

# solares sh hill

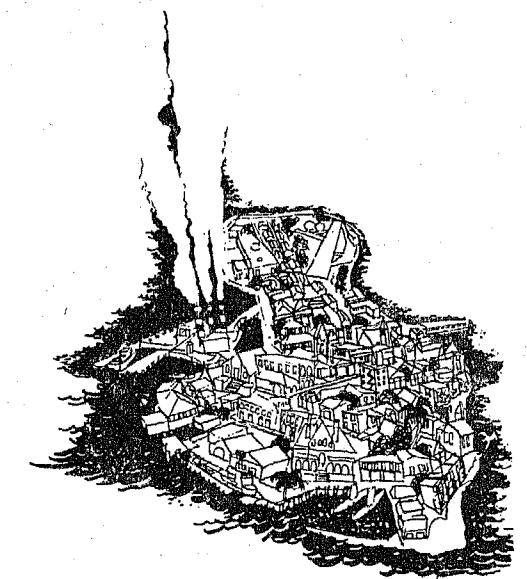
"The highest point in Key West"

VOL. 1, NO. 3

Key West, Florida

March 17, 1971 - March 30, 1971

**Key West from a long way off**



25¢



Tober is a little extra dilly ice cream when nobody's looking ... at the Solares Hill Ice Cream Social.

#### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Lt. Terry Jones, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, has asked Solares Hill to make public the following information:

Persons wishing to give information concerning the missing dynamite should contact Lt. Jones, Monroe County Sheriff's Office, 500 Whitehead St., Key West. Telephone: 296-2424.



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Another Founding Mother ..... Mrs. Huckel,

With a little help from our friends . . .

R. Adm. & Mrs. W. F. Schlech, Bob " tailor made rubber cement" Burdine, Bob, Lauri, Kris, Shelley, Barbara, Jeff, Elizabeth & Bill, Tim, Jim Coan, Robert, Lia, Tom & Pauline, Paul, Bookless, The Chicken Mothers' Club  
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## TOBER

What does Tober mean? It's a British carnival word which describes the excitement and the spirit of a special place:

Being able to go from the Atlantic to the Gulf in one ten-minute bicycle ride; that's Tober.

A Souther following a Norther; that's Tober.

A Norther following a Souther; that's Tober.

Making all the lights on Duval Street; that's Tober.

Being across the street from Sloppy Joe's when a Conch Train goes by; that's Tober.

Climbing Sapodilla trees from Jessie Porter Newton's to Cudjoe Key; that's Tober.

What is Tober? It's what makes us say "That's Key West and I'm glad I'm here."

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march 17 - march 30

## Key West from a long way off

Stand back and take a look at our island from a long way off. Where have we been? 1888. What kind of people were we when Key West paid 19/20th's of Florida's revenues?

1971. Where are we now, as an island community with a population to support and resources to develop?

2001. Where are we going?

This article begins a SOLARES HILL series of interviews, reports, and proposals which will help guide Key West and the Lower Keys toward a productive and ecologically balanced future - a future hopefully filled with as much Tober as our incredible past.

from BENSEL'S KEY WEST DIRECTORY, 1888

### LOCATION AND IMPORTANCE

Key West (the city and Island both bearing the same name) is one of the series of islands known as the Florida Keys, at the extreme south of the peninsula, and is the county seat of Monroe county; the rendezvous of the United States naval vessels of the North Atlantic squadron, having the finest, most secure deep-water harbor on the Gulf; the headquarters of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida; is the largest port of entry on the Gulf coast, and from its large customs collections ranks as the thirteenth port in the United States. It is 240 miles south of Tampa; 290 miles south by east from Cedar Key, and 90 miles north of Havana, Cuba.

### POPULATION

The total population of the town in 1881 is recorded at 800. In 1876, 12,733; in 1886, 17,442; in 1887, 18,940; and at the present rate of increase will reach 35,000 inside of the next five years.

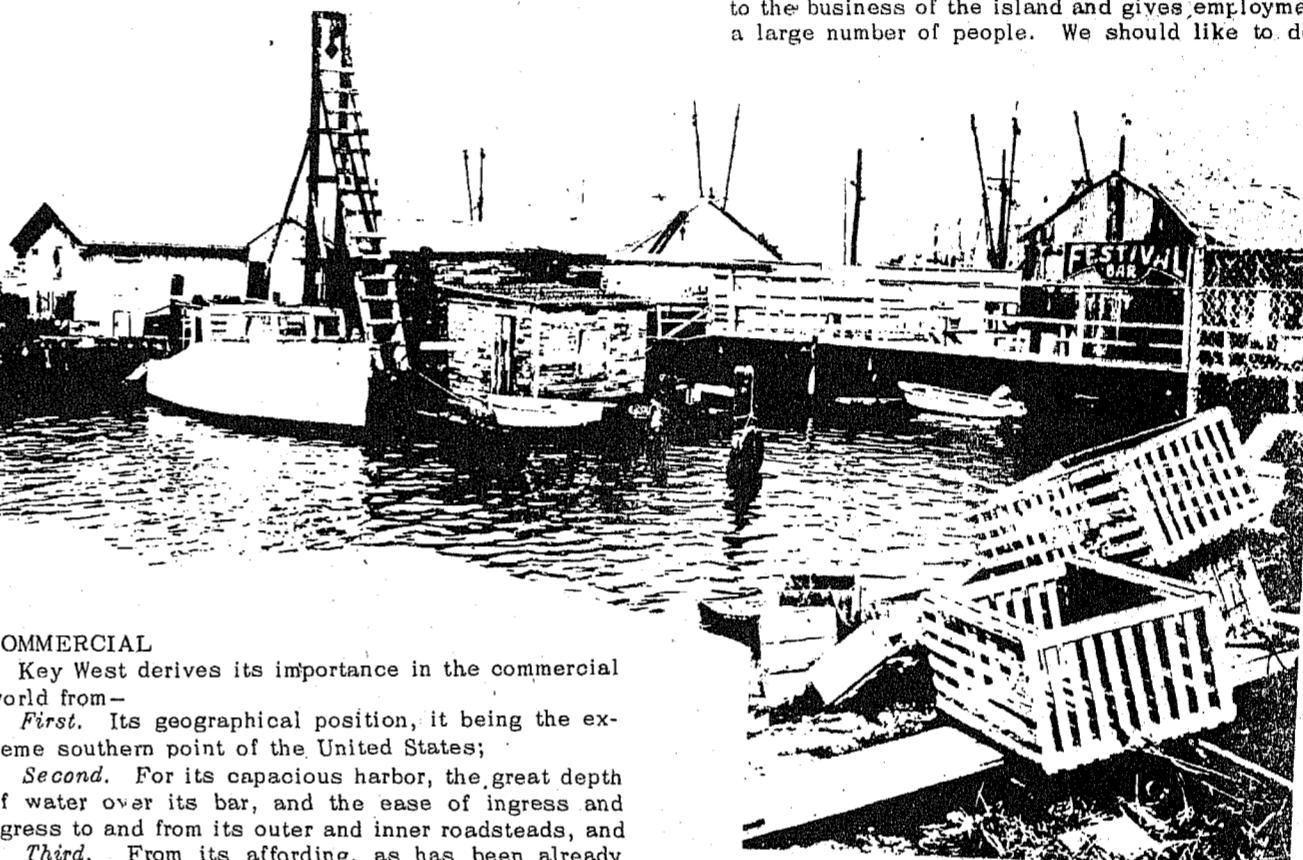
Inspection of Steam Vessels	10.00
Storekeeper's Salary	1,500.00
Immigrant Fund	3,230.00
Storage	1,294.76
Care of Foreign Seamen	103.00
Official Fees	4,089.68
Total from all Sources	\$748,989.00

### CIGAR MANUFACTURE

At present writing (January, 1888) there are 166 factories, and the output for the past year was 100,000,000 cigars, the amount paid to employees weekly being about \$60,000. Key West pays nineteen-twentieths of the internal revenue collected in the State of Florida, which is largely due to the importance of the leading industry of the island-cigar manufacturing.

