

Citizens Need War Facts -- Hart



AT THE DEDICATION of Observer Newspapers Inc.'s new plant last weekend were (from left) 19th District Congressman Jack

McDonald, State Supreme Court Justice G. Mennen Williams, U.S. Sen. Philip Hart and ONI Publisher Philip H. Power. (Observer photo)

By KATHY MORAN
It is being called a "courageous act of journalism" as well as a "deliberate betrayal of government secrets."

Michigan's Sen. Philip Hart says the publishing of the "Pentagon papers" was the "correct decision" and poses no threat to national security.

"It is a dramatic example of the basic conflict that sometimes occurs between freedom and security," Hart said.

"I believe that notwithstanding the seemingly unlimited protection of the first amendment for publications, there are occasions that the claim of security overrides it."

"But if there is any doubt between security or freedom we should resolve it in favor of freedom."

"Freedom is our security."

Hart was interviewed while attending the dedication of the Observer Newspapers building on Saturday. His Michigan counterpart in the Senate, republican Sen. Robert Griffin was delayed in Washington at the last minute.

SPECIFICALLY regarding the publication of the papers which has temporarily been stopped by an injunction, Hart said: "It proved once again that in an open society no one can fool all of the people indefinitely."

"I think there is no question that the claim for publishing the knowledge overrides, and is much stronger than, claims that our national security is threatened."

"But our survival is threatened when we suppress information," he said. "It results in not being able to distinguish between what is true and what is false."

Hart laughed at former Vietnam Ambassador Maxwell Taylor's statement that "good citizens" don't need to know the type of information contained in the papers.

"Good citizens have as much need for it as Congress has," he said.

The senior senator said that though he thought Congress was deceived somewhat over the conduct of the war (as the papers point out), that the papers must be considered in the same time frame as they occurred.

"The contemporary conversations and reactions at the time the documents were recorded are critically important," Hart said.

FOR EXAMPLE, Hart said that at the time of the occurrences the New York Times was editorializing that it was important that South Vietnam not fall to North Vietnam.

Hart said that this incident should be used as a springboard to investigate the methods and persons designated with the authority to classify documents as secret.

"Government papers are often classified secret more to avoid embarrassment to their authors than to prevent security leaks to the enemy. And that seems to be true of many of the documents that have been published."

"But I'm glad that the story is out—principally because a nation can only draw lessons from history if it knows precisely what happened," he said.

HART HAD VOTED for the McGovern-Hatfield amendment which failed last week in a 55-42 vote. Griffin had opposed the amendment.

"The amendment showed improvement in terms of increasing support for it but it was a disappointment just the same," the bearded senator said.

"The effort will be renewed this summer," he said. "Each time we have tried we have increased strength. We hope to get over the hump soon."

The main reason for the failure as Hart sees it is a "congenital handicap" in Congress.

"They have this feeling that it is not a function of Congress to pass a law that has the effect of ending a war."

"It has never been done before."

"But hell, we have never had a war like this before," he said.

"There is a clear provision in the Constitution for this," he added saying that Congress raised the army and funds it.

And he added with all the emotion of a man who has long been disgusted with the war that "Until we fix a date, we will never get our prisoners back."

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AREA DEATHS

LILLIAN M. BILVEA—Services for Mrs. Bilvea, 83, of 44547 Brookside Dr., Plymouth, were held June 18 at the R. and G. R. Hanna Funeral Home, Garden City, following her June 17 death after a long illness.

Rev. Daniel J. Wallace officiated and burial was in Cadillac Memorial Gardens. Survivors include her husband, Fred; two sons, Hugh and Charles, and a sister, Mrs. Henry (Evel) Van-Singer.

AGNES REIN—Funeral services for Mrs. Rein, 74, of 28827 Birch, Garden City, were held Monday in St. Mal Catholic Church with burial in St. Mal Catholic Cemetery. Arrangements were made by the Caldwell-Mulligan Funeral Home.

Mrs. Rein died June 11 in the Garden City Osteopathic Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Joseph; sons, John, Stanley and Robert; daughters, Mary and Mrs. Betty Stewart; brother, Leo Aselini; sister, Mrs. Margaret Gillette; 13 grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

MARY A. HENNING—Services for Mrs. Henning, 80, of 649 S. Henry, Plymouth, were held Monday in Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, with Rev. Francis C. Byrne officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mrs. Henning was a native of Denmark, born, but had lived in the Plymouth area since 1932. She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel and of the Kaiser-Frazer Restaurant Club. She is survived by five daughters, Mrs. Fred (Agnes) Wood, Mrs. Robert (Dorothy) Gardner and Mrs. Charles (Lillian) Butternore, all of Northville, and Mrs. Gladys Dix and Mrs. Rex (Violet) Benint, both of Plymouth; Everett, of Westland; and Roy of Livonia; plus 25 grandchildren, 61 great grandchildren and three great grand-children.

