1968-03-13

Edgecliff Student Newspaper

Edgecliff College - Cincinnati

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Dorm Council Seeks Understanding Through Hearings

The Resident House Council recently implemented a long-dormant authority to enforce corrective measures as part of student government. The meeting took place March 4. Elected student proctors, Sister provincors, and president Pat Humbert make up this Dorm Council. Its area of responsibility is delegated in a direct line from the Student Council, and includes all campus affairs which relate to students specifically as residents.

This newest phase in the ongoing “shared responsibility” program deals with matters which students themselves feel are detrimental to individuals or to the school. The procedure is to bring an individual into the Dorm Council meeting so that the question can be discussed openly. Hearings are conducted entirely by students; a summons to appear comes by student recommendation only.

One girl whose case was discussed at the recent meeting related her reaction to the experience:

“I never thought when the hearing board was first established, that I would find myself called before it! It was an experience which taught me a valuable lesson. I was asked to account for my misdeed, and it was

in this that I realized what a mistake I had made. I thank the board for giving me the opportunity to explain myself, and I would give every consideration to promote it.”

Other recent developments of the Resident House Council include the formation of three committees: Communications, headed by Andrea Kong and Barb Rooster; Activities, by Carol Schoen and Sue Williams; and Liturgy, by Irene Bishop.

Serendipity Pops at Mount

Constant evolution in presenting the music of the times is a quality of the Serendipity Singers, who will appear at Mount St. Joseph March 23, in the college theatre.

“There is more to the Serendipity experience than music: the vocal combination of six guys and two girls will keep our act as contemporary as Pop Art,” explains Mike Browly, the group’s unofficial spokesman. “We feel our music has a lot to say,” he added, “but there are some things which can be said better in other ways, so we integrate topical humor and sketches into the act.”

The Serendipities, who guested on the Johnny Cannon show March 2, “have added a new dimension to live concerts.” Mike continued, “Serendipity becomes Popendipity in a twenty-minute segment which utilizes film clips (shots of the group, scenes from old movies, pop and op art) against a live soundtrack provided by the group.

“There’s nothing worse than having to bear the same song over and over,” Mike observed, “except having to sing it over and over. Now that audiences will accept, even expect, innovation, we have the freedom and responsibility to constantly update our material and presentation, so that we, and our audiences, won’t get bored.”

Tickets for the concert are $3, and will be sold on campus March 7-15.

Want a Speaker?

Lecture Committee Welcomes Suggestions

Two new items contributed to revitalizing Edgcliff's Lecture Committee. The first is student representation, currently in the person of sophomore Mary Bumpus. She assists in the committee's function of encouraging intellectual and cultural enrichment of the campus climate by organizing the scheduling and engagement of desirable speakers for OVC.

Acts as Clearing House

But as Mrs. Claire Seidenfaden, director of college relations and chairman of the committee, states, the group will function mainly as a clearing house for recommending lecturers chosen by students and faculty. Although the committee may endeavor to stimulate interest by suggesting a single theme for different speakers in various fields through the course of a semester, its main function will lie in approving the proposals of others.

The second innovation, an official form, will soon be available to any student who wishes to suggest a specific speaker to address a general student assembly. It will require the speaker's name, background, proposed dates, stipend, and any means of raising the funds. The advocate will also have the opportunity to tell to which particular groups the guest would probably appeal and in what ways Edgcliff will as a whole benefit from his or her presence.

The committee will study this information, and if the proposed speaker appears to be a responsible person, well-versed in his subject, and the funds are available, the committee will recommend his appearance to the administration of the college.

Encourage Stimulation

As Dr. Anne K. Gruenbauer, professor of German and member of the committee, states: “This is not to restrict; the committee has a positive aim. Its policy is to encourage visits of intellectually stimulating and interesting personalities to campus.”

A chief goal is to interest students

In this issue...

