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Escape from Iran has earmarks of best-seller

WASHINGTON (AP) — The story has all the earmarks of a best-seller — international intrigue, an exotic locale beset by seething unrest, an alliance based on shared convictions, and a happy ending.

And the story is true — a mini-drama of hope after three months of U.S. frustration at the hostage stalemate in Iran.

Late last week, the government of Canada and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency reached a joint decision: It was time for Canada to close its embassy in Tehran.

That meant it was time to put into action a plan to bring out six Americans who had been hiding in Tehran since the U.S. Embassy there was seized on Nov. 4.

The plan worked.

It may have repercussions for the 50 Americans held hostage in Iran, however. Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh said early today the rescue may mean harsher treatment for the hostages, adding that Canada would be responsible for any change for the worse.

The six diplomats are now at an undisclosed spot in West Germany, where American officials say they will remain for rest, medical examinations, and debriefing before they face reporters or return to the United States.

Officials said the families of the escapees will be in touch with them by

telephone, but probably will have to wait for a day or two to see them after they return to the United States.

The six were identified as Mark J. Lijek and his wife, Cora Amburn Lijek; Joseph Stafford and his wife, Kathleen F. Stafford; Henry Lee Schatz; and Robert G. Anders. Anders, Stafford, and Lijek were consular officers. Their wives were employed by the embassy as consular assistants. Schatz was an agricultural attache.

The State Department refused to release their home towns, citing Privacy Act restrictions. Family members said the Staffords are from Chattanooga, Tenn.

Details of the escape are sketchy. But from American and Canadian sources, many of whom asked not to be named, this story can be pieced together:

The six managed to slip out of the embassy as it was stormed and seized by Iranian students nearly three months ago.

They sought refuge at a variety of friendly embassies, but soon all were in the care of the Canadians and staying at various residences in Tehran controlled by the Canadians.

Both governments kept their presence top secret. The Carter administration, hopeful that the crisis would be resolved peacefully, decided the six should remain in hiding.

Canada, meanwhile, began withdrawing diplomats from its staff, saying it was doing so to protest the continued holding of 50 American hostages by Iranian militants.

Last week, the Canadians decided to shut down their embassy and evacuate all embassy personnel. American officials say the CIA then worked out the escape operation in cooperation with Canada, finally timing the departure to coincide with the presidential election last week in Iran.

"We knew that every day the danger was becoming greater," said Canadian External Affairs Minister Flora MacDonald. "Then it was brought to our attention that the country was preoccupied by its own internal election and therefore we were able to move."

The six Americans were given false Canadian passports which, by one account, had been doctored by U.S. intelligence agencies and taken into Iran in Canada's diplomatic pouch.

The six were divided into at least two groups as they left the country and the escape was complete by Monday morning, when the Canadian ambassador left Iran.

Officials thus far have refused to say exactly how the Americans got out.

Escape may mean harsher treatment for U.S. hostages

By The Associated Press

The Canadian rescue of six members of the U.S. Embassy staff from Tehran "most probably" will result in harsher treatment for the approximately 50 Americans still held hostage, Iranian Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh said today.

If it does, he added, Canada will be responsible.

"Any change in the harshness which may be imposed on the hostages, it's only the government of Canada which is going to be responsible for it," Ghotbzadeh told a news conference in Tehran called to deliver the Iranian reaction to the escape of the six Americans.

The U.S. and Canadian governments confirmed on Tuesday that six members of the Embassy staff escaped when militants seized the

embassy on Nov. 4, took refuge with the Canadian embassy and left the country during the weekend using Canadian passports. After they were gone, Canada closed its embassy on Monday and withdrew its last four officials from the country.

"We will not bother to protest what Canada has done," said Ghotbzadeh, "but we indicate that sooner or later, here or anywhere in the world, Canada will pay for this violation of the sovereignty of Iran, the forging of the passports and the actions they have taken."

He called the issuance of false passports to the six Americans a "flagrant violation" of international law. He said this supported the view of the militants holding the hostages in the U.S. Embassy that the only purpose of international law is to help the major powers suppress small coun-

tries.

Ghotbzadeh also claimed that Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark informed him Tuesday night through a government he did not identify that his government helped the Americans escape only to boost its chances in the Canadian national election Feb. 18.

But La Presse, the Montreal newspaper whose Washington correspondent broke the story of the escape on Tuesday, reported today that other Americans escaped from Tehran with help from Canadian diplomats and those of other correspondents.

La Presse's Washington correspondent, Jean Pelletier, wrote that because of the relatively neutral image the Canadian embassy maintained and developed during the crisis over the hostages, it became the "best connection" for all Americans living in Tehran who wanted to leave the country.

The four American men and two women who escaped were reported at a U.S. military base in West Germany.

The State Department identified them as Mark Lijek, a consular officer; his wife Cora, a consular assistant; Roger G. Anders, a consular officer; Henry L. Schatz, an agricultural attache; Joseph Stafford, a consular officer, and his wife Kathleen, a consular assistant.

Little hope exists for more survivors

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — With little hope of finding any more survivors, military divers dropped into the murky water of Tampa Bay this morning to look for 17 Coast Guardsmen missing after a collision between a cutter and an oil tanker.

Officials said the final death toll likely would reach 23 to make it the worst peacetime Coast Guard accident in more than 35 years.

Twenty-seven of the 50 crew members were plucked from the water by rescuers after the late Monday accident. Six bodies were found.

"I would seriously doubt that anyone's alive," said Jim Logan, one of the civilian divers who futilely tapped on the cutter's torn hull Tuesday, searching for air pockets that might hold survivors. Five bodies were recovered from the hull. Another had been pulled from the choppy bay waters shortly after the collision.

Military divers — Navy and Coast Guard — took over the underwater operations shortly after full daylight this morning. Divers from area fire departments and law-enforcement agencies had made Tuesday's dives.

"The last area we searched was the stern," he said. "We thought there would be an air pocket. There wasn't."

Four bodies were recovered Tuesday from the submerged hull; another from the choppy bay waters. A sixth was found Monday night after the vessel sank within minutes of the collision. Rescuers plucked 27 of the cutter's 50 crew members from the bay.

Robert Payne, another diver, said the faces of the dead men bore "startled" expressions.

"They didn't have a chance," he said. "They went down so fast."

Authorities said they could not explain how the tragedy could have been produced by seemingly favorable circumstances: a calm, moonlit night, an experienced harbor pilot to guide the tanker and a Coast Guard crew well rested after a long stay in port.

Canadians get thank you calls

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soon after the news broke that six American diplomatic employees had escaped from Iran with the aid of Canada, the switchboard of the Canadian embassy here began lighting up with thank-you calls.

Embassy officials said the scores of Americans who telephoned their gratitude were mainly from the Washington area, but a few calls came from as far away as Wisconsin and South Carolina.

A few calls came from teachers who wanted to send letters of thanks from their pupils to Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark.

The situation was similar at the Canadian consulate in New York. "They said things like 'three cheers for Canada' and 'we wanted to let you know we were very happy and very pleased,'" Vice Consul Paul Frazer said.

On the official level, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said the U.S. government expressed "deep appreciation" to Canada for spiriting the Americans out of Tehran.



