

Mail Call

Locks won't solve problems

EDITOR:

I am a resident of a northside modular dormitory, and next fall will mark the beginning of my third year of living on campus. Since my first semester in the dorms, rent has increased by \$86 per semester.

When I walked into my room yesterday a few days ago, I found a letter from my old buddy Tom Murray at the housing office, who just wanted to let me know that as "part of a University-wide commitment to provide greater security from Texas A&M residents" the exterior doors to my dorm would be locked 24 hours a day starting next fall. This reassuring statement was followed by an impressive list of heinous crimes from which I would now be protected, based on the assumption (I suppose) that the facts would speak for themselves.

OK, Mr. Murray, I have a few facts of my own. Residents let strangers into the dorm without a second thought. I know. I live in the dorm. I see them do it every day. When I try to prevent this phenomenon I am called all sorts of names. Locking the doors 24 hours a day is not going to solve the problem. If Texas A&M is so committed to my safety, why doesn't it spend a little of its resources to install a check-in desk at the main entrance to my dorm? My friends who go to other Texas schools can't believe we don't already have some sort of receptionist arrangement, and frankly, I can't believe it either. My parents can't believe they're shelling out an extra \$86 each semester to build more dorms without effective security plans. That's a pretty big bundle of disbelief to be overlooking.

Locking the doors doesn't keep the boogie man out. It just means I have to hike downstairs to get my pizza.

Jennifer Maloney '91

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 classification, address and telephone number of the writer.

Should America become an Aryan Republic?



Todd Honeycutt
Columnist

I was sitting in my room one fine Texas springtime day, feeling kind of hot because of a lack of air conditioning, when I caught myself thinking of how great our campus is. We have grass and trees and new parking garages and world-class status and fine professors.

I was looking out my window and noticing the people. Most of them were white.

That reminded me of an article I had read in a recent issue of *The Battalion* about a man who goes by the name of Louis R. Beam Jr. I wish we had more political and social leaders like him.

Beam has had an intriguing history, which is sad when you think about the quality of this man. He's been in the Ku Klux Klan since the '60s, and he became the Grand Dragon of the Houston area. Later, he was listed in the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List. For what? Probably the main cause was for his unpopular ideas, along with his minor bending of various rules.

Beam, you see, wants to form a national state for the white race, an Aryan Republic.

The United States has been infiltrated by inferior peoples. And because of this, we are having difficulties with our education, our political state, our economy, and our society in general. It is because America's population is impure that America is falling into the same status as other nations and failing to keep its former stature.

For precisely these reasons, we must form a new nation of only white people. They are the superior race. In creating an Aryan Republic, we would not only save American values of justice and equality, but also return America to the greatness it once had.

Think about it. By having an all-white nation, we would be better able to edu-

cate our youth, without having to slow down the rate of learning because of inferior races' educational problems. We would eliminate racial strife and violence which is predominant in today's America. And we ourselves would not be discriminated against, a problem which has occurred because of those Communists who call themselves United States Congressmen.

What better choice do we have than to create a nation of only the Aryan race?

But there is a problem, you may say, of who to call white and who to call non-white. That is simple to answer. Non-white is obviously any person who is not of northwestern European descent. This includes Hispanics, blacks, Indians (both "native" American and Asian), Slavs, Poles, waps, Greeks, and Orientals. But it is not limited to just those peoples. Non-white also includes atheists, Communists, hippies, peace-lovers, and liberals.

And God is behind the idea of an Aryan Republic. It says so in the Bible, I'm sure. The Jews are not God's chosen people, nor are the Muslims or Hindus or any of those other Christian-hating religions.

Everything points to an all-white nation, superior to all others — powerful, patriotic, pure, good.

Tell me now, what's wrong with this picture?

All of the above is dry sarcasm, used to point out a grave wrong which is occurring now, in this land of America. Mr. Beam really does want to create this Aryan Republic within the United States. This is racism, Nazism, — all fueled by hate.

Racism is a product of diseased minds who do not see anything wrong with hatred against another human being, especially if that human being has a different skin color or cultural background. The perceived differences between various peoples is not caused by inherent inequalities or inferiorities, but by the wrongs of our social and political class system.

I do not want to run racism into the ground. It has been discussed a great deal this semester. But can you actually overexpose an issue about which nothing has been done?

Racism is still predominant in our culture, whether we are blind to it or not. And the fault of its existence is not due solely to those who blatantly participate in racism. Racism is to be blamed on all of us. By allowing racism to occur, by fe-

lusing to acknowledge its existence, by saying that you don't do it, you allow the fire to continue to burn.

Someday you'll wonder how the Aryan Republic came about. The possibility is not that improbable. If you are

true to yourself, you will know who to blame.

Todd Honeycutt is a sophomore psychology major and a columnist for *The Battalion*.

Differences between leaders will force changes in Cuba

The biggest news on the international front recently has been Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Cuba for meetings with Fidel Castro and other Communist Party leaders. Because of the ideological differences between the two comrades-in-arms, watching Fidel give a "bear-hug" to Mikhail, watching the Gorbachevs ride through the streets of Havana with Castro, and watching Mikhail shaking hands with the other Cuban leaders was very amusing.

