

opinion

Folk singer keeps up-to-date in the 1980's

by Maxwell Glen and Cody Shearer

When folk singer Arlo Guthrie last visited the nation's capital, he says, he skillfully slipped past security guards at the Pentagon and proceeded directly to the bowels of America's military nerve center.

screaming for, the 18-minute ballad of the anti-war movement, now updated for the more placid days of draft registration: "Alice's Restaurant."

ple, about a Latin folksinger's assassination in Chile, and then lets his audience down easy with one about Jimmy Carter's close encounter with a killer rabbit ("I Don't Want a Bunny-Wunny In My Little Row Boat.")

accurate portrayal of America's," noted Guthrie in an interview. "I certainly don't want to see the government turn into some giant monopoly that makes people feel good. But (the Reaganites) are just not sensitive to the destiny of some groups of Americans."

Above all, Guthrie is careful in his routine never to preach. He says he'd never tell folks to vote -- he'd only encourage someone who might. Similarly, he would prefer playing smaller clubs to large halls.

"They finally devised a way to train everyone in America to defend our shores from aliens," Guthrie mused to an audience at nearby Wolf Trap Farm Park. "And the best part is that it only costs a quarter. All this talk about expensive missiles and bomber planes is just diversionary."

Guthrie's style, however, hasn't changed much since he debuted on the folk scene in 1967. His repertoire still includes rock 'n' roll and bluegrass as well as the labor protest tunes that his father, Woody, made popular.

"They finally devised a way to train everyone in America to defend our shores from aliens," Guthrie mused to an audience at nearby Wolf Trap Farm Park.

By the same token, Guthrie has less-than-glowing words for Reagan's Democratic challengers. "Somebody's got to light a spark, and I haven't seen that from any candidate." (What he's heard, incidentally, are requests from the campaign of Sen. Gary Hart to perform a benefit concert. Guthrie has refused.)

Such are the small strokes with which this artist works. If nothing else, they reflect his realistic expectations of the peace change he advocates.

With that theorem proved, Guthrie strums his way into the evening's last song, the one the crowd has been waiting and

Arlo's compositions, like "Alice," still mix song and chat in sly, ambling librettos that often chide such institutions as law and order, the military, and commercial developments.

very subtly when it comes to Ronald Reagan, about whom he suspects most people have not made up their minds. He suggests only that Americans seem to get fooled every four years.

Not surprisingly, Guthrie reserves some sarcasm for his now-grown-up peers, who he thinks must make awkward parents. In one song entitled, "Mom, Your Universal Love Is Such A Drag," he takes pity on kids whose parents were hippies:

As for "Alice's Restaurant," the song about conscientious objectors, Guthrie sings a version which incites listeners to create a very minor disturbance at the local post office, in hope of frustrating postal clerks saddled with draft registration chores.

Feeding me granola And all that flaky stuff, You told me meat was hostile But I just can't get enough.

Guthrie says that he hoped to put the song away for good after the Vietnam War and cursed the day when he had to learn it all over again.

Corporate affairs bad for business

by Art Buchwald

As if we didn't have enough trouble in American business, Eliza Collins has just written in the Harvard Business Review that more and more love affairs are taking place in the executive echelons of our nation's corporations.

Miss Smart says, "It's true, J.T., Arthur and I are crazy about each other. But we don't fool around on company time."



In the past these affairs have been between the male boss and his secretary, but as more females climb up the management ladder, they are now taking place between high-level executives of both sexes.

"That's not the point," J.T. says. "The entire conglomerate knows about it and it's causing a real morale problem. Even our Singapore office thinks you two are plotting against them."

Reagan plans Philippines visit despite security risk

by Helen Thomas

WASHINGTON — Backstairs at the White House:

dynamite, lit the fuse, tossed it overboard, and with the explosion came the fish belly up.

President Reagan seems to enjoy the guessing game of whether he will run for a second term or not. He has held off spilling the beans to interviewers and his top aides.

According to Ms. Collins these affairs are playing havoc with other employees, because they don't know if a management couple in love is making decisions for the good of the company or for each other.

Duff says, "That's ridiculous. Our division has never been in better shape since we've fallen in love. We're the only executives in the company who game plan corporate strategy in bed."

President Reagan still plans to visit the Philippines when he tours Asia in early November, despite the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino.

"And the sheriff said 'Elmer, do you realize you've just committed a felony?' Elmer reached down into the tackle box, took out another stick of dynamite, lit it, handed it to the sheriff and said: 'Did you come here to fish or talk?'"

So close to the chest is he playing his cards that it is sometimes wondered whether he has even let his wife in on his secret.

The organizational and emotional turmoil pervades everyone from underlings to superiors, and the normal double-crossing atmosphere in the corporation is replaced by distrust, jealousy and back-biting.

"Nevertheless, Duff, I must take a strong stand on this issue. According to management policy the least essential of the two of you must go."

Newspaper editorial writers and members of Congress have urged him not to stop in Manila, where he will be the guest of President Ferdinand Marcos. A government investigation of the murder is under way.

