

## NEWS AND VIEWS

ably find some agent from the government to help.

As firm supporters of the war in Vietnam, the editors of *America* could hardly have been expected to approve of the April 15 Peace March; but, oh my, it was upsetting to the Jesuit editorialist who covered it (*America*, April 29). Draft-card burners! And people selling Marx and Mao—and even *Ramparts*! Vietcong flags and daffodils and miniskirts! Dear me, things like this don't happen on Jesuit campuses.

Whatever could it mean when a few hundred thousand people gather to protest a war waged in their name? "The smell of roast bananas was in the air..." *America* explained. Etc., etc. "Men worked late that night cleaning the streets of Manhattan," the editorial concluded. Respectable citizens rest assured. *America* guarantees that your feet will not be infected by all that peace scum.

Robert Hinck of Columbia University summed up the feelings of many of us who marched that day in an article in the *Owl*, one of the student papers. Hinck found himself unable to do the straight news story he was assigned, and he addressed his remarks to "America" instead. He was talking about the country, not the magazine. Works out rather appropriately, though:

"There will be no news story on the Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam. I was there and I was supposed to do the story but I can't. Who am I to argue with the *New York Times*?"

"Those who were there know how it was and those who weren't have already heard all of the reassurances needed to keep them in their state of apathy. We were all smoking pot. We cooked bananas, burned draft cards and had scruffy hair. We sang about our preference for making love, rather than fighting the war that our betters out there in respectable America have taken to their hearts. . . . War is virility; love of peace is bohemianism and quite probably a sexual perversion. 'I saw all those weirdos on the news.'

"Well, America, you saw all those peo-

ple; and maybe you're not ready for this yet, but they are people, and they weren't the only ones! There were a thousand or two of us from Columbia and if all of us didn't get on TV it's because only a few of us were wearing our psychedelic T-shirts. . . . There were teachers and little old ladies. There were parents with children clinging to their backs. There was a man in a wheelchair who took one in the spine at Guadalcanal. . . .

"In short there were average Americans and far from average Americans, and . . . we got to the U.N. and went home happy. . . . We were wet and tired but we all felt that maybe this had accomplished the beginning of the end of American intransigence in Vietnam.

"Then we got home and found out that it just might be impossible to accomplish anything. NBC told us what we were: a bunch of kooks. Not only that but the great majority of us were not even in the parade at all. NBC told us that we were 'late-comers.' 100,000 people and a few 'latecomers' marched today after smoking pot all morning in Central Park. . . ."

The newsletter of Operation Yorkville, a militant, interfaith, anti-obscenity organization in New York chooses Miller R. Gardner as its most recent "Man of the Month." Gardner is General Manager of Radio New York-Worldwide, which the newsletter describes as a channel "to promote better understanding between peoples, and point out the advantages of our free society." Actually, Radio Worldwide serves as an outlet for a variety of CIA-sponsored broadcasts, especially to Latin American countries. WRUL, its international station, broadcast bulletins to Latin America during the 1954 CIA coup in Guatemala, and played a role in the Bay of Pigs invasion. Mr. Gardner is very worried about what obscene material may do to the minds and morals of American youth. "An entire generation is at stake. . . . how can they lead us when their time comes?"

Don't fret, Mr. Gardner. They'll prob-

Presenting an award to Archbishop Krol of Philadelphia, Methodist Bishop Fred Pierce Corson declared: "We have seen him refuse to panic when crises, due to a misguided and over-exercised interpretation of freedom, threatened the orderly operation of the functions of the Church. . . . Amid the neurotic and exotic demonstrations manifesting the diseased and sin-sick soul of society, Archbishop Krol has . . . moved quietly among us to reestablish . . . decency, safety, well-being, and betterment."

The award came immediately after the Philadelphia diocesan school strike.

The U.S. government isn't sure how many civilians it kills in Vietnam, but it does know the heartbeat rate of American pilots during bombing runs. Not only that. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration reports, in the words of the *New York Times* (April 11), that "Even during bombing runs on the most hazardous missions over North Vietnam American pilots remain remarkably cool." This is in marked contrast, mind you, to the people being bombed, who have been known to get excited and run for cover. Little children covered with flaming napalm often lose their cool entirely.

But then the NASA report explained that the American pilots had the advantage of long experience. Perhaps after ten more years of war, Vietnamese kids will be getting used to napalm.

As I type up that last angry note, I receive a postcard telling me that a high-school friend has been killed after a bombing mission in North Vietnam. The card comes from another friend, a conscientious objector. He believes this war is immoral and fears he cannot honestly support the memorial fellowship being set up in his former classmate's name.

For one generation of Americans, anyway, that dilemma goes a long way toward summing up this war.

PETER STEINFELS

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