### THE SPONGE INDUSTRY

Ranking next in importance to cigar manufacturing is the sponge industry which adds \$250,000 per annum to the business of the island and gives employment to a large number of people. We should like to devote



### COMMERCIAL

Key West derives its importance in the commercial world from -

First. Its geographical position, it being the extreme southern point of the United States;

Second. For its capacious harbor, the great depth of water over its bar, and the ease of ingress and egress to and from its outer and inner roadsteads, and

Third. From its affording, as has been already stated, such ready protection to her shipping, naval and otherwise, in time of war and stress of weather.

From these considerations and other facts and statistical information which follow, we claim for Key West that it is the *Commercial Emporium of the State of Florida*.

The following table has been kindly prepared for us from the official records, by Mr. J. Fogarty, the special deputy collector of the U.S. Customs House, and shows a decided increase over the year 1886:

### CUSTOM HOUSE RECEIPTS FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1887.

Sources.	Dol. Cts.
Duties on Imports	\$730,639.37
Tonnage Tax	1,120.92
Marine Hospital Tax	130.14
Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures	4,526.89
Services of Customs Officers	2,177.00
Sale of Unclaimed Goods	167.84

1888

several pages to a description of the *modus operandi* of securing and preparing this valuable article of commerce for the market, but space will not permit.

### TURTLING

A business of about \$5,000 per year is done in this line.

Many new buildings, consisting of some very large cigar factories, mercantile houses, and handsome private residences, have been erected since our last issue, and many more are in course of construction. Two miles more of street railway track has been laid, making about eight miles in all. Two daily newspapers have been established, and the same press dispatches that are read in the principal cities of the United States every evening are placed before us by our enterprising newspaper men. The Morgan line of steamers now touch at Punta Gorda, opening up a new field for our enterprising business men, as well as offering to the many tourists and pleasure-seekers who visit that section an opportunity to take a run over and enjoy the delightful climate and balmy breezes of our beautiful island.



#### ECOLOGY

Key West and the Lower Keys area has a great amount of geological and ecological diversity. Its climate, soil, agriculture, and marine resources provide a wide panorama for island life.

For all practical purposes, Key West and the Lower Keys are part of the tropics, although the region lies about 70 miles north of the Tropic of Cancer. The summer temperature averages about 80 degrees with extremes ranging into the 90's. The winter temperature averages 70 degrees, reaching into the low 40's when polar air masses sweep through.

The polar Canadian air moves southwesterly across the Gulf, where it warms considerably, and then sweeps over the Keys. But the area has never endured a freezing. For this reason it is ideal for tropical vegetation.

The climate is semi-arid, with rain falling sparsely on an average of 113 days in the year. Average summer rainfall is less than 24 inches and average winter rainfall is less than 16 inches.

Hurricanes are the biggest natural hazard for the area. June through November are the seasonal months for hurricane activity with the most hurricanes occurring during September and October.

The rock underportion for most of the Lower Keys is mainly formed from precipitated calcium carbonate that has become cemented together. The one exception is the seaward portion of Big Pine Key. It and the Upper Keys are composed of fossil coral.

The soil is a southern limestone type, an alkaline marl, with the top-soil composed of organic humus in most places. Combined with good irrigation techniques, it provides a

good agricultural setting for many of the winter vegetables and tropical fruits grown in the area. Some of these are avocados, guavas, papayas, and mangos. But presently, less than 1% of the land in Monroe County is used for agriculture. There are also a variety of trees growing in the Keys. Hardwoods, palms, and mangroves are most plentiful.

The wildlife in the area is still plentiful but is diminishing rapidly because of extensive land fills. Fishing is a mainstay for many of the people. Shrimp and lobster are the most plentiful types caught and sold.

From an ecological viewpoint, agriculture, wildlife, and fishing resources of the area are inadequately utilized. There are many areas where poor ecological planning is now becoming very evident: use of poor sewage treatment plants, pesticides and fertilizers, poorly planned and developed land fill projects, inadequate considerations for future population growth.

The natural climate, and the agricultural, wildlife, and fishing potentials all must be considered with the overall ecological balance for the area. All of these must also be surveyed with the general economic considerations in mind.

#### ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Since 1888 the economic situation in Key West has changed considerably. Two of the largest industries, cigar manufacturing and sponges, are of little significance now.

The cigar industry shifted to Tampa during the early 1900's, while the peak year for the sponge industry was 1902.

There are three main reasons why Key West was and still is economically important. First, the island's deep water access provides good port facilities and good protection from the weather for shipping. Sec-

ond, being the southernmost point in the U.S., its close proximity to South and Central America makes it ideal for commerce and shipping from these areas. Its location is also very strategic for the military. Third, Key West's warm climate is ideal for vacationers and retirees.

Although these reasons have not changed, the type of economic activity in Key West has. Fishing (mainly shrimp), many tourists, and a large military complex have taken the place of cigars and sponges.

In 1965 approximately 5% of the working population was engaged in fishing and earned approximately 6½% of the total payroll earnings.

Tourism is one of the largest sources of employment and revenue for the area. In 1965 over 30% of the work force was engaged in services, most of that being in the tourist area, and they received over 20% of the area payroll.

But, by far, government related employment provides the most extensive income source. While 20% of the work force was employed in government related services in 1965, they received over 25% of the payroll income. This figure does not include military payrolls.

For the future, Key West will probably never be conducive to manufacturing of any scale because of transportation problems and the small amount of land available for building.

Fishing will probably provide the same proportion of jobs and income as in recent years because of new technological innovations and the seasonality of the industry. Construction, on the other hand, will increase because of larger per capita incomes and the initiation of public works projects.

Tourism will grow rapidly and the income from this source and the reliance of the community on this economic segment will increase proportionately. The military involvement in the community is not certain but its economic impact should not increase and, as the economic energies expand in other areas, its proportion will decrease.

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#### TWO VISIONS FOR THE KEYS

##### DREAM 1:

In the mid-80's, the Keys became the second region in the U.S. to be set up as an ecologically depressed area, administered by the Dept. of Energy Input. Along with Appalachia, the first ecologically depressed region, the Keys became a center of artificially created cottage and light industries. Big Pine Key residents have become skilled in paper carton production and Key West has become the styrofoam center of the Southeast. Styrofoam laborers here are known for their ability at keeping up the huge foam machines installed by the government.

In 1994 there was a minor strike over wages with Energy Input-Atlanta (regional office for Key West), but Conch passivity overcame Conch stubbornness and the minimum wage remained at the GS-5 level. (One TV per family, ample margarine, one pound butter per family a month.)

Interestingly enough, several families elected at the time of the federal take-over to remain independent. They raise their own fruits

and vegetables and carry on a primitive fishing effort in the largely depleted waters east of the Tortugas.

In 1998, one of the primitive fishermen, a Lowe by name, caught a 30 lb. Grouper off the Marquesas - evidence that there is still some good fishing in Keys waters.

Tourism is up from last year as the Bureau of Historical Preserved has finally closed Duval Street in Key West to URBUS traffic and federal employees have assumed 19th century sea port attire. Key West is now heralded as the "Williamsburg of the 19th century - a quiet sea town where Audubon found peace and quiet for his bird watching."

##### DREAM 2:

Ecological Balance Point (E.B.P.) was declared by County Mayor Stacey McLendon this fall as the Lower Keys Ecosystem Authority completed the final link in the food cycle - lobster farming. Through a grant to Sea Farms, Inc. the Florida lobster has now been successfully domesticated and the Lower Keys are responsible for 40% of the world's supply.

Key West is still the bustling, easy-going town of festivals and fetes. Its 25-year old traditional county fair and regatta is the Mardi Gras of Florida and the Caribbean.

Lower Keys High School, coached by "Bop" Brown, won the Caribbean championships in soccer and baseball this year, defeating Mexico City Trade in soccer and Caracas Holy Innocents H.S. in baseball.

The highlights of this year's social season was the annual Christmas Tree Island community swim with Eddie's Party Cake Bakery giving a free Key Lime pie to each swimmer able to reach the Island bird sanctuary.





