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VIEWPOINT

VIOLENT ACTS GET ATTENTION

One of the risks in a nation which protects freedom of speech and press is that outrageous, violent acts get attention of the sort which provides a lunatic fringe with ideas That subject drew the attention of Andrew Young, the U S ambassador to the United Nations, in commenting on last week's incident in which Hanafi Moslems seized three Washington buildings, held more than a hundred hostages, killed one radio reporter and injured several other people, including a District of Columbia city councilman the Norfolk Daily News said

Mr Young repeated thoughts that have been expressed by many others in relation to violent acts Extensive coverage by the news media constitutes advertising to neurotic people who are themselves inspired to attempt suicidal and ridiculous acts, he said "We're creating a climate of violence for ourselves," he added

Bold headlines, news pictures, radio reports and the first-hand reporting possible through the television camera do put people on the scene of violent crimes in ways that were not possible years ago Electronics may have contributed most to that, and the emergence of live coverage possible with TV is a recent innovation Sensational crimes had sensational coverage, however, long before television arrived

Within the limits imposed — properly — by the Constitution's First Amendment, there is no way to insure any outside "restraints," even if it were determined that playing down crime would contribute to a more peaceful society It cannot be denied that some guilty of violent, criminal acts obtain their ideas from news coverage or novels Short of having a large corps of censors, there is no way to avoid that possibility And so the risk must be regarded as one of those which a free society accepts It cannot be otherwise if freedom is to be maintained.

It is worth more than passing notice, however, that a widely reported and publicized form of terrorism, hijacking airliners, received massive coverage by news media If coverage alone may have given others the idea, the publicity also contributed eventually to stern measures to deal with this form of crime. A degree of success can be claimed — at this point, at least — in dealing with it.

Responsible people in the press are sensitive to the problem which Mr Young mentions, while also alert to the dangers inherent in attempting to supress news of any legitimate sort They are also fearful, as are many Americans, that the liberal bail provisions in a city like Washington and the hesitancy to impose long-term sentences for society's protection in the cases of serious criminal offenses are doing far more than anything else to create a "climate of violence"

AS TIME GOES BY

Inquiry planned

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1937—

A military board of inquiry was planned to probe the cause of a gas explosion at the New London (Texas) High School which killed 425 teachers and school children .Heavy rain, sleet and snow fell throughout Nebraska and Iowa while duststorms were occuring in western Kansas .The Nebraska Unicameral advanced the Cady bill imposing heavier taxes on alcoholic beverages to the committee stage, where it was expected to have the strength for final passage .Ruby Keeler, Lee Dixon and Allen Jenkins starred in "Ready, Willing and Able," at the Booth

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1952—

W C Lant was elected senior counselor of the United Commercial Travelers John Schumcher of Nebraska City was voted an honorary member of the Nebraska Professional Golfers Association Dick Powell starred in "The Tall Target" at the Arbor Theatre .Mrs Ray Moeller of Cook was elected president of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority .Nebraska City's Don Cole placed second in the Legion's district oratory contest

TEN YEARS AGO
—1967—

Kirby Eltiste and Sharon Deaver were crowned king and queen at the Fun Night at Senior High .Ralph Reed, senior at Nebraska City Senior High School, was runner-up in the audition for a half-scholarship to the All-State High School Fine Arts Course .Mr and Mrs Tom Hemphill were chairmen of the Jaycee annual Miss Nebraska City pageant French troops opened fire on rampaging mobs of Africans who accused France of rigging a referendum on independence in its favor President Johnson proposed direct peace talks between the United States and North Vietnam in a letter to President Ho Chi Minn

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SAFETY VALVE

".. we are leaving..."

EDITOR, News-Press We leaving for Ohio. We have given our reasons for leaving to Pastor Green and Mr Sev Sorensen of the Lutheran Church We wish to live here in Nebraska City, but because we are homesick, we will live in Akron, Ohio, where we have some close friends We hope you can understand this

We wish to show our deep respect to Pastor Green, Mr Sorensen and all members of the Lutheran Church We don't forget to thank the Mayor, the officials, Pastor Nienkamp, the Catholic Fathers and all other churches here

We show our thanks to the News-Press staff, the radio station, the schools, Morton House, Outerwear Inc and all our friends and people of Nebraska City We want to say "Good By" and best wishes to you and your families May God bless all of you Thank you very much

QUANG H. TRAN

(ED NOTE: The Tran family has been in Nebraska City over a year coming from their homeland in Vietnam, to Thailand and later a placement center at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas We wish them much success and happiness in America).





