

Letter to the Editor

TO: Editor of the "Smoke Signals,"
RE: War and Peace - 11 Nov. issue

The anonymous "War and Peace" article in the November 11 issue of "Smoke Signals" prompts me to stand in the defense of my principles as a compassionate yet firm individual and also my country and its youth from the frenzied philosophy of radical idealists such as the author of said article obviously positions himself to be. The following is a step by step explanation of how I feel about his article and the pre-stated subject:

1. I am young and no man has accused me of wiping my feet on "our country". How do you account for that exception to your generalization?
2. I "back" the war in Viet Nam, yet I have never said, nor have any of my conservative counterparts, that we need a war every twenty years. Neither have I advocated the "stick it out no matter what" policy you so loosely identified all "war backers" with. On the contrary, I condone U.S. involvement only until we have insured democratic security for South Viet Nam.
3. In your comment, "Young people must have a purpose...." are you suggesting that the conservative young peoples of the U.S. haven't one?
4. As far as your comments on the futilism of fighting communism is concerned, you are, in fact, my good fellow, a victim of your own unreason. I am quite sure of the fact that if a communistic type of government were to converge on the U.S. today, you and those who think like you would surely be exterminated in the first purge. Your "Peacenik" attitudes, I am afraid, would tend to stunt their growth.

5. President Nixon has tried and worked quite diligently to attain peace in Viet Nam with a rapid withdrawal policy. But I regret to say his every constructive move toward peace has been nose-thumbed by North Vietnam negotiators and dissenters at home. Are your remarks justified? I beg you to look for a moment at the President's policy in Vietnam in the light of political and military conditions as they were and as they are today.

The situation as of January 20, 1969:
Military Conditions:

- a. The number of U.S. troops in Vietnam was still increasing. We were still seeking a military solution.
- b. Military operations were characterized by maximum military pressure on the enemy, through emphasis on offensive operations.
- c. Progress in strengthening the South Vietnamese army was slow; not enough resources being devoted to that effort.

Political Conditions

- a. He found only a general and vague set of proposals for political settlement of the war. While you are calling for "peace" you offer no practical solution for achieving it.
- b. Mutual withdrawal of forces was provided for under the Manilla Declaration, which stipulated that the Allied withdrawal would be completed within six months of the withdrawal of North Vietnamese forces, but anyone knew at that time that the North Vietnamese were not about to pull out while we were still there.

The situation today:
Military conditions:

- a. He has instituted a Vietnamization program which envisages South Vietnamese responsibility for all aspects of the war.
- b. He has offered the withdrawal of U.S. and Allied Forces over a 12 month period, if North Vietnamese forces also withdraw.
- c. He has declared that we would retain no military bases.
- d. He has begun to reduce our presence in South Vietnam by setting motion the replacement of over 60,000 U.S. troops. (This is a meaningful act of de-escalation.)

Political Conditions:
For the first time, concrete and comprehensive political proposals for the settlement of the war have been made:

- a. He has proposed free elections, organized by joint commissions under international supervision.
- b. Our Government and the government of South Vietnam have announced that we are prepared to accept any political outcome which is arrived at through free elections.
- c. He has offered to negotiate supervised ceasefires under international supervision to facilitate the process of withdrawal.
- d. He has expressed our government's willingness to discuss the 10-point program of the other side, together with plans to be put forward by the other parties.

- Progress to date in Vietnam:
- a. The enemy was unable to launch the summer offensive of 1970.
 - b. The infiltration rate is down by two thirds.
 - c. Casualties for the first nine months of this year are down one third.
 - d. The South Vietnamese army is larger, stronger, and more well-equipped.
 - e. The influence of the government of South Vietnam has expanded throughout the countryside.

That is what is happening in Vietnam. There's a constructive program trying to achieve peace in Vietnam. What do you offer instead? An idealistic bath of useless rhetoric? A call to lie down and cease to become a useful part of society, rather than fight for what your forefathers died to give you on a silver platter? You have shown me only your lack of knowledge and your weakness in not fighting for what you have when you have to. You and others like you, secure in your paper mache world, which protects you from the cold, hard realities of REAL life, will echo a refugee from North Vietnam who said, "You don't know what your freedom is until you've lost it."