## The Hogan Affair

William Huckle

"Schoolroom Flag Burning Details Given" was a headline of the Key West Citizen of Wednesday, March 3, 1971.

The article explained that Mike Hogan, a student, was suspended from Key West High School for two weeks for the burning of an American flag in class. Hogan set fire to a little flag in order to dramatize an oral book report he gave in class. The punishment was not more severe, the Principal, Glynn R. Archer, Jr. said, because he felt that the student was guilty of an "error in judgment" and did not intend insult to the flag.

Solares Hill asked a few people what they thought of the incident.

Mrs. C.B. Harvey, a member of the Monroe County School Board, said, "I felt that the explanation given by the Principal, Mr. Glynn Archer, Jr., was reasonable and showed more the exercise of poor judgement (on the part of the student) than the desecration of the facsimile of the American flag and, for this lack of judgement, I felt that the student should have been disciplined."

Margaret Carey, a student at the Key West High School, said, "The act itself wasn't that bad. It was just what everyone else put it up to be. He didn't intentionally mean to insult the flag. They put more into it than actually was there."

Virginia Wood, the mother of two Key West High School students, stated, "I'd like to think that the principal acted in haste in suspending the Hogan boy. It is unfortunate this sort of haste was so late in coming when a firm stand in the past has been missing. I take a dim view of our youngsters today who have refused to carry our colors, refused to join on the Pledge of Allegiance, but they are all still in school. Hogan's act was not rebellion or a contrived disrespect but rather an effort to wake up some apathetic young Americans. We need to applaud this young man, not discipline him."

This incident has aroused strong feelings from many sides in our community. Some people feel that his punishment was too harsh because he did not intend open desecration of the flag. Some people feel the suspension was just. Others feel that he should have been expelled from school for disrespect to the flag.

In our next issue, Solares Hill will provide an in-depth news analysis of this incident.

**FLORIDA STATUTE 779.21:** Public Mutilation of Flag: "Whoever publicly mutilates, defames, or tramples upon or burns with intent to insult any flag, standard, colors, or ensign of the U.S. or of Florida shall be punished by imprisonment in the State prison or the county jail for not more than one year and a fine of not more than \$1000."

## WHAT YA GOT COOKIN' ?

Phoebe Coon

Raul Llanes, Conch fisherman for 48 years and an employee at Medical Aids Pharmacy, is ahead of his time, this time - because of the way things are today.

"I grew up on these oceans and I learned how to cook by being in my aunt's kitchen in Cuba, where I would romance the cooks as well as taste the food."

Raul doesn't eat meat and says that the "dead flesh" of today that people pass off as nourishment has no taste for him, and is devoid of the energy one needs. "Meat is frozen for 6,7,8 months and you can't tell me that's good for you."

Raul at 64 demonstrates real vitality and zest. He catches his own fish and prefers conch, shrimp and lobster to any steak. Here's his healthy fresh seafood croquet, similar to the mixture of ground "gefite" fish of the Jewish people. Blend together lobster meat, shrimp and filets of your favorite fish with green peppers, garlic and onion, to a flaky consistency. Add salt, lime and oregano and any of your preferred seasonings. "Raw fish has more natural taste from the ocean. Boiled, all you get is a pulp with little taste and most of the vitamins cooked off."

Then, add cracker meal or flour until the fish is doughy. Roll the mixture in the palm of your hand and fry in a hot deep vegetable oil and olive oil, so that patties float and brown. Serve with Bar-B-Q. sauce or tomato catsup or any other sauce of your liking. These patties are also good cold the next day. Years ago Raul did eat meat, but at that time in Key West, there were slaughter houses close by and one got really fresh stuff. Cuban doctors even recommended that the T.B. patients of that day drink a glass of the fresh blood to build them up. Raul tried some and he says it bowed him over. But today, the meat is not fresh and the sea has much more to offer us in terms of nourishment and good health, Raul feels.

"The old people had growing wild in their yards all the medicinal herbs necessary for curing the common ills. One rarely had to go to a doctor or to a pharmacy like what I see. Once there were trees that bubbled like soap when you broke them and we were taught the things to chew on to help clean our teeth. But this has all disappeared now with the sprays and the hospitals and the nervousness."

Raul's grandmother, who lived until she was 104, went to the hospital for the first time, when she was dying.

"The young people of today are always tired because they have not been brought up on the right things like fresh fruits, nuts, and sunflower seeds. The pregnant girls lay around and read instead of scrubbing the floors and walking and getting the sunshine - and growing strong inside. They're too nervous and the doctors scare them into thinking they have to go every month, when years ago a midwife sufficed. Also the way they do cesarians now a days is often unnecessary, if you ask me!"



## Phoebe's Walking

Phoebe Coon

Raul rapped on, gesturing with his elbows, patting my shoulder, knocking my knee: "The children are over dressed, overprotected and kept indoors when they should be out and exposed to the weather so they have some stamina. Instead their spirits get broken, along with the spirit of the race."

Now the Indians, they knew! They never went to the dentists and yet had perfect teeth. No doctors either, they took care of their children themselves and used the herbs nature provided. The young conch kids who go out in the rain and swim in the ocean get adapted to nature and don't get sick. Like the Indians, they know!"

Raul simmered and handed down a special recipe for Spanish custard that he had learned once in Cuba: You take one can of condensed milk and two equal cans of water and mix with three yolks, and one teaspoon of vanilla. Simmer to a custard strength so that a toothpick in the center will come up dry.

In the meantime, beat the whites until nice and thick and add as much sugar as agrees with your taste. Beat until you can pick it up with a fork and have the meringue stay on the fork. You can build it up higher or cut it down some when dry. Bake the custard for about 40-45 minutes at 350 degrees. It will rise beautifully, like a pie, when browned. This custard makes a good food for babies also.

"One thing I would tell the cooks: do not scrimp on the ingredients. Use as many of the real things - the fresh things - as you can get, and be well supplied with the materials and spices you need." Raul knows a lot about cooking.

Raul also demonstrates that he knows a lot about life. As he says: "I've always managed to live well. Today people aren't helping one another and this disturbs me. The families aren't close with each other and with nature like they used to be."

"People are competing instead of cooperating. They don't eat well and they don't sleep well and life isn't lived as well as it ought to be," Raul feels.

"Mostly, I think what people need to do, besides giving more serious attention to their eating habits and poor physical and spiritual stamina, is to feel more for one another and to try to be more HUMAN."



All the evidence of good is about us if we choose to see it. The bright and beautiful flowers, the great and magnificent trees, the beautiful eyes of passersby, the sunshine saying: "feel me, it is good to feel good," and the unique and personable houses of yesterday standing yet in beauty today.

Key West is reminiscent of Mexico to me. Here in the early mornings with the roosters crowing that healthy sound, heralding another sparkling beautiful day, the image of Mexico returns even more strongly to mind.

It seems impossible for anyone to stay in a bad frame of mind when everything is so Eden-like and delightful here. The ugly things along the way can fade some.

There is something so fresh and magical about Key West early mornings. But then, there's Key West sunsets, and Key West clear, starry nights. The changing scene here is mostly surrounded by a great feeling of beauty. The weather provides the setting as it does out as sea. And here on our island, we are but a step away from the sea.

My wheels are well broken in, by the way, insofar as the strollers of today go. The springs are as sensitive as a mother's arms. Yet the sidewalk will interfere from time to time with what we see - it is the city part of Key West, groovy nonetheless. But the village spirit of Key West remains with all the passing sights one can mentally snap like photographs.

So,

what's really important is being able to have this walking paradise. Key West is undoubtedly one of the most perfect places to wander in. I have lived here several years, and still there are new places to explore: a house I never noticed, a unique out of gingerbread, a great and awesome tree, a shady, gravelly lane.

Right now my baby calls. Time for a stroll on those wonderfully unique sidewalks of Key West.

Luego Amigo,  
Phoebe

## MOCK TURTLE SOUP

Lyle Johnston

*Editor's Note: The mock coverage of recent predictive polls concerning the upcoming presidential primary election in New Hampshire has been postponed one week so that Lyle Johnston might report and discuss the now-famous "Iceberg Strike" in the Monroe County Jail.*

We were kicking our bollos around the front sidewalk when Sheriff Bobby Brown drove by the office. We asked him to stop for a moment and explain last week's "Iceberg Strike" at the county jail.

