Mr. Johnson's New Peace Plan

Herewith is another chapter in that invaluable unpublished textbook: "World History - 1950 to

On April 7, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson delivered an historic address setting forth five concise points concerning U.S. policy in Vietnam: (1)
The U.S. was engaged in a noble struggle in Vietnam in which all Americans could take pride. (2) It wasn't his fault, it was President Eisenhower's. (3) The U.S. loved the Vietnamese. (4) It was going to continue to bomb them to smithereens unless (5) they agreed to accept \$1 billion to please stop fighting.

It was this last point, of course, that became known as "The Texas Peace Plan," under the slogan, "If you can't lick 'em, buy 'em."

At first the Vietnamese were understandably suspicious of this unique offer. But when the examples of Germany and Japan - which the Americans had devastated during World War II and then rebuilt were pointed out, they agreed to ac-

As for the U.S., The Texas Peace Plan seemed eminently sensible. For by rebuilding an enemy country before completely devastating it, tremendous savings were realized. Unfortunately, however. this radical policy change set a dangerous prece-

It was in January, 1966, that the Defense Minister of Upper Volta called in the U.S. Ambassador and announced he was thinking of attacking Togoland. "But if you do," cried the U.S. Ambassador, horrified, "we would have to bomb you to

"Right," chuckled the Defense Minister. "And have calculated that it will cost you no less than \$1.6 billion to rebuild our shattered nation afterward."

"Okay," said our Ambassador with a weary sigh, "how much will you settle for on the spot?"
In the end, Upper Volta generously accepted \$600 million not be be bombed to smithereens. And while this was a clear saving of \$1 billion for the U.S., there were scattered outcries in Congress of, "Where will this lead?"

Where it led, of course, was to the threat by Mauritania the following week to invade Zambia, which we settled for \$143 million. Indonesia maneuvered off the Galapagos (\$212 million), Outer Mongolia poised for an attack on Sardinia (\$87.2 million), and Uruguay had the bad lack to be devastated by an earthquake before it could threaten to be devasated by the U.S.

While savings soared, so did costs. The crisis came when Russia threatened all-out war, a move which, under the Texas Peace Plan, would have bankrupted the U.S. Congress, in an angry mood, passed the Texas Peace Plan Law, which declared that no nation might threaten to be bombed to

that no nation might threaten to be bombed to smithereens by the U.S. more than once a decade. It also set up a sliding scale limiting payments to a maximum three per cent of assessed property valuation. The penalty for violations, of course, was to be bombed to smithereens w.thout being rebuilt.

All nations agreed there was no point in gelting devastated if you didn't get rebuilt afterward. Total cost to the U.S was \$13.8 billion annually, which was more than made up for in defense savings. Moreover, Americans didn't have to kill any-body any more.

So it was thus the world joyously embraced an uninterrupted reign of Texas Peace.

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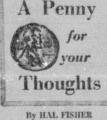


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wou've been missing something.—BITTER 16

Dear 16: Thank you for an excellent letter. I'd like to add this: The boy or gird and who is quick to judge a book by its cover often cheats himself out of some fascing.

Maggie are my first choice. They give the best laughs of any strip with the people comming out of the picture frames and the picture frames and thou to receive the a college friend the picture frames and thou to corn beef the picture frames and thou to corn beef the picture frames and the pi

Ann Landers Savs

This Teenage Miss Has Stag Line Tip





Sponsored by the South
Bay Forum, the program at
the Torrance Recreation Center will begin at 7:45. Tickets
are \$1 for adults and 50 cents
for students.
The South In-

Lent is over, spring is here, and the wedding stampeds as an and the wedding stampeds and the wedding stampeds.

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Not only is it waste of a herd following the lead.

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There you are, my dear, one of a losing lot of fat, tall, that all bridemaids look alike, "No, thanks:"

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