Singer Natalie Cole sings in front of a large photo of a starving Cambodian refugee during a benefit performance Tuesday night. Administration officials have charged that the Cambodian government has been holding up food meant for the refugees. (AP Laserphoto)

Administration officials have charged that the Cambodian government has been holding up food meant for the refugees. (AP Laserphoto)

Relief effort ineffective

Food being held up, officials say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Officials coordinating the relief effort to aid starving Cambodians say the indifference, incompetence and military priorities of the Phnom Penh government are holding up the delivery of thousands of tons of food.

Ambassador Victor Palmieri, the U.S. refugee coordinator, was one of several speakers at a White House meeting Tuesday who expressed concern that the national fund-raising campaign for Cambodian relief would be hampered by public belief that food is not getting through to those who need it.

He cited some indications that supplies are beginning to flow into the countryside, but conceded: "My personal conviction is there are ample helpings of... indifference, if not intent, gross incompetence and the highest priority being given to movement of military equipment."

All those factors, he said, are combining to hold up relief shipments in the Cambodian port of Kampong Som.

Other observers with access to the latest information reaching the United States about the relief effort said there are indications about 6,000 tons of food have been moved out of the warehouses this month.

That would be only about one fifth of the amount officials estimate is needed each month to feed the Cambodia's hungry, and the backup already has forced UNICEF, the United Nations children's fund, and the International Red Cross to reduce their

food shipments into the country.

One source, who asked not to be identified, said none of the aid figures reaching the United States are considered reliable and there is simply no way of knowing whether the food leaving the warehouses is going to those who need it.

But the source expressed little confidence in refugee reports that food is being diverted to Vietnam or to the Vietnamese army that is shoring up the present Cambodian government in Phnom Penh. "We just don't have any corroboration for that," the source said.

First lady Rosalynn Carter told the conference of more than 100 business and labor leaders, clergy, entertainers and educators that more than three million Cambodians have died since 1975 "and two to three million more face starvation in the days and months ahead. The need is persistent and will continue."

Responding to what she called "disquieting reports of fighting in the border camps, profiteering and diversion of food and warehouses in Phnom Penh filled to capacity," Mrs. Carter insisted, "Some aid is getting through" and relief efforts must continue.

The Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame University and one of the organizers of the White House meeting to launch the National Cambodian Crisis Committee, warned people not to seek excuses to stand by and permit another holocaust similar to the Nazi extermination of Jews in World War II.

"There was a war going on then," Hesburgh said, and it was easy to ignore what was happening. "But there are always other things on the agenda. A holocaust was happening again last October (in Cambodia), and we face a holocaust again."

More bad weather expected in Basin

Thursday could be a repeat of Tuesday, the weatherman said, when freezing temperatures and a light drizzle combined to turn Midland's morning traffic into a slow-motion Ice Capades.

While temperatures began to warm up late Tuesday night and this morning, a cold front is expected in late tonight bringing with it a 40 percent chance of light rain, according to the National Weather Service office at Midland Regional Airport.

Winds are expected to shift to the north with the arrival of the front late tonight, bringing a low tonight near 30 and Thursday's high only in the low 40s.

The weather service recorded only .01 inch of moisture Tuesday, but, combined with below-freezing temperatures, that was enough to contribute to 57 minor automobile accidents reported to Midland police, three with minor injuries, as cars skittered sideways with each push of the accelerator and pivoted at the tap of a brake.

Department of Public Safety officials reported "a bunch" of minor accidents on area highways Tuesday, and Midland Memorial Hospital treated 21 fall victims.

As many as 17 scheduled flights from Midland Regional Airport were cancelled or delayed because of the weather conditions. Regular flights began again about 4 p.m. Tuesday, an airport spokesman said.

Area cities also reported a rash of accidents on the ice Tuesday. Temperatures began inching upward after hitting the day's low of 27 degrees at 6 p.m. Tuesday's high temperature of 31 was recorded at 11 p.m.

Record temperatures, for comparison, are 78 degrees set in 1967 and 8 degrees set in 1951.

The drizzle brought the monthly and annual rainfall totals for the area up to .42 inch.

Congress may foster separate sports event

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress, firmly on record against U.S. participation in the Moscow Olympics while Soviet troops occupy Afghanistan, is ready to explore other forms of competition for American athletes.

Should the International Olympic Committee fail to relocate, postpone or cancel the Summer Games while the Soviets remain in Afghanistan, the United States may help form a separate international event or competition somewhere in the United States.

A House interstate and foreign commerce subcommittee arranged

hearings on the issue today, with Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher, U.S. Olympic officials and New Jersey Gov. Brendan Byrne scheduled to testify.

"We'll explore a possible alternative site" since it would almost certainly require federal money, committee counsel Gregory Lawler said.

"You can't just put together alternative games on short notice," Lawler said. "And even if the IOC (International Olympic Committee) does move the games, an awful lot of action and money will be needed on a pretty quick basis."

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Outside

Cloudy tonight and Thursday. Colder Thursday with a chance of rain. Details on Page 2A.

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Kennedy says he'll stay in race despite 'losses'

By DAVID ESPO
WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, conceding he faces a "tough campaign" on his home turf in New England, insists he will stay in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination even if President Carter wins pivotal contests in Maine and New Hampshire.

Taking a sharpened, more economy-minded campaign on the road, Kennedy was set to fly today to Philadelphia and then Boston on the start of a two-week trip concentrated on New England voters.

In contrast to earlier trips on an expensive chartered jet, Kennedy, his bodyguards and aides were booked on commercial flights to save money and fewer aides will be making the

trip. A spokesman reported last week that of the \$4 million collected since Kennedy declared his candidacy last November, all but \$200,000 has been spent. Workers around the country were taken off the payroll and began working as volunteers to save money.

Kennedy's press secretary, Tom Southwick, said Tuesday the senator's campaign has collected an additional \$220,000 since early last week. Of that, \$86,000 came in response to a fund-raising appeal that followed Kennedy's 2-1 defeat in the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 21.

After that defeat, Kennedy and his top advisers reassessed his challenge to Carter for the Democratic nomination. The result was a major speech

Monday in which Kennedy sharply attacked Carter's handling of foreign and domestic policy.

Trying to revive his campaign, Kennedy called for mandatory economic controls as well as immediate gas rationing, and criticized Carter's handling of the crises in Iran and Afghanistan.

After his loss in Iowa, Kennedy said he must defeat Carter in Maine's Feb. 10 caucuses and New Hampshire's Feb. 26 presidential primary election to stay in the race.

But he told reporters Tuesday he had no intention of dropping out even if he loses to Carter in his native New England.

"I would certainly like to win the states of Maine and New Hampshire, but we're in this race and we'll con-

tinue," Kennedy said. Asked if he thinks he trails the president in those states, Kennedy replied, "It's a battle.... Polls have indicated we're facing a tough campaign."

Victories in Maine and New Hampshire and in Massachusetts' March 4 primary would give Kennedy momentum to withstand an expected string of Carter victories in the South the following week.

