

Senatorial 'blue slip' has controversial history

By JOHN H. AVERILL
The Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Less than four months after taking office as the first president, George Washington nominated a former Army colleague, Col. Benjamin Fishbourne, to head the customs office in Savannah, Ga.

Georgia's two senators, for reasons not made public, objected to the nomination, and the Senate rejected it on Aug. 5, 1789, two days after Washington had submitted it.

Washington protested in a letter to the "gentlemen of the Senate" but capitulated and submitted a new nomination.

Thus was born the tradition known as "senatorial courtesy," under which a single senator frequently has been able to exercise a one-man veto over the nomination of a person from his home state as a federal official or federal judge.

Although the tradition is at odds with current reform efforts and is

observed far less today than in years past, it is still very much alive. This is particularly the case in the Senate Judiciary Committee, which passes on the nominations of all federal judges, including Supreme Court justices, and all U.S. attorneys and U.S. marshals.

Traditionally, the Judiciary Committee, on receipt of a nomination, has sent the two senators from the nominee's home state a one-page blue form, known as a "blue slip." It asks the senator to give "your opinion and information" about the nominee.

Over the years, a senator's refusal to return a blue slip has been sufficient to kill many judgeship nominations. A report by the staff of the Judiciary Committee, sent last month to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., the new committee chairman, said of the blue-slip practice:

"In fact, no hearing has been scheduled on a nominee in the absence of a returned blue slip, thus institutionalizing senatorial courtesy within the committee as an automatic and mechanical one-member veto over nomi-

nees.... In no other instance does another committee have a comparable procedure."

The blue-slip system has taken on particular significance because of last year's Omnibus Judgeship Act, which created 152 federal judgeships, and because of President Carter's efforts to remove judicial selection from politics. All the nominations will be submitted to the Judiciary Committee for approval or rejection.

Kennedy, a critic of the blue-slip practice, conducted a hearing last month on the judicial selection system but found practically no support among other committee members for abolishing the blue slip.

Judiciary Committee Democrats gave Kennedy no more than tacit support, and Republicans, led by Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., objected vigorously to any change in the system. Many other members of the Senate, possibly a majority, also favor retention of their veto power.

However, Kennedy said that he would try to modify the practice. "In (See KENNEDY, Page 2A)

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Hanoi makes damage claim

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Hanoi claimed today its forces stopped all of China's invasion columns, killed more than 3,500 Chinese troops and destroyed almost 80 tanks since the Chinese attacked Saturday.

With Asia's newest border war in its third day, Western intelligence sources in Bangkok said the Chinese have halted their offensive after driving no more than six miles into Vietnam and may be withdrawing some units. They said the Chinese objective was extremely limited, "to teach Vietnam a lesson."

Today's claims by Hanoi, which cannot be independently verified, claimed Vietnamese troops inflicted "heavy losses" on 12 Chinese divisions but gave no figures for Vietnamese casualties. The report said only that Chinese artillery caused heavy losses to life and property.

The Western sources said China's air strikes along the border ceased today but that heavy artillery bombardment continued.

The Vietnam News Agency reported the Vietnamese army inflicted "heavy losses" against the invaders Saturday and Sunday in Hoang Lien Son, Cao Bang and Lang Son provinces.

"Many columns of Chinese aggressor troops were intercepted and are being encircled and strongly attacked," the report said. It added that many Chinese soldiers had been captured.

There were no reports from Peking on the fighting. But the official Peking People's Daily said China "does not want a single inch of Vietnamese soil; what we want is a peaceful and stable

frontier. After hitting back at the aggressors as far as is necessary, our frontier forces will turn to guard strictly the frontier of our motherland."

The Vietnam News Agency also reported that the Chinese Air Force bombed factories, power plants and communication facilities Sunday, inflicting "terrible damage" and causing many casualties. Intelligence sources in Bangkok said Chinese MiG fighter-bombers attacked along the Red River to within 60 miles of Hanoi.

There were no reports that the Vietnamese Air Force sent up its own MiGs to challenge the Chinese raiders.

The Soviet Union warned China to withdraw its troops "before it is too late" and said it would honor its obligations to Hanoi under the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed last year. However, the announcement by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, indicated Moscow would not aid its Vietnamese allies with an attack across the Soviet-Chinese border.

The U.S. government told the Chinese government it strongly disapproved of its invasion and urged the Soviet government not to attack the Chinese, officials in Washington said. But they said they saw no threat to U.S. interests, even if the Soviet Union got involved.

A senior White House official said he had seen no evidence to indicate China planned to overrun Vietnam though he would not predict how far the Chinese would go.



Whatever the calendar might say, Sunday's spring-like weather was a day for holding hands and throwing Frisbees in the park. A number of Midlanders shed their shirts and donned cut-off pants to take advantage of the warmth. Related story on Page 2A. (Staff Photo by Mike Kardos)

New Orleans officials, police agree to resume negotiating

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Striking police and city officials agreed to stop insulting each other and to resume negotiations today in an effort to save what is left of Carnival and Mardi Gras.

"From now on, all statements to the news media will come from me," federal mediator Ansel Garrett said Sunday in announcing the city and the

police union had agreed to meet and to refrain from criticizing each other publicly.

The city remained relatively quiet as 600 National Guardsmen and 200 state police watched over streets bearing few signs of the usual boozey Carnival festivity.

Mayor Ernest Morial canceled the elaborate Carnival parades scheduled for the weekend and tonight and said more cancellations would be imposed if the strike continued.

Carnival is the parade and party season preceding the uproar of Mardi Gras, French for Fat Tuesday, which this year comes on Feb. 27. It brings in an estimated \$50 million a year.

A return to private talks was agreed upon Sunday after Vincent Bruno, president of the Police Association of Louisiana, dared Morial to fire police strikers. He warned that would trigger sympathy strikes by garbage collectors and firemen.

"The next move is up to the mayor," cried Bruno, standing atop a parked police car to address about 600 people at a rally behind police headquarters. "He makes that mistake, we go to war."

Midland man in custody

A 20-year-old man was in police custody today in connection with the shooting death Sunday of a 14-year-old Alamo Junior High School student.

Police said an officer found the body of Poetry Lashun Brazell, an eighth-grade student at Alamo, in Hogan Park shortly before 8 p.m. Sunday. She is believed to have been killed at approximately 2 p.m. Sunday after an argument, police said.

Miss Brazell had been shot four times with a .22-caliber rifle, according to police.

Iran now pledged to support PLO

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's new Islamic government ended all relations with Israel and pledged its support to the Palestinian war against the Jewish nation after a weekend meeting between Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Iran will "turn to the issue of victory over Israel" after it binds up the wounds of the year-long revolt that drove Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi from the country, Tehran Radio reported Sunday.

The government radio said 22 Israeli trade and immigration officials and representatives of El Al, the Israeli airline, were expelled, and all Iranian

officials in Israel were ordered home.

Arafat, the first foreign leader to visit Khomeini since he took over the government on Feb. 11, said the Iranian revolution had turned the strategic balance in the Middle East "upside down."

The final break between the new government and Israel caused concern among the thousands of Jews living in Iran, but it was not likely to have any immediate effect on Israel itself. Israel formerly got most of its oil from Iran, but all exports have been cut off since December because of strikes against the shah. The head of the last royal government, Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar, an-

nounced in January that Israel would get no more Iranian oil after exports are resumed.

The Iranian National Oil Co. said striking oil workers were heeding Khomeini's call and returning to work in the southwestern oil fields. Informed sources said it would take two to three months to get production back to the 6 million barrels a day formerly produced. But leaders of the new government have indicated much less would be produced for export to prolong the life of the oil fields and the revenue from them.

Khomeini, meanwhile, canceled all engagements until Thursday. An aide said the 78-year-old religious leader was suffering from fatigue and his

physician had ordered him to rest.

A total of 794 Americans were flown Sunday to Frankfurt, West Germany, on the second day of an airborne exodus that is expected to take 5,000 Americans out of Tehran. Nearly 1,700 have left since the airlift began Saturday. Some 2,000 U.S. citizens are expected to remain behind, most of them diplomats, journalists or spouses of Iranian nationals.

Government sources reported the arrest Sunday of 103 army officers or agents of SAVAK, the shah's secret police. Tehran Radio reported the hunt was on for Bakhtiar and said its previous report that he had been arrested was incorrect.

Current course 'proper,' aide says

By JAMES GERSTENZANG

WASHINGTON (AP) — Within 24 hours last week, a U.S. ambassador was murdered, an embassy assaulted and the president of the United States publicly dressed down by his Mexican counterpart.

But, by Sunday, one of President Carter's closest advisers was saying the week had shown that the president was following the proper course in foreign policy.

It was a course this aide called a "careful, thoughtful approach." It was also a course in which the president sought to move slowly while critics in Congress showed what has been dubbed a "macho strain."

In the White House view, the administration has been "beaten about the ears" by members of Congress who think Carter has not been forceful enough in a series of foreign policy dilemmas, some predictable, one certainly unforeseen.

"We've taken quite a political beating from those who thought some dramatic action should be taken," the official said in response to critics of Carter's handling of U.S. policy toward Iran and the kidnap and murder Wednesday of Adolph Dubs, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan.

On Sunday, Carter was given some unsolicited Republican advice on the problems raised by the Chinese invasion of Vietnam and criticism on his general conduct of foreign policy.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits of New York said on one television show that while "the United States should urge both sides to keep their powder dry and their shirts on," it "should make it clear to the Soviet Union that we cannot stand still for an attack on the People's Republic of China...."

The Senate's Republican leader, Howard H. Baker of Tennessee, said on another program that Carter is finding foreign policy an "awkward area" and that in much of the world "there is a growing feeling that the United States has no coherent foreign policy."

Baker, responding to a question about Dubs' death, said the United States "should make it abundantly clear...that American representatives abroad...are off limits to guerrillas, to bandits and to other governments."

That attack, combined with the almost simultaneous assault on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran last week, raised anew questions about how firm the administration was prepared to stand while under attack.

Then, after Carter had said the decision to open diplomatic relations with China would help bring stability to the Pacific region, China invaded Vietnam along their shared border.

One senior aide, who asked not to be named, said the congressional calls for action stemming from the Afghan shooting and the Iranian unrest were "overly dramatic."

Responding to congressional critics said to be possessing a "macho strain," the White House official said:

"The characteristic of this administration has been that of a careful, thoughtful approach, which has proven to be the proper approach despite outrage and screams to do something that, upon reflection, would be quite foolish."

Supporting the president's approach in Iran, the aide said, "Our policy of quietly avoiding some sort of irresponsible action just to appear dramatic is being proven the best approach."

The administration first supported Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, then the civilian government he installed, and now the new regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Although it had given strong support to the ayatollah's enemies, it was able to win his help in the rescue of the embassy from the leftist guerrillas.

"The more that is known, the more prudent and wise our approach will appear to be," the aide said. "The United States is in a much better position to deal with a new government there in an attitude of mutual interests than anyone would have predicted a year ago."

In Mexico, after President Jose Lopez Portillo lectured Carter Wednesday, Carter told the Mexican in private that their governments could deal with each other more productively without such public criticism.

As a result, by the end of the week, White House aides were putting an upbeat note on the trip and said that, once again, the president's moderate course had been productive.

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Weather

Mostly fair with warm afternoons through Tuesday. High Tuesday in mid-60s. Details on Page 2A.

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WEATHER SUMMARY



Rain is expected in the forecast period until Tuesday morning for most of the Pacific coast and Rocky Mountain areas.

Midland statistics

MIDLAND, ODESSA, RANKIN, BIG LAKE, GARDEN CITY FORECAST: Mostly fair with warm afternoons through Tuesday. Low tonight in the mid-30s.

The weather elsewhere

Table listing weather conditions for various cities including Albany, Albuquerque, Anchorage, Asheville, Atlanta, etc.

Texas thermometer

Table showing high and low temperatures for various Texas cities like Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Beaumont, etc.

Texas area forecasts

West Texas: Cloudy with cool nights and warm days. Chance of rain Wednesday and Thursday. Lows 30s north to 40s south.

Officials see no threat to America if Soviets become involved in war

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials see no threat to the United States' immediate interests if the Soviet Union, which sharply criticized China's invasion of Vietnam, becomes involved in the Asian conflict.

Kennedy, others fighting continued use of Senate 'blue slip' power

(Continued from Page 1A) The important months ahead, I will not unilaterally table a nomination simply because a blue slip is not returned by a colleague," he said.

Video system to televise House debates

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans will get a chance to see their elected representatives in action with the inauguration of a sophisticated camera system to televise floor debates in the House.

Those hoping to catch a glimpse of a congressman snoozing or reading a newspaper, however, will be disappointed. Steps have been taken to assure that the House has complete control over the productions.

Weatherman sees cool mornings, warm afternoons

Midlanders can look forward to cool mornings and warm afternoons through Tuesday, the weatherman said. Mostly fair with warm afternoons through Tuesday is the word from the forecasters at the National Weather Service office at Midland Regional Airport.