Are you wondering? What’s the college policy on male visitors to campus? Sister Mary Honora clarifies it. Our readers are getting spamily all the time — We like that. See “Letters to the Editor.” Edgcliff will long remember the most uproarious scene that ever came to campus. Are Student Council elections due for some change? Students offer some suggestions. The Vietnam War military tactics prompt a combination book review-editorial.

An “issues election” will need a bibliography for an informed citizenry. Carla Dabney, head of the project, and Karen Beel, assistant, compile it in the periodical room. See the “In Touch” column, page 2, for the details.

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Letters to the Editor

Council Answers Criticism

To the Editor:

In the interest of ethically sound journalism, we find it necessary to furnish the truth in its proper perspective as regards the editorial, "Council TRIES Again," in the Feb. 21 issue of THE EDGECLIFF. Among other things, the problem of absence from meetings merits our attention. We find it questionable that a council member should or even can shed her participation and become a sideline observer, and yet this was the hypothetical situation described in the editorial.

The heart of the matter is this: Student Council is not trying again — it never stopped trying, although student interest and participation very definitely lagged in all areas. Granted, all energies seemed to be poured into the current of social activity alone, but this was no accident on the part of the student government. This phase of college life was seen as a starting point because of its accessibility to all students. The majority of Edgecliff students are adverse to a totally academic approach.

This does not mean the "more mature functions" have been overlooked. A student survey concerning freshman orientation, the recently formed Discipline Committee and student representatives on the Faculty Speakers Committee and the Coordinating Committee on Purposes of the College, comprise some of the non-social projects in which council is actively involved.

Finally, we also wish to correct the reference to the St. Patrick's Day Parade as a "non-essential project." At the time, it was treated as an opportunity for civic cooperation on the part of Edgecliff students. We consider this a facet of the truly liberal educated woman.

Peggy Beehan '68
Irene Bishop '68
Jana Smith '68
(Student Council Members)
Editor's Note: Touché!

Congrats to Paper

To the Editor:

Congratulations are in order to the staff of THE EDGECLIFF for the much-improved issue of Feb. 21. Such articles as the "Spotlight on Elections," the Lyons-Berrigan positions on the morality of war and the presentation of the philosophy and platform of the newspaper added greatly to its quality.

I hope THE EDGECLIFF will accept the challenge offered by Miss Bernford (et alii), Miss Homan and Sister M. Victoria to present "the real image of the Edgecliff woman." We need more stimulating debate. I would also like to see the Student Council reply to the editor's controlled and thoughtful criticism of its programs.

Sister Gretchen, C.S.J., '69

Marines Ask for Mail

To the Editor:

We would appreciate your help by asking if you know if there would be any girls interested in writing to us. We are three guys in the Marine Corps overseas. We would really appreciate some mail from the girls attending college there. Thank you very much.

Cpl. W. L. Lindroth 2249987
U.S.M.C., H & HS, CIC
MCAF-FPO San Francisco, Calif., 96672

L/Cpl. Michael Sandlin 2151534
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Cpl. Rich Marasac 2249553
U.S.M.C., H & HS, CIC
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Anti-Riot Bill Treats Symptoms, Not Causes

To the Editor:

The following is a statement issued by the Organization For Interracial Awareness to the members of the Cincinnati City Council:

We, the members of the Organization For Interracial Awareness, comprising students from the College of Mount St. Joseph, Our Lady of Cincinnati College, and Xavier University, in view of our concern with current racial tensions, feel it relevant to emphasize the need for immediate constructive action directed toward discovering and remedying the root causes of racial unrest.

We feel that the Anti-Riot Bill currently being considered by the Cincinnati City Council is designed to deal only with the symptoms and not the causes of racial discontent. While it may be necessary to define the roles to be played by city officials should widespread disorder occur, the Anti-Riot Bill, in the absence of any positive legislative and/or implementation of existing legislation to discover and correct the real causes of the riots, reflects a dangerous misplacing of priorities. The passage of the bill can only be interpreted as an attempt by the city government to avoid dealing with the problem of which riots are merely outward manifestations.

