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The daily cardinal. Vol. LXXXIII, No. 22

September 25, 1972

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Elson is crazy; not stupid

By JULIE ELIKNOVICH

Julie and Ed came happily into the office like children. "Give this one all you can," she whispered to us while Ed stood silent in the corner, "it may be a masterpiece."

There is a fire fiercely burning in our midst and his name is Eddie Elson. Like fluorescence, that passionately glows just before it flickers, Elson has become a refulgent as his end draws into sight. Do yourself a favor, give him your attention, he can dazzle and illumine, if only you would let him. He hasn't got much time left.

Eddie lives on Lake Waubesa with his precious wife Patricia. The cottage that they live in is something extra special; the plot of ground on which it sits was once the picnic point.

Directly in front of their home, fifteen feet down a slope to the water, on top of their boathouse I found them sitting. They were staring up at the stars, talking in whispers, snickering, giggling and bubbling with laughter. It was 11 o'clock at night.

Earlier in the day I had called and asked to see them. They told me that I had to come at 11 o'clock at night. Climbing on top of the boathouse, pad and pencil clutched in hand, I asked them why they had set this interview "for such an ungodly hour?" Laughing delightedly, Patricia replied, "this is the most godly hour that could be had for the great god El to reveal himself, which he will do assuredly."

Thereupon, Eddie pointed to the stars above and said that they weren't suns, but entranceways of light. He said that "our universe was encapsulated in a membrane; a membrane that floated in a liquid sea of light; that holes in the membrane, which mortals call the stars, let the liquid light pour through."

With a pleasant smile upon his maniacal face, Eddie, holding onto his precious Patty's hand, softly said, "you and many others have been much misinformed for many years now. The stars you see tonight, as you have seen on every other night, are not, as you've been told, gaseous-orbous bodies like our Sun, but they are entranceways of light. The universe is finite."

Without another word, Eddie took me by the hand, led me off the boathouse roof and we stepped inside the boathouse proper. I couldn't see a thing until he started snapping on the switches and then the boathouse became illuminated. There was more light in a single space than I had ever seen before.

The boathouse was made of concrete block. It was thirty feet by twenty-five. From the floor to the ceiling it was about 13 feet up. Eddie had placed huge lightbulbs every four feet, in every direction, upon the ceiling and on every wall. A black plastic material, bunched up in the middle, covered the entire floor.

After Eddie had turned on the lights, he had us stand outside the boathouse as he turned on the final switch. The black plastic material covering the floor started to rise. I could hear the whirring of some motors and Eddie told me that he had placed, underneath the floorboards of the boathouse, fans to make the plastic rise. In about five minutes the black plastic covering was completely stretched into the shape of a dome.

Eddie pulled aside a flap on the dome and Patty and I followed him inside. He shut the flap and we crawled to the center of the floor. We had to crawl for the major part of the floor underneath the plastic canopy turned out to be a water bed that was about twenty feet in diameter.

Laying on my back, gently rocking on the water underneath me, I was truly amazed. It looked as if there were hundreds of tiny lights hung from the sides and the top of the black, plastic dome. However, when I reached out to touch the lights, I discovered that they were only holes that had been punctured into the dome. They were just holes, in isolation, in clusters, arranged in some sort of attractive

array through which the lights from the boathouse were shining.

We laid on the water bed, quietly rocking, not saying a word for over an hour. Eddie crawled out of the dome and then immediately crawled back in holding what appeared to be a large microscope. Eddie set this instrument up by placing it upon a board resting on the waterbed, not quite in the center of the dome. Eddie explained that this instrument was a spectroscope and not a microscope and that it measured the wave lengths of light.

Eddie focused the spectroscope on one of the holes letting in light and showed me how to read the spectroscope. Then Eddie focused in on another hole letting in light and let me read the spectroscope. There were two different readings.

Eddie explained what the two different readings meant: "There are lightholes and there are assholes. Astronomy professors at the University of Wisconsin are assholes. They believe, in their dull-hand-me-down stupidity, that wave length differences reflect distance differences. They believe that there are some stars further out than others on a lateral line."

Eddie, seeing that he was not getting his idea across to me, started on a different track: "Envision that the earth is in the dead center of the membrane that encapsulates the universe. Looking at the various holes called stars through a spectroscope, you will get different wave length readings. It is not because some holes are further away than others that produces the differences in wave length readings, but it may be the angle at which the light pours through the holes that causes the differences in wave lengths."



Eddie, seeing my perplexed look, stopped short, thought for a moment and then continued: "We are encapsulated in a membrane; this membrane is submerged in a liquid sea of light; this light pours through the holes we have denominated stars. This liquid sea of light has different densities at different points. Like a river, in places murky, in places clear this liquid sea of light has different densities. When our spectroscopes on the earth show that different stars have different wave lengths, this does not mean that they have different distances from the earth, only that the light that is coming through has a different density."

Realizing what Eddie was trying to get at, I said to him, "in other words, Michelson and Morley were wrong, light is not constant?" Eddie, with an excited look on his madman's face, happily replied to my summary, "You bet they were wrong, and believe me, Einstein did not come upon his theory of relativity through their work. Their work stands in opposition to everything he believed in."

When we finally left the dome, Eddie turned off all of the switches, the black plastic collapsed, and we climbed to the top of the boathouse.

Eddie and Patty subscribe, in large measure, to the "old sacred theory of the universe." They believe that Genesis, the first chapter of the Bible, is a true and sacred revelation. Eddie said to me, "the ancients believed that a solid vault, a 'firmament', was extended above the earth

and that the heavenly bodies were simply lightshungwithinit. Though they were wrong, they were closer to the truth than the scientific community, for at least they recognized there was a firmament."

Eddie showed me the first chapter of the Bible, Genesis, describing the creation of the world:

"In the beginning of creation, when God made heaven and earth, the earth was without form and void, with darkness over the face of the deep, and a mighty wind swept over the surface of the waters. God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light; and God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness... God said, 'Let there be a vault between the waters, to separate water from water.' So God made the vault, and separated the water under the vault from the water above it; and God called the vault heaven... God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to separate day from night, and let them serve as signs both for festivals and seasons and years. Let them also shine in the vault of heaven to give light on earth.'"

After showing me this portion of Genesis, Eddie added in explanation, "when the Bible talks of 'separating the waters from the waters' a concept that light is liquid is being advanced. The Bible reflects the idea, recently rearticulated by Einstein, that light is liquid. This is why the ancients described the firmament as separating the waters of light from the waters of ether."

It was about six a.m. now. We had been sitting and talking on top of the boathouse for four hours or so. Eddie, just as the dawn was breaking, without saying a word of what he intended, took me by the hand down to the water.

On the bank, by his dock, Eddie showed me an unusual boat he had built. Because of its peculiar shape, I didn't realize that it

was indeed a boat, until Eddie said it was. It looked more like a twenty foot long bannana, than any boat I had ever seen. When he said it was a boat I assumed that it should be "straddled" like a horse in order to ride it, for there were no seats on which to sit and there was no cavity in which to climb.

I was wrong. Eddie showed me how to get into it. The top half of the bannana was like a tool chest or a coffin; it opened on hinges. Eddie and I crawled in, laying on our backs. Patty shut the top half, battened down the hatch and shoved us into the water.

The feeling was incredible. The bannana boat slid into the water, and after being reassured by Eddie that there was enough air to breathe, I relaxed and took in the exquisite sensation of gently rocking. The bannana boat, however, did not just rock back and forth, and from side to side, but at various angles it rocked. It was kind of like the bannana boat had been placed on a ball bearing. It was more like swiveling than rocking.

After about five minutes of this luxurious swiveling, Patty pulled us into shore and we got out. As we walked back up the slope, Eddie told me that the inspiration for the bannana boat had come from the Biblical story of Noah's Ark. "In fact," he said, "the dimensions for the bannana boat are only a relativistic miniaturization of the dimensions given in cubits for the Ark."