Tonight's low is expected to dip to the mid-30s with the high Tuesday in the mid-60s. Sunday's high of 56 degrees was pleasant, but did not approach the record for the date set at 82 degrees in 1947.

Man wages war to save \$150,000 home

LOS GATOS, Calif. (AP) — Patrick Hazel fought a chunk of land nestled beside the Santa Cruz Mountains, then decided it would be a nice place to build a house — and to fight city hall.

Angered by the amount of red tape involved in securing a building permit, Hazel decided to do without and went ahead with his \$150,000 house. The bureaucratic roof fell in on him. Now he's due in court to explain why he broke the law.

The county warned that building and grading without permits carried a six-month jail term and \$500 fine. Hazel, a 49-year-old father of five, went on building. He said he submitted detailed plans of his house, but the building inspector rejected them because Hazel wouldn't apply for the building permit at the same time.



Sister Carmen Duanno arranges clothing kept on hand by Garden Lane Outreach Center for those in need. The center is an independent non-profit agency. (Staff Photo)

Garden Lane Outreach Center serves Midland many ways

By LINDA HILL Staff Writer

It looks like a number of other small frame houses in the neighborhood, but the Garden Lane Outreach Center serves Midland in a variety of ways — from providing emergency food and clothing to conducting courses in typing or nutrition.

The building, located at 1411 Garden Lane, is owned by Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, which sits a block from the center. But the outreach center is an independent non-profit agency with its own board of directors and funded from private donations.

Other programs being repeated this year are a bilingual remedial reading program for pre-schoolers and their parents and the typing, nutrition and shopping classes.

Also planned for the spring are classes in making hand-branded rugs, coping with elderly parents in the home and canning and freezing techniques. A class in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation is scheduled for March, in cooperation with Midland College.

The largest attendance was for the driver education class for persons who were unable to read or write. Some 130 persons enrolled in the course, conducted in cooperation with Guadalupe Catholic Church and with the assistance of Oralia Corrales. Sister Carmen said 95 persons have received driver licenses as a result of the course.

Bruce Allen requiring Hazel to stop work or face a possible citation for contempt. With the house already framed, Hazel told the carpenters to button up the job. He and his son put plastic over the structure to keep the rain out.

Dallas police ignored telephone threat on Oswald, ex-agent says

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A former FBI agent who was in Dallas when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated says the FBI received an anonymous telephone tip that Lee Harvey Oswald would be killed.

Ad Club to sponsor Addy Awards

The Permian Basin Advertising Club will sponsor the sixth annual Addy Awards banquet Friday in the Midland Hilton. The club, affiliated with the American Advertising Federation, organizes a local Addy Awards competition annually as its chief fund-raising activity.

Teachers set tour of Carver Center

The Organization of Teachers of Young Children at Odessa College will tour the Carver Center in Midland Wednesday. Carver Center offers a social science cultural environment for children in kindergarten through early elementary grades.

A hearing before Allen is scheduled Tuesday. But Hazel means to continue his fight. He has set up a defense committee and hired a lawyer. Government can't control growth, he said.

Hosty, who made the comments in his first lengthy interview granted a reporter, said later that he still has not dropped several "bombshells" that would shed new light on the assassination. "I don't want to comment," the former agent said Sunday. "Until the

companies and freelancers. The 1979 Addy entries have been judged by the Waco Advertising Club. Local winners are eligible for entry in the 1979 AAF 10th District Addy Awards competition. Winners at the district level may go on to win national Addy Awards, the Oscars of the advertising industry.

College OTYC are Jerry McLeod, president; Debbie Edwards, vice president; and Sally Jimenez, secretary-treasurer. All of the officers are from Odessa. Genelle Felio, instructor of child development at OC, sponsors the OTYC and will accompany the group. Also making the trip will be Marilyn Hair, instructor of child development, and Olivia Sharp, director of the children's center.

and when it tries it just makes housing expensive. "You have to realize that man is here to stay, and if there are going to be sacrifices it's gonna be something else besides man," he said.

Hosty was assigned to investigate Oswald before the assassination, because Oswald had a Russian-born wife, had traveled to the Soviet Union and had worked with a group sympathetic to the Castro government in Cuba. That investigation was later criticized by the Warren Commission investigating the assassination and Hosty was suspended for a month without pay by then-FBI director J. Edgar Hoover. He was then transferred to Kansas City, where he worked for the bureau until his retirement last month.

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Table with columns for 'HOME DELIVERY' and 'MAIL RATES IN TEXAS' showing rates for different subscription periods.

Search for bundles continues

COTULLA, Texas (AP) — Law officers riding horses, squad cars, helicopters and on foot fanned out across the brushy plains between here and the coast Sunday, hunting bales of high-grade marijuana dumped from an airplane piloted by accused smugglers.

An estimated 5,000 pounds of the Colombian weed are believed scattered along the 120-mile route across southern Texas.

"We just hope we get it before too much of it gets away," said Sgt. Phil Altman of the Texas Department of Public Safety narcotics division, who said the search was ordered to continue today. "Anybody caught with any of this marijuana had better be headed for the nearest law enforcement office," he said. Altman said two persons

have already been caught trying to take some of the contraband and were jailed in George West County on trespassing charges.

He said 4,500 to 5,000 pounds of the marijuana already have been gathered since the Colombian-registered DC-4 flew at low altitudes from Corpus Christi to Cotulla, dropping burlap bags filled with from 50 to 80 pounds of marijuana each.

Ranchers and farmers checking their livestock after a cold front passed through the area Friday found most of the bundles.

"It's high grade stuff. Each burlap bag contains two Purina Feed Chow sacks full of marijuana," Altman said.

"U.S. Customs had two aircraft in the air following the DC-4, and when the suspects' plane land-

ed in Cotulla, a Customs aircraft landed right behind it" at about 1 a.m. Friday, Altman said.

Authorities arrested the two men on the DC-4 and nabbed three other suspects accused in the smuggling attempt at a secret landing strip in Duval County which had been under surveillance for about a week.

Altman said there were "several theories" as to why the marijuana was dumped.

"The aircraft was low on fuel. They could have been trying to conserve fuel. They knew they were going to have to land at a commercial airport instead of the clandestine airstrip, and they may have kicked it out to avoid detection," he said.

The state trooper said the search was concentrated in the counties of McMullen, Live Oak and Jim Wells.

"All local sheriff's officers and police in those counties along with officers out of Nueces County and Duval County, DPS officers, Customs officers, Drug Enforcement Administration officers — they're all looking. They're on foot, horseback, in cars and aircraft."

The five men arrested in the case were charged in federal courts with conspiracy to possess marijuana with the intent to distribute. Brett Kimberlin, 24, also known as Chris Columbus Shipley, of Indianapolis; William Bowman, 32, of Dayton, Ohio; and Luis Frank Sial, 36, of

Edinburg, Texas; were in the Nueces County jail in Corpus Christi Sunday night. Kimberlin was being held on \$250,000 bond, and Bowman and Sial on \$50,000 bond each.

Richard C. Curry, 35, of Nakomis, Fla.; and George Ralph Greene, 27, of Remington, Ind., were being held in the Webb County jail in Laredo under \$50,000 bond each.

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A coffin containing the body of slain Ambassador to Afghanistan Adolph Dubs is returned to Andrews Air Forces Base, Md., Sunday. Dubs received full military honors and Secretary of States Cyrus Vance presented the Secretary's Award, the department's highest honor, to Dubs' widow. (AP Laserphoto)

Widow of slain diplomat watches as body is returned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Clutching President Carter's arm, the widow of slain diplomat Adolph Dubs watched her husband's flag-draped casket carried from the plane that brought him home. A 19-gun salute boomed in the background. Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance had warm praise for Dubs, the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, but cold condemnation for his killers Sunday in a brief ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base just outside Washington. Dubs, 58, was shot to death last Wednesday as police in Kabul, Afghanistan, stormed a hotel room where he had been taken by four terrorists who kidnapped him on his way to the U.S. Embassy. He was the fifth U.S. ambassador killed overseas in just over a decade.

Standing by the U.S. Air Force plane he had sent for Dubs' body, Carter expressed "our outrage

at the senseless terrorism of those who pay inadequate value to human life." "We condemn those who would participate in such a despicable act of violence," Carter said. Vance gave Mary Ann Dubs the Secretary's Award, the State Department's highest honor, in her husband's name and called the 30-year foreign service veteran "one of our very best." Mrs. Dubs stepped to the microphone to thank him, but could only say "Mr. Secretary..." before breaking into tears. In a voice inaudible to most of those present, she added, using her husband's nickname, "on behalf of Spike, thank you." Carter put his arm around her and led her to a waiting car. Dubs' body was taken to a chapel at Arlington National Cemetery, where he will be buried Tuesday.

AFL-CIO opens annual meeting

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Leaders of the AFL-CIO are warning they will refuse to support President Carter for re-election unless he shifts direction on domestic policy. As the labor federation's 34 executive council members arrived for today's opening session of their annual winter meeting, disenchantment with the president emerged as a common cry. "Based on what I've heard...unless there is a dramatic change (in policy) I can see that Carter's in real trouble," William McClennan, president of the International Association of

Firefighters, said Sunday. "I'm sure that the firefighters of this nation will not support him for re-election," McClennan, who sits on the council, said at a news conference. The 13.5 million-member federation backed Carter for president in 1976 but has grown increasingly unhappy with his performance, most recently over the voluntary wage-price guidelines in his anti-inflation program. The unusual estrangement between a Democratic president and the AFL-CIO also has been aggravated by a person-

MCAA offering finance, several other classes

"How to Manage Your Personal Finances" is the topic of one of several classes being offered by the Midland Community Action Agency. The class on finances is co-sponsored by the Boys' Club of Midland and will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, in the Boys' Club, 110 E. New Jersey Ave. Included will be information on how and why to use a checking account, how to balance a checking account, advantages of checking accounts, general banking services and the advantages of a bank loan.

In addition, a free beginners' typing class is being given at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday in the Eastside Action Center. Classes began last Tuesday. More details may be obtained by calling the Eastside Action Center at 682-2840.

Also, nutrition classes, taught by Diana Henson at the Eastside Action Center between 10 a.m. and noon, start Friday.

Braniff seeks CAB approval for jet flights to Persian Gulf

DALLAS — Braniff International has applied to the federal Civil Aeronautics Board for immediate authority to provide non-stop jet flights from both Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston to Baharin, the Persian Gulf travel crossroads, airline officials announced recently.

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Too down-to-earth

A decade hence, men may manufacture priceless alloys in the weightless environment of permanently orbiting space stations. By the late 1990s, huge space satellites may gather the sun's power and transmit it to earth in quantities and at a cost which could help solve our energy problem.

And by the early decades of the 21st century, human colonies in space may facilitate the further exploration of the universe.

Given existing technology, there is every reason to believe that these are practical possibilities. But if these goals are to be realized and, more to the point, if those feats are to be performed by Americans, Congress and the Carter administration must begin to plan now for a space program capable of yielding such benefits and others yet unimagined.

It was probably inevitable that this country's initial excitement over the space program would fade after the dramatic successes of the Apollo program with its epochal moon landings. But public indifference and an accompanying drift in space policy have continued too long.

In large part, this public malaise reflects a failure of leadership and vision in Washington. The Carter budgetary restraints have only lately arrived on the scene. Yet the budget of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has been declining for years. Measured in constant dollars, the Carter administration's proposed \$4.7 billion NASA budget for fiscal year 1980 is less than half the amount spent on the space program in 1965.

Measured against the potential benefits to be derived from space and space-spawned technology, NASA's share of the federal budget is grossly inadequate.

But even in a year of relative austerity, NASA's budget crunch springs more from indecision over the future of the space program than from any fiscal considerations. In truth, the United States has no long-range space program worthy of the name.

The policy proposals outlined by the White House last October amount to little more than a holding pattern for NASA once the space shuttle project is operational. In a typical example of political doubletalk, the policy

mandates maintenance of this country's existing lead in space technology while providing no budgetary or project commitments which would ensure such superiority.

The rest of the world is not waiting. The Soviet Union continues to appropriate massive sums for its space efforts even while it seeks to purchase from the West the technological innovations which would permit it to surpass the United States. Western European countries pool their resources in support of the budding European Space Agency.

And while the United States and its Western European allies obviously hope that the exploration and exploitation of space can be accomplished for peaceful purposes, it would be imprudent to ignore the military potential of the Soviet program.

For all these reasons, it is hoped that 1979 will be a year for profound debate and decision on the future course of this country's space policy.

The U.S. Senate already has before it two blueprints for a long-range space program. Sen. Harrison H. Schmitt, R-N.M., who addressed the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum's Hall of Fame dinner here Thursday night, has offered an ambitious and visionary agenda stretching into the 21st century. Schmitt is a former Apollo astronaut.

More modest is the 10-year plan outlined in policy legislation introduced by Sen. Adlai Stevenson III, D-Ill.

Merit is found in both propositions. More importantly, in these bills are seen the seeds for the most significant space policy debate since the 1960s. It comes not a moment too soon.

