the message remained the same.

I have noted, in the past, that there have been letters to the editor both pro and con the presence of these campus preachers. There are those on campus who do not feel that these speakers should be permitted and there are those who staunchly defend their presence. As

Reader's Forum

I said earlier, I tend to believe that they should stay.

However I would like to suggest that a concerted effort be made to engage speakers of a variety of religions and viewpoints. After all, a university campus is supposed to be a place in which students are exposed to the widest possible variety of ideas. It is quite evident that there is very little variety among these campus preachers, all of whom seem to be of a fundamentalist persuasion.

Surely it must be possible to bring in representatives of other religions. One could run the gamut of denominations and have them all present their alternatives to the students at Texas A&M. We could have a Baptist one day, a Methodist the next, a Presbyterian the next and so on. A Quaker would also be nice especially since adherents of that faith tend toward silence.

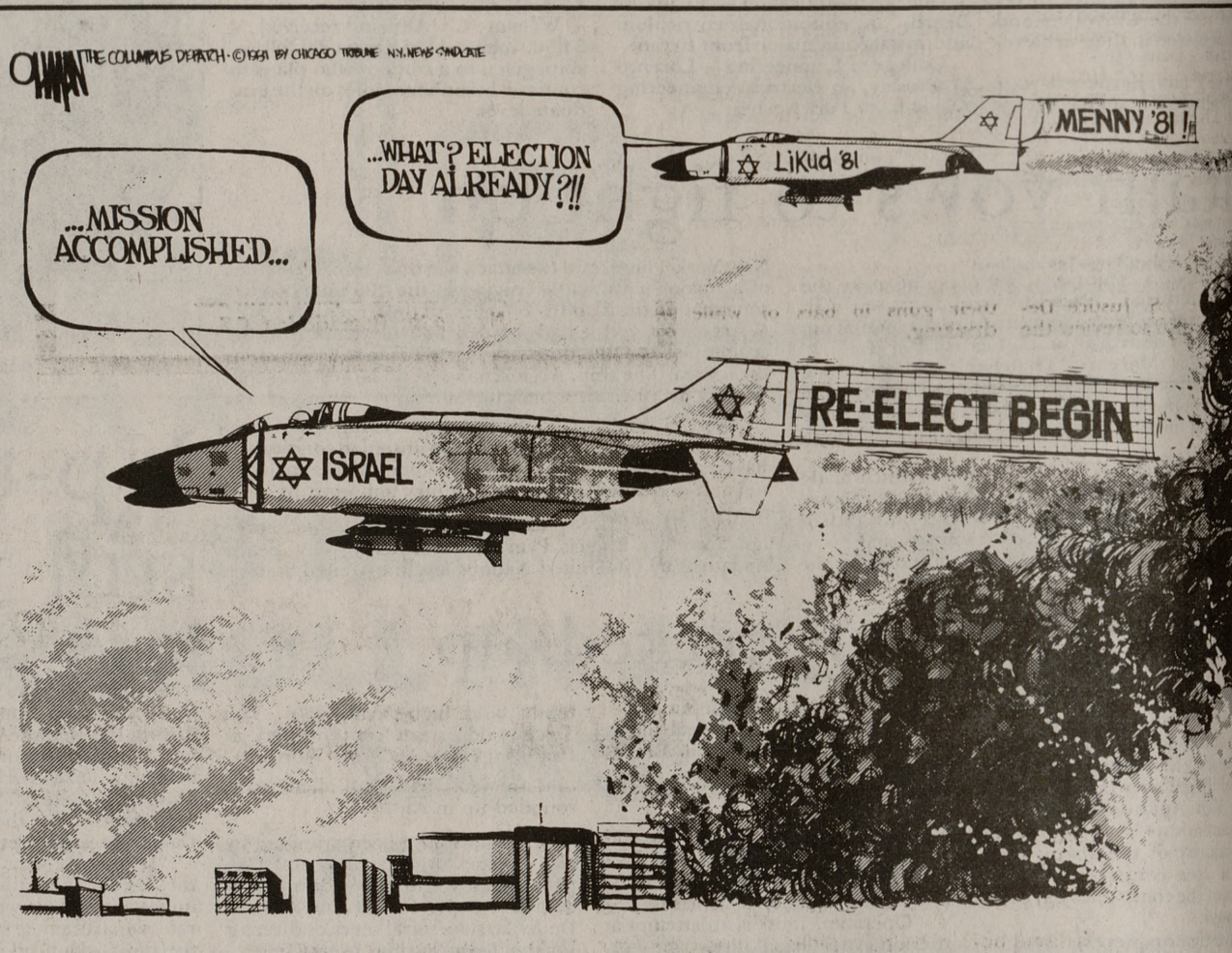
Interspersed with representatives of the Christian faith, we could perhaps have speakers for some of the other of the world's major religions. An occasional Buddhist or Moslem would certainly add to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of Texas A&M and would be in keeping