Kennedy made his comments at a brief news conference after receiving the endorsement of Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union and American Hebrew Congregations. The senator also received the endorsement Tuesday of the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, president emeritus of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

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DEATHS

Mrs. E.E. Baker

BIG SPRING — Services for Mrs. E.E. (Lora) Baker, 85, of Littlefield and formerly of Coahoma will be at 2 p.m. Thursday in Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with Glenn Sargent, Coahoma Church of Christ minister, officiating. Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park in Big Spring. Mrs. Baker died Monday in a Littlefield hospital after a long illness. She was born Aug. 27, 1884, in Leon County. She was married to Earnest Edward Baker July 17, 1910, in Coleman County. She and her husband came to Howard County in 1932 and lived in the Vincent Community. Her husband died Sept. 22, 1971. She was a member of the Church of Christ and had lived in Littlefield for the last two years. Survivors include three sons, Boyd Baker and Rube Baker, both of Coahoma, and Alvin Baker of Big Spring; two daughters, Vernie Watts of Littlefield and Erma Rich of Coahoma; four brothers, Bonnie Rose, Hardy Rose and J.B. Rose, all of Lawn, and Verner Rose of Cross Plains; four

sisters, Ruby Winn, Fern McKinney and Faye Russell, all of Abilene, and Laddie Bleuw of Odessa; 22 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Emma Lee Riley

BRADY — Graveside services for Emma Lee Riley, 63, sister of Virginia Black of Iraan, were to be at 10 a.m. today in Resthaven Cemetery here directed by Wilkerson Funeral Home. Mrs. Riley died Monday in an Odessa hospital. She was born Dec. 24, 1916, in Oklahoma. Mrs. Riley had lived in Brady for 15 years and in Odessa for the past two years. She was married to John Riley in 1943 in Arkansas. He died in 1978. Other survivors include a son, a brother, two sisters and two granddaughters.

Mrs. Lonie Davis

LUBBOCK — Services for Mrs. Lonie Davis, 75, of Pecos, sister of

Harvey Craig of Lamesa, were to be at 2 p.m. today in Resthaven Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Bob Utley, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, officiating. Burial was to be in Resthaven Memorial Garden. Mrs. Davis died Saturday in a Pecos hospital after an illness. A native of Decatur, she was a housewife. Other survivors include four sons, four daughters, six brothers, eight sisters, her stepmother, 20 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Mattie Lee Brock

BIG SPRING — Services for Mattie Lee Brock, 91, of Big Spring are pending at Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home here. She died Tuesday in a Big Spring hospital. Mrs. Brock was born May 4, 1888. She was married to Sam Brock. He died in 1955. She was a longtime resident of Big Spring and was a 45-year member of the Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include three sons, Carl Brock, Nathan Brock and Floyd Brock, all of Big Spring; two daughters, Ira Brock and Neva Hunt, both of Big Spring; a brother, Henry Hare of Stephenville; a granddaughter and two great-granddaughters.

James Stidham

MONAHANS — Services for James L. Stidham, 53, of Monahans, father of Mary Burrows of Hobbs, N.M., were to be at 10 a.m. today in St. John's Catholic Church here. Burial was to be in Monahans Cemetery directed by Wilson-Miller Funeral Home. Stidham died Sunday in an Odessa hospital after a lengthy illness. He was born Sept. 4, 1926, in Troop. He had lived 20 years in Monahans. Stidham was a salesman for Champion Chemical Co. He was married Dec. 24, 1948, in Kermit. Other survivors include his wife, a daughter, six brothers, two sisters and six grandchildren.

Stars mourn Durante; Ex-partner saddest of all

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The stars of the entertainment world mourned Jimmy Durante, but the death of the raspy-voiced comic who joked his way into the hearts of generations of Americans was hardest on Eddie Jackson, his vaudeville, then Broadway partner for more than 50 years. "He's really broken up," Jackson's wife, Jeannie, said Tuesday. "They were together for 57 years beginning in 1917 ... Even brothers aren't usually together that long."

The 84-year-old Jackson, who is confined to a wheelchair after three strokes crippled his legs and left hand and partially paralyzed his throat, spoke haltingly by telephone from his Van Nuys home. He was full of praise for Durante, and added, "They were good years and bad" because the road to fame was sometimes rocky.

The 86-year-old Durante, who parlayed an artful mix of clowning, fractured English and heart-warming pathos into stardom, died early Tuesday of pneumonitis. His wife, Marjorie, and two close friends were at his bedside when he died, a family spokesman said.

A rosary and Mass were scheduled for Thursday at Good Shepherd Church in Beverly Hills, with a semi-private burial Friday at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Tributes to Durante, whose 64-year career reached from small clubs in New York's Harlem to Broadway, radio, television and the glittering nightclubs of Las Vegas, poured in from some of the brightest stars in the industry. George Burns, 84, a longtime friend, asked, "What can I say that the world doesn't already know? He was a fine man and a wonderful artist."

Bob Hope, 76, who appeared for a season with Durante on Broadway and did numerous radio and television shows with him, added: "Will Rogers said he never met a man he didn't like. Well, I never met a man or woman who didn't like Jimmy Durante. Jimmy was a great clown and could live up a party better than anyone else. He was beautiful man, and I'm sorry we don't have plans for another like him."

Comedian Milton Berle, who had been a friend of Durante's since the 1920s, said: "I lost a dear friend, and I think the theatrical world has lost a legend."

Comedian Rich Little, who made a career of mimicking famous persons, added: "I realized early on that Jimmy Durante's voice was easy to imitate. What he accomplished as a human being, very few could duplicate."

"He was a beautiful human being. Even that wonderful nose of his was a thing of beauty," comedian Lucille Ball said of the man who was known to friends and fans alike as the "Schnozzola."

Singer Frank Sinatra, referring to Durante's trademark honky-tonk song, observed: "The world lost a great friend when Jimmy Durante breathed his final 'Inka Dinka Doo.'"

Singer Tony Martin, 67, recalled Durante as "a saintly man," while Cyd Charisse, who worked with him early in her career, said he was "probably one of the nicest men in whole world. He was generous and wonderful with everybody."

Man, wife, two children die as home goes up in flames

CANEY CITY, Texas (AP) — A 36-year-old Malakoff man, who firefighters theorize either jumped or was blown through a second-story window of his burning home, pleaded in his dying words for someone to save his wife and children. Richard E. Hightower, a home builder who had been pulled away from the house by firemen, then lapsed into unconsciousness. He died later. The bodies of his wife, Betty, also 36, and one son, Ryan, 5, were found at the bottom of the stairs inside. The body of another son, Ricky, 6, was found in the rubble of his second-story bedroom after it collapsed to the ground floor during the raging blaze early Monday on Cedar Creek Lake. Officials said the family apparently suffered smoke inhalation and did not wake in time to escape the inferno. Officials had not determined today what caused the fire. They sifted through the debris Tuesday for clues. A Henderson County deputy sheriff who lives nearby said Hightower got out only a few words. "Betty and the children ... I can't breathe ..." Deputy Choice Lovelady quoted Hightower as saying before he lost consciousness.

Firemen from six area cities battled the blaze, dining room area.



Jimmy Durante does a stint at work, during the annual Radio Director's Guild Ball at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 1947. Durante died early Tuesday at the age of 86. (AP Laserphoto)

Alda, Streep receive honors as Man, Woman of Year

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — The stars of the movie "The Seduction of Joe Tynan" are together again, this time as the Hasty Pudding Theatricals' 1980 woman and man of the year. The Harvard University club, which describes itself as America's oldest and funniest dramatic organization, will honor Meryl Streep with its

woman-of-the-year award on Feb. 13 and present her with a Pudding Pot at the Hasty Pudding Clubhouse. A week later, Alan Alda will receive his Pudding Pot when he is honored as man of the year at the opening of the club's 132nd production, "A Little Knife Music."