The Country Parson

by Frank Clark



"Progress is the trademark of folks who, when they make mistakes, make new ones."

INSIDE REPORT:

GOP senators tell Carter the emperor has no clothes

By ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK

WASHINGTON — It was first-term Republican senators fresh from taking their oath of office who, over breakfast at the White House last week, dared tell Jimmy Carter that the emperor has no clothes.

President Carter had opened the session by informing the nine new senators (two other freshman Republicans were absent) that U.S. prestige was high and climbing all over the world, threatened only by possible Senate rejection of SALT. That view is shared almost nowhere outside the White House and the seventh floor of the State Department. What makes it so worrisome is that Carter truly believes the American eagle is as splendidly garbed as ever, both in fact and in the eyes of the world.

Even in the post-imperial phase of the presidency, nobody — including Republican leaders — usually talks back to the nation's chief executive. But two of the freshman senators — Colorado's Bill Armstrong and Maine's William Cohen — violated protocol by saying what they and most of Washington think: the U.S. is in deepening trouble around the world; it is viewed as a paper tiger by most of its friends and adversaries alike.

Although the president appeared startled by this unaccustomed candor, it would be naive to suppose the encounter changed Carter's world view. But it surely denied illusions that techniques used to ratify the Panama Canal treaty would work for



Evans

Novak

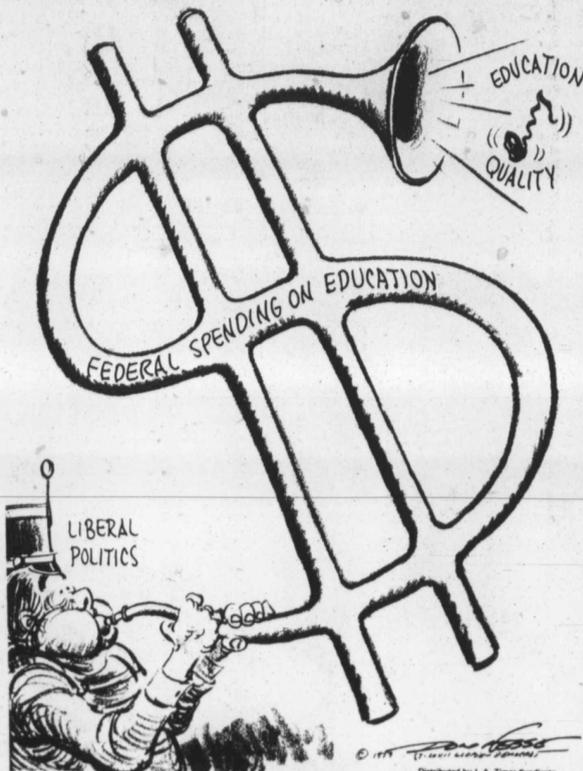
the new strategic arms control treaty (SALT II). The breakfast exchange carried clear warning that the new pact cannot be sold with generalities and that the moderate Republicans cannot be taken for granted.

In his warup to the new Republicans, Carter was long on rhetoric, short on specifics. He declared the U.S. is most highly regarded within the family of nations. "You would think we had never had it so good," said one senator later. The only menace to this utopia depicted by the president was possible Senate rejection of the SALT II treaty, an agreement he said is urgently desired by our allies and the U.S. military.

In the ensuing question period, Armstrong refuted the president's rose-colored vision. The Colorado senator contended that the U.S. had declined so badly that it would lose a war at sea today and that NATO forces are badly outnumbered by the Warsaw Pact.

That was not a surprising statement by Armstrong, considering his record in the House as a hard-nosed

SOUP NOTE



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Bureaucrats censor VOA program

By JACK ANDERSDN
WASHINGTON — The Voice of America is supposed to provide accurate, unslanted news to listeners in countries where government censorship turns news reports into propaganda. But there is increasing evidence that the Voice is itself being censored for propaganda purposes — a situation that will ultimately destroy its effectiveness.

Six months ago we reported that the Voice had scissored out of a broadcast to the Soviet orbit a reference to the World War II massacre of thousands of Polish officers by Soviet troops. The official explanation was that the deletion was simply an error of editorial judgment, but our associate Howard Rosenberg has obtained written evidence that belies the official alibi.

The Katyn Forest massacre in 1940 has been a source of embarrassment to the Soviet government for years. The Russians blamed the atrocity on the Germans, but most objective observers refused to buy this line. The evidence of Soviet guilt was overwhelming to any but a blind apologist for the Kremlin.

Mention of the Katyn Forest massacre is taboo behind the Iron Curtain. But last April at a writers' congress, Polish poet Andrej Braun had the temerity to speak up about state censorship and mentioned the Katyn Forest cover-up as a case in point. A Voice of America reporter sent a story to Washington saying Braun "cited the murder of Polish officers by the Soviet Union at Katyn Forest in 1940."

The phrase was deleted from the final broadcast script. Our disclosure

of this censorship led Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., to ask the Voice for an explanation.

John P. Reinhardt, head of the International Communication Agency which runs the Voice, conceded that our column was "literally correct," but argued that our implication was unfair. Elimination of words that would offend the Soviet government was not a matter of policy, he assured Dole. The editing was an error of judgment by a middle-echelon editor after policy-level officials had left for the day, Reinhardt said.

But we have seen the original copy of the controversial dispatch from the VOA correspondent. It shoots Reinhardt's explanation down in flames.

Scrawled across the bottom of the original cable is a handwritten note initiated by Feliks Broniecki, deputy chief of the agency's Polish desk. It reads: "Mr. Holzapfel gave his OK and asked to change the sentence regarding Katyn."

Holzapfel is chief of the VOA's European broadcast division; he is certainly not a middle-echelon editor. The message is signed off at 4:45 p.m.

This is not the first time the Voice of America has been silent on the Katyn Forest. In 1950, Jozef Czapski, a survivor of the massacre, was invited to make a VOA broadcast for Polish listeners. He later told a congressional committee that he watched in disbelief as all references to the atrocity were expunged from his script.

VOA Director Peter Strauss has taken a complacent view of the affair, calling it "an error in judgment by the news editor, hardly a federal case."

CHARLEY REESE

Abernathy should realize that money isn't wealth

By CHARLEY REESE
Sun Belt Syndicate

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, former president of the Southern Leadership Conference, wants President Carter to submit a plan to Congress that will create full employment.

Well, I'll concede that Abernathy's heart is in the right place, but unfortunately his head is not. His first mistake is to suppose that Carter or most of the other politicians in Washington give a hoot what happens to blacks (or whites or browns for that matter).

We had all better wise up and quit being such pushovers for these politicians who commit first degree deception on us during the campaigns. All you have to do is look at a guy's past. Snakes shed their skins, but they never stop crawling on their bellies.

Carter as governor of Georgia once endorsed a white boycott of schools to protest a busing order and referred to Lester Maddox, the arch segregationist, as a warm and fine human being. Only when he needed black votes did Carter kick Lester off the podium and plant a big kiss on Martin Luther King Sr.

Blacks who believed Carter's campaign promises needn't feel like a squad of Lone Rangers; a great many people fell for his line of heifer dust.

But Abernathy has another prob-



Charley Reese

lem. He needs to learn a little bit more about economics. Even if Congress tomorrow decreed that every human being in America would receive a weekly paycheck for life we wouldn't be any better off than we are now. Things like food, clothing, tools, buildings, cars, trains, factories and farms are wealth. If you keep this in mind, then you can understand why government can't solve Abernathy's problem. The government can create money, but true wealth can only be created by human labor applied to natural resources.

If the government prints more paper money than the amount of true wealth in existence, then the value of the paper money goes down. That's called monetary inflation. The increase in prices, which most people think of as inflation, is actually a reflection of the decrease in the value of the currency.

The third problem Abernathy has is that his mind is stuck in the past. He is still associating liberalism with concern for the poor. Unfortunately for him, there has been an evolution in American politics. Most people in both parties who identify themselves as liberals have adopted a no-growth stance.

That's why you hear Carter and California Gov. Jerry Brown yacking about lowering expectations and tightening belts. Well, Brother Abernathy, you're no fool. Whose belt do you suppose is going to get tightened? Who gets hired last and fired first when the economy slows down?

There is only one way to open up job opportunities for American blacks and that is to go all out for economic expansion.

What's funny is that the politicians who want to open up the economy are the people called conservatives, most of them Republicans with a smattering of Democrats. Somehow I can't see Abernathy wearing a Phil Crane button, but if what he really wants is opportunity for the poor to become non-poor, he's going to have to re-examine his bread to find the buttered side.

Most of today's liberals will put you on the dole with printing press money that buys less and less and leads to Nowheresville. They'll even throw their arms around you in front of the television cameras and lay some nice words on you. But that's all.

Think on this: back in the 1940s and 1950s — before the civil rights revolution and, more importantly, before the big boosts in the minimum wage law, black teen-agers had the same or better employment record as white teen-agers. Now that we have the welfare state, black teen-agers are worse off.

It's time, Brother Abernathy, to force open the mouth of that gift horse and take a close, hard look.

Mark Russell
says

The White House has chastised U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young for making yet another controversial statement. Who does he think he is, Billy?

Andrew Young hasn't yet learned the ropes. In order to speak freely, you first must enter the World Belly-Flop Contest.

Young should know by now that in order to avoid being chastised by the boss, he might try getting a brewery to come out with a beer called "Andy."

My advice to Mr. Young — sure you've embarrassed the President at times, but not enough. If you really want complete freedom, start making a fool of yourself. They respect that.

Come on, Mr. Young — don't let 'em reprimand you — let them think you know something about the Bank of Georgia deal, and I'll bet they'll even let you go on Hollywood Squares.

BIBLE VERSE

As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me. — Psalm 55:16.

the small society

by Brickman



2-19

Washington Star Syndicate, Inc.

BRICKMAN

SCRAM-LETS

That Intriguing Word Game with a Chuckle

1 Rearrange letters of the four scrambled words below to form four simple words.

DAWHOS

WOPRE

RHINT

HAGNIC



2 Complete the chuckle quoted by filling in the missing word you develop from step No. 3 below.

3 PRINT NUMBERED LETTERS IN THESE SQUARES

4 UNSCRAMBLE ABOVE LETTERS TO GET ANSWER

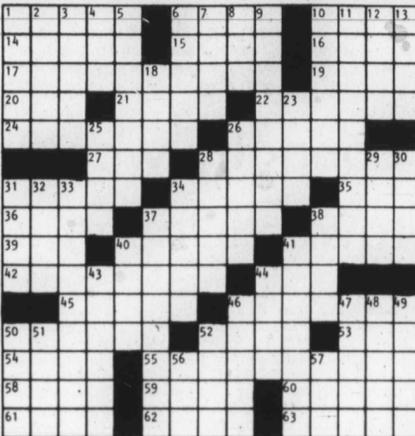
SCRAM-LETS ANSWERS
1. LAZY
2. LAZY
3. LAZY
4. LAZY

DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Margaret Farrar and Trade Jaffe

© 1979 Los Angeles Times Syndicate

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rubs smooth in a certain way
 - 6 Siamese
 - 10 Sharp report
 - 14 Unalakani
 - 15 Oriental noble
 - 16 Store up (honey)
 - 17 Variety store: Phrase
 - 19 Over again
 - 20 out
 - 21 Passes
 - 22 Dough boys
 - 24 Mamba or fer-de-lance
 - 26 Merciless
 - 27 Great anger
 - 28 occasion (lively)
 - 31 Durable wood
 - 34 Hair-cut
 - 35 Sun dial number
 - 36 Tuscan river
 - 37 Proportion
 - 38 Second of a series
 - 39 Observe
 - 40 Hills of Rome
 - 41 Lazy
 - 42 Deceitful
 - 44 Hostelry
 - 45 Peak in Canada, 19,850 ft. high
- DOWN**
- 2 Identical
 - 3 "When two Sundays meet."
 - 4 Rightful
 - 5 Play-acting
 - 6 West Pointer
 - 7 10 percents: Abbr.
 - 8 Article
 - 9 W California city
 - 10 Salt
 - 11 Destiny of
 - 12 State
 - 13 Benches
 - 18 "— but the brave..."
 - 23 Atmosphere
 - 25 South American conifer
 - 26 Alkaloid from the poison hemlock
 - 28 Lavishly honored
 - 29 Girl in a Spanish song
 - 30 Menotti's first name
 - 31 Compass direction
 - 32 Poment
 - 33 Game of ball: Phrase
 - 34 Refuge
 - 37 Abjured
 - 38 Relative of a single
 - 40 Heroic tale
 - 41 Exhibited disdain
 - 43 Palms off
 - 44 Part of a foot
 - 46 External
 - 47 Steel girder
 - 48 Telegraphic code
 - 49 Alleviates
 - 50 Himself: Lat.
 - 51 Soft leather
 - 52 Famille member
 - 56 Go in haste
 - 57 Significant date



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



PHYSICS-
Physics is the most grueling kind of work imaginable. You'll have to work like crazy just to keep up, and in the end, you won't have anything to show for it. If you'd rather have something nice to take home at the end of the six weeks, like a broomholder or a doorstop, than perhaps you'd be better off taking shop.