"More importantly," Eddie continued, "I have come to believe that the membrane



that encapsulates our universe has a shape similar to the bannana boat. Not only does the membrane have the same shape as the bannana boat, but it undergoes the same yaw, roll and pitch that you just sensed and described as swiveling."

We went into the Elson cottage. While Patty made coffee, Eddie showed me his calculations and formulas. He believes that he has almost formularized the fifth dimension. What he has done is, by the use of an electronic gyroscope, plotted the yaw, roll and pitch of the banana boat. Since he believes that the universe we live in, encapsulated in its membrane, undergoes the same yaw, roll and pitch, this formula reflects the fifth dimension, perpetual motion.

Eddie, pointing to his calculations, while Patty poured us coffee, said in no uncertain terms, "we have become trapped in the vision of Newton. Our civilization has accepted, without question, the concept of inertia. But Newton was wrong. The universe is in a state of perpetual motion. To arrive at a point you need not, as Newton suggested, overcome inertia by propulsion. All you really need do is stand still in a moving universe and a point will come to you. The fifth dimension is not only perpetual motion, it is repose in relation to perpetual motion."

Smiling mischievously, sipping his coffee, smoking a cigarette, Eddie excitedly said, "I believe that we can shoot a space ship from the earth into space, have it stand still, and a point in space will come and meet it. I believe that within the year I will be able to formularize the yaw, roll and pitch of the universe, and therefore I could say to an astronaut, 'stop your spaceship at 22 degrees N.W. by 36 degrees S.W. and Jupiter will reach you in 16 hours, 13 minutes.' Standing still in a moving universe is called 'reposing in the null and void.'"

The telephone rang. Eddie answered it and came back minutes later with a look of pain across his face. I asked him what was the cause of his distress. He told me that he had just received a call from Jon Lamal in Los Angeles telling him that Richie Gunther, a friend of theirs, had been given a ten year sentence for "conduct regardless of life."

Eddie explained that Richie Gunther, along with Jon Lamal and others, had been working on the yaw, roll and pitch formula for about three years. Gunther's parents had gotten very upset over his dropping out of San Francisco State to devote all his time to what they considered "a hair-brained idea." Last year, Richie's parents had taken him to a psychiatrist, Dr. Milton Fungle, who suggested to Richie that he take a phenothiazine called thiorazine. Richie took the drug to please his parents. He took a daily dose of thiorazine on an outpatient basis for two months.

When Richie, at the conclusion of daily taking 250 mgs. of thiorazine for two months, tried to get back to working on the yaw, roll and pitch formularization, he couldn't do it. The drug, thiorazine, had made him rational; he could no longer think in inspired terms. His powers of intuition had been destroyed.

Richie, outraged at the loss of his genius, found out where the evangelically rational Dr. Fungle ate his lunch. In February of this year, while Dr. Fungle was eating a corn beef on rye, Richie put 1500 mgs. of LSD in Dr. Fungle's coffee. Dr. Fungle lost his mind. Richie had paid Dr. Fungle back for making Richie lose his.

I left Eddie and Patty on this sour note. As I drove back to the Daily Cardinal, I wondered whether Richie or Dr. Fungle would ever get their minds back. I concluded that it didn't much matter whether Dr. Fungle got his back or not, for his was a run-of-the-mill mind. But Richie's mind was extra special. Somehow, Richie's loss, was a loss I shared.

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Thursday	Blueberry Pancake Day (one half price - 9¢ each)
Friday	Egg Day (second egg free)

happenings

BEGINNING BILLIARDS MINI-COURSE

Monday, September 25

Learn the basics of billiards as taught by the manager of Action Billiards. Six sessions for \$5. Pre-register at the Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
7 pm Union South games Room

BEGINNING BRIDGE MINI-COURSE

Monday, September 25

Six sessions for \$5. Pre-register at the Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
7 pm Union South Snack Bar

JEWISH LAW MINI-COURSE

Monday, September 25

Nine sessions on aspects of Jewish Law. Pre-register at the Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm. Free
8 pm Memorial Union

WINCHESTER '73

Monday, September 25

Free Stiftskeller film directed by Leo McCarey
8 pm Memorial Union Stiftskeller

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY MINI-COURSE

Tuesday, September 26

Nine sessions for the good photographer who wants to learn more! \$15. Pre-register at Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
7 pm Union South Darkroom

BOWLING MINI-COURSE

Wednesday, September 27

Six sessions for \$5. Pre-register at Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
4:45 pm Union South Games Room

UNE FEMME DOUCE

Wed - Thurs, September 27-28

Movie Time Film 78¢
2,4,7,9, pm Memorial Union Play Circle

TABLE TENNIS MINI-COURSE

Thursday, September 28

Four sessions for \$5 with the 1972 ACUI District Champ. Pre-register at Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
7 pm Union South

DAVE BARLOW IN STIFTSKELLER

Thursday, September 28

Folkboat singer Dave Barlow warms up for the last weekend of Cruise tours on Lake Mendota. Free
8 - 11 pm Memorial Union Stiftskeller

INTERMEDIATE PHOTOGRAPHY MINI-COURSE

Thursday, September 28

Eight sessions on improving film development and basic printing techniques for \$10. Pre-register at Memorial Union Program Office from 1-5 pm
7-8 pm Memorial Union Workshop

FOLKBOAT ON LAKE MENDOTA

Fri-Sat, September 29-30

Folksinger David Barlow onboard the Union Cruise Boat. Also serving beer, wine, cheese and soda. Tickets \$1 at Outing Center or at boat departure
9, 10:30 pm tours Alumni House Pier

THE GO-BETWEEN

Fri-Sun, Sept. 29 - Oct 1

Movie Time Film 78¢
2,4:15,7,9:15,11:30 pm Memorial Union Play Circle

UW OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

Sat - Sun, Sept 30 - Oct 1

Register from 8 - 8:30 am Saturday and play chess all weekend for outstanding cash prizes! Sponsored by Union South Chess Program under auspices of U.S Chess Federation and Intercollegiate Chess Association. Each player paired with opponent of equal strength. Entry fee is \$6. Come to play or watch!
Rounds at 9 am, 2 and 7 pm Saturday and 11 am and 4 pm on Sunday Union South

BADGER FOOTBALL FILM

Sunday, October 1

Free film highlights of the Badger - Louisiana football game
7 pm Union South Assembly Hall

CHINESE INTERNATIONAL DINNER

Sunday, October 1

Featuring Chen-Chu-Jou-Wan (pearl balls - rice meat balls with roast pork) served a la carte
5-6:30 pm Memorial Union Cafeteria

ALPINE SKI TEAM MEETING

Wednesday, September 27

Information meeting for men and women students interested in competitive skiing
7:30 pm Memorial Union

it's at the union

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'Good Foreplay,' He Says After Miss America Date

By JIMMY KORETZ and PETER ROGOT of the Cardinal Staff

For the first time in the 52-year history of the Miss America Pageant, a voluptuous young damsel from the Dairy State has milked her way to the title. After creaming all other contestants in both the talent and swimsuit competition, Terry Ann Meeuwsen, a 23-year old professional singer from DePere Wisconsin, tearfully accepted the title of Miss America 1973.

A political conservative and devout fundamentalist, the brown haired, brown eyed, Miss Meeuwsen maintains she found religion at a MacDonald's Hamburger Restaurant where a fellow singer from the New Christy Minstrels "made me understand Christ." Score one for Big Mac—thank you and come again.

Our original intention was to get a candid interview with Miss Meeuwsen, hoping that she would expound on her positions on politics, religion, and sex, but our plans were swiftly crushed upon hearing that she won't return to the Dairy State until late October.

Instead, acting on a hot tip from "the Doctor" we journeyed out to the Tap Tavern in Columbus, Wisconsin (30 miles east of Madison) to chat with Tom "Ebs" Evans, a mountain of a man who survived a one-night stand with Terry Ann. A 22-year old Madison graduate in sociology, "Ebs" proved to be our kind of guy and agreed to help us get "inside" Miss America.