Eugene Beaupre, Co-chairman, Organization For Interracial Awareness

THE EDGECLIFF
March 13, 1968

Sorry!

We printed an error in the Feb. 21 issue. The story "Bermudas, Slacks... As Conscience Dictates" should read, "Bermudas, Slacks... As Judgment Dictates."

Administrators who figured in the decision to allow shorts on campus for sports activities and as judgment dictate have informed us of their position that wearing shorts is never a matter of conscience or morality, but one of good taste.

And we hasten to agree with them.

who do you think you are — Faculty?

In Touch

Issues Come to OLC Polls

by B. J. Lyden

It's with much hope for the success of the paper's "brain-child-of-the-year" that I announce to you the upcoming "issues election," to be held by THE EDGECLIFF staff March 20-21.

Senior Carla Dahney, a history major, is heading the project. We will have the results published for you in the next issue, on or about April 8.

What is this "issues election?" It is a chance for the Edgecliff students, faculty and administration, and staff to vote on the major political and social questions of our day. Given several possible opinions on specific questions dealing with issues as the Vietnam War, the draft, civil disobedience, urban riots, open housing, strikes by public servants, the U.S. stance towards Chisa, the UN, and hallucinatory drugs, each voter will mark the opinion closest to her own.

In order to preserve the atmosphere of an election, ballots will be cast in secret in an area marked off for voting. Since we believe so strongly in educated, intelligent ballot-casting, we are hoping that everyone will inform herself on the issues. For this purpose, we will furnish a bibliography of current literature on each of the issue topics several days prior to the election.

Why is THE EDGECLIFF staff anxious to hold this kind of election? First of all, the article in the Jan. 29 issue, "Student Blood Fails to Boil Over Big Issues," brought such a response from students who claimed it does boil, that we felt we should provide a means to reflect the students' opinions on the issues.

Secondly, we want to encourage an informed approach to the ballot box, especially in this election.

And lastly, we feel the need for the majority opinion on the issues to be heard. We realize that often our editorial views do not reflect that majority opinion, and so we want it made clear in the paper just how most of our college stands on the issues.

The Edgecliff is the student publication of Our Lady of Cincinnati College.

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Staff Specialist Phyllis Wurth '69
Art Editor Maureen Forister '69
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The Edgecliff
Some weeks ago a letter to the editor in the Xavier News decried the so-called "Gestapo tactics" of Edgecliff when a Xavier Muskle was asked to leave campus for what appeared to be a matter of inappropriate dress.

In order to ascertain the college policy on the outward appearance of male visitors to campus, the editors of THE EDGECLIFF discussed this topic with Sister Mary Honora.

Sister first explained that no one would be asked to leave campus solely because of long hair or somewhat unorthodox dress. The basic policy is as follows: Everyone is welcome on campus provided that

(1) they are appropriately dressed (here Sister emphasized the qualities of cleanliness and general good-grooming),
(2) they have some legitimate reason for being on campus (such as waiting to meet a date or a friend or attend a function) and
(3) they behave in a manner becoming their age and degree of education.

The college also has a policy that male visitors on campus observe the time restrictions as delineated by the Dean of Students; namely, that they are not permitted in the Hall on weekends after 10 p.m. and after specified times on weekdays.

The basis behind adopting such a code is, most importantly, that Edgecliff is private property and therefore its administration has the right to regulate visitors just as a family has the right to limit access to its home. Also to be viewed in this decision, that everyone have some reason for being on campus, which can be articulated in the event that a guard should request this information when he suspects someone of merely loitering on the premises.

Sister realizes the difficulty of actually interpreting the term "appropriately dressed" in a particular situation, especially since the persons involved in interpreting might not be that familiar with what the accepted modes of dress and appearance are today among college students. However, Sister stressed that any fellow coming on campus would be given the benefit of the doubt unless it could also be shown that his behavior was offensive in some way or that he had no valid reason for being on campus.

Guesting

'Males Welcome, Provided ...'

