

THE SLOT MAN

Carmen Viglucci

When you stop and think about it there are plenty of biggies in Washington and around the world who are praying that President Nixon doesn't have to let anyone else hear those White House tapes.

One must wonder that if allowing a court to hear a portion of the tapes might be so damaging to national security or presidential activities why were the tapes made in the first place. And if in the first place they had some legitimate reason why have they been discontinued?

Ah, the uses of secrecy! But even including recent events in Washington and throwing in the CIA to boot, for me the classic exponent of the use of secrecy will forever be one Sgt. William McCarthy, our platoon leader during those gloried days of our Ft. Dix basic training.

Our first night in camp, Sgt. McCarthy introduced himself to us, showed us how to make a bunk Army-style, then announced that we probably wouldn't be seeing too much of him.

We didn't. His assistant put us through our daily chores. It should be noted that we had a

fearsome company commander named Lt. Edd G. Vaughan (the G reputedly stood for God), a first sergeant, Luis Pacheco, who took it as an insult if you said hello to him, and a "field first," Master Sgt. Mike Termi, who thought hand-to-hand combat was sissy. All of these men and more were above McCarthy in the chain of command, still he did not take part in any of the fun and games. He arose at nineish, ate comfortably in solitude in the company kitchen, frequently could be seen reading on the orderly room steps when the rest of us came tramping in from the field exhausted but still trying to run in step, got in some pool, a little basketball, often visited New York City, and otherwise enjoyed fine autumnal pursuits.

In between, he did one other thing and that was the key to his success. He kept a little black book. And in the midst of tense scenes that arose, such as confrontations between officers and men or between officers and officers, Sgt. McCarthy could be seen writing in his book. No one knew exactly what he wrote or where he kept the book (indeed one sergeant hinted roundly that the man who could gain possession of the book might find himself especially favored).

Then came the shocker. The Fort Dix News, covering a camp housing thousands of soldiers, announced that its October soldier of the month, was none other than our own Sgt. William McCarthy. The story was a bit hazy and nowhere mentioned in it was McCarthy's book.

I don't recall exactly what happened to him, though he did get a new plush assignment before we finished basic training. I only know that Sgt. William McCarthy, U.S. Army, could probably give lessons to even the top covert thinkers and actors on the national scene today.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. George Meisenzahl of Gates marked their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 26 at a Mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Dennis W. Hickey in St. Theodore's Church. Concelebrants included Mrs. Meisenzahl's cousin, Father Theopane Larkin, OFM, of St. Bonaventure University. A dinner party followed at the Plantation Party House in Spencerport. Mr. and Mrs. Meisenzahl have two daughters, Mrs. Clarence Brasser and Mrs. Raymond Weeks, both of Gates, and nine grandchildren.

Locust Hill Is Site Of McQuaid Benefit

Locust Hill Country Club will be the scene of the seventh annual McQuaid Benefit Ball, Friday evening, Oct. 19 with cocktails at 7 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m. and dancing from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Donovan are chairmen of the affair, with Mr. and Mrs. James M. Lane serving as their co-chairmen. Both couples are Brighton residents.

Father John J. McDonald, SJ, rector of McQuaid and honorary chairman of the ball stated that "indications are that the ball will once again make a significant financial contribution to the facilities of McQuaid High School and its programs."

Heading other committees are:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph DeMaria and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Culotta, programs; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mooney and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Booth, invitations; Mrs. Harry B. Crowley, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mont, reservations, and Mr. and Mrs. James Keenan and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Edelman, tickets.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Betterton and Mr. and Mrs. Jerome McElroy, publicity; Dr. and Mrs. Parker and Mr. and Mrs. William Michie, reception; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Caines and Mr. and Mrs. William Hodgetts, decorations; Mr. and Mrs. John Roselli, faculty, and Dr. and Mrs. Richard Rohrer, alumni.