"You take an orangutan, and with a year's training, it could become Miss America"

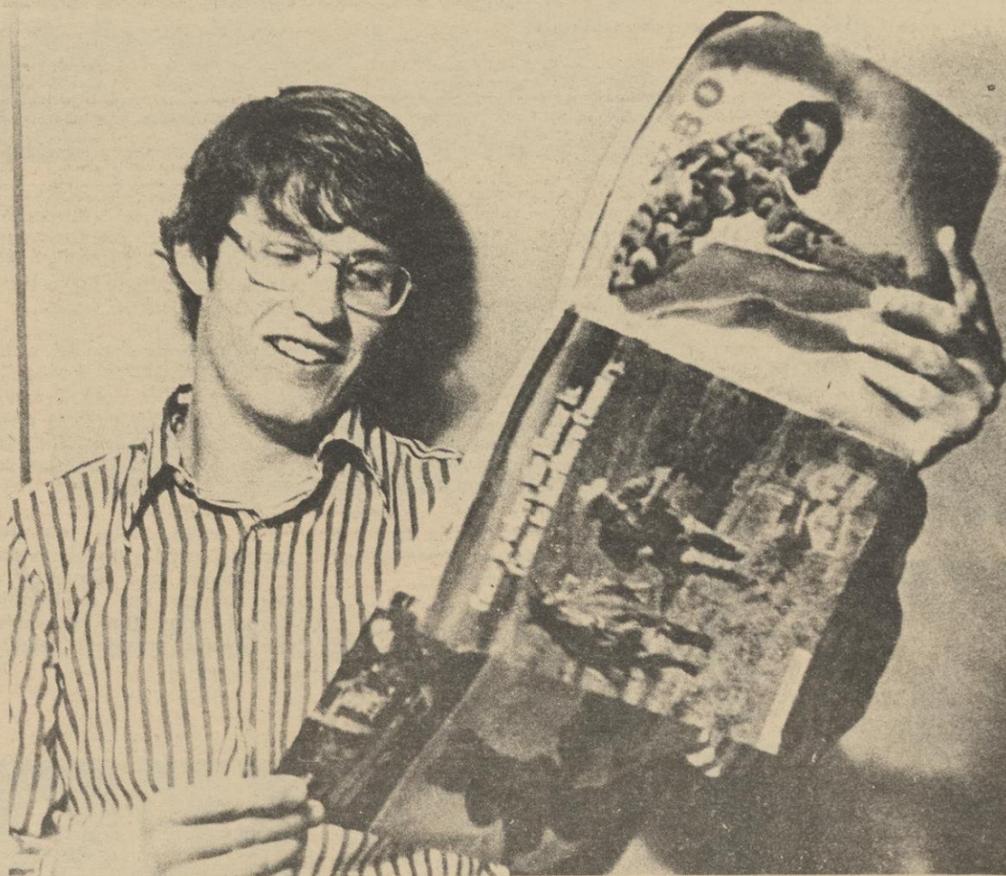
—Jacque Mercer, Miss America 1949

Could you tell us the exact circumstances under which you met Miss Terry Ann Meeuwsen, Miss America 1973?

Evans: The exact circumstances, huh? I was plastered. My roommate my junior year in Madison, John Van Dursen got married two years ago August. I was an usher at the dinner, and I spent the night yakking with her. She was a cousin of the bride. She took good care of herself, but something like Miss America you never think about.

So, I ate dinner with her and we shot the shit. I asked her out for the night, but she was with the New Christy Minstrels and she said she had to go home and wait for a call from her manager.

But how did you actually meet



Tom "Ebs" Evans: "Oh, sure I'd go out with her now, but I don't know if I'd make a habit of it."

her? I'm sure you didn't just walk right up to her...

Sure I did. It was about time to eat, and everyone was milling around waiting to get served. I just sat down and asked her if she wanted to eat with me.

What was your "line?"

Oh Christ? What's a nice girl like you doing sitting here all alone? She seemed like she was having a good time alone, but I thought she'd have a better time with company. She didn't strike me as someone who was outrageously beautiful—just someone who took good care of herself and that improved her a lot.

When you first set eyes on Miss Meeuwsen, did she strike you as having any potential as Miss America?

Hell, no, nobody ever expects that. She was dressed moderately—moderate length dress and blouse. She surely wasn't the life of the party because she doesn't seem like the type that would party like you or me. She had a real uncanny knack for making you feel like you were the center of the conversation,

rather than talking about herself. I bought her a drink—Naturally I was a little bit more into drinking than she was.

Could you picture her waking up in the morning and not looking like Miss America?

Who is in the morning? Did she express any strong convictions on any subject, for instance her religious convictions?

No, not that I can remember. I imagine she's just like any other person—afraid to talk about something like that with someone you don't know too well. She didn't elaborate on it.

Knowing her political, religious and moral convictions, would you go out with her now if you had the chance?

Oh, sure I'd go out with her now, but I don't know if I'd want to make a habit of it. I want to get someone that's nice and loose once in awhile. I like to have a good time—but I really respect someone that has convictions and morals like she does. You know, their "own thing," their own beliefs. But personally, I'd rather take out someone who's more

liberal.

Do you think Terry Anne is a good representative of Miss America?

Well, I don't mean to evade your question, but that's like trying to pick an animal out of the zoo and say 'this is representative of all of them.' I don't think you could represent all the women—but I think she's a good representative of what many American women are like. I can't believe that it's just her looks, cause like I said, she doesn't strike me as Miss Gorgeous Beautiful Bod. She just doesn't cut the mustard there.

She does have nice measurements, though. 36-25-36... That first thirty-six might be stretching it a bit.

Do you think her political viewpoint might have helped her win?

Well, looking at the judges, I would imagine people would tend to pick someone with similar views. I wouldn't say that it helped her, but probably being a freak would have hurt her chances.

Does she seem like the type that could exist in society without

utilizing some form of escapism—say drinking or getting stoned.

Yes, because this is one of the best times of her life, and she doesn't need anything to get high—being Miss America is a natural high, you know. But I'm sure like everyone else she likes to go out and get smashed once in awhile. Some people really groove on natural highs, like going out and taking walks. Of course, that's escaping like anything else.

Was there anything specific about her that turned you off, say bad breath, a moustache....

Probably the moral bit—no pre-marital sex. That's a real bummer. Another thing, of course, is that she turned me down. She's kind of like the type of person that would be an airline stewardess, too busy, moving too fast, don't have time for stuff like that.

How many kids do you think she'll want to have?

How many kids? Well, if she's as straight as she says she is, probably about fifteen. But I'm sure they'll be good kids, because I believe a great portion of what kids turn out to be comes from their parents.

What would you have to change before she could become your Miss America?

Primarily, she would have to thoroughly enjoy sex. As for her politics, I think there's a place for conservatives in the world too. It would be a pretty dull place if everyone was liberal. But like I said, the big change would be she'd have to loosen up. She's too prim and proper. I wouldn't enjoy it.

If you met her again sometime in the future, what would be the first thing you would say to her?

What's a nice girl like you doing sitting here all alone?

After a few pitchers at the Tap Tavern, our conversation shifted once again to the question of pre-marital sex, prompted by a discussion of the outspoken views of Miss Vermont. Finishing off his glass of Bud, "Ebs" looked us in the eyes and admitted "she's probably a virgin—real good at foreplay, but a disappointment at the real thing."

MENDOTA'S A GAS

Lake Mendota's mud generates enough methane gas to heat 500 to 600 average Madison homes each winter, according to University soils researchers A. N. MacGregor and D.R. Keeney.

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Dear Diogenes

We found Diogenes wandering along the northern rim of Lake Mendota. With his lantern in his hand, he appeared suddenly in the night; we feared he might jump so we spoke with him. "Just let me find one I can learn from," he muttered on the edge of sanity, "then I can put my books to rest."

He wandered off aimlessly in the night. A comet flashed over our heads. This column was conceived later that night. Periodically, we will present it, a delicate criticism of a professor and his or her course. It is for Diogenes that it was created, and for Diogenes it will live.

