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METRO EDITION

Odessa may still get its cancer machine

By SUE FAHLGREN
Staff Writer

Odessa's Medical Center Hospital will get its 6MEV linear accelerator if the decision made by the governing body of Permian Basin Health Systems Agency on Monday night stands at the Texas Health Facility Commission meeting later this month.

In an 11 to 8 vote, with two abstentions and one no-vote, the board overturned the Projects Review Committee's recommendation to delay approval on the cancer machine for one year.

This delay would have given the Allison Permian Basin Cancer Therapy Center in Midland a chance to establish records on the number of patients available in the 17-county area. The Projects Review Committee made its decision Saturday after a public hearing on Dec. 8 and further deliberations on Saturday.

Some 20 items on the HSA's findings of fact on the project were read by HSA staff member Jeannie Kaferle to the group in support of the machine to replace MCH's 10-year-old cobalt-60 radiation machine.

Joe Webber, Austin attorney for MCH, told the group in his arguments "we have proved by overwhelming medical testimony that this is a worn-out piece of equipment."

HE EXPLAINED EVEN if the energy source of the machine was replaced for a third time, the machine itself was not functioning well mechanically because of its age. One of the reasons listed by the review committee for the delay was that there was some 2½ years of life left in the cobalt's energy source in the Odessa machine.

Replacing the cobalt machine with another, Webber continued, would be ineffective as the technology behind it

was some 20 years old, and the cobalt machine destroyed a greater number of healthy cells in its operation.

Webber told the group that Odessa has been in the radiation business since 1953 and was just trying to keep up with effective technology for better patient service.

Dorothy Jackson, board member from Odessa, said, "It's just a question of maintenance, not of competition" with the machines.

Attorney Fred Davis of Austin, representing Midland Memorial Hospital, said Odessa spokesmen were trying to make Midland appear as being against effective cancer treatment in the Permian Basin area, and "that is certainly not the case."

Davis said there was "no way that the adverse impact on the Allison Center could be calculated," and that MCH should recall its application until full figures on use of the centers could be measured.

FURTHER, DAVIS used Odessa radiation oncologist Dr. Greg Garratt's earlier testimony to substantiate the Midland feeling. Garratt said the "placement of the 6MEV linear accelerator has a magnet effect in drawing patients to that facility," Davis reported.

"Well, that magnet effect is going to draw patients to that facility to the detriment of the Allison Center."

The fight between Midland and Odessa over the linear accelerator has been a long one. It began when MMH first applied for the Allison Center permit from the HSA. Odessa later dropped its opposition to the Center when MMH decided to add a 20 Mega Voltage Electron linear accelerator to its equipment list.

Odessa first applied for a 6MEV — called the "workhorse unit" — of the Allison Center by Midland officials — in late October, as a replacement for

(See ODESSA MAY, Page 2A)

Abominable canal

A "canal" of sorts that's linking Midland to Odessa is turning into an "abomination," as it brings Odessa's unwanted waters into Midland County and becomes an ideal culture for breeding mosquitoes. Ducks like it, too. But some people in Midland don't. Commissioner Win Brown is ready to do battle. See story and photographs on Page 5-A.

Santa Claus will parade here after all

The Christmas parade is definite. According to Brenda Richter, the parade will start at 10 a.m. Saturday and will include 67 entries.

The parade starts at Dennis the Menace Park, travels down Wall Street to Main Street, and down Main Street to Ohio Avenue where the entries will disperse.

Miss West Texas will be included and, of course, Santa Claus. Santa will be riding on a white Rolls-Royce, escorted by six black Rolls-Royces.

Ms. Richter began organizing the parade last week after discovering the Midland Chamber of Commerce had to abandon its plans when few people responded to its call for entries.



Iran's deputy minister of oil, Hassan Sadat, holds up photos from the Iraq-Iran war during a news conference Tuesday at the close of the OPEC oil

ministers' conference in Indonesia. He said more than half the two-day meeting was occupied by war situation. (AP Laserphoto)

OPEC hikes oil prices by \$2 to \$4 per barrel

BALI, Indonesia (AP) — The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries announced increases today of \$2 to \$4 a barrel in base crude oil prices, an action analysts said could hike gasoline and heating oil costs in the United States up to 4 cents a gallon.

A communique issued at the end of a two-day session of the oil cartel also set a maximum price for OPEC crudes at \$41 a barrel, authorizing countries who want to charge the maximum a \$4 increase.

OPEC's decision established guidelines for oil pricing and it was up to individual countries to settle on the prices they would charge depending on how the market develops.

The communique said Saudi Arabia's benchmark price was being increased from \$30 to \$32 for a 42-gallon barrel of crude oil; the benchmark or base price for other members would rise from \$32 to \$36, and the maximum price for OPEC crudes was raised from \$37 to \$41 a barrel.

Analysts estimated the increases could raise U.S. prices of gasoline and heating oil about 4 cents a gallon. But officials from several countries said they were not sure yet what new prices their governments might settle on.

"They just don't know what the market will bear," said one conference source.

The meeting wound up with unusual speed and with a minimum of public acrimony despite the fact that two of OPEC's founding members, Iran and Iraq, have been at war for nearly three months.

The only mention of the war in the final communique was an endorsement of Indonesian President Suharto's "sincere and honest appeal" to the two countries "to seek the best possible solution quickly to their conflict leading to a peaceful settlement

of their differences." Suharto made his appeal in his speech opening the meeting Monday.

