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**Domestic Affairs**

By Jim Herman

**ISOLATION**

The racial tension in America is a growing dragon with teeth digging into every aspect of modern life. Riots, illiteracy and unemployment are on program in slum areas such as Cleveland's Hough district, Chicago's Cicero section and the grand daddy, Watts, California. The negro population, 11% of America's population, is located mainly in urban areas. The negro population of Baltimore and New Orleans, for instance, has risen to 41%. Detroit's urban population has grown to a 39% negro content. This 11% of the American population, is fighting, most rightfully, for reasons ranging from discrimination and inadequate educational facilities to the political slogan, "Black Power." This revolution is not a giant perse, but it is a detriment to the American principals; the principals for which we are committed in Viet Nam.

All aspects of the Negro revolution are not gloomy.

A problem in America is the process of remolding Viet Nam and other foreign countries while Negro ghettos within our borders are begging fo the same treatment. \$1,000,000 is poured into Viet Nam daily 395,000 American soldiers, are playing guinea pigs and pawns of imperialism. Negroes from American poverty zones in Viet Nam may be heard to say, "Man, I wish they'd show as much interest at home as they do here!" Far-fetched, perhaps, but imagine the impact of \$365,000,000 per year and 395,000 carpenters working constructively within America! The fact is, we are ignoring the domestic problems in America to rebuild an Asian country whose Chinese brothers threaten American destruction.

The solution is simple, the reason is earnest. Rebuild America before claiming sentimental principles; before playing politics and prestige with "peace seeking" diplomats. The Negroes and other minority groups of America deserve better treatment than the South Vietnamese. They are a minority only in number. Even so, they are Americans.

*Letters*

*To The Editor*

Are colleges grade-factories or institutions where a person may acquire an education? An individual tends to believe the former because of the increase of competition among students and domestic pressures.

A decade ago a person could go to the college of his choice without being subject to various entrance exams. It is now required that a satisfactory grade must be attained for entrance to a college. So the fight for a grade starts before the student is actually in college.

Other factors to be taken into consideration are the Selective Service Board Scholarship Loans and parental influence. The U.S. Draft Board dictates an ultimatum which states, "Keep a certain grade-point average or forfeit your chance for an education."

The student loans require an even higher average for their continuation. Would this be discouraging education for the average "C" student who can not afford college?

The parents also enter into the grade situation. Usually a parent through love for his offspring is constantly inquiring about the grade — not the quality of the education.

It has been said that the college student has a tranquil and uncomplicated life. However, the pressure to get the grades is the basis for many mental breakdowns and family arguments.

So would it be beyond comprehension to organize colleges that abolish the grading system, and will college administrators ever take heed of the need for students grades?

**NOTICE!**

Letters to the Editor:

The Timber Cruiser will print any article submitted, regardless of origin, if, in the estimation of the staff, it is of sufficient student interest. Submit articles to any member of the staff.

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**Editorial**

James Allyn

Follow truth too close at the heels and 'twill kick out your teeth.

Fontenelle



For many, the assassination of J.F.K. and the subsequent murders of officer J.D. Tippit and Lee Oswald are surrounded by clouds of doubt. Those who would know the whole story sent \$76 to the Government Printing Office for the 26 volume report of the Warren Commission. To serious students of the case, the report's inadequacy is only too obvious. The result was the turning of more skeptical gazes to the accepted theory and an overall rejuvenation of interest, culminated by an alarming article in the controversial Ramparts.

If one reads the articles in Ramparts with an open mind, one must come away with a feeling not unlike dread. If this omnipotent conspiracy, of which only skeletal fragments have been uncovered, does, in fact, exist, it may well include Lyndon Johnson.

No one could overestimate the strength of groups trying to suppress exposure of such a scheme. And yet, if only a third of the facts listed in Ramparts are true, their very self-evidence would demand re-opening of the investigation.

Ramparts obtained the gist of their argument from Penn Jones, who lives and publishes a small paper in Midlothian, Texas. He is a staunch advocate of the conspiracy theory. Jones has much to nurture his ideas; the foremost being the 14 deaths of individuals closely or remotely concerned with the Dallas tragedy.

Causes include gun shot, heart attack, strangulation, hanging, auto accident, slit throat and poisoning. The significance being that these deaths possibly represent a purge of knowledgeable, and therefore, dangerous persons.

More help originates from the Warren Commission's discountenance of testimony contrary to the Oswald-lone-assassin-and-cop-killer theory and also its immovable adherence to the "superbullet theory", Here it is maintained that "had pierced President Kennedy's neck from the rear on a downward trajectory, entered Connally's back, shattered the fifth rib, emerged from his chest, broke his wrist into pieces, leaving fragments, and then fell out somehow becoming wedged in a stretcher, whole and undeformed, without a recognizable trace of blood or tissue on its surface".

Unbelievable? Governor Connally and his wife both testified that they were positive that the governor was hit by a second shot, and that the first and third shots had struck the President. The rejection of their testimony is an example of the commission's obtuseness.

Time magazine published a rebuttal. It undertook the task of discrediting both Ramparts and Jones. It would be very easy, after finishing Time's story, to brush off the conspiracy theory as being promoted by leftists, thus rendering it unworthy of recognition. Time accuses Ramparts of "hint and run" reporting, yet states, "and police suggested that homosexuality may have been a motive." It labels Jones, "chief mythologist and drum-beater", but excludes the fact that Jones won the 1963 Parish Lovejoy Award for courage in journalism. When reading of so volatile an issue one must separate fact from attitude.

With a preponderance of facts coming to light, it will be interesting to see what ensues. Who will arrest the cop and who will try the judge.

NOTE: For those wishing to draw their own conclusions, the Editor has placed the pertinent issues of Time and Ramparts on reserve in the library.