By P.B.

Only a man who ranks among the ten worst-dressed men in the world, claims to get drunk every night with his wife on Schlivavitz brandy and is rumored to be a health fanatic could also make a course entitled "Greek and Roman Culture" entertaining.

Classics Professor Herbert Howe's happy, somewhat high-pitched voice carries a thick New England accent, and his leering facial expression and whole demeanor gives one the impression that he is about to "spring one" on his class at any time. He usually is.

HIS LECTURES are unusual blends of wit, information, antics, appreciation of the Classical and, some would say, self-aggrandizement. Most students enjoy him, but like Camel filters and a college education, he's not for everybody.

First of all, people with rubber lungs and plastic-coated taste buds who absolutely have to have a smoke at 7:45 or 8:50 in the morning are doomed to suffer in a Howe-taught class. The very first day, he picks out a smoker in the front row and demands that the cigarette go out: "I myself smoked for twenty-three years and gave it up," he admonishes. "That took great virtue and intestinal fortitude—which my wife had." (Mrs. Howe is a delightful, British little-old-lady-in-tennis-shoes and a Classics scholar in her own right who assists Prof. Howe in Greek & Roman Culture lectures and discussions).

She is surely the only woman in the world who could sit stoically through her husband's ravings to 300 people in 165 Bascom about "Melina Mercouri, ah, the woman I love."

The overly sensitive student should also forego taking one of Mr. Howe's courses. Like an intellectual version of comedian

Don Rickles, he picks out members of the audience for ridicule to illustrate his lectures. For example, Mr. Howe's method of explaining Plato's "forms" is as follows:

"THE FORMS, which are abstract concepts such as 'womanhood', 'life', and so on, are unchanging and immutable, but the vulgar material world is always changing in shape and size. (Points to a girl in the front row) "What's your name?"

"Sally —"
"All right, Sally, you are a material, earthly manifestation of womanhood, and humanity, and life, which are unchanging, eternal forms. But you yourself are always changing: eighteen

students; he uses his wit to illustrate Classical concepts that are often difficult to understand.

About course content: Both of Professor Howe's most popular courses, "Ancient Religion and the Early Church" and "Classical Mythology", include a good deal of "fun" subject material such as ancient occultism, legends of Greek heroes and the story of how the early Christians stole Christmas from a Roman cult whose deity was born on December 25. But some important concepts underly the "fun": the relation of philosophy to ancient ideas about the cosmos; the place of myth as an explanation of the natural order of things; the roots



Cardinal photo by Dick Satran

The Howes

years ago, you were a pink, squawling baby (class titters). Right now, you're just a big hunk of red meat (class breaks up into laughter). And sixty or seventy years from now, you'll be a "godless, ugly old hag!" (Great hilarity).

The perceptive reader will have gleaned by now that Prof. Howe (besides being a sexist) is a charter member of the "Keep 'em Awake" school of lecturing; there is probably little other way to deliver discourse on Plato or Mithras or the origins of the word "Vena Cava" in early morning.

SO NEEDLESS to say, the student who insists on nothing but immense profundity in both lecture content and humor will find Mr. Howe's style boring if not downright annoying. However, the antics that sometimes accompany his lectures amount to more than just entertainment designed to win favor with

of Christianity in ancient pagan rituals and beliefs.

Perhaps Prof. Howe has not gained folk-hero popularity on this campus because he is not a "gut-A" giver of easy grades, and his course format and testing methods are rather conventional. (Grades conform to the University curve; papers may be assigned in discussion sections by individual TA's). And he may be entirely unsuited for 3-pack-a-day smokers, the overly sensitive students who can't stand clowning and people who just can't hack getting up in the morning.

But to those who want the Classical world to come alive in a decidedly unconventional way — through the use of interesting, stimulating material and a sharp wit to translate classical ideas into concepts that the modern student can digest — Prof. Howe's class presents the opportunity and he's worth getting up for.

Heidel's



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A Threat Is Only A Threat But A Good Bomb Is A Blast

By DEBBIE WEINER
of the Cardinal Staff

"It was kind of a scratchy voice. It sounded real fakey. And it said the Arabs of the world are protesting—something to the effect—the happenings of the world, and to show our protest, we will blow up the School of Music at exactly 11:25 a.m. And then he hung up. That's when I got scared," explained receptionist Kathy Johnson, "because that's when I figured out what it was all about."

The call was received shortly before 11:00 a.m. A few minutes later, University Protection and Security was at the scene. A quick conversation with Music Department Chairman Bruce Benward, and the University police officer asked, "It's up to you what we do, do we evacuate?"

"Up to me? I thought you guys would handle it." Then with a little chuckle, Benward continued, "I think it is a fake." The officer evinced skepticism. A worrisome Benward nodded to the receptionist: "Well, maybe you should take an early lunch." And seconds later, a ringing alarm signalled an "early lunch" for everyone in the target building.

Such was the setting two weeks ago in the Music School Office in the Humanities Building. The drama continued minutes later when Protection and Security received another bomb threat elsewhere on campus. Bomb scares, the bane of local police, can be anywhere.

"Hell, they go all the way from the Primate Center, to Bascom, to WARF, and even Business," says Protection and Security Police Chief Ralph Hanson. But the most frequent guest of honor is reported to be the Administration Building.

According to Captain Robert Hartwig, also of Protection and Security, there is a standard line of operation when handling bomb scares. The initial steps are carried out in the "back room." The University Police are notified. The officer on the case contacts the department chairman, informs him of the nature of the call, and asks him if he wants the building evacuated. Although not an official on-the-record procedure, the administrator asks the officer his opinion. The officer advises; the decision—usually evacuation. The safety of the building and its occupants is now under the guidance of a team of Protection and Security officers who through recruit training programs and annual in-service programs, are kept up to date on the types of devices found elsewhere in the country, and on new techniques for dealing with suspect devices.



Cardinal photo by Joseph Pavlat

"At the tone of the bell, the time will be . . ."

The fire alarm is activated, and in a matter of minutes the building clears. The team of officers search the building for any suspicious devices, especially noting public areas such as restrooms and hallways, where devices are usually concealed. Usually, the bomb threat is just that, a threat, and nothing else. A final conference with the chairman and the building is reoccupied. Announcement to returnees: "Anyone returning to work, check their area, and if anything suspicious is sighted, call the University Police immediately."

A general framework, but "procedures do vary depending on the time of day and the type of call," adds Hartwig. "From 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. as well as on weekends, we can't always get a hold of the chairman. Therefore we make the decision of evacuation." In the event any suspect device is located the Dane County Sheriff has a squad responsible for transportation and/or disposal of the device — "The Bomb Squad."

"The six deputies assigned to the Bomb Squad are always on duty," explains Chief Deputy Stanley Klein, First Senior Officer of the Dane County Detective Bureau. A group of "well-trained" men, with extensive training all over the country, they handle all explosives in the Madison Metropolitan.

"We have never actually handled a bomb at a bomb threat. The most frequent assignment is the disposal of abandoned explosives—blasting caps dynamite — or war souvenir explosives. The explosives are transported in a container to a

range or quarry, and there burned or blown up."

Scary business? Klein speaks from personal experience: "Before this present group (all explosives were formerly under the supervision of the Truax Air Force Base until their move from Madison) I worked in this area in the lab. Anytime you're handling an explosive, you try to handle it right. You only got one chance. It's a hazard."

All threat callers — approximately 75 per cent male — are liable to prosecution under State Statute 947.015, Bomb Scares: "Whoever intentionally conveys or causes to be conveyed any threat or false alarm concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any property by the means of explosives, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year in the County Jail or both."

Penalties are severe but few violators are caught. According

to Hartwig who proclaims "I first became involved in bomb threats the day I started in this department," the annual total of bomb threats has ranged from four to thirty-six, since 1966. Since the bombing of Army Math in the summer of 1970, there has been a decrease in the number of threats. Only three persons thus far have been arrested and prosecuted.