1968 AD

What about the Christian ethic? Is there something which distinguishes Christians from non-Christians?

I don't think that, strictly speaking, you can draw a distinction between a Christian ethic and a natural ethic. Christian values are identical with human values properly understood. Christianity does not supply new rules for living nor does it provide new values. The role of the Church and of Christians is to help all mankind discover what truly human values are and to proclaim that the spirit is working in our midst to help us discover what these values really are. What, then, is special about being a Christian? Does the Christian have access to information which the non-Christian doesn't have? Of course we say that the Christian has Revelation. But it seems to me that the special role of Revelation is to help us sort out what real human values are, while the Church provides us with a tradition in which to work out these values.

What should one's essential reason for being a Christian be?

The distinctive characteristic of Christianity is our awareness of the risen Christ's presence among us. In fact, this is precisely what our liturgy is, a celebration of this presence of Christ.

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I don't think that the Christian has access to any real objective ethical information which the non-Christian does not have. But the Christian does have a context within which to live which should enable him to see his place in the universe more clearly and therefore to pursue a straighter course in uncovering and preserving true values.
Multiplication Problems

Perceptive Scientists --- Shy Flies

Strange happenings in the biology department. Are lab specimens attacking freshman experimenters?

The situation is, perhaps, not as serious as it seems. Freshman biology students are presently studying genetics by a rather intensive observation of multiplying fruit flies.

First question of the somewhat naive layman: How can anybody intensively observe a fruit fly? Well, either the fruit flies are unusually fat or the freshman eyes are getting keener. At any rate, the dedicated experimenters are coming up with such fine distinctions from observation such as red eyes vs. white eyes, and wingy wings vs. smooth wings.

As can be expected, some of the fruit flies rebel somewhat at participating in such a humiliating experiment, and even resort to physical violence. As one student put it:

"I try my hardest not to let the flies escape from their vials, but a few always seem to sneak out — that's when I start feeling icy all over. It's like they're crawling through my hair, my arms and down my legs!"

Other fruit flies employ the method of "passive resistance," as one discouraged student reported:

"When I looked into my vial at the tiny flies, either they were sleeping or dead, but they wouldn't move."

Some of the fruit flies even actively put a "fly in the ointment" of the experiment, much to the dismay of one confused girl:

"I don't know what happened, but I had pink-winged fruit flies with crinkly eyes."

Maybe freshman fruit fly observers will metamorphose into great biology majors like Mary de Sostoa, Valeria DeVine, Lauretta Koester and Marilyn Szubel.

The Arts

OLC Artists Display in Emery

by Rosellen Gallerio

The excitement of one-man shows will echo in Emery Galleries this spring as Edgecliff senior art majors take their first step into the professional art world. Each student will give a four-day showing of her own works of art; she will be entirely responsible for the whole show. This will include: hanging the show, organizing and giving a reception if she desires it, publicity and taking the show down.

Says Sister Mary Rothe, head of the art department, "This is the first time all the seniors are having special group exhibitions. We think that it will be a fine introduction into the professional art world. We have a very interesting variety of subject matter, techniques and approaches."

First in the series will be Kay Kowalski, April 21-24. Kay's show will be mostly experiments in enamelling techniques. She will also include some paintings, ink drawings, batiks and woodcuts. Kay is printing her own invitations to her reception. Says Kay, "This is a great opportunity, a great start since Emery is right in the heart of the 'art world.'"

Janet Brigger's show is scheduled for April 26-29. Batiks and art work from Janet's past four years will comprise most of her show. Her thesis, which is a series of enamelled plaques, will also be shown.

Impressionistic paintings will be the subject of Gill Junker's show. May 2-5. Gill will also include a few prints.

Wilma Korte has concentrated on a theme of pencil, pen and ink drawings of buildings, people and still life. Wilma's show will be exhibited May 7-10.

