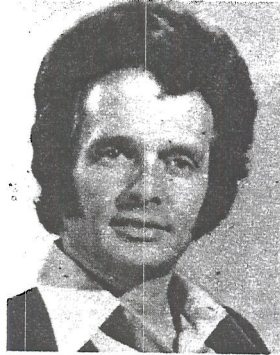


WALTER SCOTT'S Personality Parade

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MERLE HAGGARD



BONNIE OWENS

Q. Why was country-western singer Merle Haggard sent to prison and how many years did he spend there? Also does he have a family?—Mrs. R. W., Evansville, Ind.

A. Haggard spent two years and nine months in San Quentin on a robbery conviction. He is married to Bonnie Owens. They have four children, two boys, two girls, reside in Bakersfield, Calif.

Q. Is there any difference between President Nixon's old chief of staff H. R. Haldeman and his new chief of staff Gen. Alexander Haig? Aren't they both Nixon fanatics?—D. E., Clearwater, Fla.

A. There are fundamental differences. Haldeman, according to many White House observers, was a man of hate. He hated the press, the TV medium, the Democrats, the youth who opposed the war in Vietnam, and almost anyone who disagreed with Nixon. He staffed the White House with men in his own image. Haig is basically a man of goodwill, a decent human being. Although he suffers from a certain rigidity because of his military background and has had no political experience to speak of, he is not a fanatic. No one should write him off because of his role in the Richardson-Ruckelshaus-Cox imbroglio.