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Wisconsin State Journal
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Earth Day, April 22, 1970

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

City: Cooperation or Failure?

At this moment the issue of whether or not the mayor and the new City Council will work together or will be torn by bitter infighting is in serious doubt.

At stake is the welfare of the entire Madison community.

The antagonisms of the old council were all too apparent in the first actions of the new body. With only a few exceptions the mayor's entire list of appointments were tossed aside and referred to another session where the threat of ugly controversy looms.

It was against that background that Mayor William Dyke delivered his annual message, a review of his first year in office. His first words reflected anger and disappointment at the action on his appointments.

If the council was determined to fight, he would fight, the mayor was saying. But that was not the tone of the entire speech, which had been drafted earlier in the hopes of making an overall plea for cooperation.

"We must learn to work together, we must learn to build together, or this city will be asked to wait and have its future referred and referred," he said.

Is there not enough trouble facing the city, without having to create needless conflict among city officials? It was just such bitterness that kept the old council and the mayor from coming to grips with such problems as the bus purchase funding.

It is fitting that the mayor called on aldermen to recognize not only their ward interests, but their broader constituency, the entire community.

It was fitting that the mayor concluded that the choice was either to make the task difficult by a lack of cooperation or to find ways to work together.

It was good advice for all concerned. Only the taxpayers will lose if the advice is ignored; there will be no winners.

ANSWER MUST BE FOUND

The Ugly Pattern of Violence

There was an ugly, threatening pattern in last week's anti-war protests in America—in Boston, in New York, in Detroit, in Santa Barbara.

And in Madison, Wis.

They all started out peacefully, just as planned. The demonstrations attracted 75,000 to 100,000 on the Boston Common, 20,000 at New York's Bryant Park, 5,000 in Detroit's downtown, many thousands in California.

And about 6,000 in Madison.

The motives of the peaceful marchers need not be attacked. They were out to protest government policy, to change policy within constitutional methods. So they marched to demonstrate the opposition to the war and then gathered to hear speeches.

Then something happened. In Harvard Square, 2,000 radicals broke away from the rally and went on a destructive rampage, breaking windows and chanting Anti-Establishment slogans as they marched. Anyone along the street wearing a necktie or a short haircut was taunted with cries of "pig" and "fascist."

In New York, more than a hundred radicals arrived after the start of the rally and fought their way to the podium in an attempt to take over. They did their best to disrupt the rally and keep the speakers from talking. When they did gain control of the podium at the end of the rally, the radicals clenched their fists and shouted, "Revolution now."

In Detroit, about 300 radicals split from the main rally and tossed rocks and bricks at police, smashed windows, and battered cars. The violence at Santa Barbara has continued from several days and nights with one student killed by a sniper's bullet.

And in Madison, it happened about the same way. The non-violent demonstrators marched to the State Capitol. Some of the words were provocative, but trouble didn't break out until several hundred revolutionists—many of them wearing masks to hide their identity—invaded the rally, just as they did in New York.

Their battle plan was to splinter out into the community, breaking windows and destroying property indiscriminately as they ran and scattered away from police.

These revolutionist leaders and their followers are not seeking peace in Vietnam, rather they are making war against the government. They are throwing rocks and bricks at all of society, not just at State St. windows. The shattered windows and the overturned cars and the street barricades are evidence of their shouts, "Revolution now," and "Victory for the Viet Cong." They do not want to protest government policy, they are out to overturn the government itself.

This threat to America is not easily fought. Most of the radicals escape arrest. Those who are apprehended are soon free to rampage again.

What is the answer? What is the answer? If there was a plan, it would be put into action. What is difficult and frustrating is that the liberties of Americans as a whole could be crimped by an action aimed at a minority. The feeling is growing, however, according to some public opinion polls, that many Americans are willing to sacrifice some of their own freedoms to protect the nation from the radicals.

This viewpoint was summarized recently by Vice-Admiral H. G. Rickover who said that "liberty is never gained for once and for all."

"Each generation," Rickover said, "must win it anew. Each must defend it against new perils. These perils arise because men, being endowed with free will, continually alter the conditions of life. Countless decisions made in pursuit of private objectives may so transform society that institutional safeguards once adequately protecting human liberty become ineffective. It is then necessary to return to first principles and to adapt them to altered circumstances."

The threat to liberty is here and present; the means of defending it are uncertain. But countering the perils we must.