"Well, Lyle," began Bobby, "ever since that new air-conditioning system was installed it's been one problem after another."

We begged Sheriff Brown to continue.

"Our first indications were when we had a run on vitamin C tablets in the clinic down there at the jail. All the prisoners started to imagine they were catching colds after leaving the Sunshine Sauna Bath - we had that installed next to the shuffleboard area - and walking into the fresh, cool air of the newly air-conditioned jail."

We asked Bobby if that situation related in any way to the "Iceberg Strike."

"The so-called 'Iceberg Strike' was really nothing when it happened. The newspapers were pretty busy that day covering the story about the four dozen Econoline vans which were snowbound in northern Georgia. It was discovered that every single van was enroute to the Rockland Key commune. But the 'Iceberg Strike' made real news a couple of days later.

The first complaints came to my office - the usual stuff about Seven-up and Fresco coming out of the vending machines frozen hard as a rock, and the complaints about the tremendous drain the prisoners' electric blankets were putting on our outdated electrical system - and then the real complaints came fast.

Bobby sat down on the front fender of his Chevy before he continued.

"The first demonstration was when the main trusty put on snowshoes and mittens to eat dinner. The second demonstration was when eleven inmates turned up in fur coats for their scuba lessons. I guess at that point the 'Iceberg Strike' was really underway. One by one we started getting letters from local relatives of our prisoners. They all complained about the coldness of the jail and the temperature at which the air-conditioning was run. Living conditions were unbearable - guys were getting frostbites from the window bars. But we were finally getting the message. Actually I'd made the arrangements to have the room temperatures jacked up to 74 degrees when the real outburst came from the prisoners."

We asked Bobby what exactly he meant by the "real outburst" of the "Iceberg Strike."

"Well I would say that the real outburst came when the prisoners - every single one of them - cornered two guards in the ping-pong den and peppered them with snowballs for twenty-five minutes. Luckily the air-conditioner had been fixed by that time and the snow was nearly melted. The so-called strike ended when the snow was gone."

We thanked the Sheriff and he drove away.



K.W.H.S. Music teacher, Tom Whitley, knows Pat Ryan well. Solares Hill asked Tom to introduce this interview:

The first time I met Col. Ryan was when he had a date with a very dear old friend of mine, Miss Audrey Wilson. This lovely lady became his wife later.

If I remember correctly, we went sailing together and Pat was very enthusiastic about his first experience on a sailboat. This gave me some insight as to his ability to become involved quite seriously in anything he does. We spent many weekends on the boat after that and enjoyed each others company very much.

I've been underwater with him and he's very good. I have a picture of him rappelling down a line from a helicopter. Most of the information I dragged out of him came from our mutual love of sports. We talked a lot of football and I discovered after much varsity football at Holy Cross, he had played corner-back for the Packers in pre-Lombardi days. (He is still a great Packer fan.)

Trained in parachute jumping, scuba, survival, and every other phase of Re-con work. Pat represents the man I would like to have been. I'm an old fashioned flag-waving guy myself and have great respect for the Marine Corps. I spent three years during World War II in the Infantry (non-combatant) and was always a little jealous of the spirit and fighting ability of the Corps.

Pat has always been interested in young people and when I asked him to come over to school, he immediately said, "I'd be happy to." The students and the teachers were all extremely complimentary. He has done an outstanding job for his country and, I'm sure, has received many honors, all of which he keeps to himself. For a professional military man, he seems to have great understanding for some of the enormous problems facing today's youth and I'm sure is considerate of the feelings of the dissenters.

I'm proud to be his friend.

Tom Whitley

SOLARES HILL: I want to start, Col. Ryan, with your 18 year career as a professional military person, as a Marine. I wonder why the Marine Corps has been a special thing to you and what it means to you to be a Marine?

RYAN: Well, the Marine Corps is, we feel, an elite organization. It's difficult to become a Marine. In our training, we emphasize quite heavily - more so than the other services - history and tradition of esprit. There's a comradeship of arms within the Marines that I think doesn't exist to quite the degree in the other services. I think the Marine Corps is the finest fighting organization in the world - all services, all countries - it's a force in readiness, and I'm proud to be a member of what I consider the finest.

You'll occasionally see this in the newspapers, or hear people talk

about it in conversation. They'll say: he's ex-Navy, or he's ex-Air Force. But there's no such thing as ex-Marine. A Marine is a former Marine. Once a Marine, always a Marine. We feel that this bond that exists between the Marines that have gone before, to the Marines of the present, is a very real thing. We have a responsibility to those who have gone before to carry on the job now and the job of the future. Once a Marine always a Marine.

A way to demonstrate this is during a Marine Corps birthday ball. We celebrate our birthday ball on November 10, and we do it you know, with gusto. There's quite a bit of pomp and circumstance and history and tradition. Part of the official ceremonies at the ball - and this is official; this is according to the book - is that a piece of cake goes to the oldest Marine present, and to the youngest Marine present. The first piece of cake goes to the oldest Marine, and this signifies our respect and acknowledgement for all the Marines who have gone before. And a piece of cake goes to the youngest Marine which means that he's picked up the baton and is carrying it on to the promise of the future.

So, the Corps is deep in history and tradition. It's an organization which puts you a little bit in awe of the Corps as a whole and makes you proud to be in it.

SOLARES HILL: What about that youngest Marine? What kind of Corps is he going to be part of during the next ten years - the next twenty years? There's been a great deal of change in the military responding to the changes in social values and habits in society itself in the last two or three years, particularly. I'm speaking specifically about the change in behavior and appearance requirements. What are these changes which have come about in the Marine Corps? Do you feel that these are beneficial or not to a military service?

RYAN: Well, that's a two pronged question. First, about the appearance changes, the moderation in discipline and things of that nature.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Chapman, was queried by news reporters in view of this modernization which has taken place in the other services: hair can now be worn long, beer in the barracks, recruit training less rigorous and whatnot. General Chapman has stated categorically that Marine recruit training, if anything, was going to be made more difficult and more rigorous - more physically demanding, more mentally demanding.

The appearances, the uniform appearance, is going to be held to exactly as it is now and what it has always been. Rigid standards are going to be enforced and maintained, and I for one, and certainly all other Marines, both in the Corps now and former Marines, applaud this stand.

A standard theme that we live by at Parris Island is this: "The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war." And combat, of course, is the most rigorous thing you can prepare a man for; and I don't think you do him any favors when you train him easy for the difficult contest of combat. Better that he train hard and find combat relatively easy. I emphasize the word relatively.

## Pat Ryan USMC

"The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war."

Parris Island Training Slogan



SOLARES HILL: Have you found in your combat experience, in your experience in training, that people who's behavior or appearance does not live up to a very high standard behave differently under stress in combat? Has that been your experience?

RYAN: No, you couldn't say specifically that a person who has an unkempt appearance, person with long hair, a person with a long beard, a person who didn't keep his uniform clean wouldn't perform well in combat. In fact, the Marines at Khe Sanh, by the end of the 65th or 70th day of that siege were a pretty rag-tag outfit.

But there is a certain standard that has been established for the Marine Corps: attention to detail, shoes will be shined, brass will be shined, self discipline. Pride in appearance is a strong impetus to the whole thing. Also, uniformity. Being part of the band of brothers - a band of Marines. It wouldn't be a uniform organization if everybody could set his own standards of personal appearance.

SOLARES HILL: Have you found that among your recruits there's a reaction to this, or do you find that they accept this rigor and discipline?

RYAN: It's absolutely amazing how readily they accept it. Almost as though they were yearning for it - craving for it.

SOLARES HILL: Let's get back to the second part of that question. What is going to be the Marine Corps of the future? What's the Corps going to be doing?

RYAN: Well, of course the Marine Corps during the Vietnamese flap expanded to as high as 350,000 men. It's programmed now to be hacked down to about 200,000 by 1972. And the idea is to sacrifice quantity and improve quality. Get us back to the state, the quality of the Corps we had prior to the Vietnamese conflict. Obviously, the smaller, the more elite. The Marine Corps in the 1975 frame, will have about 200,000 men and will continue to be the force in readiness.

