

# the COP

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THE CHAPEL ORGANIZATION PAPER (COP)

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## FORGIVE YOUR ENEMIES

### "FORGIVE YOUR ENEMIES MONTH"

"To err is human; to forgive divine." So said Alexander Pope. In December, COP offers you a touch of divinity. With Hanukkah and Christmas on the horizon each of us is filled with a joy that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor final exams can extinguish. In the spirit of the season, we therefore declare December "FORGIVE YOUR ENEMIES" month.

The Academy is replete with enemies. We have tried to select a few who seem particularly egregious. On the top of the list is Andy Gambucci, the hockey referee. He seems ideally suited for the prayer, "Father, forgive him, for he knows not what he does." For years he has plagued our hockey heroes with his histrionics and mind-boggling calls. Last year, for example, Jerry Micheletti, was given a total of twelve minutes in the penalty box for one act of pure innocence. As it turns out, he spent none of it there. He surged over the wall in righteous indignation intent on ending Gambucci's career as a ref. He was assisted from the ice by several sympathetic teammates, not to be seen again that night. But Jerry has assured me he forgives Andy this monstrous injustice.

So let us all follow this moving example. Friday evening, 7 December, is hereby declared "Forgive Andy Gambucci Night." When he is introduced let us give him a standing ovation. Bring banners declaring his absolution. Each call he makes, each flamboyant flourish, each florid flip he executes—let it be greeted with great cheers.



Referee Andy Gambucci

Don't let this disguise fool you. Under the business suit of this mild-mannered insurance executive is a black and white striped shirt. He steps into a locker room and emerges as Super-Ref, capable of leaping ice rinks in a single bound, faster than a speeding puck. Come cheer him on "Forgive Andy Gambucci Night."

In short, let it be a night to melt his frozen heart.

To what purpose, you might ask? First of all, virtue is its own reward. This outpouring of charity will not only be a turning point in the besieged life of Gambucci, but a cleansing experience for us all. Second, such a shower of affection could mellow him to the degree that the Academy could get a favorable call. This would be a historic first. Therefore, let us dedicate, let us consecrate, let us hallow this night as an atonement for Andy, a gambol for Gambucci!

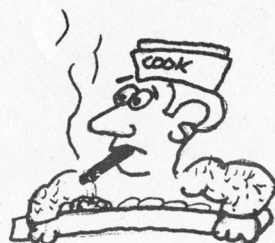
Once we have built up a lot of steam for forgiveness, we should not stop with hockey. How about the laundry? How about the lost underwear, the missing buttons, the broken zippers, the grey t-shirts?

Certainly, here is a fertile field for forgiveness. When you see your laundry man next, clasp him to your chest and say, "I forgive you." You may even get your own laundry back next time!

