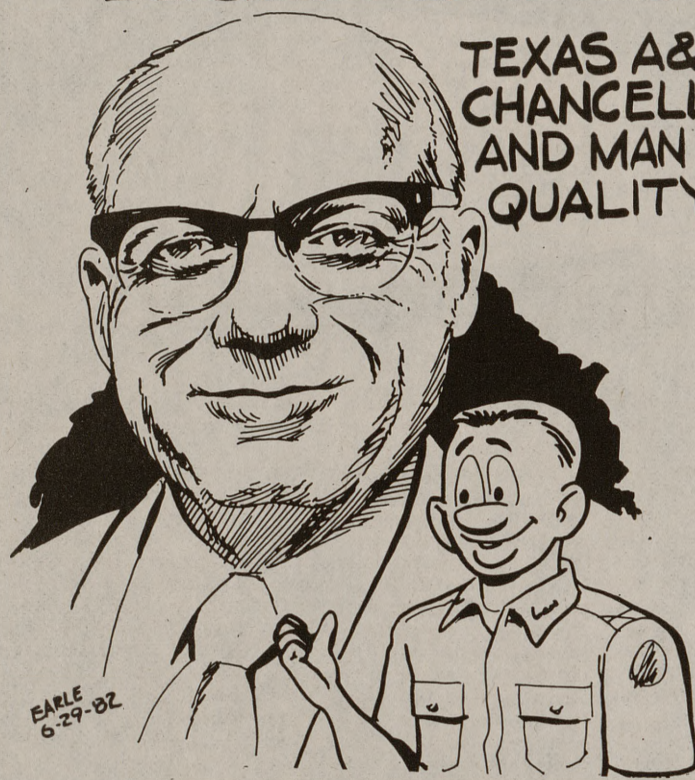


Slouch By Jim Earle

THANK YOU  
FRANK HUBERT

TEXAS A&M  
CHANCELLOR  
AND MAN OF  
QUALITY



U.S. foreign policy remains out of control

The resignation of Secretary of State Alexander Haig gives to the world yet another sign of an unstable American foreign policy. Allies who were once relieved by President Carter's disappearance from the world scene find themselves equally perplexed by this Presiden-

as agriculture is not the specialty of the Secretary of State. Thus at best this outside advice should be volunteered cautiously.

The President's foreign policy dilemma is a fact of life today precisely because that constructive input has been forsaken and replaced by detrimental competition.

More specifically, when the Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, and the National Security Advisor, William Clark, pressed their views on the President, they did so irresponsibly. By doing so they interfered with the function delegated to the Secretary of State, a function, moreover, for which they were not and are not properly equipped.

The inevitable friction which developed during this coup attempt by Clark and Weinberger threw the whole diplomatic process into chaos. Different voices with contradicting messages emanated from the Administration, leaving the world, allies and adversaries alike, guessing.

The final solution undoubtedly rests with the President. Much like Jimmy Carter, however, Ronald Reagan's involvement in actual policy formulations is limited by an apparent lack of sufficient experience. Yet unlike President Carter, President Reagan does have the administrative leadership with which he may restore some semblance of order to America's foreign policy.

Whatever resolution the President opts for, his personal discipline will be irreplaceable. It looks like he has little choice but to wake up a little earlier once in a while.

On the other hand if nothing is done, the present inherent competitiveness of the present structure, particularly between the National Security Advisor and the Secretary of State will probably not dissipate independently.

And consequently Americans may soon see the third defection of a Secretary of State in less than four years.

Chancellor's road to glory

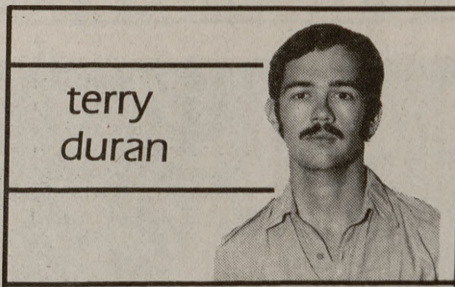
It's all a matter of leadership. Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M System have experienced their biggest, most substantial changes when men who were not only administrators but leaders, were in control. James Earl Rudder and Jack K. Williams were leaders with a purpose, incontestably in solid control — the more so because each held both the University and System top slots.