Although Castro greeted Gorbachev with a warm-hearted, "welcome-to-the-oasis-among-capitalist-imperialist-scum" hug, Mikhail just didn't seem to care. It was almost as if Gorbachev wasn't sure who this Castro guy was. He remained stiff-lipped and cold during his tour of Havana while Castro had an uncharacteristically large, tooth-showing smile and was enthusiastically waving at mobs of cheering spectators.

It looked as if Castro was bending over backwards to promote Cuba and its people as a sort of Communist Disneyland. Obviously, he wants to impress Gorbachev and keep this visit on an enthusiastic, jubilant note, and avoid any of those uncomfortable, confrontational feelings that were rumored before Gorbachev arrived.

Castro and Gorbachev don't see eye to eye when it comes to Communist reform. Castro, as can be expected, let his opposition to perestroika be known. Yesterday a group of Cubans wanted to assemble in front of the Soviet Embassy to ask Castro to adopt some of Gorbachev's reforms. Rather than state his reasons for not accepting perestroika, Castro simply had those people thrown in jail.

He doesn't see any reason to change



James Cecil
Columnist

the system he has been building for 30 years. The Cuban people seem to be content — not necessarily happy, as is obvious by the large number of dissidents, but they do seem content. Castro has worked for years to achieve this level of content in his country, and doesn't want to jeopardize it.

Gorbachev, on the other hand, has a different story. The Soviet Union is in an economic deadlock, experiencing no growth while its resources diminish. The people are unhappy and see nothing great in the future for their children or country. So despite his facade of wanting world peace, Gorbachev had no choice but to reform the Soviet economic and social system. He had to give people a sense of some freedom and move the economy's focus away from building weapons.

Now, Gorbachev comes to Cuba to espouse some reforms for communism to better their countries. But Castro doesn't buy it; he thinks Gorbachev's reforms are too much like capitalism, the institution Castro has spent 30 years brain-washing his people to hate. Besides, he likes the way things are in Cuba, and why fix something that isn't broken?

The Soviet Union is clearly different from Cuba, and what works in one

country may not work in the other. But the main difference Castro forgets to look at is that Cuba is on the Soviet Union's payroll. Cuba is given \$5 billion a year by the Soviet Union to support its system. This makes Castro the recipient of the world's largest welfare check. With this kind of outside support is it wonder the Cubans are content.

Who gives the Soviet Union financial support like that? No one — that's what they've been caving in economically, and Gorbachev has been forced to reform.

Because Cuba has a \$5 billion shelter from the economic erosion communism causes, Castro feels secure with the system there, even though he does owe the Soviets a mere \$20 billion in defaulted loans that they are never going to see. Without that safety net, Cuba would face worse turmoil than the Soviet Union has seen.

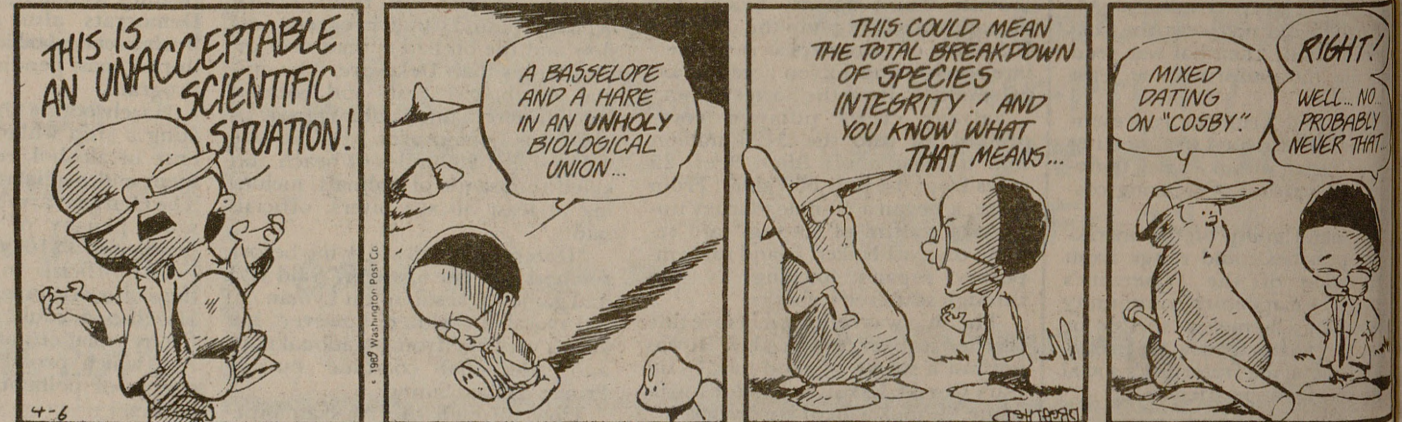
Castro doesn't stop to ask himself what he needs all this continuing assistance; his Communist structure is so great. He doesn't want to change his system because there aren't severe problems right now, but this system can't support itself; it can't work without sucking money from another country forever. What's so great about that?

Gorbachev can't afford to maintain a failed economic system in his own country, but Castro expects him to keep Cuba's system propped up. What will Gorbachev do? Most likely he'll cut back on this perpetual financial aid, and the Communist system Castro has become so fond of will have to be reformed in Cuba.

James Cecil is a senior economics major and a columnist for *The Battalion*.

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



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