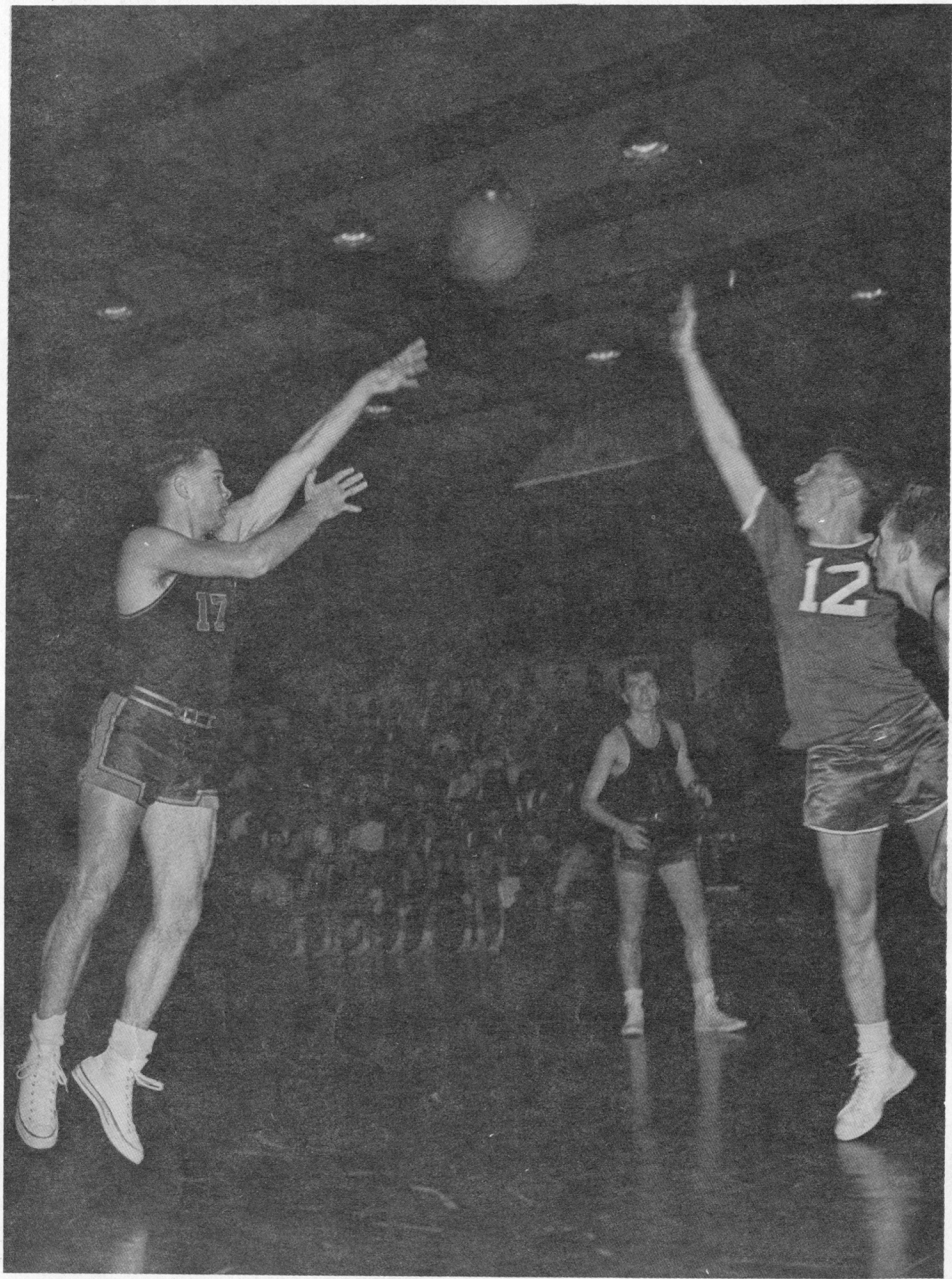
Or how about the barbers? It is their sad task to shear the Wing, not because they will but because they must. They send you forth into the waiting world as marked men, Samsons bereft of your strength. They need forgiveness. Next time you are clipped, instead of a tip, forgive them. They will drop their scissors in sheer gratitude.

Be charitable to the cooks at Mitch's. They need your forgiveness. It often appears to the casual eye that they know not what they do. But it's not their fault. It's hard to make good eggs when the recipe you're given calls for two dozen eggs and 1000 gallons of water! Tell them you understand.

We could list others who need to be forgiven for they know not what they're doing: The terrazzo repair crews, the cadet reg writers, the AOC's, the football team against Navy. But, we would hope you would take our lead and engage in your own campaign of forgiveness. Perhaps it's your roommate or your girl, or who knows whom. And when we have forgiven those who have wronged us, it might not be too bad an idea to ask what we need to be forgiven for. Each of us can write his own front page on people who need to forgive me. If this can happen then we are indeed in for a season of joy and celebration. Happy Hanukkah and a very Merry Christmas! Return to us safely.







BATTLING BOB BENSON BELTS THE BUCKET IN BYGONE BRAVADO!

### FLEXING YOUR SPIRITUAL MUSCLES

by Chaplain Bob Benson

As cadets at the Air Force Academy you certainly know what it means to flex your muscles in a very demanding physical program. Remember too that you are constantly making choices and decisions that not only determine your future, but also shape what kind of person you are in the process of becoming.

A young couple was trying to make plans for their future together and found out problems kept cropping up. Finally polio struck the girl and doctors gave her absolutely no hope of ever walking again. On being told the sad news the young man wrote as follows: "I guess what happens to us is not the most important thing. What really matters is how we react to it--what kind of persons we become."

Everyone at one time or another must decide between being trampled underfoot by circumstance or rising above it. Two people can be placed in identical situations yet come out of them with attitudes as different as night and day. One becomes bitter and disillusioned--defeated because he doesn't fight back. The other flexes his spiritual muscles and achieves a victory. Not only does he overcome the situation but he also finds himself better for the struggle.

The second type of response is possible only if you recognize that there is more to life than just the physical. In the realm of the spiritual, Psalm 27 has a word of challenge: "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart."