Our primary emphasis will be amphibious operations utilizing the latest technique we have now: vertical envelopment with helicopters in a ship-to-shore movement. But the Corps in 1975 will be small, fast, hardhitting force in readiness, used either in some kind of counter insurgency operation or as the advance force in a bigger conflict.

SOLARES HILL: Colonel, you just returned from Viet Nam a week ago. I wish you would describe your three tours in Viet Nam. You've really seen three different types of war, and that perspective I think is a very valuable one. I wish you'd talk about the decade, 1960 - 1970, and the United States presence in Indochina.

RYAN: Well, I was in the Far East in 1960-61 with the Marine Corps Recon Companies. We worked primarily out of Okinawa, but hopped scotched all around over there. The tempo of the conflict then was quite low - in fact, there really wasn't a conflict for us. We worked strictly in an advisory capacity; the war as we now know it was in the embryo stage.

In 1964-65, I was on the aircraft carrier Bonhomme Richard, and I was in the Tonkin Gulf at the time

of the Tonkin Gulf incident. The Turner Joy and the Mannix, which were the destroyers involved, were a part of the fleet at that time and were supporting the U.S.S. Bonhomme Richard; and I had the Marine detachment on that ship.

And in 1970 I was in General Abrams headquarters in Saigon. My job there involved the management of electronic sensing techniques which have recently been developed for detecting enemy presence. So that's the ten years - the three tours - which span from, actually, '61 to '71. Things have changed radically from '64 - '65 to '70.

SOLARES HILL: As a leader of a Marine reconnaissance team you were dealing quite closely with South Vietnamese and you might have some kind of perspective on Vietnamization or counterpart activities. I wonder how you feel about Vietnamization?

RYAN: The question that is in the back of your mind is: will Vietnamization work? That's the question in the back of the mind of the country. I am optimistic about Vietnamization working.

Vietnam as I viewed it, and almost all of Southeast Asia - certainly Vietnam in the 1960-61 time frame, was living in the eighteenth century. You go outside of Saigon, and into the greater part of Viet Nam - almost anywhere else but Saigon - and 95% of the country was really in the eighteenth century.

For example, in the early 1960 time frame, if you had a flashlight it was a sophisticated piece of electronic gear. The average Vietnamese soldier carried a single action bolt French rifle, and you had to pump it every time you fired. And their Navy was a sampan fleet. And now, in this past decade, they were propelled rather vigorously into the twentieth century.

What used to be a flashlight is now a radar, and what used to be a French single action bolt rifle is now an M16 which is capable of firing hundreds of rounds a minute. What used to be a sampan Navy now has destroyers and hydrofoils about to come. So they've had to grow quickly, and they need time to mature and time to assimilate this equipment and gain expertise in it.

SOLARES HILL: How do they handle Western culture? This has been very much of a bootstrap operation where Vietnam has just come from a state of underdevelopment to a state where they're assuming the functions of a modern nation.

I've heard this change has brought with it a great deal of reaction to Western values, widespread corruption and a real decay in the traditional society. Did you find that true in Vietnam; or do you find that the Vietnamese are able to retain their own culture as well?

RYAN: I think the Vietnamese, for that matter, all the Orientals, are very much adept at maintaining their own identity in the presence of the Caucasians. The typical inscrutable Oriental that you stereotype is very typical over there. I think that they'll maintain their own identity, that they'll do things in an Oriental way.

I do think, perhaps, that they'll pick up some of our mannerisms, and use them to their advantage, especially while we are there; but I

don't see any problem in our imposing our way of life on them. I've seen no manifestations of that whatsoever.

A good example is that the war, from the Vietnamese point of view, winds down and almost ceases on Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Not while they're in contact with the enemy, but in the routine atmosphere, say in Saigon, on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday, things stop.

This doesn't jive with the American way of doing things. Urgency, seven days a week, twelve hours a day, is what the pace is at General Abrams headquarters in Saigon. The troops are in the field, and the American theory is when the boys are working, the people in the rear of the pew are working too.

But the Vietnamese don't look at it quite that way. We may think: well, what's the matter. Don't these people know there's a war going on. They do know there's a war on, but their war's been on since 1935, and they know that when they come in Monday morning, their war's still going to be there.

There isn't the sense of urgency that we have. It doesn't manifest itself in them, and that's also typically Oriental. They're sort of fatalist. So, I don't think we're going to take them over, or that our identity or mores are going to be reflected in them.

SOLARES HILL: Now, back to Vietnamization.

RYAN: Well, I think they need time to change. But one could say: well, they had a decade, 1961-71, wasn't that enough time for them to learn how to do all these things? If they haven't learned by now, will they ever learn?

Well, they really haven't had a decade, because up until about 1968 the U.S. was doing most of the fighting. I think perhaps we took the play out of their hands in a couple of areas where we could have allowed them to crawl, walk, run. That's, of course, just Monday morning quarterbacking; that's days gone by.

But it really hasn't been since 1960-61, it's been since about '68 that they've been really getting underway and organizing themselves, and forming for combat and carrying out missions and maturing; and I feel reasonably sure they're going to make it. The foray in Cambodia and the foray into Laos were both intended to gain time for them, to allow them to gain this maturity.

SOLARES HILL: You've had a very, very intimate part in ten years of U.S. military history in the Far East. And in many ways they seem to be very frustrating years. I wondered at the end of these ten years how you react to that involvement. What has it taught you, and what has it taught the U.S. military?

RYAN: I think the country as a whole, and certainly the president — actually, President Nixon has stated this in his Guam address — will be much, much more careful in our liaisons and our placing American troops ashore in a foreign land.

SOLARES HILL: If I can ask you about this — when in this ten year

period did you begin — you personally, Colonel — begin to feel this — or did you feel this need for more caution in foreign military action?

RYAN: No, no, as a Marine I have no compunction and no personal feelings about carrying out our country's foreign policies on foreign shores. If I am sent, I pack up my bag and I go with a gun — at least three times so far in the Far East, and I'm ready to go again if ordered.

As I say, I'm reiterating what the President says: we have to be more careful in the future about a foreign alliance which would involve perhaps the use of American troops on foreign shores. I think this is a lesson learned in the decade of the sixties.

As far as the frustrations — and of course there've been many — war itself is a frustration, war itself is an atrocity. I think there have been occasions during the Vietnamese conflict when a military solution was not applied to a military problem, and that was frustrating to a military man. Of course, there were other things that had to be considered which were the province of the Department of Defense and our elected officials.

SOLARES HILL: If I can change the subject now; you've just come back to Key West and I understand last week, at the invitation of Tom Whitley, a teacher at the local high school, you visited the high school and spoke to some government classes. I wonder, first, how the students responded to you as a military man?

RYAN: Well, they were, in effect, the host in a once removed capacity. I was their guest, and I thought they were most cordial. I would say the cordiality was not perfunctory. They listened attentively.

It was obvious from their questions that they were interested in the subject; that they had listened to what I said; they had some very piercing questions. They were a very receptive audience. Perhaps not agreeing with everything I said, but certainly entertaining my thoughts and discussing them.

SOLARES HILL: What were some of the subjects that came up?

RYAN: We discussed the five countries over there that are fairly deeply involved, and we talked a little bit about geography — Laos, Cambodia, Thailand. That was more or less an introduction.

Then we got into Vietnamization: will it work, or will it not. Of course

this is of vital interest to the senior class of Key West High School — especially the boys — because if it doesn't work, then the military would be involved in the Far East, and this might involve them. Whereas if the Vietnamization works, I'm sure the draft call would drift away to almost nothing. Then they stand much less chance of having their college interrupted. They had a personal interest.

We talked about Cambodia, Laos, the incursions; we talked about the Ho Chi Minh trail and the importance of cutting it off.

We talked a little bit about Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Training. I was stationed there in '67 and '68. I trained young Marine recruits of approximately the same age as the boys I was speaking to at this time in Key West; high school seniors. I had a feel about how that young Marine felt about service to his country and service in Vietnam; so I was establishing rapport with the high school student.