That purpose was to transform the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas into a University and bring Texas A&M into the second half of the 20th century.

The chancellor's and president's offices were again separated in 1977, and Dr. Frank W.R. Hubert took the System reins in hand in 1979. As chancellor, Hubert tempered, controlled and directed three years of exploding Aggiedom; he also reorganized — streamlined — System operations.

Now, a direction is needed as Aggiedom shuffles its feet just across the threshold of the Bigtime — and the collective ambition of those in charge may well furnish this direction once again. Despite the Board of Regents' primary planning/policy function, chairman H.R. "Bum" Bright has emerged as a tactical and strategic leader who doesn't care whether you like him or not — as long as he gets beneficial results for Texas A&M.

The Board of Regents are the top-dog policy planners of a three-tier power scheme that devolves from the Board — to the System chancellor — to the heads of the System parts. Make no mistake, command is not by committee. The chief



terry duran

executive officer is in charge of his particular bailiwick, a system which is used all the way to the department level, where department heads, not elected chairmen, reign.

The triumvirate thus is the Regents' chairman, the System chancellor and the University president.

University President Frank E. Vandiver has mostly shed the low profile maintained since the Jackie Sherrill affair in January and has begun to speak out for the concept of "world universities" — naturally proposing Texas A&M as a logical candidate.

Outgoing Chancellor Hubert has been the "iron fist in the velvet glove" — the "kind yet gracious," "tough administrator" at the helm that rebuffed a University president's power play and realigned the System.

Incoming Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen views his new job as a step up from the top spot at Purdue University, which

is a multi-campus system with service and research agencies like A&M. His desire for a new challenge viewed by most as healthy aggression is just the thing for the Aggies.

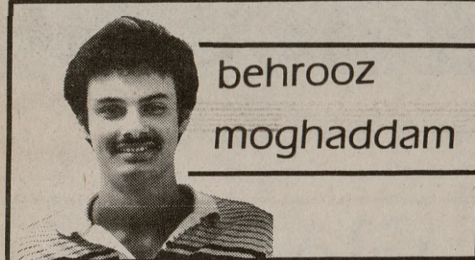
And no one doubts that Bright will continue to act decisively on occasion without tact, in what he believes the best interests of the University System. He too, wants Aggiedom in the pre-eminent sunshine of university-ship — not a unwelcome any means.

The roles have been cast. Hansen, Vandiver, who are both somewhat ismatic, extremely able and energetic and Bright, who is blunt, bluntly forceful — are all jockeying for position from whence to determine the Aggield.

The change and rate of change cannot — be as quantitative as in years past, but the deeper. Hubert hopes Aggiedom have colleges of law and music turn of the century. Hansen has expressed a desire to concentrate on "grant priorities" — science, agriculture and engineering. Bright wants to do at everything — no, wait, the better.

If the triumvirate can mesh their aims and goals, great things can happen, not things can deteriorate or matter what, things will change — the only constant.

Let us hope, then, that our road will not lead us astray but instead further down the road to glory.



behrooz moghaddam

cy's diplomatic ineptitudes. United States' dependability — and with it prestige — as the leader of the free world hang on the balance as chaos continues to best describe the foreign policy process here.

The principal cause for the present deterioration, it seems to me, is directly due to the infighting for control over foreign policy decisions during Haig's brief tenure. The National Security Advisor and the Secretary of Defense, to a lesser extent, were the competing elements.

The purpose for a Secretary of State is exclusive to the performance of diplomacy around the world. His assignment is based on experience and ability. These necessary qualifications combined with all the resources he commands at the State Department, provide him with unparalleled insight into world affairs. Hence, logically, one would expect him to play a primary role, second only to the president's, in policy formulations.