# DECEMBER DATA

## REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday:

- 0900: Catholic and Protestant Worship Services
- 0930: Cadet Bible Studies
- 0930: Jewish Adult Education
- 1100: Catholic and Protestant Worship Services
- 1745: Catholic and Protestant Worship Services

### Monday through Thursday

- 1800: Protestant and Catholic Evening Devotions

### Monday Through Friday

- 0620: Catholic Mass

### Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday

- 1800: Jewish Daily Minyan

### Thursday

- 1900: Upper Class Choir Rehearsals

### Friday

- 1645: Fourth Class Choir Rehearsals
- 1745: Protestant and Catholic Evening Devotions
- 1830: Jewish Choir Rehearsal
- 1930: Jewish Sabbath Service

### Saturday

- 1800: Catholic Mass (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

## SPECIAL EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

### 2 December (Sunday)

- 1600: The 16th Annual performance of Handel's "Messiah" by the Academy Chorale, and the Choirs of Colorado Women's College and Loretta Heights College.

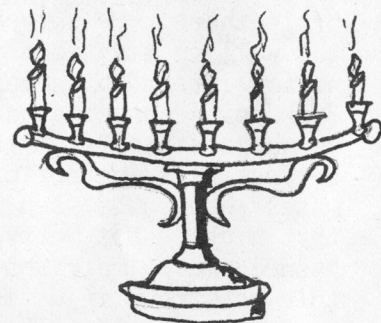


### 7 December (Friday)

- 1600: Taping of Lessons and Carols Service. All choir members and participants must attend.

### 9 December (Sunday)

- 1630: A Festival of Lessons and Carols. This service of Scripture and Christmas Music will be led by the combined Protestant and Catholic Choirs.
- 1800: Christmas Carol Sing in Arnold Hall Ballroom. Light refreshments will be served.

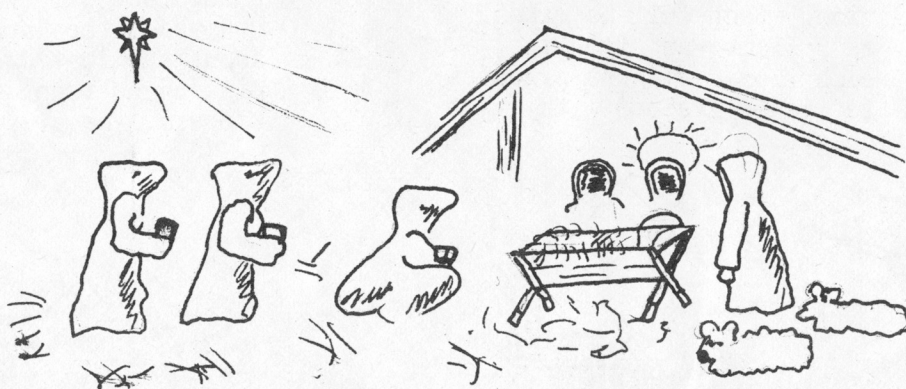


### 20 December (Thursday)

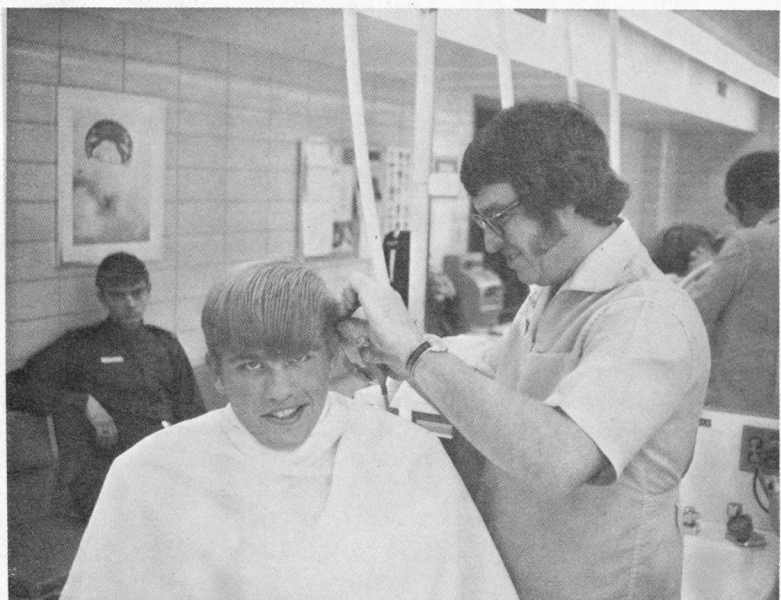
- 1930: Jewish Hanukkah Service in the Jewish Chapel.