Before I close, Mr. Anonymous, let me impress on you that I will not concede my convictions without logical proof of their fallacy but I do try to keep an open mind about them. I trust you will do the same. To retain YOUR rights of speech, freedom, and happiness, I shall fight to the death. If that entails war, then war it shall be. But above all you SHALL have it and I shall have it, yes, all Americans shall have their basic freedoms if it is on my life that it depends. Peace—RGD.

Ronald G. Dunn

THAT NONE MAY BE FORGOTTEN!



Students Should Reconsider

Well Chowan has done it again. I am referring to the Circle K's Fund Drive in memory of the players, staff and fans of Marshall University who lost their lives in the recent tragic airplane crash. The Circle K requested that everyone donate a little something to the Fund. Out of both chapels they hoped on getting enough money to make a check out that would be worthy of 1400 students. Less than \$20 was collected from both chapels. This is not even 2 cents per person. This sounds ridiculous and in reality is. The indifference and selfishness shown by the Chowan students towards the Circle K's Fund drive was uncalled for. Just think 50 cents from each person would mean \$700 from students alone. Even \$1 wouldn't be too much to ask from everyone for a cause such as this. Think! \$1400 from students alone what would 50 cents or even \$1 buy. For 50 cents you could buy beer at the Rat, a hamburger and a small coke at the Patio, or 2 large pepsi's at the Student Union.

The money collected from Chowan students combined with funds collected from faculty civic organizations, and clubs would mean so much to someone else. Put yourself in the place of those who lost someone they loved. Wouldn't you want someone to care. I challenge all Chowan students to show Marshall University that we do care about others besides ourselves. Next time you are asked to contribute to the Marshall University Fund Drive do so, if you haven't done so already. Give more than was given in the last chapels.



Circle K members are pictured collecting food for area needy families.

One Nation, Under God...

By RONALD G. DUNN
Not long ago, I was introduced to a movement I had completely no previous knowledge. I feel that this movement needs to be brought to the attention of the student body. The following is a step in that direction.

Mr. Richard T. Vann, a member of the Murfreesboro Exchange Club was our guest speaker at the Nov. 12 Chapel program. He spoke of a movement credited to the National Exchange Club, of which the Murfreesboro Exchange Club is a member. I am of the opinion that his message and his explanation of the "One Nation Under God" movement deserves reprint.

His speech was as follows:

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Ladies and Gentlemen:
I am here making this address today because my service club, the Exchange Club of Murfreesboro, sponsors the "One Nation Under God" program of The National Exchange Club.

Let me briefly explain about the "One Nation Under God" program. It is a relatively new addition to The National Exchange Club's Program of Service. It was started because we Exchangeites believed the hour had arrived for an American service club organization such as ours to stand up for and strengthen the concepts of individual moral responsibility and dependence on God which are basic to the Christian-Judaic ethic; concepts which have been a vital part of the American way of life since the earliest settlements on our shores.

These concepts are under vigorous, atheistic attack. The "One Nation Under God" program provides Exchange Clubs throughout the United States and Puerto Rico with a coordinated, national project to defend them and revitalize them in the hearts and minds of all Americans. Our organization is convinced that we, as a nation, have an urgent need to heed the words of Rudyard Kipling's poem "Recessional."

"Lord God of Hosts be with us yet,"
"Lest we forget — lest we forget."
The "One Nation Under God" program takes its name, as I'm sure you all realize, from the identical phrase in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It may come as a surprise to some of you to learn that the words "under God" were not always in the Pledge. They were inserted by an Act of Congress signed by President Eisenhower on Flag Day, June 14, 1954. In signing he said, "In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."

We agree with President Eisenhower one hundred percent. There are however Americans who are diligently working to have the words "under God" removed from the pledge. I am proud to tell you that Exchange Clubs are resolved to keep the words in the pledge and will resist by every constitutional means all attempts to remove them. Our principal hope, though, is to accomplish our resolve by education, by increasing our schools, at group meetings, and all public functions. We want to inspire Americans to give the Pledge with love, reverence and honor; to feel that in reciting it they are performing an act of consecration to their country; that they are covenanting with millions of fellow Americans to preserve their precious heritage of liberty and justice for all, to support the policies of their democratically elected government, and to defend the United States of America against all enemies, domestic and foreign.

