

**OPINION**

# India's new nukes versus Star Wars

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is pondering the construction of a nuclear weapon because his Cabinet is afraid India's primary rival, Pakistan, already has nuclear capabilities.

After Gandhi finished telling the newspaper *Le Monde* about his nuclear considerations, he criticized President Reagan for his Star Wars defense program. Gandhi claimed the Strategic Defense Initiative which is designed to shoot down incoming Soviet missiles is an obstacle to arms reduction.

"We believe that this military program risks adding a new dimension to nuclear war and to complicate even more the disarmament question," he said Monday.

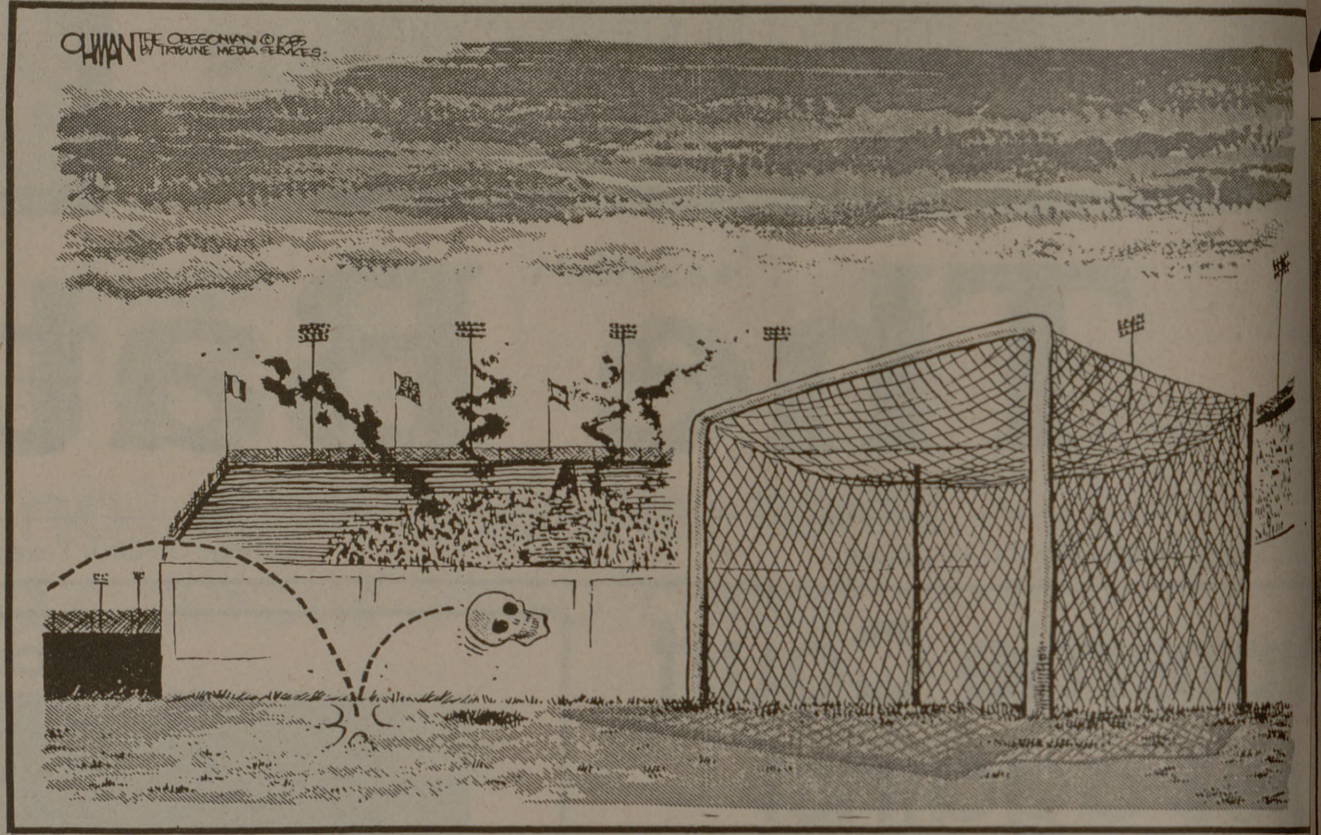
Gandhi is attacking Reagan for hindering arms reduction on one hand and proposing to increase weapons construction in his own country on the other.

Obviously, he doesn't feel that a nuclear build-up between India and Pakistan is "adding a new dimension to nuclear war." The two countries have fought three times since 1948 and nuclear capabilities thrust into this situation could prove fatal.

Nuclear conflict between Pakistan and India could spell disaster for large portions of Asia, including the Soviet Union. Certainly the USSR will not idly watch mushroom clouds billow on their horizons, and the United States could not allow the Soviets to enter any such conflict unchecked.

Nuclear war between Pakistan and India could cause chains of allies on both sides to be drawn into disaster. Star Wars is a defense system, and while it may anger the Soviets and other nations, it isn't going to start any wars. Gandhi may claim that Star Wars obstructs arms reductions, but at least it doesn't obstruct peace.

The Battalion Editorial Board



**Guest Columnist**

# University Archives offers information

Where and what was Lake Shinola?

**Charles R. Schultz**

Whose face adorns the System Building?

What was Prexy's Moon?

Who branded Bevo?

What building stands on the former site of a cemetery?

Who was "Old Beck"?

What is the oldest building on campus? Who built it? How much did it cost?

The answer to these questions and many, many more can be found in the University Archives located at the west end of the Sterling C. Evans Library building.

The University Archives was established in 1949-50 during the preparations for Texas A&M's 75th anniversary and was given the task of collecting, preserving and making available to interested users the permanently valuable records of Texas A&M.