Don Oakley

COMMENTARY

News media held hostage

Television has been bombarding us for so many years with products promising fast, fast, fast relief for everything that bothers us, it is an ironic kind of justice that the medium is being increasingly exploited by people seeking instant redress for their grievances or instant publicity for their causes

It began with the civil rights and antiwar demonstrations and protests of the 1960s and early 1970s Rather than being mere witnesses to and recorders of a news event, the television cameras, crews and commentators often constituted the event itself

The phenomenon may have reached a climax the other day in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, where television newsmen found themselves active participants in a drama in which a disturbed young man held hostages at gunpoint for 40 hours in the city hall and issued a number of outlandish demands, including a public apology by President Carter for the nation's treatment of blacks The weeked before, Corey Moore had told friends, "You'll be seeing me on television on Monday"

The Ohio episode has occasioned some long-overdue soul-searching by news professionals

"It's time we took another look at our coverage of such incidents," says Virgil Dominic, news director of a Cleveland TV station "While we are glad it ended without bloodshed, we are disturbed that the media, especially television, overplayed it to the extent that another one is almost guaranteed

"We feel that the coverage we give such incidents is partly to blame, for we are glorifying lawbreakers, we are making heroes out of nonheroes In effect, we are losing control over our news departments, we are being used"

Despite the tremendous competition that exists among local television news teams, and at the risk of losing part of its audience, Dominic's station will no longer automatically grant live coverage to future Corey Moores In fact, it may not cover them at all

"This does not mean that we are going to ignore news events," says Dominic, "but rather that we are going to report them in reasonable perspective"

Also in the wake of the same incident, one Cleveland newspaper has called for a code of news coverage restraint, agreed to by both newspapers and television, locally and nationally, to stop the exploitation of the media by fanatics.

"Crazy people are of the opinion that they can pull off any kind of terror activity, especially murder threats, and make themselves prominent," says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "This is unfortunately true because of the way the media cover these episodes."

But just what is "reasonable perspective" in the reporting of news events like the one in Warrensville Heights — or the even more frightening ones that were staged in Washington D.C , the same week — is not an easy question to answer. As Dominic indicates, they cannot simply be ignored, especially when the lives of innocent people may be at stake

Nor is it easy to say just how a code of "news restraint" would be enforced

Nevertheless, it is becoming imperative that some kind of journalistic code in this area be formulated and be put into practice — even if it means calling the bluff of the next terrorist who threatens to kill someone if his demands are not accorded front-page space and prime-time publicity.

Otherwise the news media will find themselves increasingly being held hostage by the fanatics among us



Martha Angle and Robert Walters

IN WASHINGTON

CAB bumps public's interest

WASHINGTON — (NEA) — Within the next few weeks, the nation's airport ticket counters will be sporting a new decoration A sign telling passengers that their "confirmed reservations" may well be worthless because they legally can be "bumped" from a flight on which they hold a prepaid ticket

In theory, the posting of those signs will be a mark of progress because the airlines will be publicly acknowledging, for the first time, a highly questionable practice in which they surreptitiously have engaged for many years

In practice, that step is simply the most recent manifestation of a program of halfhearted, often-ineffectual "reform" of the federal regulatory agencies which increasingly have become captives of the very industries they were established to monitor and regulate.

One of the more fashionable ideas to emerge during the past year in Washington has been the notion of reforming those agencies, ostensibly to make them more accountable and responsible to the citizenry they originally were intended to serve

No agency has been the subject of more serious consideration than the Civil aeronautics Board (CAB). Both the White House and key congressional leaders are fashioning new legislation which could allow true price competition and far greater freedom in route selection among the country's scheduled airlines — radical changes which the CAB eventually may be forced to accept.

Meanwhile, thard is conducting business as usual—and nowhere is its pro-industry, anti-consumer attitude more evident than in its approach to two of the most frequent problems faced by airline passengers: Overbooking and overcharging.