Investigation begins the

moment the call is placed. If the receiver of the threat leaves the phone off the hook, the call "freezes." Through tracing equipment initiated on a special system the call can then be traced to its origin, whether pay phone booth, home apartment, or office. The location known, the detective game begins — description's of people in the area, the nature of the call, the callers' voice.

Every bomb scare has its own peculiarities, notes Hartwig. "The threat message varies from 'there's a bomb in such and such a building' to 'bomb on campus,' to the recent threat referring to the 'the Arabs of the world staging a protest.'" Although not always evident, Hartwig guesses there is sometimes a connection between what the caller says and the building threatened.

Why does someone take the risk of placing a bomb threat? A student not prepared for an examination, school problems, an attempt to distract the police from a crime simultaneously committed elsewhere, political intention — Hartwig named a few of the known motives for bomb scares. Easy to determine? Scarcely — the motives are conjectures from circumstantial evidence and later investigation.

Bomb threats are common but

(continued on page 9)

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SAVE

The geographer, Yves Lacoste, professor at the University of Paris, went to North Vietnam as a specialist with the International Commission to Investigate U.S. War Crimes, a permanent organization in Stockholm presided over by Funar Myrdal. The members of the team in Vietnam included, among others, Ramsey Clark, former U.S. Attorney General, and Sean McBride, Chairman of Amnesty International.

His report has been supplied to the Daily Cardinal by We The People.

Because of the imminent danger which threatens the population of North Vietnam, the International Quaker Centre in Paris, France, is circulating this report with the full permission of Yves Lacoste. In fact, the high waters of the Red River (which are late this year) will occur in the coming weeks, and the rupture of the dikes, weakened by intensive bombings could lead to an extremely grave catastrophe. Millions of men, women, and children could be drowned and the food crop, on which depend the lives of an even larger number of people could be lost.

The continuing bombing of the dikes presents an even greater threat than those which occurred in the dry season from May to the end of July. For now the rising water is bursting through the craters and cracks caused by the bombing. These cracks are becoming rapidly enlarged by the wakes pouring into the plain situated below the level of the river. Moreover, during the rainy season it becomes almost impossible to repair the cracks because the earth, which is the only available material, is too saturated to be compacted.

Among the more deadly aspects of the Indochinese War today, bombing of the Red River dikes in North Vietnam is especially serious and especially significant. Almost instinctively international public opinion has grasped this fact and reacted in a way that had made the problem of the dikes an extremely embarrassing one for the Pentagon and the United States Government.

And, yet, throughout the war in Vietnam, the U.S. military establishment has made no attempt to conceal the particularly deadly nature of certain forms of tactical or strategic action that have become daily routine, ranging from the systematic use of napalm and various types of "anti-personnel" weapons, to carpet-bombing by B-52 planes. Indeed, it has been quite evident that a large percentage of the people who, through the mass-media, have been witnessing this greatest deluge of fire and steel ever known to history, has had the reactions of a slightly bored theatre audience as it watched implementation of these subtle and most terrifying methods of destruction.

This relative habituation was suddenly interrupted by information according to which there was the possibility, not to say, certainty, of air strikes aimed at the North Vietnamese dike system, and many well-known persons felt it was their duty to publicly express their apprehension on this subject, which soon assumed such importance that the President of the United States himself felt obliged to challenge the testimony of the people who had been able to see for themselves, on the spot, that these bombings had taken place. For the President, the eminent men and women who had expressed their feelings of growing concern were simply lacking in perception and were an easy prey to Communist propaganda.

But shortly afterward, in the face of increasingly numerous eye-witness reports, the White House, on July 30, 1972, issued a statement in which it had to acknowledge that a few dikes, because of their proximity to military objectives, might have been hit, at the same time insisting that the damage they had suffered could only be very slight. But it was pointed out that this information was quite vague

and that such documents as aerial photographs, which could have proved the truth of the official assertions—at least in some cases—were lacking.

This is why the matter of "bombing the dikes," so far from having become a dead issue, is assuming ever greater importance. Public opinion became alerted before the exact facts of the case were known. It was as though people were intuitively aware that the destruction of these dikes symbolized a new form of warfare, as though they considered, for very profound reasons, that the fiercest of conflicts between men should remain quite distinct from the struggle that the human species has been engaged in for centuries against the most formidable forces of nature.

Public anxiety and the embarrassment of the authorities would no doubt be just as great, if it were a matter of unleashing typhoons, earthquakes or volcanic eruptions against civilian populations as means

runs rapidly down the steep slopes and suddenly flows onto the plain.

NATURAL LEVEES: A

MAJOR GEOGRAPHICAL FACTOR

These rivers which run down from deeply-eroded mountains transport vast quantities of alluvium (this explains the characteristic color of the Red River, which is filled with various kinds of reddish silt, as are also most of its tributary). The mass of material detached from the mountains is so great that these alluviums tend to be deposited on the bottom of the rivers. Little by little the riverbed is therefore progressively raised quite naturally; the rivers flow above the general level of the plain, on a sort of alluvial cushions (or natural levee). This situation exists as well, for instance, in the Mississippi Valley, with the difference that the Red River, which emerges from steep mountains that are close to the plain, transports, proportionately, a much

ditions—because every year the flooding threatened to wipe out the work that had been done during the dry season—they not only had to dispose of a large number of workers but also an efficient organization that made it possible to group them in certain places and see that they were cared for. Also needed was a profound understanding of the science of hydraulics, in order to construct these works, with limited means, in such a way that they would resist the thrusts of the river.

MAINTAINING THE DIKES

IN GOOD CONDITION

Once the dike was built it had to be supervised and kept up regularly, in order to combat the cracks that could appear in it, and to check the effects of erosion caused by rain, the river or by burrowing animals.

It is important to underline that contrary to certain allegations, the dike system of the Red River delta is in excellent condition (with the exception of points where the

Introduction To The Findings Of Yves Lacoste As A Specialist To The International Commission To Investigate U.S. War Crimes



of strategic action. In fact it would appear that solidarity between men, whatever their differences, when faced with the forces of nature, is among the fundamental implicit values upon which all cultures are based. For thousands of years, consciously or unconsciously, men have seen in natural catastrophes, the hand of God or Fate; and today, still, the willful unleashing of natural forces appears confusedly to them as the sacrilegious act of a sorcerer's apprentice.

But it is important to go beyond the symbols and the profound, subjective motivations the problem presents in order to examine clearly the facts, which are essentially of a geographical nature; that is to say, they correspond to the interaction of what for convenience sake are usually called "physical and natural data" and the "human factor." Even before the global crisis of our time became dramatically focused, through the war, on this small part of the earth's surface, the Red River delta had already been, for centuries, an area in which geographical interactions between "natural factors" and "human factors" were especially complex and presented a sort of dramatic tension. There are in fact few regions in the world where there exist, in such a limited area, so many human beings who have evolved such an efficient, subtle culture (compared with most non-industrial cultures) under such difficult conditions, that is, with their stability constantly threatened by the forces of nature.

WHY THE DIKES?

The Red River Delta (which under the French colonial regime, was called the Tonkin plain) forms an almost equilateral triangle of ninety miles to a side, in which live some ten million people; in a number of places, the population density is over 800 inhabitants to a little over a half-mile square area.

A RIVER AS LARGE AS THE MISSISSIPPI

This plain is dominated by big mountains which, in summer, receive the very heavy rains of the monsoon. Because of this fact, the rivers that flow into the plain are subject frequently to very sudden and very heavy flooding. In high water, the Red River becomes an enormous stream and at such moments its flow can be greater than 110,000 cubic feet per second, that is to say, a volume comparable to that of the Mississippi (120,000 cubic feet per second). The risings of the Red River and its tributaries are not progressive and regular, but take place suddenly and relatively irregularly, in the middle of the summer. They are due, in fact to the rain that falls in enormous quantities, during heavy storms, on relatively close mountains. The water

greater amount of alluvium and flows above a natural levee that is appreciably more pronounced (20 to 25 feet difference as compared with the level plain) than that of the Mississippi.