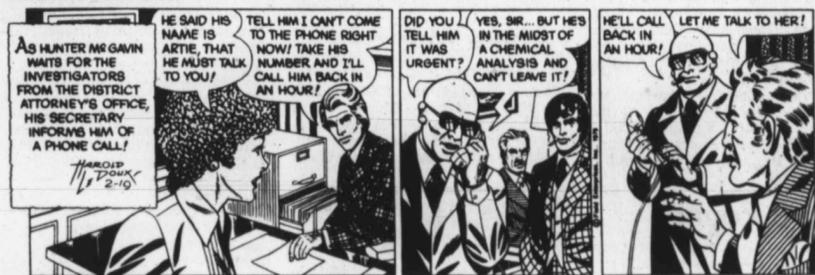
BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



JUDGE PARKER



STEVE ROPER



NANCY



STEVE CANYON



DENNIS THE MENACE



MARMADUKE



THE BETTER HALF



ANDY CAPP



SHOE



DICK TRACY



REX MORGAN M.D.



HEATHCLIFF



PEANUTS



"SONJA'S NOT MUCH OF A MOUSER!"

DEATHS

Mrs. Gammage

PLAINVIEW — Services for Mrs. Will E. (Attice Elizabeth) Gammage, 83, of Plainview, mother of Tom Gammage of Midland, were to be at 2 p.m. today in Grace Presbyterian Church with Dr. Thomas Gee, pastor, officiating.

Burial was to be in Plainview Memorial Park directed by Lemons Funeral Home.

Mrs. Gammage died Saturday morning at her home from an apparent heart attack.

She was a native of Boonesville. She moved to Memphis, where she was graduated from high school, and then to Hale County in 1938. She had lived in Plainview since 1941. She was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church, where she taught the JOC Sunday School Class several years. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a former member of the Rebekah Lodge. She worked for Plainview public schools a number of years.

Other survivors include four daughters, seven sons, a brother, a sister, 34 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.

Mark Walker

BIG SPRING — Services for Mark Walker, 19, of Big Spring were to be at 2 p.m. today in College Baptist Church with burial in Trinity Memorial Park.

Walker died Saturday morning while on a skiing trip in Ruidoso, N.M.

He was born Nov. 7, 1959, in Howard County, where he was a lifetime resident. He attended Big Spring schools until his freshman year of high school. He then transferred to Coahoma High School, where he was graduated in 1978. He was a freshman at Howard College. He was employed part-time at a Big Spring auto parts store. He was a member of the Howard College Rodeo Club, Howard County Youth Horseman, FFA and 4-H. He was a member of Salem Baptist Church.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerold Walker of Big Spring; a sister, Melanie Walker of Big Spring, and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J.I. Smith of Big Spring.

Lloyd Payne

LAMESA — Services for Lloyd Payne, 73, of Welch will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Second Baptist Church here with the Rev. Alton West, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Welch, officiating. Assisting will be the Rev. Clifton Igo, pastor of a Lamesa church.

Burial will be in Lamesa Memorial Park directed by Branson Funeral Home.

Payne died Sunday in a Lamesa hospital after a brief illness.

He was a native of Nolan County and moved to Dawson County in 1913 from Seminole. He had been a Welch resident and a member of the First Baptist Church of Welch 50 years.

He was a retired farmer. Survivors include his wife, Ruby; two sisters, Sue Young of Mesa, Ariz., and Billie York of George West, and a brother, A.L. Payne of Odessa.

Cora E. Davis

SWEETWATER — Services for Cora E. Davis, 80, of Jersey Shore, Pa., mother of Mrs. Fred Shules of Midland, will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in McCoy Funeral Home. Burial will be in Sweetwater Cemetery.

She died Friday in Jersey Shore.

She was born Dec. 24, 1898, in Izzard County, Ark. Her husband, Deward Davis, died in 1971. She was a former resident of Sweetwater.

Other survivors include a daughter, a sister and five grandchildren.

Frances Tolson

BIG LAKE — Services for Frances Tolson, 89, of Big Lake, were to be at 2 p.m. today in First Baptist Church of Big Lake with the Rev. J.B. Bitner officiating.

Graveside services were to be at 3:30 p.m. today in Merton Cemetery directed by Johnson's Funeral Home.

Mrs. Tolson died Saturday morning in a San Angelo Hospital.

She was born April 3, 1889, in Miles. She was a member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Fred Freeman of Ozona; a half-sister, Minnie Parmenter of Phoenix, Ariz.; two grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

Julia Mayfield

LEVELLAND — Services for Julia Mayfield, 89 of Levelland, mother of Mary Lou Teague of Midland, will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday in College Avenue Baptist Church with the Rev. James Schoenrock, pastor of Central Baptist Church of Lubbock, officiating.

Burial will be in City of Levelland Cemetery directed by George C. Price Funeral Home.

Mrs. Mayfield died Friday in a Levelland hospital after a long illness.

The Erath County native moved to Hockley County in 1925 from Dawson County. She was married to J.M. Mayfield Sr. July 25, 1906, in Erath County. He died May 12, 1960. Mrs. Mayfield was active in senior citizens' activities and was a member of the Women's Missionary Association of College Avenue Baptist Church.

Other survivors include four sons, three daughters, a brother, 26 grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be grandsons.

Annie Murray

GATESVILLE — Services for Annie Murray, 85, of Gatesville, mother of Clarence Murray Jr. of Midland, were to be at 11 a.m. today in the First Baptist Church here. Officiating was to be the Rev. Curtis Beard.

Burial was to be in Masonic Cemetery directed by Scott's Funeral Home of Gatesville.

Mrs. Murray died Friday in a Gatesville hospital.

She was born June 25, 1894, in Coryell County to the late Thomas and Rebecca South. She was reared in the Coryell County area and attended schools there. She was married March 6, 1915, to Clarence Murray Sr. Both were lifelong residents of the community. He died in 1973.

Mrs. Murray was a member of the First Baptist Church and the Hunnicutt Sunday School class. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star.

Other survivors include three daughters, a sister, 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Lillie Vandiver

DENVER CITY — Services for Lillie Vandiver, 88, of Denver City, mother of Jo Westbrook of Hobbs, N.M., will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Faith Baptist Church here with the Rev. Truitt House, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Denver City Memorial Park directed by Singleton Funeral Home.

Mrs. Vandiver died Saturday in a Denver City nursing home after a long illness.

The Butler, Okla., native moved to Denver City from Canadian in 1975.

Other survivors include two daughters, a son, two sisters, a brother and eight grandchildren.

'Jack' Griffith

BIG SPRING — Services for Mo "Jack" Griffith, 66, of Big Spring, will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home. Burial will be in Mount Olive Memorial Park here.

He died Sunday in Big Spring after a lengthy illness.

Griffith was born April 19, 1912, in Coleman County. He moved to Big Spring in 1950 from Sweetwater. He had been a terminal manager for Gulf Oil Co. 16 years before retiring. He was a member and deacon of Phillips Baptist Church. He was honored with the national truck driver award in 1961.

He was married to Glennie Moschel June 3, 1939, in Abilene.

Survivors include his wife; three daughters, Mrs. Ikie (Jackie) Rupard of Sand Springs, Mrs. Bobby (Dawn) Powell of Coahoma and Mrs. Charles (Janice) Hyden of Big Spring; two sons, Wayne Griffith and Darwin Griffith, both of Big Spring; two sisters, Annie Ward of Sweetwater and Effie Pierce of Diablo, Calif.; eight grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Two young girls found chained in apartment

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A St. Louis policeman who found two young girls chained and hungry in a squalid apartment says two puppies were running loose around the apartment.

Rayborn Tuttle, 30, and his wife Edith, 28, were charged with child abuse after officer John Munier found the girls, ages 4 and 6, while investigating a family disturbance call early Sunday morning.

"They had those little girls chained, while two little puppies were running around the apartment free," said Munier. "Animal feces were all around."

"The sanitary conditions didn't freak me out as bad as the chains," he said. "When I found the 4-year-old chained to the bed with a padlock, my mind went blank for a moment. Then it hit me like a sledgehammer. It hurt me."

He said the 4-year-old was chained to the bed by her ankle and the 6-year-old was chained to a couch in another room.

Munier said the apartment in a deteriorating neighborhood "was squalid, a cesspool."

"They appeared malnourished but not to the point where they couldn't walk. They kept saying they were hungry and wanted something to eat," Munier said.

Greenville residents flee chemical fire

GREENVILLE, N.C. (AP) — A pre-dawn fire raged out of control today at a chemical storage facility, forcing some 400 residents to flee their homes into the aftermath of one of the worst winter storms in recent years.

Explosions rocked the vicinity of the blaze that began at 4 a.m. at the Coastal Chemical Corp. facility on the outskirts of this eastern North Carolina city. Authorities feared the fire would create toxic fumes as it consumed the plant.

About 8 a.m., shifting wind spread the smoke that billowed 1,000 feet into the air toward Greenville, and authorities took steps to evacuate additional residents.

MIDLAND SANITARY plumbing-heating air conditioning Inc. 694-8871



Cold weather conditions late last week did not deter runners from getting in shape for the upcoming "March of Dimes Super Run" to be held March 24 as Midlander Norman Smith of 2912 Goddard Drive and his 10-year-old daughter Stephanie can attest. The event will feature races of 1.5, 5 and 10

kilometer "splits." Registration for the event will be held race day at 9 a.m. at Cub Stadium, with the first race to begin at 10 a.m. Additional information may be obtained by calling the March of Dimes at 682-2573. (Staff Photo)

Connally wants get-tough policy toward Japan, Common Market

ARCHBOLD, Ohio (AP) — Former Texas Gov. John B. Connally has suggested that the U.S. adopt a get-tough economic policy toward Japan and the European Common Market.

Connally, who is seeking the 1980 Republican presidential nomination, told those attending a Lincoln Day dinner Saturday that imports of goods from those nations should be strictly limited until their restrictions on American agricultural products are lifted.

"We're going to have to penetrate that market," Connally said.

"It's not all that difficult. All we have to do is say to the premier of Japan, 'Look, friend, you've captured 35 percent of the automobile market on the West Coast ... but unless we see more beef and more American agricultural commodities on the plates in Japan, you better be prepared to eat out of your cars, because there's going to be more of them over there.'"

Connally, a wealthy Texas attorney and rancher, told the crowd in rural northwest Ohio that he does not endorse price supports for farmers equaling 100 percent of parity, which is what the American Agricultural Movement is lobbying for in Washington.

But he commended farmers who paraded their tractors to the nation's capital for their courage. He said his plan to open foreign markets to all American agricultural goods, not just those selected by foreign govern-

ments, would satisfy the needs of American agriculture.

Connally also suggested the U.S. should get tough toward Soviet aggression, which he said is threatening to grab control of 50 percent of the world's oil supply by controlling the entrances to the Red Sea and eventually the Mediterranean.

He said Russia's use of Cuban troops in South Yemen, Angola and Ethiopia should not be condoned, and added that he would stop pursuing an arms limitation agreement until those troops are withdrawn.

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The White Sale

GRAMMER-MURPHEY

Come in this week during our annual "White Sale Week". Savings on first quality, top fashions from Fieldcrest, Martes, Whiting, Kaplen, to name just a few, for your home and gifting.

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Atomic fuel cost can be lowered

By ROBERT C. TOTH
The Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — By zapping raw uranium ore with bolts of laser light, U.S. scientists have devised new ways to lower the cost of producing the enriched nuclear fuel that is used in atomic power plants.

The technique could turn much of the world's "nuclear garbage" into the world's biggest single source of uranium fuel. Three decades worth of uranium tailings, the thus-far unwanted waste from uranium separation plants, would instantly add 20 percent to the U.S. reservoir of uranium.

There is a dark side to this potential success story, however. Laser-based separation threatens also to increase the spread of nuclear weapons.

A small, efficient operation to make an atomic bomb — an operation with a "budget of maybe \$10 million, which the Mafia could afford," as one scientist put it — is one nightmarish possibility emerging from the "advanced isotope separation" techniques that have been developed in recent years.

Uranium ore contains only minute amounts of the U-235 isotope needed for both atomic reactors and atomic bombs. It must be separated from the inert U-238, which makes up the great bulk of the mined uranium. The separation process is basically the same, whatever its later use. As a result, the laser technology that promises to make fuel available for peaceful purposes more easily and cheaply threatens also to make weapons-grade material available more easily and cheaply.

BASICALLY The lasers tune in to the vibration frequency of the desirable isotope, U-235, and make the U-235 behave in a way that allows it to be separated — because U-238 does not "see" or respond to a laser tuned to that frequency.

In one method, the laser causes the U-235 atoms to become charged positive ions. They then are attracted to a negative electromagnetic collector, while the unwanted U-238 atoms remain neutral and unaffected by the electromagnetic field.