Then we talked a little about drugs, and we talked a little about Lt. Calley. They were all interested in the Lt. Calley incident because of the local newspaper reporting and media reporting on the trial.

SOLARES HILL: You said earlier, that for you, personally, war is an atrocity. What singles Lt. Calley's atrocity out? What makes it more grievous, what makes it a war crime?

RYAN: Well, we have to talk hypothetically, of course. Lt. Calley is on trial for the Mi Lai incident, and it hasn't been established that he did or did not. But let's take it out of the personal vein of Lt. Calley and let's talk hypothetically.

You know, you open a Pandora's box of questions — we can go from here to many spheres of war. I think war's an atrocity, and I don't think many people who have been in combat would disagree with me.

The American public has never been exposed to war in their own land. They've never seen their homes blown up and their children wounded with land mines and enemy bombs falling on their country. We've been well protected from that.

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## The Cattle Egret

Thurlow Weed

Thurlow Weed is pastor of the Trinity United Presbyterian Church. He plays the recorder and will be furnishing musical accompaniment for Mark Hunzinger's *Lion in Winter*, coming soon at the Waterfront Playhouse. He likes late-night salami sandwiches on rye with hot Dusseldorf mustard, but he'll settle for French's if Fausto's is out of the hot one.

"I've been watching birds now over a week. That makes me eminently qualified to write a column, doesn't it. We don't want to take any of this too seriously." Rev. Weed, winking at me with his voice.

So that's Thurlow: salami and mustard, recorders, tongue in cheek, and cattle egrets. You'll get to know him better in future issues.

In the last twenty years of pollution, when birds have been suffering along with the rest of us, there is one bird in South Florida which has not gone down the drain.

As recently as 1953 you'd organize an expedition (or at least go across town) to see one. In 1971 they are so common that some have begun to call this bird, one of our most spectacular, a pest.

The Cattle Egret.

It is a long-legged white bird, like a small heron. Originally its home was India and Africa, where it is commonly seen in fields with cattle, which it accompanies to pounce on the insects disturbing the hot one.

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Watch for the Cattle Egret, and greet a neighbor who is surviving the filth. Applaud the spread of the Cattle Egret, and if he be a pest, let's have more.

You won't see many Key West Anoles in the winter, when the lizards go into a kind of semi-hibernation. A tourist's first glimpse of them may come on a hot afternoon in early spring when he steps from the Conch Train Tour into the bright sun at Front Street and crosses the brick cobblestones to the La Brisa Restaurant. The first half-dozen brown Anoles seen are likely to become apparitions as they hop along the restaurant's low white wall toward banana trees that front the nearby Kino Shoe Factory.

At the entrance to the shoe factory a concentration of lizards is perfectly still and continually vanishing all at the same time. A fat-bodied male, partly concealed by a branch, will boldly tip his head and



As an island-isolated species, the Key West Anole is fairly unusual in that it has adapted to man. Unlike most Florida Keys creatures dependent on and delicately tuned into several million years of unchanging ecology, the Key West Anole has thrived under man's tenure. He has become the clandestine partner in a relationship that may have begun 150 years ago — when North Americans began settling the city in earnest. From man's point of view the Anole makes the ecological scene because he is Prince Valiant of a noxious insect world.

"Listen," says a longtime resident of Key West's stuccoville section out on Flagler Avenue, "There's so many of these lizards, but I tell my kids not to bother any of 'em. Between me and every insect bite there's a little brown lizard."

The Anoles have even survived man's parasites: night stalking alley cats, an island full of neurotic, ill-tempered dogs, the automobile, lawnmower, and Key West youth, who, like the Tom Sawyers of a century ago, are drawn to grotesque courage; they capture the lizards, induce them to bite a finger, then let them hang

feeling for the 19th Century British malaprop. The "a" is pronounced like a capital A, and the word "Anole" comes out sounding like "anais." The fact that the second syllable "—ole" sounds like "hole" terminates it all in gross embarrassment. The alternative scientific Latin name, *Anolis sagrei stejnegeri*, seems unpronounceable. The stejnegeri is named for Leonhard Stejneger, an obscure saurologist who discovered three new species of North American lizards between 1890 and 1900.

The male Anole has unique features, and these will be covered in next issue.

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## FROM OUR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Carol Burston

Do you have any idea how long some of those scientific journals you read have been floating around? Take the *Scientific American*, for example. It was established all the way back in 1845! Or haven't you read anything very scientific lately? Well, never mind, I didn't want to talk about magazines anyway. What I really wanted to mention first is a bit about the Physical Science program out at Florida Keys Community College.

Beginning in September, 1971, Florida Keys will be offering two new Physical Science courses - Geology and Astronomy. Both courses were originally part of the current general Physical Science program which has been changed and expanded to fit the growing needs of more of our community's students, and both new courses will be good towards earning a degree.

Most of the courses you take during the first two years of college are general background-survey type courses. They touch on a little of everything and are important because they give basic information and provide a good foundation for the rest of your education. What does it all have to do with you, sitting on a bench on a beach reading this article? Well, sometimes ways are found for enriching these basic courses, making them more enjoyable, and suiting them to fit needs in the community. Florida Keys is exploring several of these ways, and I'd like to give you some of the "hows-and-whys" behind them.

One day last week, after having spent several hours reading up on the subject so that I could ask some (hopefully) intelligent questions, I went out to the college to talk with Mrs. Annette Lee of the Science Department. I learned many useful things, the first being that I must interview people with a tape recorder in the future so that I can afford to sit there with my mouth hanging open and still have some material collected by the end of the interview!

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mention of more math! Mrs. Lee, however, explained that the Astronomy and Geology courses were designed especially for people like myself, the Liberal Arts student, and any interested person in the community who does not have a suitable mathematical foundation for deeper sciences. Also, Mrs. Lee hopes to form a Geology Club and Astronomy Club for interested students in those courses, as she feels it is important to introduce the people of Key West to other areas through science and make them more aware of life in areas elsewhere in the world.

If I may be so bold, I also do believe that we agreed there are a lot of people running around screaming "pollution!" who don't really know what they're talking about. What we need are some good courses in Ecology; even a little more reading by the average citizen might help the situation somewhat.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editors:

If I had fifty bucks, or even five, that weren't already destined for Kwik Chek, I would certainly contribute to your remarkably intelligent, interesting and much needed paper.

I wish you would put an ad in THE SATURDAY REVIEW... or that somebody would spring for the insertion. Certainly James Herlihy's reasonable and literate commentary on our Key West microcosm ought to reach the largest possible audience. It's applicable to every community with comparable problems, and with the possible exception of Valhalla, what one hasn't? There's probably some horn-locking there too.

I hope this second issue, with Herlihy's practical suggestions for the use of local television, his arguments for adjustment between disparate elements of our local society (and a general watering down of the silly fires that burn so hot and keep getting refueled by our establishment) is read by at least a couple (if they exist) of our municipal of-

ficials whose I.Q.'s approach norm.

That last was an unnecessarily biting sentence, because I know several of our city officials who are reasonable, intelligent and dedicated people. The trouble is, they are an almost helpless minority. Possibly your paper can effect an adjustment of this imbalance.

Dorothy Rogers

Dear Staff:

Just a short note to let you know how much I enjoy your paper.

I am a new teacher in Key West and I find your paper a great insight into the city and people of Key West.

I wish you a lot of luck with S.H. I hope the people realize what a great paper they have available to them. You can be sure I will be ordering a years subscription.

Sincerely,  
Brian Killian

## A Special Letter to a Special Community

Dear People,

I am sitting on one of the concrete benches on Smathers Beach trying to mould some of the impressions and ideas I've had over the past two days into some graspable form. I am a visitor to Key West, naturally. A young traveller, 28, from Toronto.

First of all, let me say the obvious. Key West is the most beautiful city I've seen so far in travelling, probably one of the most beautiful in the country. This strangely eccentric mixture of beach and shrimp boats, of frontier Spanish facades and the green, shaded grace of your larger homes, of tropical growth and skies, of galleries, crafts shops and bars, these things are unique.