Why Russia Drags at SALT Talks

By C. L. SULZBERGER
(© 1970, New York Times News Service)

PARIS—The second session of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) which just started in Vienna is unlikely to produce dramatic results.

The talks come at an unfortunate moment since nobody could have foreseen when their date was fixed that the Soviet government would then be engaged in internal political contortions.

SULZBERGER

THE MOSCOW heirarchy seems on the verge of major shake-up and it is therefore improbable that the Kremlin will be prepared right now to contemplate crucial decisions. After all, the implicit purpose of SALT is to work toward world peace by establishing a kind of international power balance enduring for decades and this requires enormous policy commitments.

Every sign points to consolidation of Leonid Brezhnev's authority as complete boss. Various branches of Moscow's intelligence and "disinformation" services have taken pains to leak indications that Brezhnev is firmly in the saddle, that his opponents have lost out, and that prominent associate, such as Premier Aleksei Kosygin, may soon be quietly dropped by the wayside.

OF COURSE there is little chance that these changed kaleidoscopic patterns will become known before May because the present ruling order wants to maintain stable appearances until after this month's deeply self-conscious celebrations honoring Lenin's centenary.

The strengthening of Brezhnev's power need not alter tentative outlines of the SALT talks as delineated in Helsinki. A government in which Brezhnev is boss instead of "primus inter pares" would presumably continue the same fundamental Soviet policy on arms control.

Perhaps a team in which Brezhnev was supreme commander might be less inclined to encourage a balanced and rationalized Soviet economy in the Western sense than a team in which the technocratic Kosygin could speak with influence. A wholly Brezhnev regime would be more likely in demand consumer sacrifices for the sake of arms investment.

IN ANY CASE the first Vienna meetings will devote themselves to the immensely important subject of defining precisely what a strategic weapon is. In Helsinki the Russians claimed that any arm that could strike the U.S.S.R.—regardless of whence it was fired—should be termed "strategic."

The point is understandable from Moscow's viewpoint, even if it runs counter to American military doctrine.

But the Russians argue their country comes directly under the potential firing pattern of thousands of U.S. nuclear warheads made available to NATO, stationed in Europe and described as tactical, whereas the United States itself can only be hit back by ultra-long-range weapons, planes, landbased missiles, or sea-based missiles borne to launching range by submarines.

THE IMPLICATION would therefore be that present estimates of U.S. strategic atomic delivery systems—4,125 as against 1,680 for Russia—are in fact far larger than this calculation (by Britain's Institute of strategic studies). The Soviet definition would add nuclear warheads classified by Washington as "tactical" and stored in Europe for NATO but under the control of American caretaker teams.

One way the Russians are trying to aright this imbalance (from their own viewpoint) even before any agreement on definitions is by slyly inserting into medium-range missile sites (now aimed only at European targets) new intercontinental, long-range missiles.

There must be agreement on what is being talked about before there can be agreement on any freeze of existing weapons systems, much less their removal.

THIS IS NOT only a military matter but a political one. It relates directly to the implied threat each superpower feels itself under, vis-a-vis the other, and also to the protection accorded by each superpower to its own allies.

Precise definitions are imperative preconditions to either arms reduction or limitation because each side must know what the other means. However, judging by the contortions of internal Soviet politics right now, the delegations meeting in Vienna will have plenty of time to discuss the meaning of meaning before any moment for diplomatic action can be deemed ripe.

Will My Birds Fly Tomorrow?

By PAMELA MINER
(4th Grade, Park School, Madison)

Help! Help! I don't want to die
But I can't fly in this dirty ol' sky.
I can remember in days gone by
When our whole flock just loved to fly.

We'd soar for hours in beautiful space
And stop to look down from place to place.
We'd all fly south when summer was done
To meet at sandy beaches under the sun.

After the winter and spring came once more
We'd fly back to the mountains and lakes we adore.
The trip back was pleasant in skies very fair
Peeping and chirping and breathing clean air.

When I think how it will be for the birds of tomorrow
My heart is heavy and filled with sorrow.
Cause I'm worried my family might not get to see
The beautiful earth as it used to be.

Where will they go when the snow starts to fall?
There are no sandy beaches to visit at all.
They're littered with everything from garbage to oil.
My birds won't go near that dirty ol' soil!