With the other technique, both kinds of uranium react with fluorine to make gas molecules consisting of one uranium and six fluorine atoms. Laser beams excite only those molecules containing U-235 and then knock off one of the fluorine atoms. The resulting U-235 molecule is a powder that is precipitated from the gas mixture.

An abrupt rise in the amount of uranium fuel available would reduce the attractiveness of breeder reactors, which make more fissionable material than they burn but also raise the risk of proliferation, a Department of Energy official said. President Carter has halted government efforts to demonstrate the commercial feasibility of breeder reactors, largely because of this risk.

But there is a similar risk with laser separation.

ASSUMING THAT a laser-separation apparatus can be built in a small unit, as promised, the subcommittee on international security and scientific affairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee said recently. "The world will face increased risk of proliferation if the manufacture of these units is not effectively controlled."

"Such units would be ideal for clandestine production of highly enriched uranium (capable of making bombs) because they would be small and easily concealable," the report said.

There is considerable argument over how much proliferation risk laser systems would in fact present. But there is agreement that laser systems promise to be much cheaper

to build and also will use far less energy to operate than existing separation plants or those now being built.

What this means is that the federal government soon must face some difficult and far-reaching decisions on nuclear policy.

"Pressure is growing on the administration to decide soon whether to curtail the research" on laser separation, a government official said. "It may be judged too risky, in proliferation terms, to proceed, or maybe the projected demand for uranium fuel will be judged too low to justify the economic investment in new separation facilities."

"AND IF AN advanced separation system is found necessary, we'll have to decide soon on which one to choose, how fast it should be pushed, how much secrecy to draw around it and so forth," the official added.

Government officials had hoped such decisions could be put off until at least the end of 1980. But Exxon Nuclear Co., an affiliate of the oil giant, is pushing for earlier consideration by bringing the issue to public debate.

The company, which has sought to break the government's nuclear fuel monopoly in other ways as well, has applied for permission to begin building a \$24 million test facility in August to prove the commercial feasibility of laser processes. It claims to have pioneered such processes since 1971 and to have invested \$50 million in the venture so far.

The necessary government construction license is not likely to be issued until the proliferation risk is assessed. So Exxon Nuclear in November asked a panel of independent scientists to assess the proliferation danger of its process and to make public its findings about Feb. 15.

"It's obviously an attempt to preempt the government's decision in the matter," one government official said.

THE COMPANY believes its system is "consistent with President Carter's non-proliferation policy," its general counsel, William England, said. Exxon has lobbied government and congressional policymakers intensively in recent months.

Laser and other new separation techniques appear to be an example of a technology that has progressed faster than scientists had expected and has thus caught policymakers unprepared.

England said that the Atomic Energy Commission in 1971 "concluded that laser separation was not technically or economically feasible."

Exxon, in conjunction with AVCO Everett Research Laboratory, proceeded with the research work anyway.

As recently as last year, the Pentagon's Defense Science Board is believed to have examined the work but concluded that it was too far from application to evaluate its proliferation potential.

LASER SEPARATION is being studied intensively in the Soviet Union, Israel and France also. In the United States, the Department of Energy supports laser research programs at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory and at Livermore Laboratories.

Los Alamos, with a budget of \$17 million a year, is working on the molecular separation process. Livermore, with \$13 million, is working on the atomic separation process, which is similar to Exxon's.

A third advanced separation technique, being studied at TRW, Inc., with a \$9 million annual budget from the Energy Department, consists of tuning radio frequency microwaves (rather than the light radiation) into a plasma of charged uranium ions. The microwaves affect only U-235 ions. These ions then move faster in a way that facilitates their separation from non-fissionable U-238.

The economic push for such separation processes lies in the fact that the present system, gaseous diffusion, is rather inefficient in culling the U-235 from raw uranium ore. So is the centrifuge technique used in new separation facilities now under construction.

Both diffusion and centrifuge plants extract only two-thirds of the U-235 present in unprocessed ore. While 0.7 percent U-235 goes in, 0.2 percent remains in the waste, or "tails," from both processes.

The laser-based systems promised to reduce the amount of U-235 in the "tails" to 0.05 percent, thus extracting about 20 percent more of the valuable isotope.

Moreover, the laser chemical separation technique being developed at Los Alamos for the last seven years could be built for one-fifth the cost of diffusion and centrifuge plants. The energy consumption would be half that of the centrifuge, according to the project's deputy director, Reed Jensen.

The technique, he said in a recent interview, could also be adapted to existing diffusion plants to process the "tails" and return them, enriched, back to the 0.7 percent entering concentration, for reprocessing. This would cut the cost of U-235 from diffusion plants by 30 percent, Jensen said.

The two laser systems and the radio frequency system are "all roughly competitive economically, on paper," Dr. David Bodde of the Energy Department's research planning branch said. He foresees them becoming operative in about 10 years.

Wilson stakes sites

Wilson Bros. Leasing Co. of Midland has announced three new projects in the three-well Willie B. (San Andres gas) field of Pecos County, 12 miles west of Iraan.

The operator will dig No. 1-20 Wilson Ranch 217 feet from south and 1,325 feet from west lines of section 20, block Z, TCRR survey. It is 1/2 mile southeast of the field discovery.

Wilson No. 1-30 Wilson Ranch is 1,980 feet from south and 660 feet from east lines of section 30, block Z, TCRR survey. The drillsite is 1/2 mile northwest of one of the field's three wells.

Wilson No. 2019 Wilson-Ranch is 1,500 feet from north and 760 feet from west lines of section 19, block Z, TCRR survey. It is 3/8 miles northwest of production.

Each of the projects will be drilled to 1,851 feet.

The field was discovered in 1978 by the operator at the No. 1-29 Wilson Ranch which was completed through perforations from 1,851 to 8,856 feet for a calculated, absolute open flow potential of 145,000 cubic feet of gas.

Foy Aldrich in new post

Foy W. Aldrich, a former resident of Midland and a 30-year Shell Oil Co. veteran, has been named supervisor of Shell's land operations in Michigan, with headquarters at Traverse City.

He replaces R. S. Terry who has transferred to the firm's head office in Houston.

Aldrich joined Shell in Midland in 1949 as a draftsman and has spent his entire career in the exploration and production side of the oil industry, specializing in land operations since 1960.

Aldrich moves to Traverse City from Houston where he was a staff landman. Twenty-one of his 30 years with Shell were spent in Midland.

DRY HOLES

ANDREWS COUNTY
David & Inez Faskan, Serio (Grayburg); No. 16-2-Y Fee, 1,431 feet from the north and 1,187 feet from the east line of section 12, block 41, T-2-S, T-8-P survey, 17 miles southeast of Andrews, id 4,800 feet.

CHAVES COUNTY
McClendon Oil Corp., Double L (Queen); No. 1-A Marliuse, 330 feet from the north and 1,800 feet from the west lines of section 13-14-29e, 30 miles east of Hagerman, id 1,970 feet.

CROCKETT COUNTY
Anderson Petroleum, Inc., wildcard; No. 2-14-K Elmer shloover Hutton Estate, 1,879 feet from the north and 1,705 feet from the west lines of section 14, block MM, T-8-S, survey, 30 miles southwest of Oona, id 4,750 feet.

COKE COUNTY
Abernathy & Bailey, R.B.C. (Claco sand); No. 2 Hickman, 480 feet from the north and 8,700 feet from the east line of William A. Bates survey, No. 1, six miles east of Robert Lee, id 3,800 feet.

COTTE COUNTY
Jack F. Grimm, wildcard; No. 1-16 A.L. Brothers, 1,640 feet from the north and 487 feet from the west lines of section 14, block 11, Picketing survey, eight miles southeast of Paducah, id 7,000 feet.

CROSBY COUNTY
Threshold Development Co., wildcard; No. 1 Annie Malone, 487 feet from the north and 170 feet from the east line of section 40, A-2-M survey, abstract 1986, seven miles northwest of Ralls, id 10,643 feet.

HOCKLEY COUNTY
Delhi Oil Corp., wildcard; No. 1 O. K. Watson, 487 feet from the north and 487 feet from the west lines of section 16, block M, T-2-P survey, 1/2 miles southwest of Anton, id 7,803 feet.

KENT COUNTY
Ashland Exploration Inc., wildcard; No. 1-132 A. J. Section, 487 feet from the north and 2,000 feet from the west line of section 132, block 1, H-2-G survey, eight miles southeast of Spur, id 7,600 feet.

REX COUNTY
R. E. Oil & Gas Co., wildcard; No. 1 McArthur, 3,818 feet from the north and 600 feet from the east line of section 15, block B, P-1 survey, 10 miles southwest of Spur, id 4,437 feet.

MITCHELL COUNTY
Remuda Oil & Gas Co., wildcard; No. 1 McDaniel, 680 feet from the north and 1,800 feet from the west line of section 22, block 17, SP-RR survey, 18 miles south of Westbrook, id 8,287 feet.

NOLAN COUNTY
Cole Petroleum, Maryneal (Canyon); No. 1 Henry; 487 feet from the north and 2,173 feet from the east line of section 48, block X, T-2-P survey, 10 miles south of Sweetwater, id 7,100 feet.

PECOS COUNTY
Merbourne Oil Co., wildcard; No. 1-A Noelker, 1,800 feet from the north and 487 feet from the west lines of section 4, block 193, T-2-M survey, two miles northeast of Sheffield, id 7,915 feet.

RUNNELS COUNTY
Hanco Exploration & Development, wildcard; No. 1 Spreen, 487 feet from the north and 2,233 feet from the west line of section 138, E-2-R survey, seven miles northeast of Ballinger, id 1,700 feet.

TERRELL COUNTY
The Townsends Co., wildcard; No. 1 James Toplick, 2,750 feet from the southwest and 2,300 feet from the northwest lines of Francis Helmer survey No. 417, abstract 387, five miles west of Ballinger, id 4,100 feet.

SCURRY COUNTY
Sovereign Exploration Co., wildcard; No. 1 R. L. Drum; 680 feet from the north and 1,800 feet from the west lines of section 40, block 97, H-2-C survey, four miles south of Flomanna, id 8,432 feet.

STONEWALL COUNTY
Eorman & Clark, Inc., wildcard; No. 1 Pat Mitchell, 1,400 feet from the north and 2,500 feet from the west line of section 248, block D, H-2-C survey, nine miles northwest of Aspermont, id 2,300 feet.

WOODS COUNTY
Woodside and Damson, wildcard; No. 1 Davis, 1,150 feet from the north and 487 feet from the east line of section 25, block D, H-2-C survey, one mile east of Aspermont, id 4,845 feet.

SUTTON COUNTY
Ingram Enterprises, Inc. Denton (Canyon gas); No. 1 W. F. Berger, 1,390 feet from the north and 680 feet from the west line of section 13, block H, G-2-S survey, abstract 1418, 23 miles west of Sooner, id 3,750 feet.

TERRELL COUNTY
Britton Management Corp., wildcard; No. 1-150 Griffith, 680 feet from the north and 1,800 feet from the east line of section 150, block D-11, P-1 survey, three miles northwest of Wilman, id 1,400 feet.

Portillo expected to ask high, 'fair' gas price

By J. P. SMITH
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When United States and Mexican government negotiators sit down in the next two months to reopen natural gas talks the administration quashed more than a year ago, both parties will face a different set of demands and a vista of new realities.

Newly oil-rich Mexico and its shrewd and politically nimble President Lopez Portillo will be pressing again for a high yet "fair" gas price, pegged to world oil prices — and a set of terms reminding Washington again of Mexico's own self-determination.

President Portillo undoubtedly again will remind U.S. diplomats as he has in the weeks leading up to Carter's Mexico visit that energy, trade, and immigration issues are all "linked."

The U.S. delegation, a subcommittee cluster from State, Energy and the National Security Council, will be pressing to negotiate a "fair" price, one lower than Mexico had asked before.

They will say that energy, trade and immigration issues — the grit of major obstacles between the two countries — are not linked. More important, however, there will be a new immediacy to complete a gas deal, a White House mandated effort to meld the discredited "Good Neighbor" policy with emerging realities of America's new "Good Customer" policy.

With no small measure of inevitability, a Mexican gas deal will be struck. President Lopez Portillo says, "The U.S. is our natural customer." And President Carter agreed during his 7 hours of private talks with the Mexican president this week.

What is critical about the shape of the talks take, is that their outcome could affect Mexico's willingness to produce and sell the United States not just gas, but some of its nearly 50 billion barrels of proven oil reserves.

FOR CARTER personally, successfully completed gas talks will deflect gathering political fire the administration has drawn from across the political spectrum — from Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex., and Rep. Jim Wright, D-Tex., to Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho — for not doing enough to bring Mexico's oil and gas to the United States.

The president's own political advisers are increasingly wary of the consequence of impressions lingering during the Iranian oil squeeze, of Schlesinger and Carter turning back Mexico on gas — and the promise of Mexican oil — on "technicalities."

In a somewhat cheerier tone, administration officials now say that Carter's meeting with Lopez Portillo has cleared the air between the two countries. They also say that resumption of gas talks, which could begin in a month, is another positive sign of improving relations.