A group showing will be held from May 11-15. Included in the exhibit are Diane Morgan, who will show enameled pieces; Sonia Fernandez, who will exhibit her thesis of a woven rug and a few pieces of sculpture, and graduate Hyacinth Chin You, who will show a large area Rya Rug.

Janice Connelly will give her showing of a variety of landscape paintings, prints, woodcuts, drawings and enameled pieces May 17-20. Says Janice, "It's so exciting because each of us is responsible for our own complete show — kind of professional!"

The annual general Student Show opens May 22. All art students will exhibit their best art works, which will be judged by members of the faculty.

Valentine Eve in the Dorm

by Mary Moebius

It had been ordinary. The entire day had been merely a Tuesday, one of those stay-at-home-after-seven days, one of those dorm meeting days -- a day to have a dorm meeting the night before Valentine's Day. Nobody knew dorm meetings -- unless there is some new policy set like no talking, no eating, no drinking, no using those stay-at-home-after-seven day hours, male students allowed upstairs during the day, or phones installed in each room. Surprises like this come, but rarely.

"Rumor-control" had it that the meeting held something mysterious. Dorm-council members assured everyone that it would be short and uneventful. Some eyebrows raised in wonder; the more, however, took it in stride and went. Everyone at the meeting was ordinary. The room filled with the same amount of smoke; the little clusters that ordinarily formed, did; the many who ordinarily arrived late and therefore usually stood, were standing. Everyone waited for the meeting to begin in the ordinary way.

But something was smiley, askew, different. Something up front was causing wonder to spread like typhoid infecting all those ordinary people to react, emit, laugh. Some screamed and jumped. Many began standing on chairs to get a better look.

It was Sister Margaret Anne looking like your favorite carnival Barker, with a skimmer. She was singing heartily about a mortgage on the farm. She was a "Pa.", "Ma" joined "Pa."

Sister Mary Ann could bake cornmeal bread with ease, or so it appeared. Then Sister Margaret Rose, then Sister Mary Roderic -- dressed like a Vasa girl. The entire "family" went playfully about their inability to pay the mortgage on the farm.

A black-clad villain, Sister Barbara, forced her "the mortgage -- or the daughter." Truth, goodness, and all that good stuff won out as the villain was "foiled" and sent unceremoniously in a dump to the ground.

Upstairs applause went up from the audience which now looked like the tiered audience at the Music Hall, with all levels from the floor to the table tops responding loudly.

Eyes met, questioning the motives for this fantastic show, asking silently "Do they want our money for their mortgage? What's the deal?"

Surprise followed surprise as a chorus line of "hearts" appeared, composed of the good Sisters from top administrators to the beloved dorm procys. They sang a second selection about the "train comes through the middle of the dorm."

It was high comedy of an unordinarily uproarious nature. And no one could say they had spent a second selecting what to do with that train. "Train... What a train!"

Somehow the audience did not care that the train was not their own. They were too busy enjoying the train that ran through the middle of the dorm."

Ski Awards Vary

Neophyte skiers from Edgecliff ran the gamut of "awards" at the Yeung Democrats ski trip, Feb. 9-11 at Snow Trails, Mansfield, Ohio.

Carolyn Schopf, a freshman dorm student, won the Most Improved Beginner Award, "for not falling down the last six times."

Joni Gill, also a freshman dorm student, won the Worst Beginner Award, "for usually being found in the bushes."

The rest of the skiers were reportedly awarded with bruises.

Sister Play to Open

The Physicists, a satiric drama of absurdity and mystery, will play at the Edgecliff Academy Theatre March 21-April 6.
Students Sound Off

Council Elections — Time for New Ways and Means

One of the elements of "Spring—OLC Style" is Student Council and class president elections in May. Petitioning for these offices begins after Easter vacation. Here are the ideas of several students on how these elections could be improved.

Not a popularity poll...

I think that campaigning should be stressed more on the OLC candidates. It would have to be set up in a manner that would not allow it to turn out as a popularity poll. For instance, there should be debates between candidates. Each candidate should have a platform and let other students hear her proposition for the following year, how she would participate in Student Council itself, and any goals she hoped to achieve in the next year.