Nancy Reagan learns every day that a first lady has a lot of influence to do good.

But time is running out and whether he likes it or not, he will soon have to make a decision.

Ms. Collins offers a tough solution to the problem. Companies must regard love affairs between their executives as conflicts of interest, and she proposes that the person who is least essential to the firm be asked to leave. She writes that in the male corporate world this is likely to be the woman. But, she adds, if both parties are of equal value, it is the man who should be canned to avoid a sex discrimination suit against the company.

"What do you mean me?" Duff cries. "I'm more essential than you are. I was responsible for the takeover of the Brett Pine Tar Company."

But security questions have arisen in consideration of his forthcoming trip. The trip planners are trying to make sure that Reagan's stamina will not be overtaxed.

President Reagan seems to enjoy the guessing game of whether he will run for a second term or not. He has held off spilling the beans to interviewers and his top aides. So close to the chest is he playing his cards that it is sometimes wondered whether he has even let his wife in on his secret.

On the sidelines, observers look for signs one way or another: In California, he tells reporters, saying: "I know you are waiting for the big announcement."

Bosses, Ms. Collins says, must take a strong stand, because the company always comes first.

"After I showed you how you could do it, by selling off our Mt. Saint Helen's Real Estate subsidiary."

He is to spend four days in Santa Barbara before departing for the Philippines Nov. 2, but en route he will have an overnight stay in Hawaii. Nevertheless, the trip is expected to be arduous and the White House advance team has tried to lighten the load, although there are many requests for his personal appearance in all the countries he will visit. Other planned stops include Japan, South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand.

She was pleased to learn that word has spread not only in this country but abroad that she is devoted to helping rid the country of teenage drug abuse.

"The fence (that he had been building) his ranch is now half way completed. Reporters laughed, but they still want him to drop the other shoe.

Yet there is another solution that Ms. Collins doesn't suggest, which could save both jobs.

"Are you trying to tell me your job means more to you than our love?" Duff says.

"It's about a fellow named Elmer. In his town, he fished and he made a living selling fish to the local restaurant. But he was able to provide so many fish every day that the game warden got a little suspicious and the sheriff, being Elmer's cousin, went to him and said, 'Why don't you go fishing with him and find out how he's doing this.' So they did. And they got out in the middle of a lake in a rowboat and the sheriff threw his line in and Elmer reached down in the tackle box and pulled out a stick of

Mrs. Tate said Mrs. Mugabe told Mrs. Reagan she particularly wanted to thank her on behalf of her sister, whose son had a drug problem. It seems that Mrs. Mugabe's sister read the article and was able to help her son, who has now recovered and is attending college.

The Question comes during every interview. Most recently at a gathering with the Hispanic press, he was asked: "Mr. President, could you tell us when you will announce that you will seek or not seek re-election?"

Let me give you a scenario.

"I can always fall in love," Miss Smart says. "But I worked too hard to get where I am in this company to throw it away now."

The president, who was born and grew up in the small towns of Tampico and Dixon in Illinois, felt right at home speaking to the National Association of Towns and Townships, and he enjoyed telling the following story:

Mrs. Tate said Mrs. Mugabe told Mrs. Reagan she particularly wanted to thank her on behalf of her sister, whose son had a drug problem. It seems that Mrs. Mugabe's sister read the article and was able to help her son, who has now recovered and is attending college.

At the last possible moment that I announce a decision, and for a very obvious reason," he said. "No. 1, if the answer is 'no,' I am a lame duck and can't get anything done. If the answer is 'yes,' they will charge that everything I am doing is political and I can't get anything done. So I am going to wait as long as I can."

The chief executive of Kiss & Tel calls in two vice presidents.

"You bet your sweet life, J.T.," Duff says.

"One aspect of town government is that people know each other. Some are even related," he said. "There's a story about town folk. Usually if you are going to tell a joke, you try to tie it into something that has to do with what you are talking about. The closest I can come is that this story is kind of typical of the humor and the flavor of small town America."

It's the least we can do. After all, who else makes us look so good?

On the sidelines, observers look for signs one way or another: In California, he tells reporters, saying: "I know you are waiting for the big announcement."

"Well, for one thing, Miss Smart is running her hand through your hair while I'm talking to you."

"Then the problem is solved and the two of you can stay. I'm proud of both of you. When push came to shove you chose the company over your hearts. That's the kind of managers I want playing on my team."

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"I should have known you were a ruthless broad when you closed down Scranton, Pennsylvania. You can move out of the apartment tonight."

"You can't do that to Arthur," Miss Smart yells.

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The Battalion

USPS 045 360

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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.

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The Battalion is published Monday through Friday during Texas A&M regular semesters, except for holiday and examination periods. Mail subscriptions are \$16.75 per semester, \$33.25 per school year and \$35 per full year. Advertising rates furnished on request.

Our address: The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

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Bob Rum Mickey P

New regu

Even though the bonuses or 'happy' suit of a new account the use of compute there shouldn't be students completin Dr. Bruce McCorn department head o ence, said.

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