

8 May 1969



Editor.....Penn Jones Jr.
Publisher.....The Midlothian Mirror, Inc.
"The Only 'History of Midlothian' Being Written"
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

Second-class postage paid at Midlothian, Texas. 76065. Office of publication is 214 West Avenue F Midlothian, Texas 76065. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, appearing in the columns of The Mirror will fully and gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor of this paper.

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For One (1) Year in Ellis, Tarant, Dallas, Kaufman, Henderson, Navarro, Hill and Johnson Counties.. \$5.00 Six Months \$3.00
For One Year Elsewhere \$10.00 Six Months \$5.50
Single Copies 15c

Winner of the 1963 Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award for Courage in Journalism.



THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1969

Editorial

The Threat From the Military

The Senate Foreign Relations committee has added some revealing excerpts in its official record of the role the military in this country is taking to influence public opinion.

These excerpts have been taken from speeches of military leaders at armed services seminars in various parts of the country. The seminars are supposed to be based on national security for civilians, but their tone indicates that the real purpose is to sell the civilians on the military point of view.

One of the things questioned by the senate committee is the controversial public relations program proposed by Lt. Gen. Alfred D. Starbird "to sell" the questionable sentinel system to the American public at a cost of billions of dollars.

The excerpts of speeches made at the seminars by military men indicate they are not fully satisfied with the civilian leadership in this country. They ask the question as to who is at fault if the public does not understand the

issues?

"Our leadership perhaps, since communications with the public has been apparently something less than total.

"Perhaps the opposition, who has every right to differ, but who may also with the best intentions, confuse the issues.

"The press and television perhaps, with their extraordinary ability of burying issues under mountains of details."

Other excerpts obtained by the senate committee from the Pentagon deal with what 'brother military leaders' have done, or are trying to do, in developing countries.

Here are a couple of paragraphs of that as reported by the Associated Press last Friday:

"Military officers are often one of the most modernized groups in a developing society. Through education and training, especially residence and schooling in developed countries, they have learned managerial skills, have become aware of defects in their society, and believe they can do a more effective job than the civilian leadership. They tend to be realistic and relatively non-political..

"The appropriate role of the military in the political process of emerging nations may well be that of maintaining central governments and government machinery while the underlying swirl of tribal, sectional and regional interests assumes some pattern."

While no countries are mentioned, the paragraphs undoubtedly include such countries as Peru, Bolivia, Brazil in Latin America, and others in other parts of the world.

In every single one of these "developing countries" chaos followed in the wake of the military take-over.

Gen. Velasco, who was recently installed as president of Peru after a military take-over, is shedding tears as he watches his country fall apart and heading for bankruptcy, while Gen. Barrientos of Bolivia is blaming his country's woes on everything and everybody, except where the blame belongs, the military, which finds itself with a bear by the tail! And as for the military leadership in Brazil—well, conditions in that resourceful country couldn't

possibly be worse!

Our own United States has become the strongest, most powerful and richest nation in the world with a standard of living that has never been equaled, under civilian rule—and we had better keep it that way!

(Reprinted from Washington (Mo.) Missourian,
March 13, 1969

To Whom It May Concern

(Editor's note: The statement made below was made in view of the contents in a front page article and the editorial printed in the Mirror issue of May 1, 1969. The Mirror does not retract the statements made in the aforementioned issue.)

THE STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF ELLIS)
AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Arthur Dellinger, to me well known to be a credible person, who, being by me first duly sworn, deposes as follows:

My name is Arthur Dellinger, of Midlothian, Ellis County, Texas. Until April 16, 1969, I had been night captain of the Midlothian Police Department, serving under Chief of Police Perry Aday.

With reference to the article appearing in the Midlothian Mirror on Thursday, May 1, 1969, to the effect that Mr. Aday had "sent his assistant, Patrolman Arthur Dellinger, to bring a ladder to the City Hall so wires could be placed in the ceiling," I wish to categorically state that this is a lie. No such thing ever took place, no conversation was ever had between Mr. Aday and me with reference to bugging the City Hall, no ladder was ever brought to the City Hall by me or anyone else to my knowledge, I was never asked to bring a ladder to the City Hall by anyone, including Mr. Aday, and I have never made such a statement to anyone, including specifically Roger Craig and/or Penn Jones. I have no knowledge of how such a story could have arisen, except through the imagination of malicious slanderers.