Your city is beautiful also because it is built to a human scale. The lack of an adequate bus system is unimportant here, not because, as in other places, the city has been swamped by automobiles and expressways. But because it is possible and pleasurable to walk or ride a bike anywhere on the island. And for the first time in America, the bars look like good places to be.

So it would seem you have a lot going for you. But there is danger and ugliness also here. East of the old town a new "strip" has grown up. Sear's and Howard Johnson's have moved in to make a wasteland out of empty field.

Further, the air is full of hidden and not so hidden hostilities. The politicians and the police harass young people, fearing they might hurt the tourist trade. The businessmen use the town to make their money, care little for it afterwards. The kids meanwhile, exploit just as surely. They come with the weather and leave with the weather, often concerned with nothing beyond that day's "good time."

This leaves the people who stay, people who live and work here and who, in some sense, love the town. This, I guess, is the audience that Solares Hill intends to reach. This is the "community."

It is clear at once that the community is a potentiality, not a reality. You really can't blame people for calling Solares Hill an underground paper, you know. It has many of the markers of one: a whole food column, an ecology column, the Rockland Community diary. The Herlihy interview, whatever qualities it may have had, read like a hip dictionary in parts. So how can you expect that housewife, or that guy who bangs tin on the naval base to pick up your paper. These people are just not in the habit of picking up bi-weekly news-sheets where they may find "obscenities" anytime. You can't expect them to do it now.

So, given that right now your community is limited to the kids and hip business people, how do you go about extending it?

It seems to me that this question is linked right up with the question of initially creating a conscious community out of the disparate groups of Key West. And, further, it seems to me that this is linked right up to the question of politics. Gut level politics. Community politics.

If I may recommend a good bible, read a slim paperback called The Professional Radical. It's a couple of conversations between Marion Sanders and Saul Alinsky that originally appeared in Harper's. Alinsky is the community builder.

It's obvious, he says, that to get people involved you have to get them involved on something that concerns them. You organize people by exploiting the concerns they feel, not by trying to drum up concern where there's only apathy. This means different goals for different groups. All the disparate sections of the community make their own demands for change on the political and social system. And before long these groups have got to get together and start supporting one another because often they're too weak to push anything very hard on their own.

It's out of this kind of hard work organization that a community can be formed. And if your paper works as a news sheet for all these disparate causes and groups of people, gaining trust and readers all over the human spectrum, then you will be a community paper. But not before.

Up in Toronto, this kind of thing is starting to happen. People stopped an expressway. One lower class ward has organized itself into street blocks and publishes its own paper. It is a community paper. Different groups have reshaped a whole urban renewal programme, and have set up an outfit called Pollution Probe. In short, through organizing around specific issues, the town's woken up. If City Council is still often a petulant and reactionary body, it is because it senses change. And the changed city will be a better, more humane city.

Key West in order to become a community has to "wake up." Its citizens, to feel part of a larger community, must feel motivated to act on the smaller issues that concern them. It seems to me that this is what you mean when you talk of Key West as possibly an ideal or model community. Thriving within its physical beauty, an alive, politically and communally conscious citizenship. Your paper can be the core group about which this process might start.

I don't know if I've caught the essence of your ideal or not. In any case, for whatever worth, these are the ideas that occurred to me reading your paper. It is a good paper, a good start. I wish you luck. Key West in its beauty, deserves your love and your success.

Michael Hoare

## ACE & ED.

Dear Mr. Hill,

I was going to call you Mr. Solares, but my friends assure me it isn't well to be too informal to strangers, especially when you are asking favors. I understand that you are, very large and famous not only in Key West, but throughout the world!

Sincerely, I hope you have time to read and answer my letter as I am really interested in what I have to say. Mr. Hill, I am seeking gainful employment as a writer; I have experience as you will note. It's all right if you don't want to pay me; I'll make it up by accepting back pay later.

Can I tell you plenty, things I can't even imagine until I try. Do you know Rose Lane; well I've been there and I tell you I can't find a blooming one. I've seen love in Love Lane, flags on Flagler, singing in Wong Song Alley, daylight on Dey St. Francis on Francis St. William on William St. Bertha on Bertha St. I find myself a veritable mixture of information and emotions.

Perhaps before you hire me you should know my last employment was a disaster.

I was a Mexican bean counter for a firm of orientals who have an imitation Mexican jumping bean, "twice the jump for  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cost". My whole day was spent jumping from one bin to another, too much. Before that I was a sardine packer in Sardinia, but I had trouble pushing them into the can, the oil made them slippery and as I pushed on one side, out the other they would go. I tried selling shoes in Haight-Ashbury but I didn't have the sole for it.

So I decided to become the ace reporter on the hill, no pun intended Mr. Hill. Besides, I really need this job, so I can support my brother who is an unemployed Aerospace engineer. If he could write, he'd ask for a job for himself.

Sincerely,

Arnold A. Pickapart

P.S. Since I am now a reporter, you can print my articles about Key West.

From: Editor, Solares Hill  
To: Mr. A. Pickapart

I appreciate all the information you have given us to use, but I feel I must inform you the job you wish is already taken by my brother-in-law. You certainly do have a varied and interesting history, but my wife informs me her brother is in equal need as you, besides "family" is thicker than water" or something like that.

Your Servant,  
Mr. S. Hill

From: Mr. Arnold "Ace" Pickapart  
To: Editor, Solares Hill

Look Sol; I feel as if we were old friends, just call me Ace, or Army. I need this job equally as much or more than your brother, besides gathering news, I'm willing to sell subscriptions. Ok?

Signed "Ace"

## Bill Russell: Physicist, Artist

Janet Wood

Bill Russell is one of the area's most noted hand-crafted jewelers, having much of his work on display at the Crafts Co-operative on Green Street.

I didn't really know Bill before I was assigned this article, and like anything new, I didn't know quite what to expect when I went to his tree-shaded home to interview him.

The ice was broken when Bill opened the door and, round brown eyes gleaming, offered me a beer which I thankfully accepted.

A healthy, athletic man, with many years of karate behind him, Bill did not appear to be the artist who creates delicate, sensitive jewelry. With these mental images in mind, I set out to find the artist, lurking somewhere beneath the physical instructor surface.

"How does a research physicist and an ex-faculty member from Penn State University get involved with crafts?" I asked.

"It's just the next logical step really. Physics is the description of the universe, and art is the explanation of the universe. I felt it was time I got involved with the human element of the universe and art was my way of channeling this need to express, explain."



solares hill

sculptures. However, Bill has a fascination with stones (jade, opal, amethyst) that has caused him to relegate the metal setting to the position of a "bridge" between the stone and the flesh of the wearer.

Of the many varieties of stones that Bill cuts, polishes, and then sets; he has an affinity for jade. Although a difficult and unpredictable stone to work with, the jade possesses a "subtle serenity" and must be "lived with awhile" before attempting a creation with the stone.

Almost all of Bill's jewelry is created for women, especially the graceful, expressive hands of women. "Art is not an end; it is an expression. And when jewelry, especially a ring, in its highest artistic sense, is worn by a woman, the jewelry is an outgrowth of that woman and should be particularly suited to that woman; should flow with her motions. I rarely re-create and never mass-produce. Each woman is different and so is each piece of my jewelry."

During this verbal explanation of his art, I watched Bill working, free-forming silver wire with a gas torch into a setting. The loose, physical man who had greeted me at the door was now an intensely involved artist - concentrating all his energies on the delicacies of silver wire and heat - creating.

### APOLOGY

We mistakenly included the Days on our list of Friends and supporters in our First issue.

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continued from p. 10

The thinking man and any intelligent person in the country has always realized this, but it has been an abstract thing before. He realized that war is hell and war is an atrocity; but now he sees it.

There've been many atrocities in Viet Nam. There've been many atrocities throughout our history. An atrocity is, of course, an atrocity; but, actually, Mi Lai was a relatively minor thing, if you compare it with what the Germans did to the Jews in the Second World War. It's minor compared to what the Japanese did to our forces at Pearl Harbor.