I even wonder how they could fly
When you see how polluted man has made our sky.
Exhaust from planes and fumes from cars
Black smoke from factories has all clouded our stars

And what will the mountains and lakes be like then?
Will they be as lovely as they once had been?
Will the lakes be as fresh and clear as they were?
Or will our fish be dying 'cause the water's impure?

Won't somebody make sure my family survives,
By cleaning up beaches, lakes, and our skies?
I'd be filled with happiness instead of sorrow
If I only knew there would be a tomorrow.

The Morning Mail

TWO NEWS STORIES

Strong Riot Talk, Weak Action

After every Madison riot we hear a lot of pious rhetoric from all sorts of officials about cracking down on those who would destroy other people's property.

In the news columns of The Wisconsin State Journal Tuesday were two stories we would call to your attention. Editorial comment is so obvious, it is unnecessary.

Here they are:

"County Judge William Byrne sentenced James C. Johnson, 23, of 330 W. Johnson st., to a 90-day jail term with Huber Law privileges. Johnson pleaded guilty to criminal damage of property by breaking a window in the Empire Realty Co., 505 W. Johnson St.

"Asst. Dist. Atty. Howard Hippman had asked Byrne for the maximum six-month term."

* * *

(By United Press International)

"A convicted disrupter is still a teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin despite a state law providing for his discharge, it was learned Monday.

"UW officials said, however, action has been started against the TA, Allen Hunter, 26, Santa Rosa, Calif., who was convicted Apr. 14 of criminal damage to property for helping overturn an unmarked police car on the campus during Feb. 12 riots.

"Hunter was sentenced by Judge William Bruemli to four months in jail. But the judge gave Hunter Huber Law privileges under which he must spend the night in jail but can continue to teach during the day.

"UW officials, rather than acting under a tough student disrupter law enacted by the 1969-70 session of the Legislature which provided for dismissals and expulsions, have decided to proceed under Regent rules which could let Hunter continue as a TA.

"UW Prof. Ted Finman, handling Hunter's case, said the penalty for violation of Regent rules could range from "a reprimand to an expulsion!" A reprimand apparently would permit Hunter to remain a teaching assistant."

State Employes Demand Basic Labor Rights

Sirs—At last the Wisconsin State Civil Service employes are taking their turn to go on strike. It seems everyone else is, so why not they, also?

What the state taxpayer does not realize is that its public employes are demanding basic rights that private industry employes demanded and received 30 years ago.

Our famous anti-labor newspapers fail to explain the rotten situation in the state service and take every advantage to play on their readers' sympathy by publishing pictures and details of rejected mentally retarded children awaiting the return of their on-the-job parents. However, the newspapers omit the fact that the state civil servant has a valuable pride in this work; but one's pride only stretches so far when one is treated like an impersonal idiot by his superiors.

And just how much service is the employe giving the retarded children when he is constantly being transferred from ward to ward and being required to work double and other triple shifts?

Wisconsin taxpayers must do a bit of research on its civil servants' working conditions and then consider how much they would appreciate working under such conditions.—Jacqueline Bellinger, recording secretary, Wisconsin State Employes Assn., University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Rally Planner Hits 'Politics' of Trashing

Sirs—As a member of one of the groups which sponsored the anti-war march, rally and workshops on Saturday (Apr. 18), I would like to address this letter to the group that was responsible for the trashing.

You have not ruined our effectiveness as the distinctive identity our groups and yours has been made very clear by both the newspapers and the police. But you may have taken away our right of peaceful assembly. For this, although I am very sympathetic to your causes, I now stand against you.

As a political force, you are dead—trashing has never been an effective political tactic in the long-run. As a force in your own community, you died when you destroyed the welfare mothers' bus.

On Saturday, you displayed childish temper, which, if it hadn't been so destructive, would have been dismissed as a temper tantrum. You tried to break up our rally, and when you found the people were not with you, you decided to take your marbles and play elsewhere.

We accomplished our goal of building a statewide anti-war movement. What did you accomplish except perhaps bring down on all us the political repression you are always screaming about? If this is what you wanted, you most probably accomplished it.

What now? Revolution? I think not! History has taught us that children's crusades have never accomplished anything but lower the population of the children involved!—Marianne Rice, 3218 Temple Ct.

Wisconsin State Journal
A Lee Newspaper
An Independent Newspaper
Edited by The Wisconsin State Journal
Published by
Madison Newspapers, Inc.
115 S. Carroll Street
Madison, Wisconsin, 53701

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