More than 100,000 passengers annually are "denied boarding" for flights on which they hold reservations, tickets or both because the airlines compensate for "no shows" by overselling tickets

Such "bumping" is the fourth-biggest source of passenger compalints filed with the CAB, ranking behind problems relating to what the Board euphemistically calls "flight irregularities," (the airlines' failure to meet their own schedules) improper ticketing and mishandling of baggage

Despite the ubiquity of that problem, the CAB took no action to resolve it until Ralph Nader was "bumped" from an Allegheny Airlines flight in April 1972, then promptly proceeded to file a law suit against the airline

When the Supreme Court awarded Nader $25,000 for his inconvenience, the Board and its airline clientele became truly concerned — but not alarmed enough to produce any conclusion to a CAB investigation into "deliberate overbooking and oversales," which has dragged on for almost a year

Indeed, the CAB will celebrate the first anniversary of its probe with an interim, "Band Aid" solution Requiring the airlines to give the public notice that they accept more reservations than they have seats to fill — but allowing them to continue the practice

Although improper ticketing ranks second as a source of passenger complaints, the CAB has shown even greater reluctance to deal with that problem As a result, airlines regularly advertise the availability of various bargain fares but charge the full price to customers who don't specifically ask for the lower rate

Again, the Board response is not to order a halt to such practices and impose penalties on those who fail to heed its rule Instead, it has printed a brochure warning passengers that they must learn the difference among Advance Purchase, Excursion, Tour Basing, ABCs, ITCs, OTCs, TGCs and a host of other "promotional" fares

The CAB apparently believes that the burden of insuring that the industry properly serves the public should fall not on the Board or on the airlines but rather on the passengers In the old days, that was called "Caveat Emptor" or "Buyer Beware"

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The Prayer For Today From the Upper Room

He steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem —Luke 9 51

PRAYER Our dear Father may we be clear and positive in our decision to follow Christ and to do Your will, regardless of obstacles we may encounter Amen.



Ivan D.E. Beaumont

THE BUCK ENDS HERE

Mr. D was right as rain

Ivan D.E. Beaumont

The storm that was --

Bill Brand, a native of Scottsbluff and a former News-Press reporter warned about crossing western Nebraska during the wintry weather. We had no reason to challenge him.

F.L. Duffey, dust kicker from Colby, Kans., issued a similar warning about western Kansas. We challenged that. He was right. We were wrong .and lucky.

We had planned a trip to Denver and Boulder for some time. The youngest of the Jim Roberts family of Boulder (longtime friends of the Roll Bros.) was getting married and our friendship over the years made us plan the trip Besides, we planned to make a double whammy out of it and visit the Bob Tolers, former residents.

The weather report was not good and as we drove west. The reports said the weather was worsening in western Nebraska. I remembered Bill Brand. ..and turned south into Kansas.

"What are you doing?" queenie asked. "You're going the wrong way,"

"Oh no, mother.. .I'm going to out-fox the weatherman and head for Kansas"

It was a delightful drive.

"What's that?" she exclaimed.

"Calm down mother," I assured. "It's called rain."

We stopped to see the great-grandmother in Wilber for a brief visit and continued our southwesterly drive. The radio weatherman said driving in western Nebraska in the Scottsbluff area was a no-no.

Who cares? We were heading into Kansas

We stopped in Smith Center, Kan., for a break and visited with an off-duty policeman at a service station It was so warm we had rolled down the windows.

"I don't think you folks ought to go on any further," he advised. "The highways are closed in western Kansas."

We thought of cutting south to I-70 and then west, but the man on the radio said the south path was shut off with 80 m.p.h., winds and a dust storm at Colby. To the north, the radio man said there were blizzard conditions in Nebraska

"Can't be," I said. "How'n blazes can there be a blizzard in the north, a dust storm in the south and we're sitting in a sunshine paradise in Smith Center?"

She didn't answer, but gave me that ole' look that said "don't say I didn't tell you"

The intermittent rain started again, then occasional snowflakes. We were 11 miles from Oberlin, Kans., when the storm worsened and we saw what appeared to be a heavy fog across the highway It was blowing snow

The slush on the highway suddenly became several inches of heavy, wet and blinding snow I couldn't believe it. (Mr Duffey was well aware of it).

"What are you doing now?" she asked.

"Turning around"

"Why?" she asked "You've only gone...let's see...288 miles and have turned back every police and radio warning for the past several hours"

The car behind us skidded and went into a ditch The driver wanted help to get the car back on the road, but we explained we didn't have a chain and suggested the driver get out of there pronto and come with us.

The driver reluctantly agreed. The snow was blowing so hard from the north that each time we rolled down the window we were caked with snow and ice

The driver turned out to be a young woman who is a junior at Hays State College .In Hays, Kansas We took her east to Norton, Kans , where she checked into a motel and assured us she would call home so her parents wouldn't worry.

We did pretty much the same thing. We spent the night at the farm home of relatives, then returned to Nebraska City Saturday.