When the rivers rise, the congestion of the river-bed by the alluviums and the progressive elevation of the levees tend to make the river flow into the lower parts of the bed and sometimes important changes in the course result. This is the cause of a division of the principal stream into several branches which also flow on cushions above the plain and have a tendency to overflow into it, at high-water time.

MAN'S CONQUEST OF THE DELTA

The implantation of human beings into the Red River delta, which is a marshy, malarial region periodically under water, was therefore particularly difficult and, at first, it might even appear quite paradoxical. But although this area combined natural features that are particularly negative as regards human beings, it also had great potentialities for them. In fact in the tropical zone where, generally speaking, the soil is subjected to bioclimatic processes that reduce its fertility and make it extremely fragile (lateritization phenomena), the alluvial areas do not present this very serious inconvenience: the constant deposits of silts and material resulting from erosion of mountains which, because of their height, are not subject to tropical conditions, compensates the process of impoverishment of the soil. Thus the broad valleys and delta plains offer exceptionally favorable pedological conditions in the tropics; it being possible to reckon with a number of consecutive harvests with good results, the silt deposited during high water serving to restore fertility to the soil. On the other hand, outside the alluvium-treated zones, it is not possible to cultivate the soil for more than two or three years consecutively, because of its poor agronomical potentialities and the violence of the processes of deterioration that set in as soon as the forest covering has been cut away.

The historical task of the Vietnamese people (like other peoples in tropical Asia) has therefore been to confront progressively the negative features of the geographical milieu, that is to say, little by little to achieve mastery over the high water, in order to profit by the positive features that is to say, the relative richness of the soil.

The dikes are therefore a primordial geographical condition of existence for the people. The vast undertaking represented by construction of some 2,500 miles of dikes started principally during the Middle Ages. In order to accomplish such a work as this, under extremely difficult con-

dikes have been bombed). The International Commission to Investigate U.S. War Crimes was able to establish, after its detailed inquiries that, according to the engineer specialized in dike construction, who was a member of the Commission, the dikes have showed every sign of being constructions correctly built and maintained, strong enough to withstand very heavy floods. In fact, whereas during the colonial period there was serious flooding every two or three years because of the insufficiency of the dike system, this catastrophe has not occurred for about fifteen years, in spite of extremely violent floods and in spite of the bombing of the dikes during the dry seasons of 1965, 66, 67, and 68.

Since 1954 the Ministry of Waterworks of the government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the people of North Vietnam have completed huge works to raise and reinforce the existing dikes. These dikes represent 140 cubic meters of terrassing between 1954 and 1971. Since the beginning of 1972 new works have been carried out (15 million cubic meters of terrassing) because of the dangers represented by possible flooding as heavy as those of 1971 and because of the probable resumption of the bombing of the dikes.

Realization of this dike network is evidence of extraordinary organization in each village community, but also on the part of the Government, which was the only way to concentrate the greatest numbers of workers at the strategic points in the area.

A STRONG ORGANIZATION—AT ONCE CENTRALIZED AND DECENTRALIZED

Today this area is organized on different levels: the big dikes that follow the course of the important rivers have a function that takes in the entire delta, since a break at one point could bring about flooding of wide regions. In order to avoid a rush of water from upstream, in case there is a break in one of the principal dikes, dikes that run perpendicularly to the rivers have been built across lowerlying regions. Coastal dikes have been built to prevent flooding by sea-water, particularly when it is carried towards the interior of the country by the extraordinary violence of typhoon winds.

But inside each division bordered by these major dikes, secondary dikes have been built to channel the rain-water that falls on the surface of the rice-fields were allowed to accumulate, the rice plants would rapidly die under water that is too deep. Control of hydraulic conditions, which is an essential feature of intensive rice culture, means having the possibility of controlling the water-level, not only at the different points of the area under cultivation, but also from the standpoint of time as dictated by the different stages of



agricultural work and the growth of the rice plants.

This water-control is accomplished in the cultivated area of each village by means of a network of little dikes and canals that are located inside the larger meshes organized by the secondary dikes, which are laid out in accordance with the main lines of the major dikes. Historically, conquest of the delta must have begun, with limited manpower, in the upper parts of the delta, near the places where the rivers leave the mountains to emerge into the plain. Gradually as new rice-fields could be laid out thanks to the construction of new dikes, new man-power appeared, making possible increased construction, then increased agricultural progress, and so on.

The Red River delta is not the only alluvial plain in North Vietnam. The other plains, those of Thanh Hea and Vinh, for instance, followed a similar evolution. But these plains are much more extensive than the plain formed by the Red River delta, and the rivers that cross them are much smaller than the Red River. The problems these plains present are therefore not as serious, and although just now they are being subjected to particularly intensive bombing, it is the Red River delta above all on which attention is concentrated at present. For undoubtedly the risks of catastrophic flooding are the most serious in the plain of the Red River (because of the River's powerful current at highwater time) and the number of human beings, who are threatened there is the highest.

WHERE HAVE THE DIKES BEEN BOMBED?

In the controversy between the people who denounce the bombing of the dikes in North Vietnam and the American administration, which denies that these attacks have been deliberate, it is possible to furnish documentation that may serve as lasting and easily verifiable proof. Since the dike network forms an ensemble of a geographical nature and the elements that compose it (which are located in a complex area and do not all have the same function, or the same significance) it is logical to undertake a geographical analysis of the points at which the dike network has been hit by bombs. I made this investigation during a visit to North Vietnam with the International Commission of Inquiry into War Crimes, what took place from July 29 to August 13, 1972. During this period I was able to visit the principal zones in which bombing of dikes has taken place, and to verify, at various points, the correctness of the damage done to the hydraulic installations. This map was very precisely made, at my request, by technicians from the Ministry of Hydraulics of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. It can be easily verified from the frequent photographs taken by the U.S. Air Force.

During the period that runs from April 16 to July 31, 1972 (bombing of the dikes has in fact continued during the month of August) the totality of the hydraulic installations in North Vietnam have been the objective of over 150 attacks from the air, and they have been hit in ninety-six different places.

The International Commission of Inquiry into War Crimes decided that it would be preferable to concentrate its investigation on the Red River delta, this, in fact, being the most extensive region, the one that groups the highest number of human beings and also the one in which the risks of flooding are greatest on account of the force of the rivers that cross it. In addition, the bombings that have taken place in the southern provinces of North Vietnam are so concentrated, on such a restricted area, that it is difficult to distinguish the ones that aimed at an hydraulic installation from those that had another type of objective.

BOMBINGS OF THE DIKES IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE DELTA

Out of the 96 places at which the dikes were hit by bombs, 58 are situated in the Red River delta. If we examine the map of these places attentively, we immediately notice the following situation: almost all of these places—54 out of 58—are located in the eastern part of the delta, from the district of Nam Sach, in the north, the province of Tai Binh in the center, to the regions of Nam Ha, Nam Dinh and Ninh Binh in the south. Four bombing points on hydraulic installations are outside this area, that is, two near Hanoi and two by the Phuly locks in the Day River.

The American administration in fact acknowledged this pinpointing (which on the contrary had not been mentioned thus far by the Vietnamese authorities) and claimed that it furnished a favorable argument for their line: the American administration declares in fact that if the bombing of the dikes had been intended to bring on serious flooding, they would have aimed at the western part of the delta, that is to say, upstream, which is just the part that is being spared for the time being.

A more careful examination of the geographical conditions permits us to draw opposite conclusions.

In point of fact, the Red River delta can be divided schematically into two quite different parts: the western part in the upper delta, where the rivers that have just emerged from mountainous valleys contains lots of alluviums and before they were diked had progressively built up a large number of alluvial cushions, as the course of the river changed. On the other hand, in the eastern part of the delta, the rivers carry with them a lower quantity of alluvium (since it has been deposited upstream) and they flow above natural levees that are not as high. These rivers diverge toward the sea, like the spokes of a wheel.