LILLIAN D. SNOOK—Funeral services were held June 22 for Mrs. Snook, 80, of 32011 Valley View Dr., Farmington, in Ligon Falls, Maine, with burial in Maple Lawn Cemetery, Machanic Falls, Maine. Arrangements were made by the Hennessey-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

Mrs. Snook, who died June 18 at home of natural causes, had lived in Farmington for about 25 years and is survived by a nephew, Paul Damon of West Poland, Maine.

THOMAS F. KELLY—Funeral services were held June 22 for Mr. Kelly, 70, of Flushing, N.Y., in Flushing with burial in St. Mary Cemetery in Flushing. The Rosary was said June 19 in the Hennessey-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

Mr. Kelly, who died June 18 in St. Mary Hospital in Livonia after a short illness, was in Farmington visiting his sister, Mrs. Marjorie Stockwell. He is a retired civil engineer for New York City. Survivors include brothers, Raymond and John; sisters, Mrs. Stockwell and Miss Garry Kelly.

ARTHUR M. SIMPSON—Funeral services were held recently for Mr. Simpson, 81, of 21862 Baltimore Way, Farmington Township, in the Hennessey-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington with burial in Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Walter Balogh of the First Baptist Church in Farmington.

Simpson, who died June 17 in Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak after a short illness, had lived in Farmington for 10 years. He was an engineer and vice president before retiring from the International Steel Co. in Evansville, Ind. Survivors include wife, Elaine; sister, Mrs. Margaret Harrell; and nephew, George Northrop Simpson.

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CLAUDE M. JENNINGS—Services for Mr. Jennings, of 33431 Leona, Garden City, were held at the Little Zion Primitive Baptist Church June 18 with Elders Howard Edwards and Elton Dorris officiating. Burial was in Grandview Cemetery.

Mr. Jennings died 15 in Wayne County General Hospital at the age of 65.

A local resident for 25 years, Mr. Jennings was a tool maker for General Motors Corp.

He is survived by his wife, Myrtle; a son, Kenneth; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Booth; and four grandchildren.

ROY H. SCHEPPELE—Services for Mr. Scheppele, 70, of 240 N. Mill, Plymouth, who died June 15 in the Nightingale West Convalescent Center, were held Friday in the Schrader Funeral Home, with Rev. Paul M. Crego officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Scheppele was a greenhouse grower who had moved to the Plymouth area 45 years ago from Westport. He was a member of the First Methodist Church.

WILBUR S. HOTCHKIN—Services for Mr. Hotchkiss, 56, of 837 N. Hotchkiss, Plymouth, who died June 14 in Wayne County General Hospital, were held Friday in the Schrader Funeral Home, with burial following in Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Hotchkiss had been a Plymouth resident since 1933 and was an oil and gas delivery truck driver. He is survived by his wife, Frances; two sons, Michael and Robert, of Plymouth; a daughter, Mrs. Dewey (Cindy) Burke, of Grand Rapids; three brothers, George Hotchkiss, of Plymouth; Emory Hotchkiss of Billings, Mont.; and Glenn Hotchkiss of California; sisters Mrs. Lucile Dowson, of Billings and Mrs. Iva Skinner of Clinton, Mont., as well as three grandchildren.

STELLA M. SAUNDERS—Services for Mrs. Saunders, 58, of 810 Palmer, Plymouth, who died June 15 in Deaconess Hospital, Detroit, will be held at 11 a.m. June 21 in the Schrader Funeral Home, Rev. Carl J. Graftwell will officiate and burial will be in the Parkview Cemetery. Mrs. Saunders had lived in Plymouth 18 years, after moving from Detroit, and is survived only by her husband, Carl.

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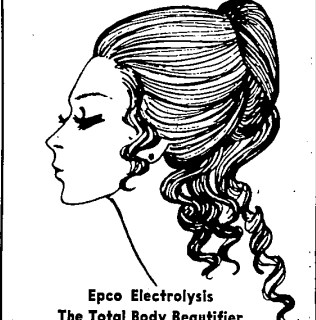
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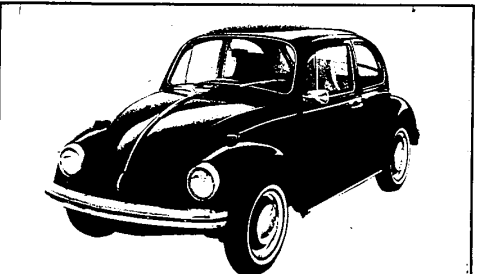
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