Peggy Haglage ’71

True effectiveness...

First of all—unless we can get a real Student Council—one with some measure of effectiveness in student affairs, I see no reason for even having elections.

Discounting this need, however, the only suggestion I can make would be to generate more interest in the election. One way that this might be accomplished would be to have the candidates speak at all the class meetings, at which attendance would be mandatory. Schedule the class meetings on four successive Wednesdays, if possible, and make it known that attendance will be taken. It is sad that such a measure must be taken, but if not I feel that very few people would come.

Since the elections affect everyone in the school and since the officers and representatives should speak for the student body, I think it is necessary that everyone be acquainted with the candidates and their "platform" even if they don’t have interest enough to find out themselves. This business with the papers posted in Sullivan Hall is real farce.

Also the students should be impressed with the fact that voting is a responsibility to themselves—not the school. An appeal to the students concerning the institution would fall short of the goal.

Campaign "platforms" should be feasible. In the light of the present situation in the Student Council, promises concerning school progress affected through this austere body should not be made.

Sue Kittel ’70

A good method but...

Judging from the first semester elections I think that the election method is fairly good. The only change I would suggest would be closer contact between the candidates and the voters through campaigning.

Laura Lanman ’71

Previous campus role... 

Attitudes must change...

Campaigning—Is there any? Candidates are now chosen on the basis of "face value." I certainly would like to see some semblance of campaigning, if only a list of the candidate’s qualifications and her declaration of candidacy sheet.

Polling method—No complaints in that area.

Eligibility—Students should not be permitted to run for office unless they have achieved a 1.5 quality point average or better. Responsible leaders are responsible students! Those seeking a Student Council office should have some proof of genuine interest in Edgecliff affairs; i.e., membership in a campus organization, or work in the past on some campus-activity-centered committee should be a prerequisite to candidacy.

Timing—Perhaps a longer display period of the application forms, to go along with an extended campaigning period, would help increase students’ dreadfully poor awareness of elections. Some students actually claim they missed the elections last spring because of brevity and lack of publicity on the subject.

Debbie Diethelm ’71

General Comment—It is appalling that the students of this school are so obviously apathetic towards the internal affairs of their school. This is to say that the attitude must change before elections will ever become a success, and until then no change of approach will affect the conviction (or lack thereof) of the student body.

Beth Ratterman ’70

Dedication...

... Determination

I’d like to see some real campaigning and excitement in the election this spring. I think there should definitely be some restrictions on the eligibility of the candidates (e.g., grade averages, other commitments). Perhaps we could nominate the candidates also. They could submit their petitions and then we would vote for candidates and have a real campaign with posters and a lot of competition—the whole bit. We need some real excitement and determination at this school.

Something concrete to get us out of our complacent attitude and into some real, dedicated interest in a concrete happening around here.

As far as the polls go, there should be a definite, designated spot for them, without the confusion of the ground floor lobby.

We need some dedicated people to get in this next election, state their ideas and interest, and get in the election and fight to win it.

Barbara Boester ’70

Self-expression needed...

Truly secret ballots...

The election of Student Council officers at Edgecliff is a fairly organized system, but a certain amount of campaigning should be incorporated into the system. The candidates should be allowed to express their opinions, at one time during the elections, at either a class meeting or an assembly. It stands to reason that anyone who can present her views in public will be likely to voice her opinions at Student Council meetings.

What Student Council doesn’t need are silent members. The officers are supposed to be the “voice” of the student body. Therefore, it is essential that each officer have the ability to express herself.

In addition, a partitioned area or a simple voting booth should be provided for the voters. This would alleviate the problem of “public” voting which now exists. Students casually gather in the lobby and cast “group” ballots while being greatly influenced by their friends. I do feel, however, that the petition system, which is presently in use, is by far the best, because persons who are genuinely interested in the job are attracted to run for a position. A high grade average demonstrates sincerity in academic work which must be demanded of a Student Council officer.

