

**On being  
a farm wife  
- And other  
hazards  
Joyce Bupp**



Sad. We live in such a crisis world.

Nuclear plant disasters — with little information or facts. Repeated failures suddenly tarnishing our ambitious space program. Earthquakes (even another little one in our own backyard). Bombings. Shootings. Terrorism.

I've never paid much personal attention to the terrorism crisis. It was too far away. Terrorism was a problem in Greece, in Libya, in the general region we label the Middle East.

That's all changed. Not just for me, but I suspect for 19 friends as well.

Last Saturday's layover in the Atlanta, Ga., airport began as routine time-killing between flights. This was the last leg of a week-long cultural exchange with an Alabama high school and all 20 of us were weary from a hectic, but memorable, embrace with Southern Hospitality. Spirits were high, in spite of fatigue.

Gathering at the gate to prepare for boarding, we suddenly found our party, along with all other

passengers on the flight to Baltimore, being hurriedly herded, not onto our plane, but downstairs and into waiting buses.

Grim, worried looks crossed many faces. Puzzlement and aggravation marked others.

Our flight had just become the target of a bomb threat. A sabotage alert. Of the hundreds of flights that leave this busiest airport in the country every day, our number had come up.

We were suddenly, unexpectedly, frightfully, innocently, big money players in the Looney Bin Lottery of terrorism.

Slowly, the trio of buses wound its way through the maze of terminals, warehouses and giant jet airline traffic. At the distant edge of the tarmac, our luggage waited on tram haulers. We would each have to claim our own bags. While we waited, we joked about searches through dirty laundry and bags stuffed so full they'd never again be secured if we zipped them open.

Ambulances, firefighting equipment, police vehicles, men dressed in dark suits and carrying tiny radios hovered around. To the credit of both harried airline officials and delayed travelers, everyone was courteous, cooperative and extremely un-

derstanding.

The wait dragged on as luggage was reclaimed and then returned to the trams for reloading. Meanwhile, our plane was being carefully searched, isolated at a distance from people, buildings, and other traffic. Freight, mail, all other cargo intended for the flight was removed.

And from the back of our bus came the plaintive voice of a child: "I don't want to die, Daddy."

This account, needless to say, has a happy ending. Just an hour and a quarter after our scheduled departure time, we soared over the

green and reddish ground patchwork of Georgia's farm country, headed home.

The fact that one gentlemen passenger just a few rows ahead of our group could have passed as a twin to Moammar Khadafy is probably an irrelevant bit of information.

Not all people, tragically, are as fortunate as were the passengers of that flight. Accounts of senseless terrorism continue almost daily in our headlines.

But we still are no closer than we were one week ago to an answer to our most basic question.

Why?

**Poultry Queen Candidates Sought**

LANCASTER — The Lancaster County Poultry Association is seeking contestants for this year's Poultry Queen Pageant, scheduled for Aug. 8 at the Farm and Home Center.

To enter, contestants must be single, under the age of 23 at the time of the banquet and should have completed their junior year in high school.

Potential candidates should contact Milton Landis, R2, Box 347, Parkesburg, PA 19365.

The pageant winner will receive either a \$500 educational scholarship or \$300 in cash for future endeavors. The runner-up will receive either a \$300 educational scholarship or \$150 in cash for future endeavors.



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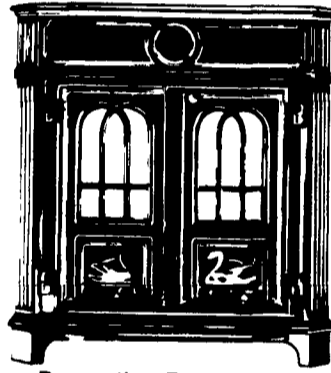
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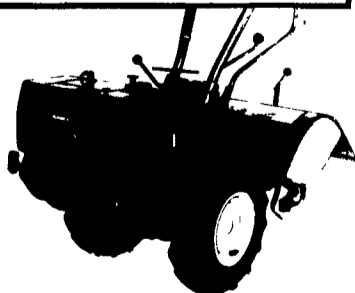
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