AMERICAN OPINION

Volume XV - Number 2

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| Dear Reader: | | | |

His friend, General of the Army Omar Bradley, wrote of George Patton that on the evening of the attack on Gafsa in March of 1943, Patton told his staff and commanders: "Gentlemen, tomorrow we attack. If we are not victorious, let no one come back alive." It was typical of the man. Typical of an American who saw himself among the Spartan three hundred who had barred the pass at Thermopylae against the hordes of Persia. It was typical of a hero who saw himself dying with his fellows at Thermopylae with such valor and resolution that their common grave was marked even by their bitter rivals the Athenians: "Stranger, go tell the Spartans that we lie here obedient to their law.

And Patton, who had memorized long passages of the Iliad before he could read or write, patterned his life on the lives of his heroes. On the first day of the Battle of Argonne he was on foot directing tanks. The infantry, supposed to move forward with them, was pinned down by heavy machine-gun fire - pinned down as America is now pinned down; afraid as America is now afraid. George Patton described what happened: "I was lying flat on my belly and scared to death, hardly daring to lift my head. But finally I did, and looked up to a bank of clouds glowing reddish in the almost setting sun. And then ... I saw their heads, the heads of my grandfather and his brothers ... looking, looking . . . with unhappy scowls. I could read their eyes and they said to me, 'Georgie, Georgie, you're a disappointment to us lying ... there. Just remember lots of Pattons have been killed, but there never was one who was a coward.' So I got

What Patton did was to rally three hundred infantrymen at gunpoint – and then, on foot, lead a near suicidal charge against the Enemy's best troops. He was severely wounded, but he reported that afterward he had again looked to the heavens and seen his forebears smiling.

There is much more about the splendidly American George S. Patton Jr. in the article by Professor E. Merrill

Root which begins on Page 29. But we recommend that first you read the reports here by Gary Allen, Alan Stang, and Medford Evans. With the danger of which they write in mind, you will understand Patton's iron commitment: "Gentlemen, tomorrow we attack. If we are not victorious, let no one

Sincerely,

Scott Stanley 4.

AMERICAN OPINION - is published monthly except July by Robert Welch, Inc., 395 Concord Ave., Belmont, Massachusetts 02178 LLCA, Cut View Bolton, Inc., 395 Concord Ave., Belmont, Massachusetts 02178 U.S.A. Subscription rates are ten dollars per vear in the United States twelve dollars alcoubles. Concord Ave., Belmont, Massachusetts 02178 U.S.A. Subscription rates are ten dollars per vear in the United States twelve dollars alcoubles. year in the United States, twelve dollars elsewhere. Copyright 1972 by Robert Welch, Inc. We use almost no articles except those written to order to fit our specific needs, and can assume no responsibility for the return of uppolicited. Second Class Postage Paid at Boston, Massachusetts, and at additional mailing offices.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

They're Destroying Our Children

Gary Allen, a graduate of Stanford University and one of the nation's top authorities on civil turmoil and the New Left, is author of Communist Revolution In The Streets, and of the explosive bestseller, Richard Nixon: The Man Behind The Mask, just released by Western Islands. Mr. Allen, a former instructor of both history and English, is active in anti-Communist and other humanitarian causes. Now a film writer, author, and journalist, he is a Contributing Editor to AMERICAN OPINION. Gary Allen is also nationally celebrated as a lecturer.

■ FOR THE past five years Americans have had their eyes riveted on the chaos and anarchy sweeping the nation's colleges. Meanwhile, the battleground has been slowly shifting to the country's junior and senior high schools. As William Waugh, the Associated Press education writer, puts it: "America's high schools from the ghetto to the suburbs - are like boiling cauldrons. No one can predict when the pot will boil over, but already violence, vandalism and noisy protest are common." According to Waugh, "Students from New York to California say their schools operate in a prison-like atmosphere - armed guards, fenced schoolyards, and ... locked classroom doors."

Stewart Alsop notes that public education is "in danger of collapse," and that "the trouble goes far beyond the schools' all too frequent failure to teach Johnny to read. A terrifying increase in hard drug use and an equally terrifying increase in violence in the schools are now the principal threats." The magnitude of the

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uprising is indicated by the New York. Times, which reports: "Student protests, which range in intensity from vocal complaints to riots, have occurred recently at nearly 60 percent of the nation's high schools."

A 1970 survey conducted by the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency exposed the tremendous increase in crime in America's schools between 1964 and 1968, the last period for which figures are available. Some types of crimes in the 110 school districts studied had skyrocketed several thousand percent. Homicides in these elementary and secondary schools climbed 73 percent. Forcible rapes were up 61 percent, while robberies multiplied by an astounding 306 percent. Burglaries and larceny in the schoolyard also climbed by equivalent amounts. School narcotics arrests were up 1,069 percent.

But even such statistics are hardly adequate to indicate the terror in our schools, particularly those in the central cities. There is no way to describe the horror and fear of an 110-pound teacher surrounded by half a dozen 200-pound toughs screaming epithets and threatening rape. Such threats occur every day, and are being carried out with increasing frequency.

The American School Board Journal reports that teaching school is already twice as dangerous as working in a steel mill. It estimates that 75,000 teachers are injured badly enough each year to require medical attention. According to the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency, between 1964 and 1968 assaults on teachers increased by 7,100 percent.