"Wow! This is great," I said as we approached Nebraska City

"Now what?" queenie asked.

"Didn't you hear the radio man? He said we got over an inch of rain."

She agreed and added; "And I suppose next you'll tell me that everything looks green today."

"Yeah....ain't it purty?"

The record plug

If you haven't heard it you will soon. "CB Beaver Fever is moving on the song stilts. Larry Hart, Nashville, Tenn., a former Nebraska City resident, telephoned the other day to tell us that 22,000 records have been ordered. Bunky Christiansen of Nebraska City is president of Cornhusker Publishing Company. Larry is part owner of the company.

Larry's excited about another new song he's publishing on the Ovation label. It's "Making Believe" by Royce and Jeannie Kendall, the folks who hit it big with "Leaving On A Jet Plane" and "Two Divided By Love."

The fight

We don't care what Howard Cosell said, the fight between George Foreman and Jimmy Young was a good old knock down slugfest.

We don't like Young's defensive fighting style, but we've gotta give him credit, he really laid it in there with powerful accuracy.

It was disappointing to see Foreman falter. He had Young for good in the seventh, but couldn't muster enough punch from his hulking frame to put him away.

In the same light, that round proved the better man. Young was wobbly-legged with 1:58 still to go and he rode her out, then came back to punch out a win.

(Sorry I couldn't come to the phone, Gene. I'm one of those armchair experts when it comes to fights.).



HEALTH

Lawrence E. Lamb, M.D.

Pancreas helps form insulin

DEAR DR LAMB — How do you know when there is something wrong with the pancreas?

DEAR READER — Sometimes you don't The pancreas from animals is used as sweetbreads The rounded head of the gland fits into the U-shaped first portion of the small intestine The tail of the pancreas extends to the left The organ is just under the stomach and rests against the spine

The pancreas has two parts The glandular substance that forms pancreatic juice drains through a tube into the small intestine. This juice contains enzymes to digest carbohydrates, fats and proteins, so it is pretty important. The islets of Langerhans seeded throughout the pancreas make up the other part They are responsible for insulin formation and hormones that are carried by the blood to control your level of blood glucose

The residual effects of damage to the pancreas can cause diabetes or it can limit the capacity of your body to digest foods .The latter problem is associated with frequent large bowel movements that contain lots of undigested fat Weight loss and deficiencies of vitamins and minerals can occur because of absence of normal pancreatic juice and its important enzymes

Sometimes there is an acute inflammation of the pancreas called acute pancreatitis When this happens there is usually severe pain, often starting in the pit of the stomach but usually generalizing to the entire abdomen and even the back The patient may feel more comfortable sitting up rather than lying down

Along with the pain, the patient may even have a shocklike state and may need treatment for shock The doctor will note the extreme tenderness of the abdomen and he may find a swelling caused by an enlarged cyst of the pancreas In a way the pancreas is digesting itself with its own enzymes Blood tests help to confirm that the pain is from the pancreas and not from a ruptured peptic ulcer or any number of other problems tht can cause acute belly pain

Other individuals have chronic pancreatitis The low grade persistent disease of the pancreas may be punctuated with acute attacks of varying severity Or finally, as I mentioned earlier, the pancreatic disease may progress without any distinct symptoms of pain and finally there will be indications of poor absorption from undigested food and sometimes diabetes

There are many causes for acute and chronic pancreatitis A viral infection may involve the pancreas. Mumps is one example which may involve the neck glands testicles and also the pancreas Gallstones with involvement of the bile duct may affect the drainage of the duct from the pancreas and set off inflammation of the pancreas

Alcohol is a frequent cause of pancreatitis Anyone with pancreatitis should not touch a drop of alcohol in any form About half of the cases of pancreatitis have no known cause, infection alcohol or gall bladder disease The fourth most common cause of death from cancer in men is cancer of the pancreas

Readers who want information about Gallstones and Gall Bladder Disease can send 50 cents for The Health Letter number 4-9 Send a long stamped self-addressed envelope for mailing Write to Dr Lamb in care of this newspaper P O Box 1551 Radio City Station New York NY 10019

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN

Today In History

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, March 20, the 79th day of 1977 There are 286 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history.

On this date in 1941, Yugoslavia agreed to peace terms with Germany in World War II.

On this date:

In 1602, the Dutch East India Company was formed.

In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel about slavery, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was published.

Thought for today: Love demands infinitely less than friendship — George Jean Nathan, American writer and editor, 1892-1958.

Berry's World