Because of this fact, there are wide, easily-flooded areas on top of the alluvial cushions which, as we have seen, are particularly numerous and involved. In the eastern part of the lower delta most of the villages are located, on the contrary, below the level of the river, in the easily-flooded areas, should a break in the dikes occur.

It just happens that a large majority of the dikes that have been bombed are situated in the eastern part of the delta, where most of these easily-flooded villages are to be found. If these bombings, instead of being aimed at the dikes in order to bring on flooding, had been aimed at military targets located near or on the dikes, they could not have avoided more frequent hits on the dikes situated in the upper delta, for instance where military objectives are often attacked without harm to the dikes. It will be seen that the dikes in the lowermost region, which is situated between Nam-Sach and Haiphong, have this far hardly been bombed at all. Actually, in this part of the delta, the rivers cease to flow above natural levees (having deposited upstream most of their alluviums) and they begin to make their berth slightly below the average level of the plain. This no doubt explains, therefore why the dikes in this zone have not been bombed; the effect of destroying them would be less disastrous than in other places.

Thus, it is possible to consider that the fact that the bombing of the dikes has been concentrated in the eastern part of the delta, which is also the most densely populated and the most important from the standpoint of agricultural production, is proof of the deliberate and systematic nature of these attacks, since they are localized exactly in the area in which their

part of the dike network would not be capable of standing up under automobile traffic. In the ten or so places that we visited to determine the effects of bombing on the dikes we were able to note that they had not been surfaced with any kind of road-base material that would make automobile traffic possible. Similarly, at each of these points of observation we were unable to detect the presence of an objective other than the one constituted by the dike, at an especially essential point in its mapping. The fact that the dikes were hit far from any other target, at particularly sensitive point, is another proof in support of the hypothesis that there has existed a deliberate, systematic strategy of destruction of the network of defense against high water. Relatively frequent use of time-bombs against hydraulic installations gives even greater credence to this hypothesis, since it is impossible to see what use these time-bombs would offer against convoys or mobile military installations.

THE EXAMPLE OF THE PROVINCE OF THAI SINH

One of the most striking examples of proof that a methodical strategy is being carried out against the dike network is furnished by examination of the attacks that have taken place against different type of hydraulic installations in the southern part of the Thai Binh province. This region is bounded on the south by the Red River and on the north by one of its branches, which forms the Traly River. These two waterways, both of which flow above an alluvial cushion, border a sort of long gutter which empties into the sea, in the east. It became possible to make this "plot", or gutter, inhabitable—today over 600,000 persons live there—when dikes were built along the Red River and the Italy River, as well as along the coast—these coastal dikes being for protection against flooding from the sea. However, at low tide, the rain that falls in this vast gutter has to be evacuated, and this is the role played by the important Lan locks.

The bombings have targeted the most essential points of this complex hydraulic organization, to begin with, the Lan Locks. Between May 24, 1972 and July 29, it was attacked nine times, and in spite of the existing destruction, three new raids were carried out during the first week of August on this installation, which is located far from any other target, no doubt to make it impossible to repair. Thus,

and on the other hand, to block the locks to disturb water evacuation towards the sea. At the very least, part of the rice fields are flooded and the food sources of 600,000 people are not to be counted on; the maximum effect would be, if there is severe flooding, that a great number of villages situated below the level of the alluvial cushions risk being suddenly flooded in the case of a sudden break in the dikes, either at the point where they have been repaired in a way that could not be perfect at this time of year, or at points where further bombings have taken place. These bombings continue to hit not only the river dikes but also the coastal dikes which are constantly being pounded by the Seventh Fleet. The locks constitute especially frequent targets since their destruction can bring about either the accumulation of a considerable volume of water in the inhabited and cultivated areas, or sea-water flooding, which makes the soil unfit for cultivation for several years.

Finally, a more complete understanding of the systematic global action that is being carried out against the hydraulic system of North Vietnam may be had if, in addition to what has been described, it is pointed out that the Nha May Gha Khi factory (near Hanoi), which furnished the material required for repairing the locks and the other hydraulic installations, was razed to the ground on August 5 by particularly intensive, precise bombing.

The fact that the bombing of the dikes has been localized in the Red River delta proves the deliberate and carefully premeditated nature of the way it has been carried out. If it were not in the logic of the bombings to hit the dikes at the points that are the most vulnerable during the high water, points at which their protective role is essential, and in the regions in which are located the greatest number of villages liable to be submerged, these bombings would have been differently located; the dikes situated near the big traffic centers and in the neighborhood of the big cities would have been hit much more frequently.

VERY SEVERE DAMAGE—DANGER FOR THE FUTURE

It is important therefore to examine closely the effects of the bombings on these installations. The most frequently used bombs in this kind of attack weigh between 500 to 1000 pounds. When they hit the dike directly, they make craters from 20 to 22 feet deep and about 35 feet in diameter. But the consequence of the bombing is not limited to these craters, which are the most spectacular aspect but not the most serious. Indeed, the shock that caused by explosion of the bomb causes a series of fractures and cracks, over a radius of 50 yards, which seriously jeopardizes the resistance of the dike.

Thus, as frequently happens, the bombs that fall on both sides of the dike, about a hundred feet from it, and which appear to be unexploded have more dangerous results than holes made in the dike through direct attacks. For actually the cracks are not all immediately visible and they risk showing suddenly as a result of pressure from flooding. It is therefore a general rule that in order to prevent sudden bursting of a dike as a result of water pressure, or its collapse following what is termed a "fox" phenomenon (the water gradually digs a sort of tunnel under the dike, at the point of the crack) one must remove all the earth from places where cracks might have been caused by the explosion of a bomb. It is not enough, therefore, to fill in the craters. A segment of the dike that is three or four times larger than the excavation caused by the explosion must also be rebuilt.

Unlike the bombings carried out against the dikes in 1965, 1966, and 1967, which were interrupted every year before the heavy rains and high water, the attacks that began in April 1972 have continued not only into July but also through August. Because of this fact, the risks of severe breaks in the dike network are therefore considerable, in spite of the immense effort that has been made to repair the damage. For not only can the sections that have been rebuilt give way because of their fragility, but continuation of the bombing can cause irreparable breaks, if one takes into account the high water. The threat of flooding exists for the greater part of the areas under cultivation (rice is a plant that dies if it is under water for longer than four days) and it may be estimated that a million five hundred thousand to two million people would be drowned (in case of a particularly violent water rise), in the lower regions that are most directly exposed to the effects of sudden submersion. This estimate corresponds to the prognostics made several years ago by certain American military experts, to the effect that "bombing the North Vietnamese dikes would produce an effect comparable to that of a hydrogen bomb; the entire delta would be flooded, the summer and fall rice crops would be destroyed, and two to three million of the population would die of drowning or of hunger."



effects can be the most serious and where most of the easily-flooded areas are to be found.

THE DIKES ARE BOMBED AT THEIR MOST VULNERABLE POINTS

Another level of geographical analysis consists in observing, in a very precise manner, the point within this eastern part of the delta, at which the dikes have been hit by bombs. It turned out that, for the most part, these points of destruction are not the results of random hits, but the points at which absolute soundness is of special importance to organization of the hydraulic system. In fact, the points on the dikes have been attacked in the concave parts of the bends, or, as in the northern part of the Nam-Sach district, at points where they are subjected to the perpendicular pressure of an especially powerful current resulting from the confluence of six rivers.

It is literally impossible for there to have been "military targets" at all of these points, which are precisely those that are essential to the water-defense system. It should be emphasized that except in the Hanoi and Haiphong areas, where it is true that there are highways that use the roadbed formed by the dikes, the greater

being prevented from flowing to the sea, the waters have begun to accumulate in the rice fields where a considerable amount of the harvest may be considered to be lost. In addition, there have been four bombings on the northern dikes of the Traly River and three on those of the Red River, in the south. It should be pointed out that the bombs are especially aimed at the concave points of the dike's bends, where, at high water, the strongest pressure from the current is concentrated. It should also be pointed out that, in two places, time-bombs were used (here as in many other places) and that, out of the 14 bombs dropped July 14 on the Red River dike near the village of Tan Lap, 13 exploded at different intervals (certain of them 6 hours later, and others up to 21 days later).