The input of other cabinet and White House Staff members is of course vital in keeping a health level of variety and disagreement. However, in the final analysis, foreign policy is not their cup of tea,



The future — computer widows

by Art Buchwald

For every home computer sold in America, there is a computer widow somewhere.

I dropped over to see the Bengals the other night. Mrs. Bengal offered me a drink.

"Where's Walter?" I asked Adele. "Where he always is these nights. He's in the library talking to his home computer."

"He talks to a computer?" "All the time. It's taken the place of television, conversation and foreplay," she said bitterly.

"I didn't know Walter was into computers."

"He says he's working on a new budget, but I walked in last night and he was playing 'Star Wars.' He told me he was just checking out his floppy disk drive. I've never felt so alone in my life. At least when he watched football, I could sit next to him. But now that he has a home computer, he says he has to be alone with his software."

"You poor kid. Maybe he'll tire of it."

"No way. He reads computer magazines the way he used to read Playboy. His idea of a centerfold now is a 64-K Ram Micro-Computer that will expand to 128 bytes and produce a six-color high graphic screen resolution."

"Has he told you this?"

"No, but he talks in his sleep." "Well, at least he's not dreaming about another woman," Adele said, "But I can't compete with a computer. We have no communication any more. The only language he uses is BASIC, COBOL, and FORTRAN. I'm at my wits' end."

"Have you ever thought about getting your own home computer and plugging into his? Perhaps you could talk that way."

"I'm not interested in interfacing with him through a terminal. After all, we're in the same house."

"Maybe I should talk to him," I suggested.

"You can try, but I doubt if it will do any good."

"I went into the library and found Walter hunched over his keyboard. 'Hi, Walter. Am I disturbing you?'"

"No," he said, squinting at me. "I was only justifying my margins."

"How's life?" I asked.

"Fine. I was having a problem with my cursor for a while, but I straightened it out by adding a protocol."

"You have to be careful of cursors," I said. "What news of Adele?"

"Wait a minute," he said, "I'll find out."

He put in a disk, pushed a code and typed on the screen ADELE. He hit his RETURN button.

"Here it is," he said. She's either in the kitchen, the bath, her bedroom or to a baseball game."

"A baseball game?"

Walter looked worried. "That's sound right. But it's no problem. I have to do is hit this DELETE button."

"Adele thinks she's losing you to a floppy disk retrieval system," I told him.

"That's ridiculous," Walter said. "I'm trying to do is store and index that will be able to forecast how we enjoy the September years of our life."

"We've been friends for years, and I'm going to ask you a very personal question. Walter. How much do you love Adele?"

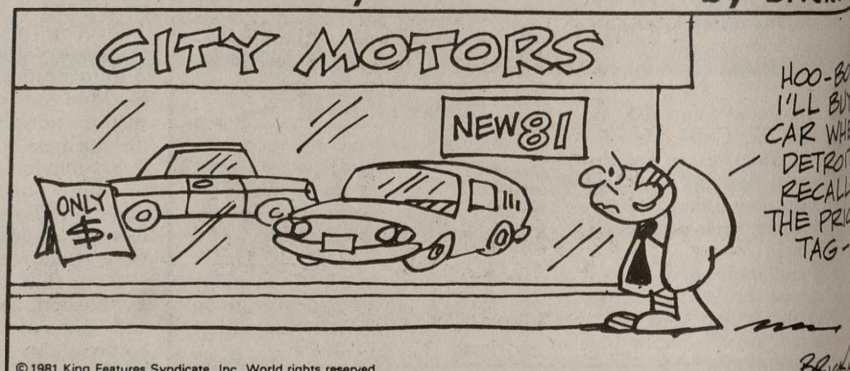
Walter, without saying a word, inserted a disk, and started hitting keyboard.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm counting the ways. It's matter to do it on a computer."

the small society

by Brick



The Battalion

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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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