### 24 December (Monday)

- 1900 and 2100: Two Christmas Eve Protestant Candle-light Services in the Protestant Cadet Chapel.







The clip joint: C3C Gary Butdorf of 5th Squadron subjects himself to the blade for his weekly shearing. Barber Tom Newton tries to show his sympathy for the shorn by wearing his own hair according to strict AFA standards.



This type of innocent sport draws the wrath of Andy Gambucci. For some reason the dismembering of an opponent along the boards moves him to wrath.



Looking like a clothing recycling depot, cartloads of laundry wait passively to be sent to their fate. The laundry is trying a new plan to cut down on lost items. They leave the laundry in the bag during washing. Thus nothing is lost and all your buttons are on the bottom of the bag ready to be sewn back on. Forgive them - they're trying!



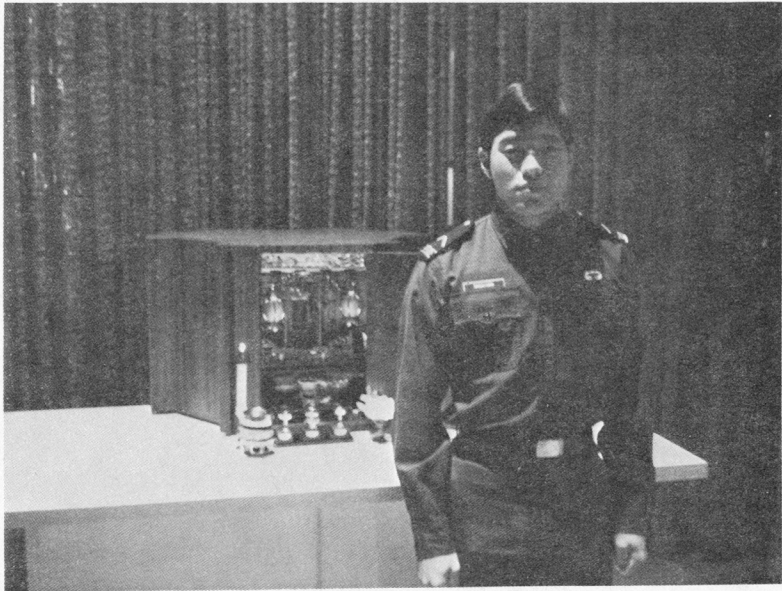
"And now for my tenth point..." Nuff said.



Here one of the galloping gourmets of Mitchell Hall presides over a succulent breakfast of coffee, orange juice, and cold donuts. Scripture urges us to forgive 70 times 7 times. That's 490 meals. So at least forgive until after breakfast on your 164th day!



AN APOLOGY: Last month we failed to identify the writer of our Cadet "What My Faith Means to Me" column. He is CIC Charles R. London, the President of the Jewish Religious Council.



C3C David I. NaKayama

Our guest this month is a member of Seicho - No - Ie, a religious group that combines some of the teachings of Buddhism and Christian Science. He is pictured before the Buddhist altar in the All-Faiths Chapel where he worships.

There are people who don't believe in God, and among them there are some who say that there is no God because we cannot see God. Does it mean then that only the things that we can see exist? Is there really nothing else?

Did you ever think about the existence or non-existence of God? It is certain that some people will say, "There could be said that God is a very tiny existence. The reason is that man's eye cannot observe things that are too big and things that are too far away. For example, look at the stars in the sky. Can you see them? In some places the smog is so thick that they are harder to see; but they are still beautiful. There are so many stars in the sky that we don't know how many there are. We cannot count them. Many are too far away. Some we cannot see. Man's eye is an unreliable instrument and human beings are not created to see everything.

Therefore, even if God cannot be seen, it is shallow thinking to immediately conclude that there is no God. It may be asked, "Well, how can we tell there is a God?" To answer this question we must first think about, "What is God?" It would probably depend upon the individuals answering, but from olden days in Japan they called wonderful things "Kami." If we choose a word, "Kami" (meaning up) is an acceptable one. It means above, high-level, and the most wonderful thing. For this reason, "Kami" (which also means hair) refers only to the hair on the head. Hair on the other parts of the body is called "Ke." Thus in Japanese, God has the meaning of "Kami" (written as fire and water). The implication is through opposites such as fire and water, north and south, plus and minus all things are made. This principle was called God. Therefore, when you say God, it is the Power and the Law that makes all things. It is a magnificent power and is indeed above the highest level. The Law cannot be seen by the eye, so it is impossible to scrutinize this Law. All things were created through this law.