Government level talks on gas issues, or on oil, are somewhat rare. Such arrangements are generally left in the hands of the oil companies.

Last time, however, the talks came a cropper.

IN AUGUST 1977 a six-company consortium headed by Tenneco agreed to buy 2 billion cubic feet of gas a day from Petroleos Mexicanos, the Mexican state oil company, at a price indexed to the price of heating oil that then would have made it roughly \$2.60 per thousand cubic feet.

By December 1977, Schlesinger held talks with Pemex, essentially rejecting the terms of the sale, arguing that if the United States agreed it would lead to ratcheting upwards the price the United States pays Canada — about \$2.16 per thousand cubic feet — and that the price Mexico was asking was simply unfair, and too high to pay.

The Mexican pricing formula, which would have affected about 4 percent of America's total gas consumption had the deal been approved, was also well in excess of what Carter and Schlesinger were then prepared to offer domestic producers in the national energy plan.

Beyond that, there were other factors. U.S. intelligence reports indicated that the Mexicans had no true economic choice other than selling to the United States, and that the hundreds of miles of 48-inch pipe that would carry gas from the Reforma fields to McAllen, Texas would pay for itself in less than 4 years.

One of Schlesinger's top aides, Leslie J. Goldman consulted with Sen. Adlai Stevenson, D-Ill., who later introduced a measure in the Senate banning Export Import Bank credits

for the gas line. **THE MEXICANS** were infuriated. President Portillo said, "I was left hanging by my paint brush." Lesser Mexican officials vilified Schlesinger in private.

Since then Schlesinger, under often heavy pressure from Congress, has said that the United States might accept a price tied to residual oil, something in the range of \$2.30 to \$2.60 per thousand cubic feet or above, but less than the heating oil price, now equal to about \$2.95 to \$3.15 per thousand cubic feet.

More recently, U.S. energy officials have opposed the Mexican gas deal because it could jeopardize the com-

pletion of the proposed \$12 billion Alaskan gas pipeline which both Carter and Schlesinger have strongly supported.

Carter's agreement to reopen the gas talks is a positive step, yet one that could quickly dissolve into failure. It also seems the only major proposal in the secret National Security Council Mexico study prepared for his visit that he acted upon.

While U.S. negotiators ponder the concessions they must make to complete the 70 miles of pipeline to hook up Mexican energy to American appetites they may well reflect on Mexican novelist Carlos Fuentes charge, "Mexico is a country, not an oil well."

Removal of nuclear wastes costly project

By THOMAS O'TOOLE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — It will cost more than \$1 billion to remove all the nuclear wastes from the site of a shut-down atomic-fuel reprocessing plant near Buffalo, N.Y., the Energy Department has concluded.

Closed in 1972, after seven years of operation, the reprocessing plant is owned by Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., a subsidiary of Getty Oil Corp. It sits on land leased from the state at West Valley, 30 miles southeast of Buffalo.

In addition to the reprocessing plant, there are three other nuclear repositories on the site, one of them containing high-level radioactive waste.

Congress ordered the Department of Energy a year ago to estimate the costs of cleaning up the West Valley site. The department has now estimated it will cost \$130 million to solidify liquid wastes in two tanks and remove them, \$340 million to exhume one of two burial sites and \$570 million to exhume the second burial ground.

DOE's report is to go to Congress this week. The crucial questions facing Congress are how much of a cleanup it wants to authorize and who should bear the costs of the cleanup. As things now stand, the federal government bears no fiscal responsibility for the West Valley site, which was and still is the only commercial reprocessing plant for nuclear fuel to have operated in the United States.

The idle reprocessing plant, two steel tanks containing 507,000 gallons of high-level radioactive waste and the two burial grounds are owned by Nuclear Fuel Services. Its lease on the land from the state runs out in 1980, at which time responsibility for the wastes falls to the state.

The state, in turn, has been trying to get the federal government to take over the site on the ground that it was the federal government that

shipped fuel there to have the usable plutonium and uranium removed and the wastes stored.

NFS argues that it would not have closed the reprocessing plant had the federal government not imposed a series of new regulations that added what NFS claims to be almost \$600 million to the cost of a planned expansion.

Among other things, federal regulations stipulated that the expanded plant would have to be built to withstand a severe earthquake.

About two-thirds of the fuel reprocessed at West Valley came from the federal government, which contracted with NFS to extract the plutonium and uranium from the spent fuel for government use. The government's position is that it paid for the extraction, and has no responsibility for the wastes left over from the extraction process. NFS thinks differently.

"If legal arguments alone will not serve to transfer West Valley to the federal government, equitable and compassionate considerations should," NFS Vice President H.W. Brook said. "The ebb and flow of federal policy created the West Valley project and, in turn, destroyed it. It is now time for the federal government to face the implications of its actions."

To hear New York's congressional delegation tell it, the federal government bears almost full responsibility for West Valley because it was the federal government that promoted the development of nuclear

power in the United States that led the state and NFS into the West Valley project in the first place.

"The federal government encouraged, regulated and supplied the West Valley project," said Democrat Henry J. Nowak, who represents a Buffalo district. "Let the federal government bear the brunt of the cleanup costs."

Republican Jack F. Kemp, the onetime Buffalo Bills quarterback whose district embraces Buffalo's suburbs, wants the federal government to clean up all of West Valley and pay 100 percent of the cost, no matter what it amounts to. Democrat Stanley Lundine, whose district includes West Valley, takes a view that is not as hard as Kemp's.

Lundine wants the hot-liquid wastes solidified and removed from the site, a project that will cost \$130 million and take 8 to 10 years to complete. He suggests that the federal government pay 90 percent of that cleanup, in part because most of the spent fuel that produced these particular wastes came from the U.S. government.

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Company opens office in Midland

Houston Oil & Minerals Corp. has established an oil and gas division, headquartered in Midland, to actively explore the petroleum basins of the western United States.

The division also has an office in Denver, Colo., and plans to open one in Oklahoma City later this year.

According to Vince Loftis, general manager of the HO&M Western Division in Midland. "Our company has a reputation for being an aggressive explorer for oil and gas. In fact, for the past three years, we've been among the top 10 most active domestic explorers, measured by footage drilled."

"We've even outpaced several of the major oil companies. And we intend to extend that aggressiveness into West Texas, the Rockies, and other major oil and gas regions of the Western U.S."

The new Midland office is at 114 N. Big Spring, Suite 800.

In addition to its active program of domestic oil and gas exploration and production the company is also involved in foreign exploration for oil and gas, domestic and foreign minerals exploration, intrastate gas gathering operations, and product trading.



Mrs. Frank Vitrano, left, and Mrs. Tommy Lent preview fashions that will be modeled at the Permian AIMEES' fashion show and tasting luncheon that will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, 1412 W. Illinois St. Tickets will be sold for \$2 at the door and will include luncheon and continuous modeling by Connie's. The public is invited to attend, as all proceeds will be used to provide scholarships to area students pursuing careers related to the oil industry. (Staff Photo)

IMF, World Bank seats disputed

By R. GREGORY NOKES

WASHINGTON (AP) — A potential financial windfall of at least \$700 million a year, much of it from the United States, could go to Communist China if it claims a seat in the world's two most important economic institutions.

China's seat in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank is occupied by Taiwan, a situation that can't continue much longer, officials agree. However, rather than oust Taiwan in favor of Peking, they are trying to find a way to make room for both.

"We do not want to see Taiwan dumped from these institutions," a Carter administration official said. "We would like Taiwan to have some independent status, but nobody has worked out a legal formula yet."

The Peking government hasn't made any move to join, although it has declared in the past that Taiwan is illegally representing China.

One official — who like other authorities quoted here asked to remain anonymous — said the pressure from Peking for a change could come in October at the annual joint meeting of the IMF and the World Bank in Yugoslavia, the first time they have met in

a Communist country.

"They are sort of suggesting there will be Chinese around," said one official. "If I were looking for a solution to the problem, I'd look in that direction."

The 137-nation IMF and the World Bank distribute billions of dollars each year in aid and loans to underdeveloped member countries. World Bank lending totaled \$8.4 billion last year, including \$2.3 billion in interest-free loans to the very poorest members.

Financial support from the two institutions could be extremely helpful

to Peking in carrying out its ambitious development plans.

One official said China and its one billion people would qualify for aid equal to what India receives, nearly \$1.3 billion last year, including about \$1 billion in interest-free loans.

However, since the bank's resources are limited, it would probably mean a cutback in aid to India in future years, leaving around \$600-700 million for each country, one official calculated.

U.S. taxpayers provide about 20 percent of all financing for the World Bank and the IMF, and 33 percent — about \$800 million last year — of the interest-free aid. The Bank and the IMF make the decisions on how the money should be used.

Among reasons they are reluctant to oust Taiwan is that the Taiwan government still owes a significant amount of money from past loans — \$250 million to the World Bank and \$190 million to the IMF.

One institution official suggested Taiwan may have incurred its debts partly to give it leverage against being ejected.

Another official said one solution might be for Taiwan to give up its China seat and reapply for membership on some other basis. But he admitted the mechanics of that approach aren't worked out since there is no provision for membership by non-nations.

"It will be one hell of a complex legal problem ... All kinds of options are being drafted here and drafted there, but nothing is decided," another said. The official did not want to be identified because the issue is a sensitive one.

The decision may be dictated by the United States, which has been the controlling power in both institutions since it spearheaded their establishment after World War II to help run the post-war global economy.

One official said the subject may come up in talks that Treasury Secretary W. Michael Blumenthal will hold with Peking leaders during a visit to China later this month.

"The triggering point for a decision would be an expression of interest by Peking," he said.

In making their decision, officials will have to consider the following:

- Only a handful of the 137 members of the IMF — fewer than 20 — still recognize Taiwan. All of the major western nations that provide the vast bulk of the financial support recognize Peking.
- The seat occupied by Taiwan is the seat created for China when the organizations were established in the months following World War II.
- As long as the single most important member of the IMF, the United States, recognized Taiwan, it made sense from the U.S. point of view to continue Taiwan's membership. But on Jan. 1, the United States switched to Peking.
- A nation must belong to the IMF to qualify for World Bank membership.
- But joining would also carry a few strings for Peking. One is that Peking, as any other member, would have to open its economic books to scrutiny by the IMF — sort of an international audit — and possibly adopt IMF recommendations for changes in its economic policies.
- There is also the question of whether Peking would assume Taiwan's indebtedness.
- Taiwan has not received any loans from the World Bank since 1971, apparently sensitive to its precarious international position and therefore not wanting to encourage any confrontation over its membership. It has made repayments of past loans on schedule.
- The two organizations' only communist members are Yugoslavia, Romania, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos — and the last three all took over the memberships held by the former non-communist governments, a precedent that could apply to China.

Details of budget, tax proposals being examined by Senate, House

By CARL C. CRAFT

WASHINGTON (AP) — Budget and tax proposals are being examined in detail by Congress as President Carter continues his anti-inflation campaign, seeking legislative support for plans to restrain federal spending and curb hospital costs.

Here is the status of major legislation:

Fiscal 1980 Budget

Pressing anew for legislative help in the fight against inflation, Carter said last week that "Congress must hold the line on federal spending this year."

He added: "We have steadily reduced the federal deficit over the past two years and we will continue to reduce the federal deficit further."

His fiscal 1980 budget plan, calling for the government to run a \$29 billion deficit during the year beginning Oct. 1, is being studied at congressional hearings setting the stage for legislative action.

Last week, when the House Budget

Committee took testimony on it, executives of the Chamber of Commerce recommended reducing the budget about \$10 billion and using part of that amount for a general tax cut.

Carter wants to spend \$331.6 billion and collect \$302.6 billion in revenue in fiscal 1980. This includes \$122.7 billion in defense spending, meaning "real growth" of 3.1 percent after allowing for inflation.

The administration now estimates the fiscal 1979 deficit will be \$37.4 billion compared with \$48.8 billion in fiscal 1978.

Budget Amendment

With more state legislatures seeking a federal balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution, even if it means calling a convention to draft one, Rep. Peter Rodino, D-N.J., chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, says hearings will be held on various proposals.

Idaho's legislature completed action last week on a request that Congress either offer the states a balanced-budget amendment or call a constitutional convention to produce one for presentation to the states.

Idaho joined legislatures of Arkansas, North Carolina, South Dakota and Utah in such amendment-seeking steps this year. If 34 states request it, a convention could be called to consider the issue — the first such session since the Constitution itself was drafted in 1787.

Since 1975, the National Taxpayers Union counts 27 states as having taken similar action on proposals seeking the drafting of a balanced-budget amendment, although that includes Nevada where the legislature's 1977 measure was vetoed by the governor.

Carter says he is working toward balancing the budget but "I think it would be extremely dangerous for a constitutional convention to be assembled for this purpose."

Carter adds it would be difficult to devise an amendment "prohibiting any deficit spending without adding provisos that would let us deal with unanticipated military or security needs and unanticipated needs when we have a depression for keeping our people at work or providing for large numbers of those who might be poor or hungry, or needing services."

