



Bob Dillenko, at right, leading the Lake Bluff Precision Lawn Mower Drill Team in a parade in Lake Bluff, Ill.

Pride in the Flag Revives for U.S. On Its 205th 4th

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military hardware and military pay, was echoed on the Mall.

A Strong Defense Is 'No. 1'

Don Anderson, 37, a medical student at Howard University here, volunteered the view that "we should have a strong defense, militarily, that's No. 1." Technology, he said, should continue "at an even faster rate," and "we should develop all of the weapons necessary, because if we don't, somebody else will."

Shella Lavin, a high school English teacher in a Maryland suburb who was sharing a picnic lunch of fried chicken and red wine on the Washington Monument grounds, said that while "flag-wavers were considered right-wing" in her classroom five years ago, "now people are not ashamed to show their patriotism."

Robert Vaughan, a social studies teacher at the same school, agreed, saying, "We have bottomed out on our depression and our inferiority complex."

But this groundswell of pride in America has not been translated into any zeal for military service. "I don't want to go for Texas," said Don Drakulich, a 19-year-old student from Virginia Commonwealth University at Richmond. "The oil companies may try to get us into a war, and there may be a return to old-fashioned imperialism, which I am not in favor of."

Scented Oil and Marijuana

Apparently a number of young people celebrating Independence Day felt that their rights should include the freedom to smoke marijuana. The sweet piercing smell of the drug, mixed with the fragrance of scented oil, was in the air whenever young people gathered. In Lafayette Park, across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House, rock musicians played from a stage surrounded by signs calling for the legalization of marijuana.

Gilbert Stuart's celebrated portraits of George and Martha Washington, which had hung for so long in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, were on display here today at the National Portrait Gallery. They are to be shared, under an unusual arrangement that calls for the paintings to be sent back and forth between Boston and Washington every few years. The portrait of George Washington was the model for the one on the dollar bill.

A few blocks away, in the Smithsonian's Museum of History and Technology, an exhibit hall filled with political posters and memorabilia was the scene of naturalization ceremonies to 30 aliens from various countries. Federal District Judge Harold H. Greene administered the oath that he had taken more than 20 years ago after fleeing Nazi Germany.

America, the Destination

"When people are free to come and go as they please," he said, "America is most often their destination." The judge listed a few of today's problems such as unemployment, inflation, racial strife and crime, but commented that they were no greater than the problems faced by "the original settlers who crossed hostile oceans to reach this land and transformed it into a beautiful civilization."

On a day that included a symphonic concert on the steps of the Capitol and a night-time fireworks display, Mayor Marion Barry of the District of Columbia ordered the District flags to fly at half-staff in "mourning for the residents of the nation's capital," who still do not have voting representation in Congress.

City residents, however, may vote in Presidential elections. A constitutional amendment to grant the city two Senators and at least one Representative, though approved by Congress, has failed to win ratification by the necessary number of states.

Midwest Ethic: Lawn-Care Drill Teams

By SUSAN SAITER

Special to The New York Times

LAKE BLUFF, Ill., July 4 — The Fourth of July crowd applauded politely as the Dakota, Ill., marching Indians and the Regina Lions International Band of Saskatchewan, Canada, trooped by, and again when the Shriners maneuvered mindlessly and when the candidate for Circuit Court judge flashed by in a convertible with some pretty girls, all winks and smiles.

But loud cheers greeted the approaching Lake Bluff Precision Lawn Mower Drill Team of 17 men pushing power and hand lawn mowers — and one hedge trimmer — in formation. They were preceded by their wives carrying banners and followed by their children pushing grass catchers filled with cold beer.

At one blast from the leader's whistle, the team executed such intricate lawn mower drills as the double snake and the front wedge right. The lawn mowers were handsomely decorated for the parade. Streamers waved from some; a child's red, white and blue inner tube muffled another, and from a cage perched on an old lawn mower without blades a chicken looked on sagely.

Derivation of Display

Drill team members contend that the display arises from the Middle Western suburban lawn-care ethic, which involves work, play and entertainment. Now an eight-year-old institution in this Chicago suburb of 5,000, the team has been the inspiration for at least two others in the region.

The costumes of the drill team change every year. Last year the team members dressed as Arabs and were ejected from the parade for littering when they threw money in the crowd.

This year, marching in the July Fourth parade sponsored by American Legion Post 310, they were "Castro's Castoffs," wearing fake mustaches, straw hats and

bright orange life jackets. The drill leader dressed as Fidel Castro, the Cuban President. A banner read, "Cubans for Ill Beaches Free-a."

The drill team members said, however, that it was "all in good fun."

"We have no political statement," said Howard Hay who, with Ken Hayne, dreamed up the group eight years ago when they were "sitting around" in their backyards.

Suburban Living Strained

In nearby Evanston, a two-year-old team has named itself the "Lawndale Lawn Mower Precision Drill Team and Mulching Society." Lawndale is the street the team members live on. Their organizer, Gary Greenholz, said that the team sought to emphasize suburban living with its power mowers, manure spreaders and one snow blower. The team marched today with a band that used charcoal grills for kettle drums.

Another such team sprang up in Cedarburg, Wis., when the Lake Bluff majority moved there five years ago.

An article in The Wall Street Journal referred to the "Toro, Toro, Toro" lawn mower drill team as unique. So when Howard Hay saw the article, he wrote to the newspaper, pointing out that his team was eight years old and challenging the California team to a mow-off today.

"We were concerned about this upstart group," he said. His challenge so far has gone unanswered because the California team has been unable to find a sponsor to send it to Lake Bluff. Some people consider such drill competition a frivolous use of fuel.

Drill team members do not share that opinion.

"Maybe we can get one of the oil companies, say, Standard Oil," said Judy Gray, the spokesman for the California drill team. "They could use some positive public relations for a change."



Bob Dillenko, leading one of the team's lawn mowers on his club yesterday at exhibition.