The annual awards are given to "that performer who has made the most outstanding contribution to the performing arts in recent years."

Past recipients include Bette Midler, Gertrude Lawrence, Katharine Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor, Bob Hope, Paul Newman and Johnny Carson.

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Gas may be moved to Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Defense Secretary Harold Brown now is expected to announce in March whether to go ahead with transferring Weteve nerve gas bombs from Colorado to Utah, a spokesman for Utah's governor says. If Brown follows the likely military recommendation, that decision would be to move the bombs, probably this summer, said Maggie Wilde, news secretary to Gov. Scott M. Matheson, who is attempting to prevent the move. The nearly 900 bombs stored at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal near Denver once were slated for destruction there, but it was decided they were necessary for national security. It was decided in 1976 to move them to the Tooele Army Depot in Utah's western desert because the Rocky Mountain Arsenal was too close to the Denver airport. The governors of the two states, and some members of Colorado's congressional delegation have opposed the move, contending it endangers the safety of residents of the two states.

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Cherokees to ask toll

MUSKOGEE, Okla. (AP) — Companies using the Arkansas River between Muskogee and Fort Smith, Ark., will have to pay tolls, the Cherokee Indian Nation has announced.

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Senate authorizes Appalachia project

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a brief discussion, the Senate added \$200 million for a flood control project in Appalachia to a bill authorizing archaeological digs at a California dam site.

The bill, which had already passed the House, authorizes the expenditure of \$2 million to find and recover archaeological artifacts from the area to be inundated by New Melones Dam on the Stanislaus River in California. It was approved by voice vote on Tuesday.

The amendment would authorize construction of levees and straightening of a channel on the Cumberland River and the Levisan Fork and Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River in West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky.

Sen. Jennings Randolph, D-W. Va., who offered the amendment, said the project was needed to avoid repetition of disastrous flooding which occurred in the area in April 1977.

TAX TIPS

Losses by disasters, thefts deductible items

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the 13th in a series of tax tip articles provided by the Permian Basin Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Every day it seems some kind of disaster takes its toll somewhere in fires, storms, shipwrecks and accidents.

The toll can be costly. Some things can never be replaced or restored, and no dollar value can be placed on them. But in many cases where a loss is sustained, a definite value can be determined. When this is so, the loss is usually allowable. This is true not only in the case of natural disasters, but also in the case of thefts.

Losses on business property, regardless of the cause, are generally deductible, but this is not true of non-business or personal property. For a non-business casualty, certain clearly-defined conditions must exist. A casualty is the complete or partial destruction or loss of property, which was the result of an identifiable event that was sudden, unexpected or unusual in nature.

Damage in itself is not the criterion. Slow, steady, progressive destruction is not a casualty for tax purposes.

Some areas of the U.S. are very often hard-hit by natural disasters. The president may determine that these areas, when a natural disaster occurs, are eligible for federal disaster assistance. When this happens, taxpayers in the areas so specified have a special tax option. They may deduct the loss in the year in which it occurred, or they may elect to deduct their losses in the preceding year as if they had occurred in that year.

For disasters other than those in a presidentially-specified area, the loss must be deducted in the year in which it occurred. For example, if a family had a fire in its home in July 1979, it would be deducted on the 1979 tax return. But if a hurricane hit in August 1979, causing the area to be declared a disaster area by the president, taxpayers could deduct their losses on their 1979 return, or elect to amend their 1978 return and deduct it as if it occurred in 1978.

Deductions for losses are allowed for theft, also. The definition of theft is the unlawful taking and removing of your money or property with the intent to deprive you of it. Proof of the theft is essential. A police report, for example, would be acceptable. The mere disappearance of property would not qualify, nor would mislaid money or property.

Bear in mind, there's a \$100 deductible on each casualty or theft of non-business property. So if the actual loss is \$100 or less, there is no deduction. Also, non-business property losses may only be claimed by those who itemize deductions, that is, use a Schedule A with the "long form," Form 1040.

These and other questions concerning your 1979 tax return will be answered in the Taxpayer Education Course Feb. 5 and 7 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Allison Fine Arts Building at Midland College and at Wilkerson Hall, Room 108, Odessa College.

To register for the program, send your name, address and location preference to Taxpayer Education, Box 870, Midland 79702. Registration fee is \$1 per person or \$1.50 per couple. Mailing deadline is Friday, Feb. 1. You may also pick up registration forms at the Administration Building, Room 156, Midland College.

needed is an ongoing program the year around that will keep Black life, Black culture, Black inventions, Black discoveries and Black contributions before the American nation each of the 365 days a year. What do you think bellringers?

This year's theme: 1980 Heritage for America (Our Roots)

REMEMBER Jonestown? On February 11, 1979 in many of our columns over the nation and other parts of South America we wrote: "Jonestown has not only a message for this nation, it also has a message for black churches. The working stiff, the poor, the disillusioned and even the loyal members of the churches are not getting the love and attention they should be getting. People are not finding in the local churches the concern that they are looking for. So they are turning away from the churches to the cults who promise them heaven on earth... Jim Jones is a condemnation of a large number of black preachers who care only about what their flock can bring to them in anniversaries etc., and not about the best interests of their congregations."

THE LEGENDARY W. C. Handy might be moved to pen another verse for his Memphis

College board asks increases in tuition

Austin Bureau

AUSTIN — The Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, has voted to recommend that the Legislature increase tuition for resident, non-resident and foreign students at state junior and senior colleges.

The board voted to recommend the increase in tuition, saying that part of the revenues should be dedicated to merit salary increases for faculty members who have displayed teaching excellence.

The board is recommending that none of the increase be dedicated to construction.

The board did not recommend a specific amount of increase, but directed its staff to provide the Legislative Budget Board with statistics on the revenue which would be gained through increases of 50, 100 or 150 percent.

No change in minimum tuition fees per semester was recommended. Minimum fees for Texas residents are \$25 at junior colleges and \$50 at senior colleges and universities.

Minimum fees for non-residents and foreign students are \$200.

Current tuition rates are \$4 per semester hour for resident students and \$40 per semester hour for non-residents and foreign students.

According to staff statistics, Texas rates 46th in tuition charged to in-state residents and 25th in tuition for out-of-state residents.

Board Vice Chairman Tom B. Rhodes said Texas still will have lower tuition fees than most states even if a 100 percent increase is approved by the Legislature. The Board recommends that the increase be effective with the 1981-82 school year.

Board Member Marshall Formby, Plainview, cast the only vote against the recommendation

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AND

"THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU"

RINGING THE BELL

February is National Black History Appreciation Month

From its founding in 1916 by the "Father of Black History," Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History has been a bulwark organization with the strongest bent toward historical relevance and historical scholarly excellence. If there has been an overriding concern within the organization for the past 64 years, it has been participation in, involvement with and acceptance by historians of America and some other sections of the world, according to Dr. Rupert Picott.

The question now posed is how can ASALH become the historical representative of the Elks, the Masons, the Links, the Alphas and the Zetas, the elderly and the welfare? Who writes the history of the black American? Who puts down on paper for posterity the contributions to the initiation and development of the United States? States Secretary Picott: "The clarion call is for the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History to get on with being the historical organization for the black people of America as well as maintaining the old on and for the historian."