Since then the Archives has been collecting records of all types about Texas A&M and has been making them available to students, faculty, and staff of the Texas A&M community.

In recent years, between 5,000 and 6,000 individuals per year have found answers to all sorts of questions in the Archives.

Clippings files on individual faculty members and administration; on departments, colleges and other administrative units; and on a wide variety of subjects ranging from A&M Adjunct to Zapper are the most frequently used records.

They are used for themes, speeches, term papers, articles in *The Battalion* and *The Eagle* and for purely personal interest in such topics as bonfire, muster, football, mascots (especially Reveille, but also Bevo), and various buildings on campus. Files on parking, bicycles, Greek organizations, GSS and crime are perennially popular. In recent months, the bell tower file has been used frequently.

The Archives also has extensive files of photographs of people, buildings and activities at A&M.

Although there are some photographs for the entire history of the Uni-

versity, the most comprehensive coverage is about 1890 to 1940. The complete set of Aggieclands (called Ohio in 1895, the first year one was issued, and Longhorn from 1903 to 1948) provide additional pictorial coverage.

Preserving and making available to researchers those records of Texas A&M which have permanent administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value is the primary function of the Archives. Thus the files of various administrative units, such as chancellor, president, directors and department heads are found in the Archives.

Also located in the Archives are copies of most publications issued on campus. These include all books published by the A&M Press, technical and information reports based upon faculty research and a wide variety of newsletters.

In addition to such official records, the Archives has records of numerous organizations, many of which are closely tied to the University. These include records of several A&M Mothers' Clubs and some organizations in the Bryan-College Station area.

The Archives also has papers of many individuals, most of whom have direct ties to the University. These include papers of retired faculty members and of Aggies who have served in the U.S. Congress and in the Texas Legislature.

When existing records are not adequate, the Oral History Office in the Archives conducts extensive interviews with appropriate persons to provide the needed documentation.

The most extensive project has been interviews with Aggie generals living in Texas. In other projects, retired Texas A&M faculty members and administrators as well as former students and prominent oceanographers throughout the United States have been interviewed.

The Archives is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Materials in the Archives do not circulate, but it is possible to make photocopies of them. Arrangements can also be made to have copies made of photographs.

Faculty, staff and students, as well as outsiders, are welcome to use any of the materials in the Archives.

Charles R. Schultz is the University Archivist for Texas A&M.

**Congressmen are in his pocket**

# Louie the lobbyist ready to fight for tax loopholes

By ART BUCHWALD  
Columnist for The Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Louie, the lobbyist, was dressed in battle gear. As soon as President Reagan declared war on the "special interest" groups, Louie loaded his Xerox machine and marched forth toward Capitol Hill to wage combat.

"It must be a bad time for you," I said, as he paused on Pennsylvania Avenue to drink from his canteen of Pouilly Fuisse.

"It's the best of times," said Louie, slapping me on the back. "Every lobbyist dreams of someday going up on the Hill to fight against tax reform. We were trained all our lives for this moment."

"Aren't you afraid your loopholes will be killed?"

"My boy, for every loophole that falls, we'll find another to take its place. When push comes to shove we'll get what we want out of tax reform, and the President will get what he wants."

"Then you're not going to attack the Reagan plan head-on?"

"That would be suicidal. He's raised the hopes of every taxpayer. Our strategy is to publicly support the President on his reforms and cheer him on, whilst we quietly infiltrate the offices of congressmen and senators whom our people have been nice to over the years."

"You mean you're going to start calling in your notes on the money you contributed to our legislators' campaigns?"

"What is so unreasonable about that? They came to us when they were in trouble — now we're coming to them when we're in trouble. That's what fairness in tax reform is all about."

"This could be a tough one because the people have their expectations

raised and it's quite possible the congressmen and senators will have to vote for the bill, whether they want to or not."

"Of course, they're going to vote for the bill," Louie shouted. "We would never ask them *not* to vote for it. That's like telling them not to vote for mother or the American flag. All we want them to do is fine tune the law so that our industry will still be entitled to the tax breaks that have made it one of the highest generators of capital in the country."

"What you're asking then is that you continue to pay no taxes at all?"

Louie was outraged. "There has been too much made of the fact we don't pay any taxes on all our soft drink machines. Just because an industry doesn't pay income taxes is no reason for our companies to be singled out as tax dodgers."

"The people may not see it that way," I said. "Reagan has thrown down the gauntlet and the Democrats are scrambling to pick it up. It looks like tax reform could be an idea whose time has come. It sure is a lot easier to deal with than a \$200 million deficit."

"We've been through tax reform battles before," Louie said. "The trick is not to fire your ammunition too early. Wait until everybody is tired and their nerves are frayed. Then sneak in and plant your loophole while no one is watching. That's the way the smart lobbyists work."

"You believe you can still pull it off?"

Louie put on his Stetson. "It's a trade-off, my boy. The Northeast wants something from our people, so we're ready to deal. We'll give 'em their loophole if they give us ours."

He opened up his pants pocket. "Look in here."

I couldn't believe it. He had 12 con-

gressmen and five senators in his pocket.

"Where did you get them?" I asked him.

"Through my political action committee. Got more in this other pocket. I need them."

**The Battalion**  
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Opinions expressed in *The Battalion* are those of the Editorial Board or the author, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Texas A&M administrators, faculty or the Board of Regents.

The Battalion also serves as a laboratory newspaper for students in reporting, editing and photography classes within the Department of Communications.

**Letters Policy**  
Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words in length. 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 be signed and must include the address and telephone number of the writer.

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