The same citizens who would remove "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance have successfully banned prayer from the public schools, the use of the word "God" from jurer's oaths in Maryland, and they have moved to have our national motto "In God We Trust" stricken from our currency. They argue that this is necessary to maintain the separation of church and state. The argument is plainly false. The very idea of a state religion is unthinkable in America.

Separation of church and state is fundamental to our concept of government. And, it has worked so well under our constitution that no religious organization would attempt to change it. The time is long past in this country when any church, religious body or denomination has felt it wise or necessary to seek governmental advantage over any other. As for religious liberty, the free exercise of religion is the constitutionally guaranteed right of every citizen. But, I beg you to remember that in exercising that right we may not deny it to others or infringe upon their exercise of it.

No, fellow Americans, the principle involved is not the separation of church and state. That is a smoke screen to capture the support of pseudo-intellectuals and ultra-so-called liberals. "The real issue is separation of the state from God," which is something frighteningly different. The purpose is to obliterate God from everything pertaining to government and, ultimately, to make denial of God's existence a matter of public policy. This has been the pattern and the result in all countries controlled by communism. May God forbid that the efforts be successful here.

We don't believe the efforts will succeed. Ours has always been a deeply religious nation and, despite some current evidence to the contrary, it still is. It was a burning personal need to worship God in their own way that brought many colonists across the Atlantic. And only their faith in God sustained them during the early months and years on a strange and often hostile land. Trust in God has been a common denominator of almost all who migrated to America. If it had not been, they never would have left their homelands. All of the world's great religions have been planted and nurtured here by those forebears of ours, and, today, there is no interference with the rights of their adherents to practice them.

Our people always have given evidence of their religious faith, and that faith was abundantly evident at the birth of our nation. When it became necessary to declare independence from the British Crown, the revolutionaries turned to God for justification and strength. The very first sentence of the Declaration of Independence refers to the laws of "nature's god." The second sentence declares unequivocally that all men "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights." The final paragraph opens with an appeal to "the Supreme Judge of the world" for the rectitude of the signer's intentions, and it closes with the profession of their "firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence." Undeniably, the "founding Fathers" were God-fearing men.

Speaking of fathers, I feel I must tell you what the Father of His Country had to say about religion and morality. I am convinced the curricula of our schools offer nothing of greater significance to young citizens. It is a portion of his famous Farewell Address too little quoted in this day and age; which is a pity, because every American should be familiar with it. Washington said:

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness — these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with public and private happiness. Let it be simply asked, Where is the security for property for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation "desert" the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

With our forefather's faith and trust in God went the propriety and humility to thank him for his bounty. Thus, a day set apart for special acknowledgment of God's blessings has been an important part of our way of life since America's beginnings. Thanksgiving Day should be one of our most meaningful national holidays. Unfortunately, its true meaning has largely been obscured by overindulgence in food and sports. Too few regard it as an opportunity to prayerfully thank Almighty God for his blessings of the past year, for the privilege of living in this wonderful country, for our rights and liberties, and for His protection against the enemies who envy us our bounty and would therefore destroy us. Surely we should heed Kipling's words:

"Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget — lest we forget."

It is the hope of Exchange Clubs, through the "One Nation Under God" program, to reawaken America to the spiritual aspects of Thanksgiving Day; to help re-establish it as a day when Americans of all religious faiths congregate in their houses of worship to offer prayers of thanksgiving to their Creator. This does not mean foregoing the traditional turkey, the groaning board, the hot-fought gridiron battles. It means devoting only a small portion of the holiday or holiday eve in humbly thanking God for the gift of America.

It is our aspiration that, in cooperation with religious leaders of all faiths we may spark a movement to reinstitute Thanksgiving Day services where they have been discontinued, to recreate interest in services that are traditional, and generally to re-emphasize Thanksgiving Day as a religious holiday.

We are not so naive, however as to believe that people who do not look daily to divine

Providence for inspiration; who do not trust in God and depend upon Him. We realize a return to the traditional spirituality of Thanksgiving Day will come about only as part of a year around awareness of God, with families worshipping together regularly each week.

It is our firm conviction that the full realization of our hope lies with Young America. It is our children, the parents, voters, office holders, the leaders of tomorrow, who will give the nation its normal and spiritual renaissance. They will not fail if we older Americans guide them in the paths of righteousness. Each generation, the old and the new, has an awesome responsibility to insure the transcendence of religious faith in America's present and future. So, I implore you young people in the audience to think deeply and prayerfully about your personal relationship with Almighty God. America is depending on you.