IN SPITE OF the fact that one month will be used in Black History Appreciation Month this year, what is really

THE LEGENDARY W. C. Handy might be moved to pen another verse for his Memphis

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SHEINWOLD ON BRIDGE

Postponing the Ruff

By Alfred Sheinwold

When your partner leads a singleton you give him a ruff as soon as you can, right? Wrong. Marty Bergen, of White Plains, N.Y., demonstrated the expert's answer during the North American Championships in Cincinnati last November.

Bergen took the first trick with the ace of clubs and had no doubt about the nature of the lead since the king was the only club not in sight. If East returned a club West could ruff, but he would then be unable to contribute further to the defense.

Instead, Bergen returned his singleton diamond at the second trick. Declarer won in dummy with the ten of diamonds and led a trump. (Not the best expert play.)

CROSSRUFF

East thereupon stepped up with the ace of spades to return a club. West ruffed and returned a diamond, and East's ruff defeated the contract.

South should make his game of course. Before leading trumps he should run three hearts to discard the king of clubs. When East later leads a club, South can ruff high and draw trumps safely.

DAILY QUESTION

As dealer you hold: ♠ 8 7 2
 ♥ A Q J 5 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ J 7 2

What do you say?

South dealer
 North-South vulnerable

NORTH
 ♠ 8 7 2
 ♥ A Q J 5
 ♦ A 10 7
 ♣ J 7 2

WEST
 ♠ 10 4 3
 ♥ 9 7 6 3
 ♦ 8 6 4 3 2
 ♣ 6

EAST
 ♠ A 6
 ♥ 10 8 2
 ♦ 9
 ♣ A Q 10 9 8 5 3

SOUTH
 ♠ K Q J 9 5
 ♥ K 4
 ♦ K Q J 5
 ♣ K 4

South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ 3 ♠
 3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣

Opening lead — ♣ 6

ANSWER: Pass. You have 12 high-card points and good high-card structure, but the hand is a shade too weak for an opening bid. Some experts, with perhaps more courage than judgment, would bid one heart.

A POCKET GUIDE TO BRIDGE written by Alfred Sheinwold is available. Get your copy by sending \$1.25, including a stamped, self-addressed No. 10 envelope, to Sheinwold on Bridge, in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 1000, Los Angeles, Calif. 90053.

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Carter energy plan geared to curb U.S oil appetite

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Carter's 1981 energy budget lays out an ambitious strategy to curb America's appetite for imported oil. Coupled with sharp increases for defense, the energy plan signals a two-pronged approach to securing U.S. fuel supplies.

Overall, the Carter energy plan provides no quick solution to one of the nation's thorniest problems: assuring the availability of fuel. But it includes a shift in priorities that Energy Secretary Charles Duncan called the start of a "20-year transition to energy diversification."

The shift will mean: —More money for conservation, for solar energy, for synthetic fuels and fusion.

—A reduced emphasis on non-fusion nuclear research. Carter's latest strategy takes into consideration the crises in the Persian Gulf, where turmoil in Iran and Soviet ambitions expose the U.S. vulnerability to uncertain supplies of foreign oil.

Carter is seeking \$8.1 billion for energy programs in 1981, eight times the billion-dollar spending set in 1971, prior to the Arab oil embargo that brought an end to cheap and plentiful oil supplies.

In drawing his \$616 billion 1981 federal budget, the president marked defense and energy for the two biggest increases in spending, highlighting his efforts to assure U.S. fuel supplies.

The energy plan may mollify critics who have charged Carter with ignoring conservation as a way to cut fuel consumption.

Carter proposed slowing development of advanced nuclear reactors, omitting the Clinch River, Tenn., breeder reactor and proposing an end to work on gas-cooled reactors.

Overall, the nuclear budget would be cut by 17 percent to \$1.05 billion and much of the emphasis is on plant safety, a reaction to the accident last year at Three Mile Island, Pa.

Carter did not ignore nuclear research altogether. He seeks a 23 percent increase in spending on the futuristic fusion reactor that would burn hydrogen from water to create electricity.

But fusion energy is decades away and Carter said in his budget

ENERGY OIL & GAS

message, "Conservation is the quickest and cheapest step we can take to confront our energy problem."

He backs up his rhetoric with a 42 percent increase in spending for conservation, requesting a total of \$855 million in 1981.

Included is \$50 million for an advertising campaign, copied from Canada, to sell Americans on the need to conserve.

Indications are that higher prices already have established conservation in many households. Nearly 6 million taxpayers claimed \$600 million in tax breaks last year for installing a range of conservation devices, everything from storm windows to solar water heaters. Carter's budget anticipates those tax credits will cost the Treasury \$739 million in 1981.

Last year, Carter said that solar and other renewable energy sources ought to provide 20 percent of U.S. energy needs by the year 2000. In the 1981 budget, Carter proposes a 6 percent increase in solar spending,

to \$656 million. "The administration is finally recognizing that solar energy is a technology for today and not tomorrow," said Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., an advocate of solar energy.

But other solar advocates were unimpressed. "We've got a solar budget with an increase less than the rate of inflation," noted Bill Bergman, a spokesman for the Solar Energy Industries Association. Nuclear industry supporters said Carter took a very unrealistic view of the nation's needs in cutting atomic research.

"Solar production of electricity is a long way off," said John Conway of the American Nuclear Energy Council. "Right now the only two practical means we have for meeting the energy needs of the nation are coal and nuclear."

Conway had no argument with the 55 percent increase Carter proposed to upgrade the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's plant safety efforts, but he said his group would lobby Congress to replace money for the breeder reactor. Carter opposes the reactor because plutonium produced in such plants could find its way into nuclear bombs.

While cutting research for so-called "second-generation" nuclear power plants, Carter upped research by 23 percent into nuclear fusion, the dream of turning water into power through a reaction similar to what occurs in a hydrogen bomb.

Carter seeks \$1.67 billion — a 12 percent increase — for fossil fuel programs, including research into synthetic conversion of coal.

Some of the spending drew Republican objections in Congress. Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio, ranking Republican on the House Energy and Power subcommittee, said the budget spelled government intrusion into energy decisions that should be left to private enterprise.

Small Texaco pumper opens Strawn pay in Andrews field

Texaco Inc. of Midland announced recompletion of the No. 1-AB State of Texas as a Strawn oil discovery in the Block 5 field of Andrews County.

A re-entry of a former Devonian well, it is 3/8 mile southwest of depleted Ellenburger production and two and five-eighths mile southwest of dual Devonian and Mississippian production in the Magutay field.

Operator reported a 24-hour pumping potential of 11 barrels of 41-gravity oil and three barrels of water, through perforations from 11,044 to 11,218 feet, which was acidized with 5,500 gallons.

Drilled to 12,667 feet, 5.5-inch casing is set at 12,664 feet. Plugged back depth is 11,232 feet.

Location is 660 from north and west lines of section 22, block 5, University Land survey, 15 miles northeast of Andrews.

WINKLER PRODUCER

Getty Oil Co. of Midland finished No.

1 C.O. Wheeler, 3/8 mile south of production in the Wheeler (Devonian) field of Winkler County, 16 miles east of Kermit.

Operator reported a 24-hour pumping gauge of five barrels of 34.4-gravity oil and 26 barrels of water, through perforations from 8,380 to 8,510 feet, which were treated with 9,000 gallons of acid.