with the concept of a "world

In addition to these, we could have representatives of other faiths that Moonies are under a great deal of fire these days but if we can't have those, we could have Gordon Liddy on campus who would tolerate a Moonie. Some have said that a Moonie would be nice especially if he would include in his budget cuts some of the attractions such as drums, bells, and burlap. Perhaps we could even have an old Druid who would be willing to send his viewpoints. Surely there is an old Druid wandering about somewhere.

Of course, in the interest of research as well as the basic principles of equal time should be given to the alternative viewpoints. We should not overlook atheists and agnostics. They should be given their day. Perhaps we could even have an anonymous speaker (as defined by Hugo Rahner) to come to campus anonymously.

Speakers representing a variety of faiths and views would certainly be a life here at Texas A&M and would do much to improve the education of Aggies. Many of these speakers, of course, members of distinct religions; perhaps even less than 2. We would therefore have to be careful to refrain from the phrase, "6 runs both ways." They would be greeted with tolerance and respect and I am sure that the results would be most beneficial.



Dorm asks for student cooperation

Editor:

Howdy Ags! As this semester comes to a close, we at Davis-Gary Hall invite you to look forward with us to an outstanding 1982-83 school year. At a recent Davis-Gary council meeting which consisted of both the outgoing and newly-elected council members, we discussed the contributions that we as Aggies can make in the coming year to insure that 1982-83 will be one of the best years ever for Texas A&M.

We're fired up! We have some great things to look forward to next year: Jackie Sherrill and a highly motivated Athletic Department, a new chancellor with some excellent long-range goals for the University, a record incoming freshman class with their enthusiasm and burning desire to be Aggies and an opportunity for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the ideals that our University was founded on.

Next year, in particular, national attention will be focused on Texas A&M, and we should capitalize on this opportunity to enhance the image of our University and make amends for some of the negative press we received this past year. The image of our school is a direct reflection of our attitudes and values as individuals, and the realization of this fact is the first step in establishing a Texas A&M that we can be even more proud of.

A definite need exists for the total cooperation of all Aggies, both corps and non-corps. The increasing enrollment in our school in turn increases our individual responsibility to maintain the fellowship that is the basis of Aggie spirit. We can no longer tolerate division

among ourselves. We at Davis-Gary intend to channel our energy into the consolidation of Aggies and the continuation of Texas A&M traditions in the coming year. We encourage everyone to take pride in what we have and contribute whatever it takes to maintain the uniqueness of our university.
Gig em!

1982-83 Davis Gary Council

University of Texas student comments

Editor:

Enclosed is an article that appeared in the April 27 edition of the Daily Texan. I am certainly glad these seven Aggies have nothing better to do (i.e., study) than to deface Veteran Memorials in Austin. Surely this prank was directed at the teapigs, yet the result was damage to Memorial Stadium, a structure dedicated to WWI students who died in action during WWI are placed here. Later the stadium was dedicated to all war veterans.

I know the students of Texas A&M honor and respect the memories of their fallen comrades in defense of the United States. How would the Texas A&M students feel if teapigs tried to steal or deface something dedicated to one of the former Texas A&M Congressional Medal of Honor recipients? The Corps of Cadets would have something to say about it, I'm sure.

If these seven or other Aggies something to steal from the University of Texas, I have prepared a list of you can have:

1. Abe Lemons
 2. Government Professor Al W.
 3. All parking meters on campus
 4. The recipes of Jester Center Caf.
- These seven Aggies should be mandated by fellow Texas A&M students and all veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

'Save the grass' a failure

Editor:

The people who initiated the "The Grass" campaign had great intentions. We all would like a more beautiful school, and I think them for increasing the student awareness of "cattle trails" on campus. But in the end, the support of this campaign have made fools of themselves. Now, at many locations on campus, there are wooden stakes and metal plates laying on the "cattle trails" remnants of the "Save The Grass" campaign. Good intentions are great, but sincerity is more appreciated.

Steve Scanned

The Battalion

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The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications. Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.

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Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length, and are subject to being cut if they are longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for style and length, but will make every effort to maintain the author's intent. Each letter must also be signed, show the address and phone number of the writer.

Columns and guest editorials are also welcome, and are not subject to the same length constraints as letters. Address all inquiries and correspondence to: Editor, The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843, or phone (713) 845-2611.

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