Now, in closing, I want to leave you with some words I pray you never forget. They were spoken by a great friend of America, the Philippine patriot, soldier and statesman Carlos P. Romulo. He served with General MacArthur during World War II, played a leading role in creating the United Nations, became a President of its General Assembly, and for many years held his country's ambassadorship to the United States. When he returned to the Philippines, he said:

"I am going home, America — farewell. For seventeen years, I have enjoyed your hospitality, visited every one of your 50 states. I can say I know you well. I admire and love America. It is my second home. What I have to say now in parting is both a tribute and a warning: Never forget, Americans, that yours is a spiritual country. Yes, I know that you are a practical people. Like others, I have marveled at your factories, your skyscrapers and your arsenals. But underlying everything else is the fact that America began as a God-loving, God-fearing, God-worshipping people, knowing that there is a spark of the Divine in each of us. It is this respect for the dignity of the human spirit which makes America invincible. May it always endure. And so I say again in parting, thank you, America, and farewell. May God keep you always — and may you always keep God."

With those parting words, I also close.

Congressional Record

Since 1833 (when men's suits sold for \$10.00) the Congressional Record has sold for \$1.50 a month.

At last Congress has taken note of inflation and announced that, starting in January 1971, the price will go up to \$3.75 a month. Actually, few subscribers pay anything because many receive it free of charge from their Congressman.

This overnight printed record of what was said and done in Congress the previous day averages 300,000 words in each edition.

Thrill of Victory

By Donald R. Patten
Chowan's coach Jim Garrison with an unprecedented win over Baltimore Junior College, to kick off the season, seemed beyond any doubt to have assembled one of the finest teams ever in the history of the college football program.

With victories over Potomac State, Ferrum, Lees-McRae, Worth, Montgomery, and Harford College, the Braves looked more optimistic toward the possibility of receiving a Bowl bid.

Loaded with a 7-0 record beneath their belts, and the brutal beatings they forced upon each opponent, they prepared for the final stage of the season. On November 7, Chowan was to have her excellences tested by a powerhouse of Wolverines, led by the notorious, muscular, 230-pound, six-foot bandit, Clarence Chiles, a Junior College All American for two consecutive years. The team was Wesley, the site - Dover, Del., the field - Dover High School Stadium, the night - perfect.

With a packed house, Wesley showed qualities of brilliance as they marched up the field in five

plays after taking the opening kick off Chowan's Jimmy Thomas to score. Chowan was never really in the contest from this point on.

Wesley lived up to its reputation of being one of the better teams by downing the Braves 37-17. The defeat denied Chowan her second chance of obtaining a Bowl bid.

Showing qualities of still a most powerful team, Chowan rolled into Davidson, N.C. and gave the Davidson Frosh a worse defeat than they received themselves the previous week. The victory enabled Chowan to climb to an 8-1 seasonal mark, identical to that of five years ago. The defeat by Wesley knocked Chowan from 7th place to 12th nationally.

The success of the Braves can be attributed primarily to the support they received, that ranged from kids to presidents. Credit should also be given to the coaching staff, headed by Jim Garrison, and assisted by Jerry Hawkins and Dan Surface.

Last, are the players, that great group of Bandits headed by four candidates for All American Junior College honors. The sophomores in the group are

Danny Croom, Norman Cage, and John Boles, with the lone candidate, Ronnie Mack, a freshman from Delray Beach, Fla. Mack led the ground attack, with help from Ronnie Jarmon and Horace Bush.

The bomb was very much a threat with the passing of Paul Black and Dale McCafferty, and the receiving of Billy Harris, Morris Newlin and Nat Wright, a freshman.

The loss of the Braves' most explosive runner was definitely a tragedy. The runner is Roger (Rocky) Dunbar, an idol in his own rights to all, and a target for all major college scouts. Roger can only hope for a return to the gridiron, and as he hopes, he will watch as others excel in the game for which he was much a part.

Chowan found winning to be transitory, but not all together lost, for this was more of a rebuilding year for Coach Garrison. With the return of 35-plus freshmen to pick up the pieces where they left off, and the support they are destined to receive, they can and will deliver Chowan her first Bowl Bid. This is good-bye to 1970 and hello Bowl City U.S.A.



Students participating in "Clean-Up Day."