It is, therefore, natural that there is a God and that this God cannot be seen with the eye. However, many people don't know the real meaning of God and think about some superstitious being. They say, "How could there be such an idea in this scientific age?" Indeed this way of thinking is unscientific. When we pray and honor this invisible God, there appears a desire for something with form to idolize. Therefore, shrines and Buddhist figures were made and the people prayed facing them. There is nothing wrong with this. Is it not normal for man to have this desire? For example, suppose you went to study in a foreign country, and could not see your loved ones for many years. In such a situation would you not want to display your parent's or girl's picture? Certainly the picture is not the people. The life of the people is not there within the photograph. In the same manner, when we honor God and know that we are a creation of Him, love will be born naturally. A desire to worship God through some symbol will be born. Thus many shrines and temples have been

# THE COP? CONUNDRUM

There have been complaints that the squadron that gets the COP first has the advantage in the Conundrum Contest. This is true. The man to see is your squadron Protestant or Catholic representative. All reps are notified at the same time of the COP's arrival. Those who come immediately give their squadron first crack.

This month's Conundrum solves that problem. It is a search. The whole Chaplaincy is basically an effort to inspire loyalty to and reaching for what is represented by the Chaplain's insignia: The cross or the tablets of the law. We have hidden one of each of these emblems somewhere in the Cadet area. They are together. The first cadet who finds them will win this month's \$10.00 gift certificate.

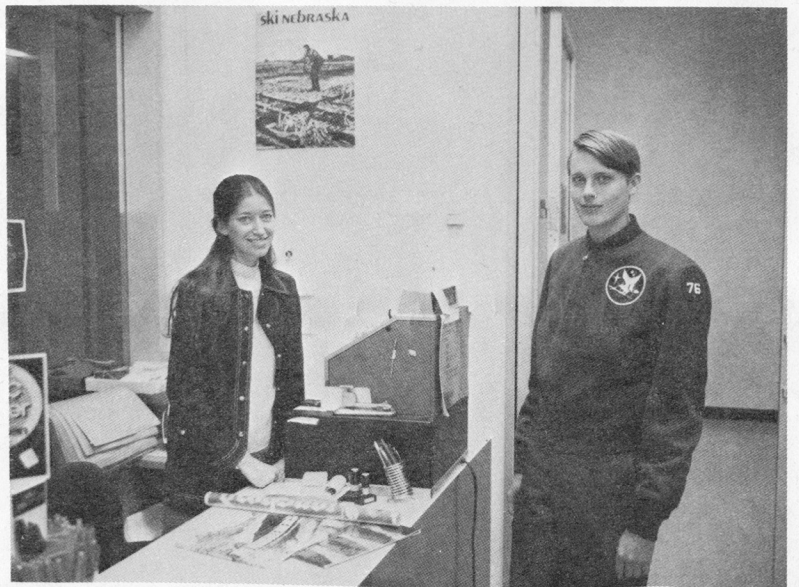
There are five clues which will be broadcast, one each day, from 10-14 December over KAFA. They will be read once each hour beginning at 1800. Then everyone will have a chance.

A few guidelines are called for:

1. The hiding place is not in a building.
2. Nothing needs to be taken apart to find the emblems.

So listen to KAFA each evening next week for the clues and happy hunting!

## Last Month's Winner Collects



C3C George G. Burnette III, CS-19 was last month's winner of the COP Conundrum. He is shown here cashing in his \$10.00 gift certificate at the Cadet Book Store. Will your picture be here next month?

built. As the many works of God were enshrined as one God, different names were given to these gods. Many shrines were built. Many religions were born. When you look at the surface, it appears that a multitude of deities are being superstitiously worshipped. In reality, only one God is being worshipped from various aspects.

In Japan, a variation of worshipping the spirit of the deceased is practiced. This is similar to enshrining the dead in the Buddhist religion. There is nothing wrong with this because he is a child of God---within him is a small part of God. It is just as a child of a human is a human and the offspring of a dog is a dog. Because man is a child of God, he has infinite power derived from God. But he cannot use this power within him if its existence is not clearly recognized. It is similar to not being able to use the great horsepower in a car if you do not know how to drive. Also, if one does not know that there is a great sum of money in his pocket, not one cent of it can be spent. Each and every one of us is a child of God and has this infinite power. If we say there is no such thing and deny the existence of God from which this power comes, the power will not appear at all. It is insufficient just to say that the power is there. We must acknowledge this power and try to draw it out through worship and belief in God. To do this is to truly live as "Man, a Child of God."