Total depth was reached at 10,680 feet, where 5.5-inch casing is set. Plugged back depth is 8,585 feet.

Location is 660 from south and east lines of section 12, block B-7, PSL survey.

WARD TEST STAKED

Gulf Oil Corp. staked location for a 13,500-foot Wolfcamp test 7/8 mile southwest of production in the War-Wink, South field of Ward County, 10 miles northwest of Pyote.

It is No. 2-18-29 University 933 feet from north and 1,707 feet from west

lines of section 29, block 18, University Land survey.

Exxon Corp., operating from Midland, will re-enter No. 1 Robert M. Turpin Estate and plug back to 12,000 feet for completion attempt as the second producer in the Howe (Pennsylvanian) field of Ward County.

It is 5/8 mile southeast of the pool discovery and 15 miles southwest of Monahans.

Originally completed in the Howe (Devonian gas) field, it was drilled to 20,398 feet.

Wellsite is 6,050 from northeast and 1,320 from southeast lines of section 1, Joseph Howe survey.

ANDREWS TEST STAKED

Hanley Petroleum Co. of Midland will drill No. 1-5-12B University as a 1/4-mile northwest extension to the discovery well in the Block 6, North (Devonian) field of Andrews County, 18 miles northeast of Andrews.

Drillsite is 670 from south and 2,203 from west lines of section 12, block 5, University Lands survey. Contract depth is 12,700 feet.

ECTOR PROJECT SET

Viking Energy Corp. of Odessa will drill the No. 1 Fasken as an 8,000-foot test in the Circle Bar, East (Wichita-Albany) field of Ector County, one location west of a 4,681-foot failure, 3/8 mile southwest of the opener and lone producer of the field and 11 miles north of Odessa.

Wellsite is 660 from north and east lines of section 32, block 41, T-1-N, G&MMB&A survey.

GLASSCOCK RE-ENTRY

Sohio Natural Resources of Midland will re-enter and plugback to 6,400 feet for completion attempt in the Spraberry Trend Area (Clear Fork) field of Glasscock County, two and five-eighths mile northeast of Clear Fork production, 22 miles

southwest of Garden City.

Operating as the No. 1-B C.J. Cox, formerly a water supply well, it originally drilled to 7,004 feet.

Location is 660 from south and 1,980 from west lines of section 4, block 36, T-S-S, T&P survey.

HOWARD WELL FINALS

McCann Corp. of Big Spring finished the No. 5-A Read, 3/8 mile north-east of production in the Coahoma, North (Fuselman) field of Howard County, 3.5 miles east of Coahoma.

Arco earnings show gain

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Atlantic Richfield Co. said its 1979 earnings increased 45 percent over last year and announced a 21 percent dividend increase and two-for-one stock split.

Arco President Thornton Bradshaw said Monday that net income for 1979 was \$1.2 billion, or \$9.48 a share, a 45 percent jump over the \$804.3 million, or \$6.80 a share, reported for 1978.

Bradshaw said the company's directors have approved an increase in the annual dividend from \$2.80 to \$3.40 a share and planned to ask stockholders to approve a two-for-one stock split in May.

He said net income for the fourth quarter was \$343 million, or \$2.78 a share, a 54 percent increase over the \$222.6 million, or \$1.82 a share, reported in the fourth quarter of 1978.

Revenues for 1979 were \$16.7 billion, Bradshaw said, up 31 percent from the \$12.8 billion reported in 1978. Fourth-quarter revenues were \$5 billion, he said, up 54 percent from the

\$3.3 billion recorded in the same 1978 period. Bradshaw credited higher crude oil prices, increased production from Alaska's North Slope field and improved returns on petroleum products for the 1979 gains and noted that Arco's chemical and mineral divisions had also turned in better performances.

Arco's previously announced 1980 capital budget calls for \$3 billion to be invested in the development of new oil and gas sources, Bradshaw said, adding that 95 percent of the money would be spent on domestic exploration.

"We think there's a lot more oil and gas to be found in the United States and that's where we're putting our money," Bradshaw said.

Arco is also actively pursuing other energy sources, particularly coal, oil shale and solar, Bradshaw said, adding that the company would spend more on solar energy if it could find promising projects.

Yates schedules pair of wildcats in Chaves areas

Yates Petroleum Corp. of Artesia, N.M., filed application to drill two wildcats in Chaves County.

The No. 1-MM Iwanowski Federal is a 5,400-foot wildcat, eight miles west of San Andres production in the Linda field, 16 miles west of Cisco oil production in the Haystack field, 30 miles west of Boaz.

Wellsite is 1,780 feet from north and 560 feet from east lines of section 34-6S-24E. Ground elevation is 3,932 feet.

The firm will drill the No. 1-MO GYP Federal as a 5,200-foot wildcat, 3.5 miles northwest of Linda (San Andres) production, 12 miles northwest of Haystack (Cisco) production, 26 miles northwest of Boaz.

Drillsite is 1,980 from north and 660 from east lines of section 35-2S-24E. Ground elevation is 3,908 feet.

LEA TEST SCHEDULED

Bass Enterprises Production Co. of Midland announced plans to drill the No. 1 Airstrip State as a southwest offset to Airstrip (Bone Springs) production, 3/4 mile south of Wolfcamp production, six miles south of Buckeye.

The 10,800-foot test is located 330 from north and west lines of section 31-18S-35E.

William N. Beach of Midland will drill the No. 1 Mescalero Ridge Unit as a 13,800-foot Morrow test, 5/8 mile southwest of production in the Quail

Ridge (Morrow) field of Lea County, 12 miles southwest of Buckeye.

Wellsite is 890 from north and 1,980 from west lines of section 20-19S-34E, with ground elevation of 3,720 feet.

FISHER PROJECTS

The Townsend Co. of Abilene will re-enter and clean out to total depth of 4,990 feet for recompletion attempt as a Canyon sand producer and a location east extension to production in the Kemp field of Fisher County.

Operator will re-enter the former R.L. Foree No. 1 Richard Stuart, former Canyon 4400 oil producer, three miles west of Roby.

Location is 467 from south and 3,633 from east lines of section 21, block 2, H&TC survey.

The same firm will drill the No. 2 Richard Stuart as a location northeast offset to the Canyon sand re-ener and one location west of Fry production.

Wellsite is 1,600 from north and 3,830 from east lines of section 21, block 2, H&TC survey.

TOM GREEN RE-ENTRY

John H. Hendrix Corp. of Midland announced plans to re-enter and plug back to 4,550 feet for recompletion attempt as the third producer and one location southeast extension to the Madora (Tillery oil) field of Tom Green County, 9.5 miles south of San Angelo.

Operator will re-enter the former

Watson & Cox Oil & Gas No. 1 Ruth Gorden, former Strawn gas producer in the Susan Peak field.

It originally drilled to 5,150 feet and finished in 1977 for a calculated absolute open flow of 4,550,000 cubic feet of gas per day, through perforations from 5,016 to 5,019 feet.

Wellsite is 2,173 from south and 467 from west lines of section 29, block 25, H&TC survey.

UPTON EXTENDERS FINAL

Wayman W. Buchanan of Midland finished the No. 1 Cowden and others as a 5/8-mile southeast and northeast extension to the Upton County portion of the Spraberry Trend Area field, 19 miles north of Rankin.