The past chairmen of the ball serve as an advisory board to the committee. They include Mr. and

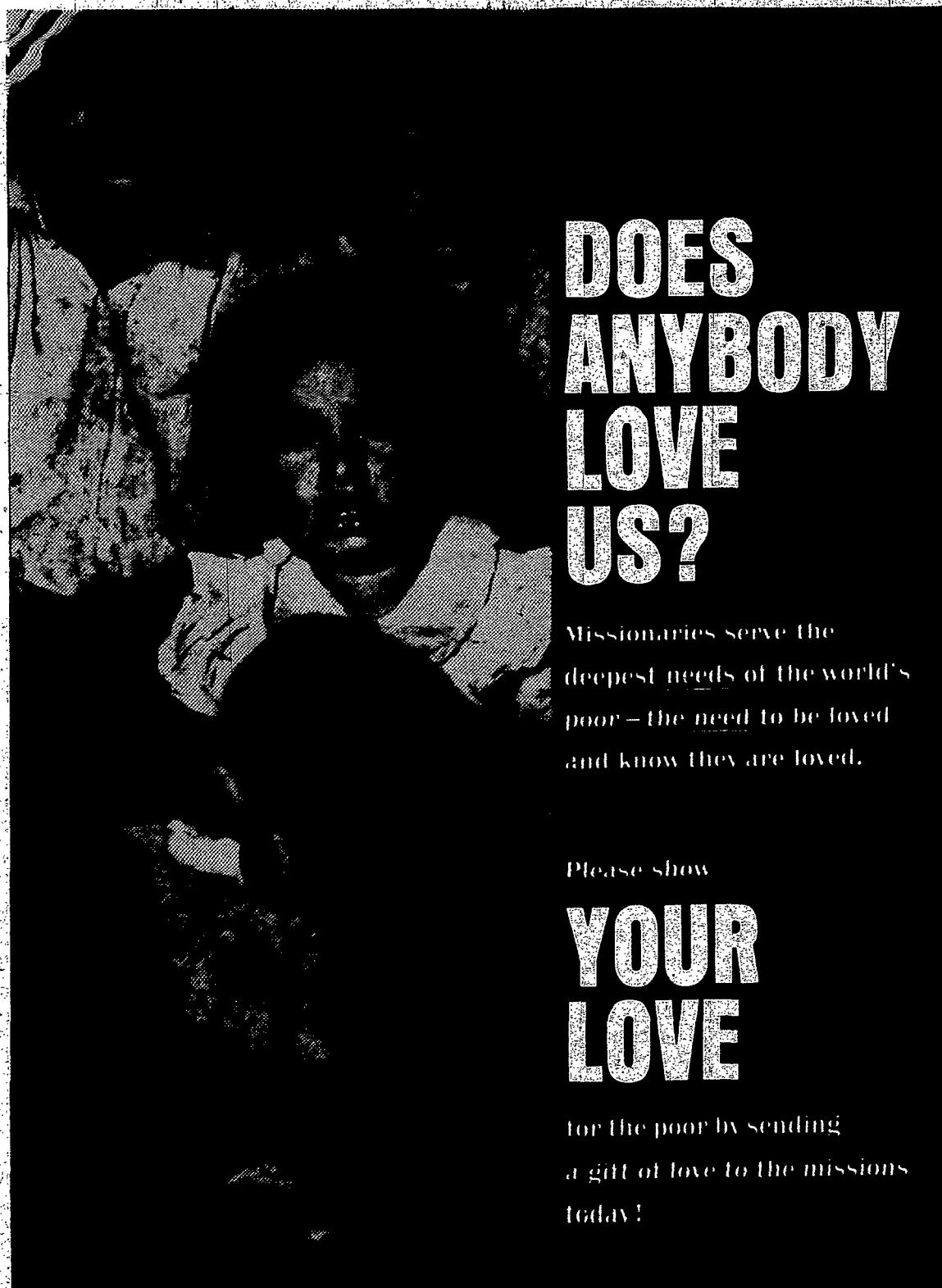
Mrs. Anthony Cashette, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Cashette, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Culhane, Mr. and Mrs. Louise Dwyer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eberhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Leon T. Ward, and Mr. and Mrs. William G. McDonnell.

WASHINGTON TOUR

St. Stanislaus parishioners will leave for a tour of Washington, D.C. from the Hudson Ave. Wegman's parking lot, Friday, Sept. 28 at 5:15 a.m. and will return Sunday, Sept. 30 at 9 p.m.

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