Anti-Inflation

Carter's anti-inflation plan for wage insurance awaits action by the House Ways and Means Committee, where Democrats are expected to huddle soon on their next step.

Last week, Carter claimed his anti-inflation program is working, his voluntary wage and price guidelines are "beginning to take hold," and now Congress "must do its part in enacting legislation that we have proposed, real wage insurance."

The Business Council, a group of the nation's business leaders, forecast last week that there probably will be a mild recession this year and inflation

will be 7.5 percent, compared with 7.4 percent anticipated by Carter.

The House panel finished hearings this month on Carter's wage insurance program.

Under the plan, the tax system would be used to make payments of up to \$600 for each worker in a group cooperating with anti-inflation guidelines by taking a pay hike averaging 7 percent or less this year. Covered would be wages up to \$20,000 and inflation between 7 percent and 10 percent.

Hospital Costs

Rep. Charles B. Rangel, D-N.Y., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee's health subcommittee, said last week the panel will give priority treatment to the president's plan for restricting hospital costs.

A Senate-passed bill died in the House last year, when Carter says hospital charges grew about 13 percent. This year, he says the lawmakers should pass such "long overdue legislation."

Rather than seeking to apply controls immediately, it is expected his new plan would give hospitals time to curb rising costs voluntarily. The administration already urged them to abide by a 9.7 percent inflation guideline.

Health Insurance

Although Carter's proposal for national health insurance is still being created, HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. said last week it could be phased in starting in 1983 and take at least five years to be fully effective.

By adopting such a plan with strict control on costs, Califano estimated that the nation could save at least 10 percent on its projected \$730 billion health bill in 1990.

Arms Treaty

Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., saying he wants to "see the fine print," told reporters last week he has no obligation to support Carter in a Senate struggle over whatever new strategic arms limitation pact results from talks with the Soviet Union.

Byrd indicated concern over whether the United States could keep track of Soviet compliance with the pact, saying "I want to see what is on the paper and whether it is verifiable." Carter said last week that the Soviets "have negotiated in good faith" on a pact.

China Policy

Carter suggested last week that he would veto any legislation from Congress if he views it as conflicting with his new diplomatic link to China. He said his plan for a private corporation to handle relations with Taiwan is adequate.

The United States granted full diplomatic recognition to China effective this year, while severing formal ties to Taiwan. The United States and China are to exchange ambassadors and establish embassies March 1.

Hearing on water slated in Lubbock

LUBBOCK — Lubbock will be the site of a hearing conducted jointly by the White House and the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the future of High Plains water supplies.

The hearing was announced Saturday by U.S. Rep. Kent Hance at the 12th annual convention of Water Inc. in Midland.

Hance said the hearing will give local and state officials a chance to "present our side of the water story."

He said the hearing is designed to gather information from High Plains officials to be used by the president in determining future water policy.

Also speaking at the convention was state Commissioner of Agriculture Reagan V. Brown.

At the convention, Amarillo attorney Jerome Johnson was re-elected president of Water Inc.

Hotel fire kills two, injures nine

CHICAGO (AP) — Fire raging through a rundown apartment hotel early today killed at least two persons and injured nine others, including two firemen, authorities said.

Witnesses said the rear half of the four-story building was engulfed in flames. Firefighting efforts were hampered by temperatures only a few degrees above zero.

Building residents who escaped said the hotel contained 20 apartments occupied primarily by welfare recipients, the elderly and infirm.

Bentsen putting intellect on line

By MILLER BONNER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas delegation notes: Sen. Lloyd Bentsen puts his intellect on the line later this week when he joins two other Democratic senators on a quiz show.

The three Democrats will try to beat a panel of three Republican senators and three reporters on the punch in answering questions on an "It's Academic Celebrity Special" to raise money for abused children.

Bentsen's team includes Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York and Alan Cranston of California.

The Republican pride rides on Sens. S.I. Hayakawa of California, H.J. Heinz III of Pennsylvania and Lowell Weicker of Connecticut.

The media will be represented by NBC's Jessica Savitch, columnist Art Buchwald and The Washington Post's David Broder.

The first team answering a question correctly receives points which will be converted to dollars by a food store chain will all money donated to the Child Abuse Fund. The program will be taped Thursday night for airing during the spring.

"The fiscal problems of the federal government, with its \$532 billion projected 1980 budget, have not been caused by the \$2 billion state revenue-sharing program," said Vermont Gov. Richard Snelling.

"Rather, the problems are caused by the inability of congress ... to control hundreds of billions of dollars in narrow, categorical grant programs, each supported by special-interest groups and federal bureaucracies."

Revenue sharing was also mentioned in a letter Rep. Jim Collins sent to President Carter. The Dallas Republican took strong exception with the administration's plan to give New York City between \$20 million to \$35 million in federal aid.

Collins claimed that "New York City gets \$29.22 per resident per year in revenue-sharing dollars, that is the highest in the United States ... 17 times more dollars per capita than Dallas, Houston and San Antonio receive."

The farmers who have flocked to Washington demanding higher loan rates and prices for their crops have been seeing quite a few sites.

In addition to the various marble monuments and museums, a Greek restaurant on Capitol Hill has become a farmer favorite. The food's not that great, but the belly dancer certainly is, explained one American Agriculture Movement member after having one of the dancer's scarfs wrapped around his neck.

Rep. E. "Kika" de la Garza has been named by House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill to chair the United States delegation to the next meeting of the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Conference tentatively set for May in Mexico. The Rio Grande Valley lawmaker served in the same capacity last year during the session held in Washington.

Gov. Bill Clements says he is "keeping my options open" as far as the 1980 Republican presidential preference primary is concerned. During a Washington press conference, however, Clements said he had mailed a letter to supporters urging them to "keep cool, calm and collected and not to get overcommitted to any Republican presidential candidate at this time."

Will he run as a favorite son? "I'm retaining every option," said Texas' first GOP governor in 104 years. "I don't have a deal with anybody."

The "anybody" includes two long-time Clements' friends — George Bush and John Connally — as well as Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

Connally is an announced candidate for 1980 while Bush and Reagan are expected to officially announce later this year.

No roll-call votes have emerged from the new 96th Congress.

Rep. Charles Wilson has introduced legislation requiring a \$2.28 billion slash in federal revenue-sharing funds.

"The people of East Texas are echoing the whole nation when they call for cutting federal spending and easing inflation," said Wilson.

"Not a single state is expected to have a deficit in fiscal 1980," added the Lufkin Democrat. "There is no reason for the federal government, which is deeply in debt, to give money to states which have more money than they can spend."

When Bentsen introduced similar legislation in the Senate two weeks ago, the National Governors' Association took exception.

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Where you borrow, interest figure also important factors

By LOUISE COOK Associated Press Writer

Where you borrow and the way the interest is figured can sometimes be as important as what you borrow when it comes to figuring out how much interest you will pay.

Determining finance charges isn't easy. Even banks can make mistakes. The office of the comptroller of the currency recently announced that hundreds of banks made errors in calculating the annual percentage rate on loans and will have to give refunds to borrowers.

The Truth in Lending Law, enacted in 1969 and now under review, requires lenders to tell you two things: the finance charge and the annual percentage rate.

The finance charge is the total dollar amount you pay to use someone else's money. It includes interest and other fees, such as service charges or insurance premiums. Suppose, for example, you borrow \$100. The interest is \$7 and the basic service fee is \$1. The finance charge is \$8.

The annual percentage rate — sometimes called the APR — is the relative cost of credit on a yearly basis. Take that \$100 with an \$8 finance charge. If you borrow the money today, keep it for an entire year and then repay it, the APR is 8 percent.

Most loans, however, are paid off in installments. Suppose you repay the \$108 in 12 monthly installments of \$9

each. As time goes by, you get to use less and less of the \$100. The average amount of money you owe during the course of the year is less than \$100; the annual percentage rate, therefore, is higher than 8 percent.

If you use open-end or revolving credit like bank charge cards, you should learn whether the creditor calculates interest on the adjusted balance, the previous balance or the average daily balance. The amount of interest you pay can vary, even if the rate is the same.

Here's how it works:

Assume you have an outstanding balance of \$400 on an account with a monthly interest charge of 1½ percent. (That's the maximum allowed by law in most places.) You make a \$300 payment on the 15th day of a 30-day billing period.

If the creditor uses the previous balance method, you will be charged interest on the entire \$400. The one-month interest charge will be \$6.

If the creditor uses the adjusted balance method, you will be charged interest only on what is left after the payment — \$100. The one-month interest charge will be \$1.50.

If the creditor uses the average daily balance method, you will be charged on the average amount outstanding. Since you owed \$400 for 15 days and \$100 for 15 days, your average daily balance was \$250. At 1½ percent, that's a one-month interest charge of \$3.75.

Abductor still in institution for refusing psychiatric tests

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Anthony Kiritis was found innocent by reason of insanity after he held a mortgage executive hostage with a shotgun wired to the man's neck. Kiritis is still in a mental hospital — held in contempt for refusing to be examined by psychiatrists.

"You arrest a man for drunk driving, then you sober him up," said Kiritis, who claims he was insane at the time of the hostage ordeal but says he has since recovered. "Are you going to keep him in jail the rest of his life because he was drunk once?"

On Feb. 8, 1977, Kiritis abducted Richard O. Hall from his downtown office and held him hostage for 63 hours to get back at Hall's mortgage company, which he claimed had swindled him on a land deal. During most of that time, Hall, the shotgun wired to his neck, was held in Kiritis' booby-trapped apartment.

Kiritis surrendered after prosecutors promised him immunity, forgiveness of his mortgage and \$5 million damages. The immunity grant was later nullified and the damages were never paid.

Kiritis was acquitted in October 1977 on charges of kidnapping, armed robbery and armed extortion. Since November 1977 he has been confined to LaRue Carter Hospital here on a contempt of court citation for refusing to submit to additional psychiatric tests.

He has refused to undergo the tests, even though they could possibly lead to his freedom, because he is convinced the results are pre-determined and because he thinks further testing would be unconstitutional as self-incrimination. The state Supreme Court rejected Kiritis' claim that the tests violated his constitutional rights.

Now, he maintains there is a conspiracy to keep him in the hospital?



For better or for worse, the tourist industry has come to the quiet Hawaiian island of Molokai. The Sheraton-Molokai, above, is the first major resort hotel on the island, with small, cabana-like buildings costing \$90 a night. (L.A. Times Photos by Mike Mally)

BUSINESS MIRROR

Rising home costs, mortgage interest rates mind-boggling

By JOHN CUNIFF AP Business Analyst

NEW YORK (AP)— The nation's Realtors estimates the selling price of a typical new home in 1979 will reach \$64,000, a figure once considered so enormous as to produce gasps of awe from the populace.

Millions of television viewers would watch almost breathless as the contestant sought to answer the question that would reward him or her with that sum. Tensely they waited, week after week.

Now, the way housing prices have been rising — at least 10 percent a year — they won't have to wait much longer than that. Sometime next fall or early winter, if predictions hold, that figure will be reached.

Yes, and exceeded, if total costs rather than purchase price are considered. While you may think the \$64,000 house is a phenomenon, what do you make of the \$152,381 house? Extraordinary? No, ordinary.

That larger figure is the actual outlay for a \$64,000 house that is financed with an 80 percent mortgage at 10 percent for 25 years. Like television's \$64,000 question of 25 years ago, it's mind-boggling.

Still, more than a million households a year eagerly buy new houses, and many consider the purchases the buys of their lives. To hear them express their happiness, simply ask. They've released the story.

The primary advantage, they tell you, is that a house is shelter as well as investment. "Try getting that from a stock or bond?" they say pointedly, perhaps correctly assuming you lost your shirt on stocks.

They are likely then to point out that houses appreciate at a rate faster than prices in general, and they are correct. Or, to express more conservatively, they certainly have been correct in the past.

Inflation last year was either 7.4 percent, if you use the consumer price index, or 9 percent if you live by the gross national product deflator. That makes a big difference in the "true" mortgage rate.

The homebuyer is likely to tell you that in hawking his or her future he or

she is not paying 10 percent a year but only 1 percent to 2.6 percent, or the difference between 10 percent and the inflation rate.

Moreover, they point out, all that interest is a deductible for federal income tax purposes. In fact, some observe, after they receive their tax deductions they end up paying almost no interest at all.

But, you argue, the price of almost everything else is going up too. Conceding this, the homeowner then reminds you again that houses have been increasing in market value at an even greater rate.

Assume that housing inflation is just 1 percent greater than general inflation, a smart one might point out. "That 1 percent, extended over 35 years, means that my \$64,000 house will be worth \$90,662."

And they remind you, that's a "real" price. That is, the dollars used to measure the 1979 house are the very same ones used to measure the 2004 market value. The increase is actual. No illusion about it.

Inflation, some homeowners have even heard to say, is a wonderful thing. And in a sense it has been good to many of them. It has helped transfer wealth to them. They have inflated more than non-homeowners.