(Continued on page 6)

Campaigning... 

Experience...

We feel that the petition system is the fairest one because through this system the girls who want to assume responsibility for council affairs will make their intentions known to the student body.

We are in favor of campaigning because in our opinion the candidates for president last year were not well enough known to much of the student body. Perhaps some sort of debates or speeches, after the petitions have been posted and before the elections, would be a good method of determining the various candidates’ platforms (and making sure that the potential office-holders have some good ideas for improving our school).

Also, we feel some thought should be given to setting up some real activities throughout the year to pump up interest in the Student Council.

(Continued on page 6)

Cool it. Things could be worse. You could be out of ice-cold Coca-Cola. Coke has the refreshing taste you never get tired of. That’s why things go better with Coke, after Coke, after Coke.

Bottled under authority of The Coca-Cola Company by THE COCA-COLA BOTTLING WORKS COMPANY, CINCINNATI
Civilian Atrocities: Reality, Not Rhetoric

by Karen Wullenweber

As we discuss our thoughts about Vietnam remain on the level of "keeping the world safe for democracy" and "taking a stand against Communism," our attitudes toward the Vietnamese remain very smug, very abstract, very anti-septic. But, as Jean-Paul Sartre has said, the ultimate evil is this ability to make abstract that which is concrete. It is a desire to make Vietnam a little more concrete for each of us that has prompted us to write this article, drawing upon some of the most recent factual information made available to the public.

What a different slant on Vietnam is presented by one interviewee (Atlantic Monthly, Dec. 1967) as he questioned a South Vietnamese classified "IC" (Innocent civilian) who was being herded along with a gunny sack tied over his head amidst constant heckling by a group of "America's bravest sons."

"Who are the communists?" this interviewer asked the South Vietnamese. "I don't know," he responded. "Who are the Americans?" the interviewer probed. "They are like the French," the peasant answered. "They are Americans.

"But those are just the facts of war," the practical man would say. "All war is cruel and Vietnam is no special case." But many would disagree with this line of reasoning including Sartre himself who has accused the United States of genocide in Vietnam (B. B. Robins, 1966) before the court of world opinion. The reason for this disagreement is the all-time low which American respect for civilian life has reached in Vietnam. Vietnam is a guerrilla war which means that soldier and civilian are often very difficult to distinguish. But the tragedy lies in the great amount of evidence that American G.I.'s are not too much interested in even trying to make this distinction. Sartre points out in his Genocide in Vietnam that "Technical detail is necessary but insufficient to make any G.I. the words "Viet Cong" and "Vietnamese" have come to mean one and the same thing — the enemy to be killed.

Lack of concern for civilian life and cruelty are something very difficult for us to believe of our fighting in Vietnam. But a recent book, Air War: Vietnam (Bantam, 1967), by Frank Harvey makes this charge believable. What's more, he points out with great technical detail that the generals whoPLAYER in the work of the South Vietnamese" were men who believed that the Vietnamese people were unable to make the Vietnamese record of atrocities which compares the record of U.S. military conduct in Vietnam with the established laws of war. The National Catholic Reporter of Jan. 4, 1968, said its publication was an "historic event" because it "destroys the alibi of ignorance." When this war is over, NCR points out, the world will see us just as we asked to the Germans who feigned ignorance and innocence of Nazi atrocities: "If you didn't know about it, it was because you didn't want to." The time has come for all of us to acquaint ourselves with Vietnam in the Concrete, in order to be able to form our own concrete answer to the demand that in this election year an account be given for the tactics and kinds of weapons being used on the peoples of both Vietnam.

As Robert Crichton points out in reviewing Harvey's Air War: Vietnam (New York Times Book Review, Jan. 4, 1968), "There is a legacy of western thought, rather innocent but still a potent political force, that there are some things that cannot be done, some actions that cannot be in the name of military necessity."

That is one of the problems in Vietnam, a very concrete one, which we have to face.