On 24-hour pumping potential it made 42 barrels of 38.9-gravity oil and 70 barrels of water, through perforations from 8,850 to 9,036 feet.

The producing zone was acidized with 1,000 gallons and fractured with 30,000 gallons. Gas-oil ratio is 1,120-1. Location is 1,320 from north and east lines of section 44, block 39, T-5-S, T&P survey.

The same operator will drill the No. 1 Erskine, 3/4 mile northeast of the Upton County portion of the field, 19 miles north of Rankin.

Drillsite is 1,320 from north and east lines of section 41, block 39, T-5-S, T&P survey.

Scheduled depth is 9,200 feet. John L. Cox of Midland completed

the No. 1-26 Cowden as a 3/8-mile west extension to production in the Old Upland (Bend) field of Upton County, 14 miles northwest of Rankin.

Operator reported a 24-hour flowing potential of 50 barrels of 45-gravity oil and no water, through a 15/64-inch choke and perforations ranging from 10,230 to 10,267 feet.

The pay was treated with 5,000 gallons of acid. Gas-liquid ratio is 5,000-1.

Total depth was reached at 10,320 feet, where 4.5-inch casing is set.

Location is 660 from south and 1,980 from west lines of section 26, block Y, TCRR survey.

REAGAN OILER RECOMPLETED

WTG Exploration Inc. of Midland recompleted the No. 14 N.W. Hickman, former Ellenburger oil producer, as the sixth Grayburg producer in the Barnhart multipay field of Reagan County, seven miles southeast of Big Lake.

On 24-hour pumping potential, it produced 16.5 barrels of 36.2-gravity oil and two barrels of water, through perforations between 2,246 and 2,480 feet.

The producing zone was acidized with 1,500 gallons and fractured with 10,000 gallons. Gas-liquid ratio is 60.6-1.

Drilled to 2,700 feet, 4.5-inch casing is set at that depth. Plugged back depth is 2,510 feet.

Location is 2,100 from south and 625 from east lines of section 4, block 1, HE&WT survey.

Crude oil price-hike spree by OPEC countries could add penny or more to pump cost of gasoline

NEW YORK (AP) — Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have launched their second price-increase spree within two months and it could add another penny or more to average gasoline and heating prices in the United States.

The latest series of \$2-a-barrel increases was kicked off by Saudi Arabia on Monday. The move was matched Tuesday by Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar, which together supply about 2 percent of U.S. oil needs.

An industry source said he "wouldn't be surprised" if Nigeria, supplier of 5.7 percent of U.S. oil needs, soon might follow an earlier Libyan increase and raise its \$30-a-barrel oil price to around \$35.

Nigeria and Libya often move in tandem on prices. They sell similar grades of high-quality crude oil prized by refiners for their larger-than-average yields of gasoline and other fuels.

"We've gone back into the leapfrogging game again," said an oil trader, while another added, "this whole thing doesn't seem to make sense."

The increases included Kuwait, now at \$27.50 per 42-gallon barrel, Iraq, at \$27.96, the United Arab Emirates, at \$30.56, and Qatar, at \$29.23.

Saudi Arabian exports account for about 7.4 percent of U.S. oil consumption, and the giant producer's \$2 increase to \$26 is expected to add up to a penny to average U.S. gasoline and heating oil prices.

The other nations' increases could add another half-cent or less to prices at the pump.

Producer price increases already have added 14 cents or more to the U.S. price of a gallon of gasoline since mid-December, when Saudi Arabia boosted its price by \$6, setting off a wave of increases by other OPEC members.

Kuwait's move was announced by the country's oil minister, Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah, while the other

increases were reported by the official United Arab Emirates news agency and also by industry sources in New York.

The \$2 Saudi boost reportedly was intended to bring the country in line with OPEC's other moderate members — including the four raising

prices Tuesday — which last month had set their prices on the basis of a theoretical \$26 Saudi price.

Saudi Arabia produces nearly one-third of OPEC's 31 million barrels-a-day output, and its prices are the benchmark on which other cartel prices traditionally have been set.

Union Texas well finals

Union Texas Petroleum Corp. has completed a confirmation well in the Dominion (Silurian) field of Terry County, three miles north of Seagraves.

The new oiler, No. 2 Sara Bullard, is the third well in the field and one location northeast of the discovery.

On a 17-hour potential test the well flowed 460 barrels of oil and no water, through a 10/64-inch choke.

Completion was through perforations opposite the Silurian from 13,314 to 13,326 feet. The pay was acidized

with 3,000 gallons. The gravity of the oil and the gas-oil ratio were not reported.

Union Texas No. 1 Sarah Bullard discovered the field.

No. 2 Sara Bullard is bottomed at 13,391 feet, and 5.5-inch casing is cemented at total depth.

Wellsite is 1,980 feet from south and 990 feet from east lines of section 81, block DD, John H. Gibson survey.

Union Texas completed its No. 1-81 ODC early in January as the field's second well. It is 1/2 mile north of the discovery well.

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Crime of the 1980s could be silvacide by lignamaniacs

By HUGH A. MULLIGAN
AP Special Correspondent

RIDGEFIELD, Conn. (AP) — Arson was the unexpected big crime of the '70s, burning down parts of the Bronx and Brooklyn to get a better view of Manhattan.

Now it appears that woodsnapping will be the crime of the 1980s.

Some folks will do almost anything to throw another log on the fire.

A few weeks back right in our area a ranger caught a woodnapper leaving a public park area with a pickup truck loaded down with cut logs. Well, at least he left the bandstand intact.

The trouble is the maximum fine for cutting down public parklands is only \$45, while firewood right now is selling for \$150 a cord, unstacked, which means they just dump it in your yard on top of the bird bath or in front of the garage.

Just before Christmas around here someone mistook the Christmas trees the Jaycees were selling at a charity venture for yule logs and made off with a couple of dozen of them while

the lot was unattended. A friend in a neighboring town went off to Oregon to visit his married daughter for the holidays and when he got back the old woodpile had vanished, right down to the big box of kindling. He looked out, though; they left the back porch hanging on the house and didn't touch the picket fence.

It's getting so around here you don't know what to think when you go to put out the cat and see a fellow walking up the road in the moonlight with an armload of wood. Of course there's nothing illegal or even officially suspicious about that. The courts have ruled that it's a civil rights violation for the cops to stop a fellow walking up Park Avenue at 4 a.m. with a color TV on his shoulder and ask him where he got it. Didn't you ever hear of all-night TV repairmen?

There must be round-the-clock woodpeckers too. Long after midnight last week I heard some idiot whining away with his chainsaw somewhere in the neighborhood. The chainsaw, the macho tool of this generation, has got to rank as the biggest threat to the preservation of our few remaining woodlands since the advent of the bulldozer. Worse, because it takes some brains to run a bulldozer. A little, anyway.

Besides, a bulldozer costs a bunch of bread and requires a license to operate, but a chain saw can be had at any local hardware store for less than the price of a set of golf clubs and the buyer can walk out the door and practice on the nearest utility pole.