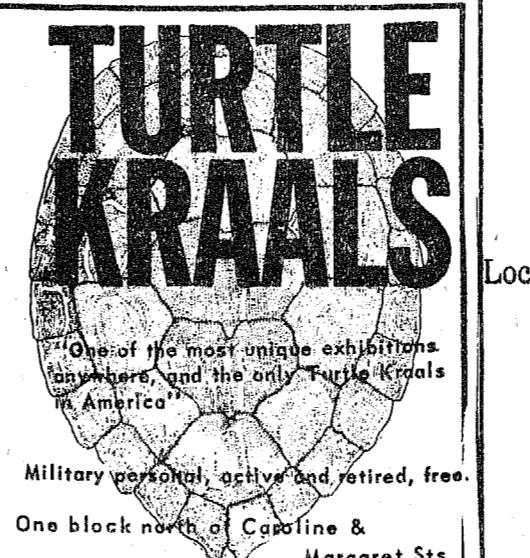
In Mi Lai, I believe, 135 or 150 people were killed. In Pearl Harbor we lost 1100 or some, in the sneak attack. Well, that was an atrocity. What the North Vietnamese are doing to our prisoners now - there are at least 425 that we know of and another 1200 or so missing - that's an atrocity. So, if we're looking for atrocities, there are many of them, and they're not hard to find in war; it's just that the media has brought them into focus.

Here's one interesting thing I've thought about the media, and the effect that television has had on our country. A friend of mine posed this question: what is the impact of television bringing the war into the American living room, and moulding our thoughts back here; slanting stories unfavorably more toward the sensational point of view, which I do think they do.

He posed a rather interesting analogy: suppose during the American Indian wars every covered wagon moving west had an NBC cameraman filming the move and filming the Indian massacres as we went west with our cavalry troops. Our history tells us there were massacres. How far west do you think our border would be?

Perhaps the proper Bostonians and people back in the colonies would have said, "Hold up at the Mississippi - we don't want that western frontier at that expense - these massacres are uncalled for. They're atrocities - stop them." And maybe we would have reconfigured our Western borders if that happened. It's an interesting thought, anyway. But that doesn't answer your Calley question.

SOLARES HILL: I'm interested in the moral aspect of the Lt. Calley incident. At the Nuremberg trials, the most important defense was: "I am not guilty of this because I



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was ordered to do it, and I was just following orders." In such a case only a few leaders can be said to assume personal moral responsibility.

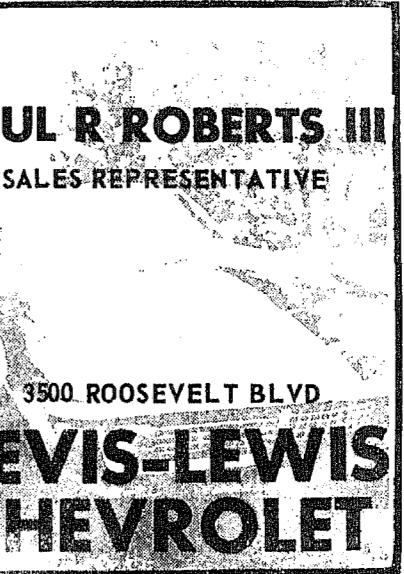
in arms - are herded into some sort of area and shot down, then this would in fact be a war crime, and should be punished accordingly.

There are occasions, of course, in Viet Nam and in Southeast Asia where women carry arms. This is an entirely different situation, which is really not what we're addressing here.

So if noncombatants are shot down with malice of forethought, by God it is a war crime; there's no question of that. Stress and strain of combat may later prove to have some mitigating effect on the sentence, but nonetheless, it is a war

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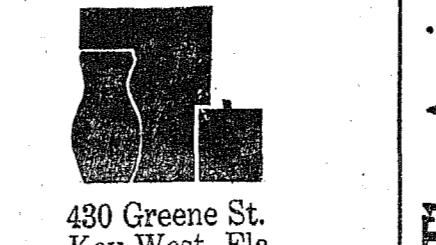
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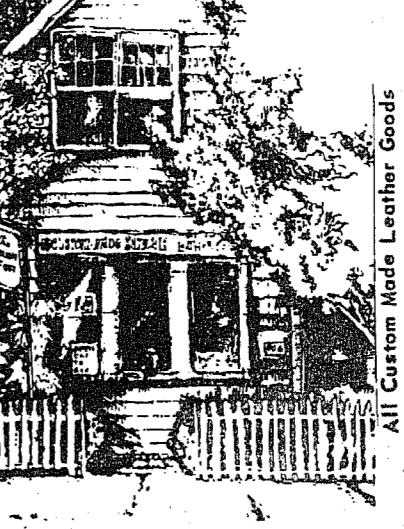
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crime if it happens.

SOLARES HILL: Let's go on then, Colonel, to another subject which the high school students were very interested in: the fairly high incidence of drug use among the American GIs in Vietnam. Would you talk a little bit about that?

RYAN: Well, there has been a lot of publicity about it. This is one area which I alluded to before. The media, particularly the TV, have been guilty of slanting the stories towards the sensational. Our Vice President has taken them to task for this, and I think his remarks and efforts in that regard are very well placed. The media have enlarged this drug problem and expanded on it until it's completely out of context with what it is. But it's still a problem.

The Key West High School students asked me to compare it to the civilian drug problem. Of course everything in the military - be it drugs, be it racism, be it whatever - mirrors our society because our armed forces, essentially, are made up of civilians. They are serving a two year term in the Army, or three or four years in the Navy, Air Force or Marines. So any problems you have in civilian life, will be present in military life.

In Viet Nam, specifically, the situation on drugs takes a slightly different turn because of the fact that drugs - marijuana and heroin - are more readily available in Viet Nam.

Now, this problem, and you pointed it out, started to arise about a year ago. The reason it started to rise about a year ago is that the war started to wind down. And although it's rather stereotyped and tries to say it - the devil's workshop is an idle mind and idle hands. This is somewhat what's happening in Viet Nam.

The war is winding down. The troops are less involved in combat; they have more time on their hands; they have lots of money to spend, and, therefore, some percentage of them are turning to marijuana and other drugs. Many of them - the greater majority, are turning to other things like softball and intermural basketball.

Things of this nature won't sell on CBS and won't sell Newsweek and Time magazines, so they don't get reported. The percentage that get reported are those who turn to drugs or get arrested or get involved in other tabloid type problems.

SOLARES HILL: What is the Armed Service policy toward drug users in Viet Nam, Colonel? Is this considered a disciplinary or a criminal problem? Or is it considered, with racism for example, a medical problem?

RYAN: Well, I'm no expert in this area, but up until about two years ago, it was more of a disciplinary problem than a medical problem. I know the services now consider it a medical problem. We are encouraging people to identify themselves to the medical officers as having a drug problem. They're given treatment within a hospital.

But I know, that if while they're on this treatment, they revert back or some way gather drugs within the hospital, then it can become a disciplinary problem. But once they

voluntarily ask for help, and abide by the rules and the aid provided by the medical officer, it's treated strictly as a medical problem.

I don't know the policy of the other services, but the policy of the Marine Corps is to discharge such people. We're a small organization and we couldn't keep up a cadre of people in that type of status - to cure them and bring them back into the Marine Corps. Our policy is to discharge them.

SOLARES HILL: I wonder if you've thought at all about what your role would be as a military man in the future? Do you feel that you would be much more involved in political considerations, for example? Do you feel that you would be much more watched by television, by the media, as it now seems to watch events all around the world? How do you see your vocation changing from the traditional military officer to the military officer of the future?

RYAN: I think it is a fact of life that as you rise in rank in the military, you become more involved in the political ramifications of military decisions. The young lieutenant leading a platoon on the battlefield doesn't have to concern himself much with the political ramifications of the movements of his platoon, whereas the general operating some desk in the Pentagon managing some particular program, may have to be very cognizant of the political ramifications of his position.

I certainly do think that in the past five years is any criterion, we're going to have to live with the rather close scrutiny of the media in the future. I think that the service that the media provides as it reports factually and objectively is of value to the American public and is of value to the military, because it gives you an insight into yourself.



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