Thus the "operation" in the southern part of Thai Binh province can be summarized as follows: on the one hand, it was intended to make breaks in the dikes at the most strategic points which, repaired or not, would risk breaking open again at high water (actually it is very difficult to properly pack the soil, which already contains too much water as a result of the summer rains, so that the places that have been repaired remain very vulnerable);

Final Deadline: FRIDAY

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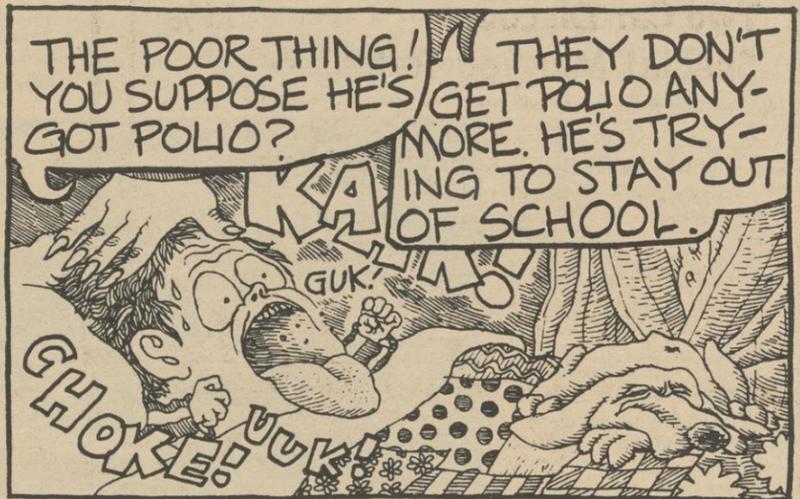
S. Babcock, M.D.
Assoc. Director, University Health Services

"... the Wisconsin Student Association would develop a comprehensive health insurance program to supplement the out-patient services provided through University Health Services."

Recommendation to the Director of University Health Service and the Chancellor — Health Care Advisory Committee

The Health Care Advisory committee perceives minimum health needs for the student as being met when a sufficient level of medical services are provided to permit the University and its members to function efficiently as an educational institution... The Committee reluctantly accepts the reality that these needs can not now be met without adding significantly to the educational costs now incurred by individual students..."

Statement from Health Care Advisory Committee
Feb. 16, 1972



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On the trail in which McGovern quotes the bible, crowds cheer and Shriver is always 15 minutes late

By PHIL HASLANGER
of the Cardinal Staff

George McGovern had just finished quoting from the Old Testament, telling the 2,000 people packed into the intersection to "choose blessing rather than cursing, choose life, not death."

The crowd cheered, he waved, the dignitaries smiled and on the side of the platform, the crush began. For within moments, a real live Presidential candidate—their candidate—would be almost within the reach of their hands.

Flanked by Secret Servicemen, the candidate came down the steps and moved through the crowd, reaching out to make the brief but electric contact with a few lucky hands.

I'D SEEN THE scene before on television but now here I was in the middle of it. He was moving by. Chris Galligan, my colleague from the Cardinal, stretched out his right hand and McGovern grasped it with his left.

Then from my right, two bodies pushed over my right shoulder, quivering, screaming, "George, George, shake my hand." Too late. He was out of reach. They stood there dazed, despondent. The chance of a lifetime and they'd missed it.

The scene could have happened anywhere, but it happened in Milwaukee, last Tuesday. The crowd had waited in the rain for nearly an hour before McGovern arrived. The Milwaukee Cathedral high school band stood across the street under a

protective roof and played, but near the podium, their music was drowned out by bouncy music spewing out of a campaign truck.

"Isn't that wonderful?" asked McGovern staff man Paul Murphy as we walked from McGovern headquarters to the site of the rally. "A band came out to play. And look—there's a bus of school kids."

"All spontaneous, I suppose?" I said. "Of course," he replied.

LATER, BETWEEN SONGS and raindrops, I asked a band member why they were there. "The McGovern people asked us to be," she said. So much for spontaneity.

School kids and bands are important trappings for any political appearance. Take Sargent Shriver's visit to Milwaukee about a week and a half ago.

The kids from St. Anthony's Catholic school got out to see the Democratic vice-presidential candidate walk down Mitchell Street on the near South Side of Milwaukee. Not only did they see him they trailed him down the street, cheering, laughing, keeping the sidewalk crowded.

Like McGovern's appearance a few days later, Shriver arrived 15 minutes late and on the wrong side of the street, but soon things were on their way.

Shriver: Hi, I'm Sargent Shriver.
Lady: You a Republican or Democrat?
Shriver: Democrat.
Lady: Good.
Another lady waved an American flag out

the window. Shriver waved. The kids cheered.

Shriver swung into Paul's Jewelry for a quick visit. Then into A.J. Brzostowicz' World Travel Service for about 15 minutes. (Maybe he was trying to buy a ticket to Washington?) Then into Project Involve, an OEO project for the elderly.

I went back to talk to Paul Anton in the jewelry store later. A Greek immigrant who came to this country in 1956, he's had his store burned out twice in riots.

"I won't vote for Shriver or Nixon," he said. "I would've voted for Humphrey if he were running. I like Zablocki (his congressman). My daughter's for McGovern. We don't always get along about that."

UP THE STREET a few blocks, Shriver stopped at David Selby's Babyland for a picture (Selby worked with Shriver in the 1960 Kennedy campaign), walked across the street and got a box of Don Diego cigars from an admirer ("They're my favorites," he told the admirer).

Then into the car and off to the airport for a stop in Green Bay.

The Democratic campaign may be officially behind and in disorder, but there is no doubt that it is generating excitement on the streets. Even those who are not for McGovern-Shriver admit to a quickening pulse-beat as the campaign passes by.

And those who are for the ticket?
TRY ON A Shriver-attended fund raising affair at the Marc Plaza Hotel in

Milwaukee for size. Eight to nine hundred people packed into the Crystal Ball room drank champagne and other assorted goodies for \$25 a head while they waited for the candidate to appear.

It was a mixed crowd—the young liberal-radical-on-the-verge-of-wealth, the old party types, some labor leaders, the socialites, scattered McGovern volunteers—all blended together by the spirit of the spirits and of the campaign.

Shriver arrived downstairs (55 minutes later, of course) to a few well-wishers and the camera-men. A quick meeting with county and city candidates, then with Pat Lucey he burst into the ballroom to the strains of "On Wisconsin."

Lucey introduced Shriver ("the next Pres—I mean, the next Vice-President of the United States"), they raised arms, the crowd cheered "We want Shriver," the candidate began directing the cheers, then gave a pep talk.

THE TALK FINISHED, Shriver and Lucey formed a receiving line—one of the first he's had on the campaign. No one here asked if he was Republican or Democrat.

The Secret Service stood at each end and behind the dignitaries, unobtrusively screening every person who went through. Fascinating people to watch, those Secret Service men. Efficient, but not obnoxious. And the campaign rolls on.

(continued from page 5)

bombings are rare. On the national level, only in one case out of every thousand is a bomb device discovered. Bringing the numbers closer to home, except for the political bombing of the Army Mathematics Research

Center in 1970, no real bombs — excepting firebombs — have ever been found on the Madison campus. In most instances, nothing at all or some fake device such as a cardboard box is the sole cause of all the uproar. Bomb scares are a dangerous

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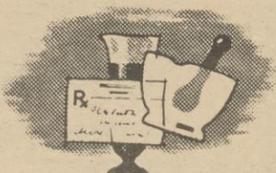
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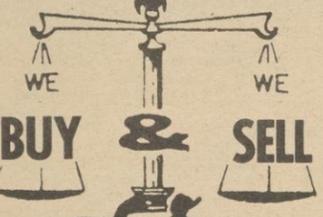
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