But maybe, some more cautious neighbors have retorted, the entire housing picture is out of whack. Amazing, they say, how we have adjusted to believing that 10 percent inflation can be "normal."

"What's normal?" is one typical rejoinder, a response that provokes the response "What isn't normal?" And so you say to the buyer of the typical \$64,000 home that \$1,798,556 isn't normal. No way.

He or she looks puzzled, and so you explain that if inflation persisted at 10 percent for 35 years, a longevity you should expect from a \$64,000 home, the property would then be worth \$1,798,556.

Inflation, he responds, doth make millionaires of us all. Yes, you then observe, and paupers too. Considering that beef by then would be selling for \$100 or more a pound. Very abnormal. Mind-boggling.

Carter foreign policies becoming campaign issue

By DONALD M. ROTHBERG Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republican Leader Howard H. Baker Jr. says it's time to make the Democratic administration's foreign policy a legitimate subject for partisan political debate.

Times have changed, said Baker, in urging Republicans to abandon altogether a generation-old belief that "politics stops at the water's edge."

Not that the belief was absolute. Politics moved well beyond the water's edge in debates as long ago as the 1950s over China and Korea. Nevertheless, the Tennessee senator's advice has attracted attention because he is a Republican presidential hopeful.

Even before Baker's call for partisan debate, members of Congress — both Republicans and Democrats — showed little reluctance to criticize President Carter's foreign policy.

Republicans, after all, Baker among them, gave Carter the votes he needed to go ahead with plans to sell jet fighters to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. A majority of Senate Democrats voted against their president's proposal.

Democratic Sen. Frank Church of Idaho, the new chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, is one of the most prominent critics of Carter's Middle East policy.

And Church was joined by Democratic Sens. Richard Stone of Florida and John Glenn of Ohio in questioning the administration's handling of the China-Taiwan issue.

Carter enjoyed a brief respite from congressional criticism of his foreign policy during the euphoria that followed the Camp David summit. He emerged from the Maryland mountains as the man who had brought two old enemies together and persuaded them to work together for peace in the Middle East.

But the promised peace treaty eludes the principals.

Add to that the collapse of a U.S.-supported regime in Iran, continuing weakness of the dollar abroad, and a feeling among some members of the House and Senate that the China-Taiwan issue was mishandled — and, once again, members of Congress view Carter as an outsider with little aptitude for handling the complexities of foreign policy.

Ironically, Carter may be suffering from policies and attitudes fostered by two of Washington's ultimate insiders, Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon.

While Carter may suffer politically from chaos in Iran, that problem has its roots in the policies of his predecessors.

Carter still can claim he has come closer to achieving peace in the Middle East than did any of his predecessors, despite their best efforts.

And the Vietnam War remains fresh in the memory of Congress. It keeps members of both houses determined to question foreign policy as they now believe they should have during the buildup in Southeast Asia.

So there is no shortage of congressional criticism of foreign policy from Democrats as well as Republicans.

What Baker appears to be seeking is the leadership of a united band of Republicans who can establish themselves as a large and responsible faction offering alternatives to administration policies.

If he succeeds, the senator can use his leadership position not only to question Carter policies but to offer alternatives.

For more than a year, it has been clear that Baker sees U.S.-Soviet relations, particularly nuclear arms limitation, as the foreign policy issue most likely to dominate the 1980 campaign.

With that in mind, Baker has waded up to his knees at the water's edge and is calling to his fellow Republicans, "Come on in, the water's fine."

Bill proposes severance levy on uranium output

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Rep. Tom Martin, D-George West, has introduced a bill that would place a severance tax on uranium, a mineral produced in parts of his district.

Martin's bill would impose a sliding tax, with the rate increasing as the value increases.

Uranium contracted at \$40 to \$50 a pound, today's pricing level, would be taxed at \$1.57 a pound, plus 8 percent of its value over \$40.

allocated to the Available School Fund, with the rest going into general revenue for appropriation by the Legislature.

Martin said Texas is the only major uranium-producing state that does not already have a severance tax.

"No uranium is presently being consumed within the state of Texas. Our resources are primarily being depleted for out-of-state use and the people of Texas should receive compensation," Martin said.

Hawaii's island of Molokai torn between tourism, financial woes

By MICHAEL SEILER The Los Angeles Times

KAUNAKAKAI, Hawaii — This is the way all Hawaii used to be — small, sleepy, populated mostly by native Hawaiians. But now, for better or for worse, comes tourism.

Just in the nick of time, say some residents, to pull the island of Molokai out of financial depression caused by the loss of one of its two major pineapple plantations.

But, others argue, Molokai's salvation may turn out to be its eventual undoing. If the growth of the tourist industry isn't tightly controlled, the end result may be a concrete-and-steel jungle of hotels, condominiums, fast-food restaurants and rent-a-car agencies, they say.

And that would ruin Molokai, the opponents of tourism say, just as surely and swiftly as it ruined Oahu's Waikiki and Maui's Kihel.

THE LOW-KEY DEBATE goes on here, causing a certain unhappiness on a tight, little island where, normally, life is uncomplicated and people are happy.

But, then, these have been bothersome times for the people of Molokai.

Though Del Monte remains, Dole has closed its pineapple plantation, throwing several hundred out of work.

An attempt to replace the declining plantation economy with small farmers has made only limited progress because native Hawaiians simply aren't much interested in farming.

AND THOUGH ALL the tourist books call Molokai "the Friendly Island," the opening of the first big tourist hotel on Molokai's western tip and the boost it has given local employment hasn't created all the goodwill that some might have hoped for.

A tourist was raped while backpacking. There were several teen-age boys involved and it was a shocking, unspeakable thing on an island of 5,000 population, where everyone knows one another and where crime rarely reaches beyond the level of a Saturday night drunk or a stolen chicken or pig.

An isolated event, to be sure, but it happened at a time when Molokai was experiencing its first hints of tourist-industry backlash.

There was a peaceful demonstration by several dozen Hawaiians in a parking lot at the new Sheraton-Molokai protesting development. They carried signs saying, "Warning, Locals Only" and "No Tourist Allowed."

THE SIGNS reappeared later, tacked to living room walls, front doors and tree trunks. They were generally out-of-the-way and few tourists saw them but the thought lingered on.

The island's troubled economy, the rape, the anti-tourism movement — there's a pattern here that bothers some people.

Take Aka Hodkins, manager of the Molokai Ranch, which owns close to two-thirds of the island's usable land. "My folks grew up here and I grew up here and I was never taught racism," said Hodkins, who is Caucasian. "I can't believe...any Hawaiian grew up hating another person because he's black, yellow, white or whatever. But any kind of ethnic movement tends to stimulate a racist attitude."

Molokai is experiencing an ethnic movement of sorts in the form of a small group of people called Hui Aloha, whose leader, Walter Ritte Jr., organized the Sheraton protest.

RITTE, A FORMER student of mortuary science and a full-time activist, is not a racist. No one here — not Hodkins, not anyone — calls him that.

The worst thing they're saying about him is he is confused, and charming and bright, they quickly add, as is his wife, a former Miss Hawaii.

As for Ritte himself, he won't own up to being confused — just searching. "I really love this island," he said. "I'm searching for the values of my ancestors. I don't look to Los Angeles for my values or as an example of the kind of place I want my island to become."

"I admit I have a one-track mind. My search for my identity as a Hawaiian and for Hawaiian culture is paramount. The economics of Molokai come second. I know we can live off the land and the ocean like our forefathers. Whether the pineapple industry lives or dies doesn't bother me."

"OUR POLITICIANS have said to us that it's tourist development or unemployment. But they said that about Waikiki and Kihel, too, and you can see how ugly they've become."

The answer, Ritte said, is some sort of control on growth, limiting the number of hotels and condominiums that can be built on Molokai.

Ritte detests the hotel, not a high rise as is often the case with major Hawaiian hotels but a low-slung collection of cabana-like buildings perched on the ocean side, 24 miles across the water from Honolulu's Waikiki.

"They've built a golf course where I used to hunt," Ritte said. "They've destroyed the essence of what brings people to Molokai in the first place and by doing so, have made it harder and harder for people here to practice the aloha spirit."

ALMOST BY DEFINITION, Hodkins, the ranch manager, should be the mirror-opposite of Ritte. It was his company, after all, that sold 6,700 acres of land to a New Orleans-based real estate firm that in turn leased part of it to Sheraton for the hotel.

Like Ritte, Hodkins is a native of Molokai, a man who loves the island and wouldn't want to raise his children anywhere else.

ALSO, LIKE RITTE, he worries about the land, the hunting and fishing. "The quality of life I've been accustomed to has deteriorated some," Hodkins said. "But, I've been fortunate in the past — I've had access to lots of acres. But, until recently, Molokai Ranch was pretty much closed to the general public for hunting, fishing, hiking."

"Since it's been opened up, I've seen the fishing along the coast and the hunting here deteriorate because more people have access."

Hodkins argues that the quality of life for everyone — not just the island's elite — has improved in the past two or three years. There is, he says, better housing, better medical services and a more stable economy as Molokai makes the difficult transition from a plantation system.

"We used to have a paternalistic society here," he said. "The ranch leased land to the pineapple plantations, who, in turn, leased land to the worker tenants. The plantation supplied housing, electricity, water, the paycheck; basically, a man's whole life was wrapped up in the plantation."

"BUT THAT'S CHANGING. Now a man here is beginning to own his own house, work outside the plantation and pay his own bills."

Hodkins and others suspect that this radical change of life-style could not have happened as smoothly if it were not for Molokai's slowly growing tourist industry.

"The Sheraton definitely took up the employment slack," he said. The island has actually prospered instead of dying after Dole moved out. People who moved to Oahu or Maui came back to Molokai.

There's a definite feeling on the island that because Molokai is the last major island of the Hawaiian chain to experience the tourist influx, there's a good chance that growth can be kept under control.

A REPRESENTATIVE spokesman for that point of view is Louis Hao, an official of Maui County, of which Molokai is a part. He mirrors the slow-growth policy of both the county and state administrations. The policy is designed to encourage tourism without killing what is left of Hawaii's natural beauty and also to keep the state's total population under 1 million.

"Molokai is one of the last frontiers of Hawaii," Hao said. "We've seen Waikiki, Lahaina, Kihel and Kona and we're not going to let that sort of strip development happen. We're only going to build hotels and condominiums as they're needed by restricting zoning and building permits."

One key to successful, but limited tourist growth, Hao said, is separating tourism from day-to-day life on the island. The big Sheraton is on the west coast, more than 20 miles away from the residential areas of Kaunakakai and points east.

"We didn't want to build the hotel in somebody's backyard, with chickens and pigs running around," he said with a smile.

the island and just a couple of condominiums.

Hao said there are plans now for one more condominium development of 70 units but no other hotels to immediately compete with the Sheraton.

"We have an obligation to the people of Molokai to protect the island and to foster employment," he said. "But we also have an obligation to the investors (in the Sheraton) to make sure they're successful. They came to our rescue when we needed it (after Dole left). By keeping everybody else out, we make it easier for them to get their investment back."

Despite Hao's protestations, it's sometimes difficult for an outsider to see just how Molokai will withstand the boom economy of tourism and condominiums so evident just across the channel on Maui.

THERE, NEW HOUSES and condominiums continue to pop up. The condominium units on Maui appreciate at a fantastic rate and usually change hands at least once or twice while still under construction.

For instance, one Maui condominium unit originally sold for \$47,000 in 1975. The two-bedroom, two-bath unit recently was resold for \$500,000.

The Sheraton may be just the first of five major resort hotels to go up along Molokai's one fine strip of beach. Plans for the four others are tentative.

"Nobody is going to come in and start developing until this hotel and this tourist destination are established," said Carl Kono, the Sheraton manager.

AND THE SHERATON, he pointed out, isn't established yet. Occupancy rates have been running 60 percent to 70 percent during the week and as high as 90 percent or 95 percent on winter weekends.

The goal, he said, is to get into the 80s and 90s every day.

"We're still getting the question, 'What's a Molokai?'" said Joyce W. Curry, assistant public relations director for Sheraton in the Pacific. "But six or seven years ago everybody was hearing about Maui and Kauai for the first time. That's where Molokai is now."

Which, of course, is precisely what bothers people like Ritte.

"This is a dot in the ocean we're talking about," he said one recent early morning while bathing his child in an outdoor bathtub next to his home.

He already had slopped the hogs he keeps for meat, and soft tropical breezes promised another perfect day on Molokai.

"You can't fill it up without ruining it."

Heart patient 'doing very well'

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Rick Anderson of Smithville, Mo., is "doing very well" after a heart transplant operation two nights ago, a spokesman at Groote Schuur Hospital reported today.

Anderson's wife, Cathy, said her husband had been allowed out of bed and was keen to start his post-operative exercises on a bicycle exerciser.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Walter Ritte, left above with his wife and son, is leader of the anti-tourist campaign on Molokai.



Aka Hodkins, right photo, favors slow, controlled growth as a tourist resort.

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