

PAT COSTA
As I
See It



I don't know about you but when football season was in full swing it seemed like Sunday programming of the sport began at 9 a.m. and ended at 11 p.m.

At any event it wasn't until after the season that we began watching CBS' 60 minutes seen at 6 p.m. with Morley Safer and Mike Wallace, with any regularity.

Most Sundays it's the best thing on the tube. A week or so ago a portion was devoted to one of the more charming scoundrels to surface in this decade.

Convicted forger David Stein showed interviewer Safer that he still can paint a Chagall, Modigliani, Matisse, or anything else someone desires. Now living in Paris, Stein told CBS that the reason his paintings sold for as high as \$84,000 was the greed of dealers and the gullibility of their clients.

In an unprecedented move, CBS several weeks ago devoted the entire hour to Lt. Col. Anthony Herbert, the highly-decorated officer who wrote a book "Soldier" about atrocities which took place in Vietnam and which he says he reported to his superiors, who deny all.

In the book, he alleged he was discredited and relieved of his command. CBS News among others played up the book and looked upon Herbert as a hero.

Then 60 Minutes began looking into the story, interviewing

people he mentioned in his book, talked to the superiors to whom Herbert said he reported the atrocities.

Without supporting either the army's side or Herbert's, "Sixty Minutes" managed to shoot the latter's story full of holes. At the end, Herbert was still insisting that the Army career men were lying, ordered to do so if they wanted to keep their jobs.

It made for fascinating viewing, better than most of the mysteries created for us by the scriptwriters.

There are many reasons why the show works. Subjects are current, of general interest and controversial — as witness the recent treatment of a young homosexual teacher who lost his job when his sexual leanings came out.

Treatment is as comprehensive as the time allows and there are enough subjects per hour to usually insure there is something for everybody.

A good part of the credit must go to Safer and Wallace, Safer's gentler nature providing good counterbalance to the still abrasive Wallace who obviously can't forget his days as an oversensational expose artist.

Still the whole thing works. Try it soon. If you don't find the subject matter interesting at first look, stick around, they're bound to come up with something you won't want to miss.

At Home with the Movies

APPLAUSE
Thursday, March 15 (CBS)

Television adaptation of the long-running Broadway smash, with Lauren Bacall. Nifty performances and a clever-look at the Great White Way.

THE RED PONY
Sunday, March 18 (NBC)

"World Premiere" of the classic John Steinbeck story, starring Henry Fonda and Maureen O'Hara, with co-stars Ben Johnson, Richard Jaeckel, Jack Elam, and Clint Howard. The drama concerns a hard-bitten rancher, cir. 1900, facing the dual challenge of keeping his arid little ranch afloat in hard times and making a man out of his adolescent son. Good Show.

NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY
(1968)
Sunday, March 18 (ABC)

Rod Steiger does an extraordinary job of playing Gill, the madman who does extraordinary things to women a la the Boston Strangler. You see, he has this thing about his mother — a complex, you might call it. So he goes around in different disguises for different victims.

George Segal plays the likeable detective with the unlikely name — Mo Brummel — and Lee Remick is delightful as Kate, his girlfriend. (A-III)

THE SILENCERS (1966)
Monday, March 19 (ABC)

Dean Martin as Matt Helm gallumphs his way through the spy-proof routine in this shabby imitation of the James Bond films. The free-lance superspy spends most of his time cracking heads and getting his own bent occasionally. When not doing that, he chases an assortment of comely female spies around swimming pools, sofas, etc. the comic level is uniformly low, and so is the moral tone. Not recommended, even cleaned up for the tube (B)

POLICE STORY
Tuesday, March 20 (NBC)

Vic Morrow and Chuck Connors star in a television feature adapted from some of the writings of policeman-turned-novelist Joseph Wambaugh. Tough stuff for adventure hounds.

BEG, BORROW . . . OR STEAL
Tuesday, March 20 (ABC)

Made-for-television flick is a novel twist on the Big Caper theme: three unemployed and handicapped men plot a daring, ingenious, heist. Michael Connors, Michael Cole, and Kent McCord star. The film raises some legitimate issues about hiring (or, in this case, financing) the handicapped who want

desperately to make their own way.

MURDOCK'S GANG
Tuesday, March 20 (CBS)

What happens when a big-time criminal lawyer is disbarred and has to support not only himself but his unusual staff of ex-con-

victs? You guessed it, and the heat is on as Alex Drier as the barred barrister and his cohorts get involved in a complicated murder-suicide-blackmail case. Janet Leigh co-stars.

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Once Over Briefly

ACROSS 110th STREET — Condemned — Indeed, as even the buildings are.

AVANTI! — Objectionable — Angels have 47 chromosomes.

BLACK GIRL — Adults — The superbly acted truth, and that's no jive.

CHLOE IN THE AFTERNOON — Adults — Elegant, sophisticated Eric Rohmer film.

CRIES AND WHISPERS — Adults, with reservations — Ingmar Bergman's anguished study of four anguished women.

DELIVERANCE — Adults; with reservations — Not your ordinary camping trip.

THE EMIGRANTS — Adults and adolescents — Epic masterpiece on the American experience.

THE GETAWAY — Adults, with reservations — Mucho macho.

THE GREAT WALTZ — Adults and adolescents — Oh, those saccharine oom-pah-pahs.

THE HIT MAN — Condemned — Non-entertainment for blacks.

IMAGES — Adults — Susannah York gives the best performance of her career in Robert Altman's psychological thriller.

INNOCENT BYSTANDERS — Objectionable — An incoherent, sloppily made spy movie.

JEREMIAH JOHNSON — Adults and adolescents — Robert Redford as legendary mountain man.

THE KING OF MARVIN GARDENS — Adults, with reservations — Go directly to another movie.

LADY SINGS THE BLUES — Adults, with reservations — The story of Billie Holiday, with everything from Amos 'n' Andy to, Superfly.

MAN OF LAMANCHA — Adults — The impossible nightmare.

THE MECHANIC — Adults — First-rate spine-tingler.

PETE 'N' TILLIE — Adults, with reservations — Awkward serjo-comedy.

PLAY IT AS IT LAYS — Adults, with reservations — Existentially, how to buy a hamburger.

RAGE — Adults — George C.'s hot.

THE RULING CLASS — Adults, with reservations — Pokes a sharp, funny finger at British aristocracy.

RUSSIA — Not rated — A documentary.

1776 — Adults and adolescents — The Singing of the Declaration.

SHAMUS — Adults — Burt Reynolds has proven himself a capable actor in this white version of Shaft.

SLEUTH — Adults — Sir Laurence Oliver and Michael Caine are splendid in witty British thriller.

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