With such a destructive tool available to anyone of any age or mentality, this country right now is in danger of silvacide, wholesale slaughter of the forests. Since the energy crunch and spiraling oil prices brought back the woodstove, the split rail fence has become as much an endangered species as the cigar store Indian. You got to keep looking out the window to see

if it's still there. There are so many wood stoves pumping smoke into the skies around here, the town has begun to reek like one of those Louisiana pulp mill towns. For reasons of air pollution, they banned burning leaves a few years back around here, but when the wind is in the wrong direction, the smoke from all those woodstoves seems a lot worse. Sometimes it hangs over the road like one of those Sherlock Holmes fogs, bringing darkness at noon.

The rage for wood has brought about a new wrinkle in consumer crime: cord fraud.

The dictionary defines a cord as "a unit of volume used chiefly for fuel wood, equal to 128 cubic feet, and usually specified as 8 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high."

After the wood mongers deliver the load unstacked on top of your bird bath or barbecue pit, you can spend a month piling, stacking and arranging it and it never will come out that high, that deep or that wide. No way.

Call them up and complain, and the sawyers, which is the original name for these wood cutters, will tell you "we deal in lineal cords, one stack 8 feet long and 4 feet high." In other words, just one row, no depth.

Sure enough, the phrase "lineal cord" has been creeping into the classified ads, although none of the old-timers around here ever heard it before.

Lignamania, the frenzy to burn wood, has become so epidemic in these parts we got an invitation in the mail yesterday to a "B.Y.O.L. Party: wine and cheese before our roaring hearth."

A B.Y.O.L. party, it turned out, is similar to a B.Y.O.B. party, except instead of bringing your own bottle, you bring your own log.

Remind me to pick one up on the way.

Mulligan's Stew

LEE CHATTER

Senior girls working hard preparing Wild West Party

Hey, Rebs! Our Senior Women have been working really hard the last two weeks on our Senior girls party. So get ready for the time of your life, or the time of somebody else's life when we take you back to the time of the Wild West!

Those girls varsity basketballers have really shown us whos number one in five-four A. As they really bullied those baby pups from Midland High.

Our Mighty Rebel roundballers really played terrific last Friday night against those cross-town rivals from Midland High and we're really proud of you guys, and we're supporting you all the way. We have just begun to fight!

Tuesday night in Odessa we will play the Odessa Broncos in Odessa High's gym. Also this Friday night our roundballers will take on the San Angelo Bobcats, so come on out and support the varsity sport!!

REBELETTES: Don't forget about the meeting in room 475 at 7:45 tomorrow morning. Rebelettes, we would like to thank you for all the hard work and support you have given to our school this year! Keep it up!!

JUNIOR COUNCIL: Attention Seniors! If you plan to go to Padre Island, then you must be at the meeting Wednesday night at 7:00. We've got two dances coming up, and unless we're there to make them a success

them our trip won't be at all!!! So Be There!

Our National Honors Society is also singing their hearts off to get ready for Valentine's Day, so everybody make it worth their effort and don't forget to order your carnations, singing telegrams, and poems so you can sweep your sweetheart off her feet!

We would like to congratulate our 1980 Rebelee Court; Gary Butler, Melinda Cravens, Roxi Barret, Lee Andrews, Karen Gravitt, Gina Bard, Debra Steele, Steve Waldron, Tim Fisher, Warren Kyle, Phyllis Peete, Eddie Pleasant, Jennifer Rankin, and Ed Ellis. Coronation will be Saturday, February the 16th, in the Lee Auditorium. So get your dates now and see who will be crowned your Mr. and Mrs. LHS!!!

Well folks, it's that time of the year again when you must decide who you want to be your sweetheart for 1980. You had better get started early, or yours might already be taken!!!

Until next week!!!
Gina
LeighAnn
Karen

P.S. There will be a dance Friday night right after the basketball game. I need your help to set up Friday and clean up on Saturday.

P.P.S. 100 Club, you are needed Thursday to set up for Junior Cotillion, and again on Friday to set up for the dance, and Saturday, too!

Opinion on deducting union dues draws fire by Clements

By KEN HERMAN

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Gov. Bill Clements said Tuesday an attorney general's opinion allowing the state comptroller to deduct union dues from state paychecks is "a classic example of the camel getting his nose under the tent."

"I am opposed to such a ruling," he said, drawing applause from the Republican Forum of Austin luncheon.

Clements said he has told his staff to go to work on legislation "to put a stop to this nonsense."

Attorney General Mark White has said State Comptroller Bob Bullock can, at an employee's request, deduct union dues from state paychecks. White also said the comptroller can apply solutions applied to one employee's grievance to cover all employees.

Bullock has said he would recognize a union among employees in his department.

Clements said, "I am for our right-to-work laws totally. I don't think the unions should be allowed a dues deduction."

"It's a classic example of the camel getting his nose under the tent. The people of Texas do not want this. I know they don't want it and I don't want it," Clements said.

The governor said his state employee reduction program is not an "across-the-board" 5 percent reduction policy.

"Each agency must be considered on a case-by-case situation," he said, adding some agencies will cut more than 5 percent, some will cut less, and some may increase in size.

"I think the program is moving along very well," he said, predicting his goals would be reached by the end of the current fiscal year, Aug. 31.

Clements asked the audience to pass along any suggestions on what he might do about busing. Austin public schools will begin a court-ordered busing plan in August. The plan is unpopular with many residents.

"I'm sorry to report that in this particular case I know of nothing I can do," he said. "I am absolutely opposed to busing."

Clements said his staff has searched the law but has found nothing he can do about busing.

Alamo YMCA to start three new Fitness Fantasia classes next week

The Alamo YMCA will initiate three new Fitness Fantasia classes next week, according to physical and health director Guy Fish.

First will be a class which will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9-10 a.m. That class will be followed by volleyball for those interested in playing or learning to play.

A second class will be conducted 1:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and a third class will be held 7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Fitness Fantasia is a three part program, according to Fish. It begins with a warm-up to pre-

pare the body for more vigorous exercise.

Next is an aerobic exercise that burns calories while increasing stamina and muscle tone, along with developing cardiovascular endurance.

Final stage of the program is a cool-down period that helps the body to relax and the heart rate to return to normal.

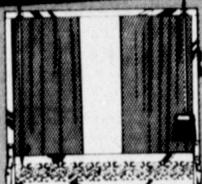
For more information, call Alamo YMCA at 694-2528 or go by 901 Midland Drive.

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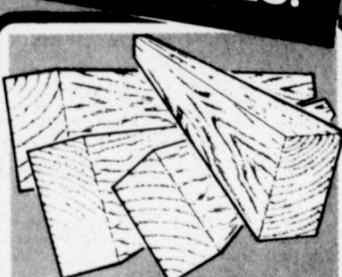
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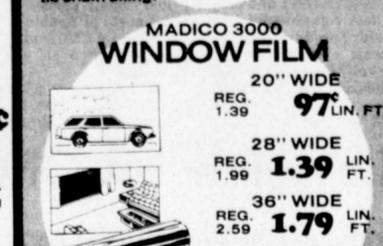
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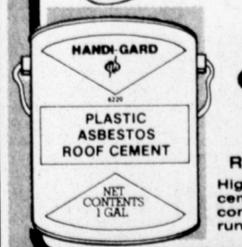
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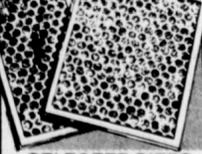
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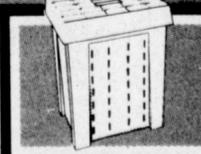
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