With reference to the occasion on which I used the City-owned police car to transport Thomas E. Mitchell, a Deputy Sheriff of Ellis County, Texas, from his assignment to his home, I did use the City car which I normally

use in official business, for the reason that Mr. Aday's personal car was in use on official business for Gary Waldon, a Midlothian Patrolman, and was not available. This incident was not related by me to Mr. Aday because of its seeming insignificance, and therefore Mr. Aday had no personal knowledge of the incident until the City Council Meeting of April 14, at which time it was recalled to my memory in the presence of the Council substantially as stated in the editorial of the Midlothian Mirror on Thursday, May 1, 1969. As stated, Mr. Aday was out of town on his vacation at the time, and I had been requested to transport Mr. Mitchell in Mr. Aday's car, and would have done so had it not been for the unavailability of his personal car on official business of the City.

Finally, as to the alleged "embarrassment for Dellinger because he was not supported by his boss, Perry Aday," I wish to state that Mr. Aday has at all times supported me, and any implication that my resignation was the result of the incident at the Council meeting is totally erroneous. I had planned my resignation some two or three weeks earlier, in fact, and had refrained from submitting it at the request of Mr. Aday, who had hoped that the City Council would lighten the work load to the extent that I could continue to serve the City. Since the Council not only failed to take any steps to meet a vital need of the City, but apparently, yielding to the Mayor's position, has no intention of doing so in the foreseeable future, it became impossible for me to continue with this work which I have so much enjoyed, aside from the politics.

Finally, I wish to state that my relationship with Mr. Aday continues to be of the finest. I have known only one man, and that my father, for whom I have a greater respect and admiration as a man and a citizen. In addition, my brief experience has taught me that he is not only a capable and honest lawman, but ethical and fair in all of his dealings.

FURTHER, DEPONENT SAY-
ETH NOT.

Signed,

Arthur Dellinger
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
TO BEFORE ME by the said
Arthur Dellinger on this 3rd day
of May, 1969, to certify which
witness my hand and seal of
office.

Signed,
Warwick H. Jenkins

THE EMPTY PEW

W. Jene Miller

This author is more convinced than ever that the small newspaper is the last hope of Democratic government.

LIFE MAGAZINE, an excellent publication sometimes, spent an estimated \$50,000 to investigate and prepare a story on the oil shale scandal being perpetrated in the Western United States. Enough wealth, owned by the people, through their government, is being stolen outright to pay off their national debt.

Land for which developers would ordinarily pay as high as two thousand dollars an acre, is being bought up by big oil companies for \$2.50 an acre. Officials in the Department of the Interior have approved mineral claims which were long ago declared invalid. Employees, attorneys, and newsmen who found out about it have been intimidated, fired, and shot at.

All of this the LIFE researchers found. Photos and copy were prepared for use in the magazine, and proofs were run. Suddenly, the entire story was recalled, even though it represented a year of careful investigation

and a huge expenditure of money and effort. No one knows why.

Even the hostile reporters who covered Mr. Jim Garrison's trial of Mr. Clay Shaw admitted that he had incontrovertible evidence of a conspiracy, though they asserted that Mr. Shaw was not a participant. But, the major papers have carried prominent stories designed to discredit Mr. Garrison, and given only little—or no—space to stories which would encourage the investigation. Whether Mr. Garrison is correct or not remains to be seen. But the suppression or slanting of stories is not worthy of free journalism. A major press service refused to let one of their reporters cover the story because he thought Mr. Garrison might be correct, and the press service wanted Garrison discredited.

It is the smaller papers, supported by local businessmen, un-intimidated by big money and big power, which must keep the light of truth turned on. Already, the military-industrial leaders are buying up newspaper chains and television rights to control the news media. Courage, too, must come in small packages!

Total annual teenage spending in the U. S. passed the \$20 billion line last year, according to Extension home management specialists.