The round of price increases was signaled Monday by Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, who announced that his government was increasing its benchmark price.

Yamani refused to give the amount of the increase, but Venezuelan Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti and oil industry sources said it was \$2 a barrel, and this was confirmed by the communique today.

The New York industry newsletter Petroleum Intelligence Weekly reported that the Saudi increase was retroactive to Nov. 1. However, the communique made no mention of back-dating any of the increases.

Saudi Arabia at the last OPEC pricing session three months ago in Vienna stayed with a benchmark price of \$30 a barrel while most of the other members agreed on \$32. But all the members charged a variety of prices calculated according to the quality of the crude oil, its availability to the market and other factors.

Money alone blocking hostages' freedom: Iran

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — The only thing blocking release of the American hostages is a U.S. guarantee to meet Iran's financial terms, Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Rajai said today after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini approved Iran's "final reply" on the hostage issue.

"We only require a financial guarantee from the United States to be given to the Algerian government, which is responsible for Iranian interests in the United States, and then (they can) take the spies," Rajai told Iran's official Pars news agency.

"It is up to the United States to take the spies from Iran anytime it wishes," Rajai said, adding the 52 Americans could be returned "either on the feast or the birthday, whatever it likes to call it," an apparent reference to Christmas, the birthday of Jesus.

"God willing, we will soon not have a problem of hostages in Iran. This is a dead issue for us and we gave our answer because it was taking so much

of our time." Khomeini met with Rajai and Executive Affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi today, the hostages' 409th day in captivity.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti news agency quoted Algeria's foreign minister as saying the United States provided new clarifications to Iran on the hostage issue two days ago. The agency, quoting Foreign Minister Mohammed Ben Yehia, did not give details of what clarifications might have been offered.

Rajai said after a cabinet meeting late Monday that in his meeting with Khomeini he would go over details of Iran's "final answer" to the United States regarding the four conditions proposed for release for the hostages. He said Iran would reveal its "final decision" pending Khomeini's approval.

The latest U.S. position has been under review by government authorities since it was delivered by Algerian diplomats acting as intermediaries at Iran's request.

INSIDE TODAY

✓ IN THE NEWS: Hijack odyssey continues as guerrilla left-ists go to Mexico City..... 2A

✓ SPORTS: Vince Ferragamo and friends whip the Dallas Cowboys..... 1C

✓ LOCAL: Three sentenced here in \$55,000 marijuana conspiracy..... 3A

✓ DEFENSE: The final installment of a three-part series on the F-15 fighter..... 7A

Around Town..... 1B
Dear Abby..... 2B
Bridge..... 7B
Classified..... 2D
Comics..... 7B
Crossword..... 7B

Obituaries..... 3A
Oil & gas..... 4C
Solomon..... 5C
Sports..... 1B
TV Schedule..... 7B

Weather

Fair and warmer through Wednesday. High Wednesday low 70s. Details on Page 2A.

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Reagan says he didn't know Aide said to be linked with organized crime

By the Associated Press

Ronald Reagan says he was unaware that a Teamsters Union official named as a senior adviser to one of his transition teams is reputed to have links with organized crime.

Jackie Presser, a Teamsters vice president from Cleveland, was once accused by an FBI informant in court testimony of taking orders from the city's organized crime boss. He is also a defendant in a suit brought two years ago by the Carter administration's Labor Department alleging misuse of union pension funds.

Presser, considered a possible successor to union president Frank E. Fitzsimmons, heatedly denied having any organized crime ties at a news conference Monday after his appointment as a senior transition adviser on economics and liaison to organized labor.

"I'm sure that the U.S. president (elect) as well as his Cabinet would not make an appointment such as this unless my record was impeccable," Presser told reporters in Cleveland.

In Los Angeles, where Reagan is spending a quiet week at his home, he said, "I was not aware" of any allegations linking Presser to organized crime.

"If that's true, that will be investigated and brought out," Reagan told reporters at Santa Monica Airport on Monday after returning by helicopter from a day at his ranch in Santa Barbara.

Asked why the appointment was made, Reagan said, "Mr. Presser happens to be an official... of the Teamsters organization in Ohio and I think he was a legitimate contact with labor."

At a Monday news briefing in Washington, Reagan spokesman Jim Brady dismissed as "conjecture" the allegations that Presser had underworld connections, but added that transition officials had not checked into Presser's past.

Brady said Presser was picked because the transition wanted input on union views and because the 2 million-member Teamsters Union was the first and largest labor organization to endorse Reagan. Presser played a major role in swinging the union behind Reagan.

"What better person to put in than a representa-

tive-of-the-largest union that supported you and was there firstest with the mostest?" Brady asked.

Last March, James "Jimmy the Weasel" Fratianno, an admitted mob hitman turned FBI informant, testified at a federal embezzlement trial in San Francisco that Presser was under the control of Cleveland's organized crime boss.

"Cosa Nostra runs the Teamsters," Fratianno said at the trial, which resulted in the conviction of a Teamsters organizer. "Jack Presser told me himself, 'I don't do nothing unless Blackie tells me.'"

Fratianno identified "Blackie" as the boss of organized crime in Cleveland, but offered no further elaboration on whom he was referring to.

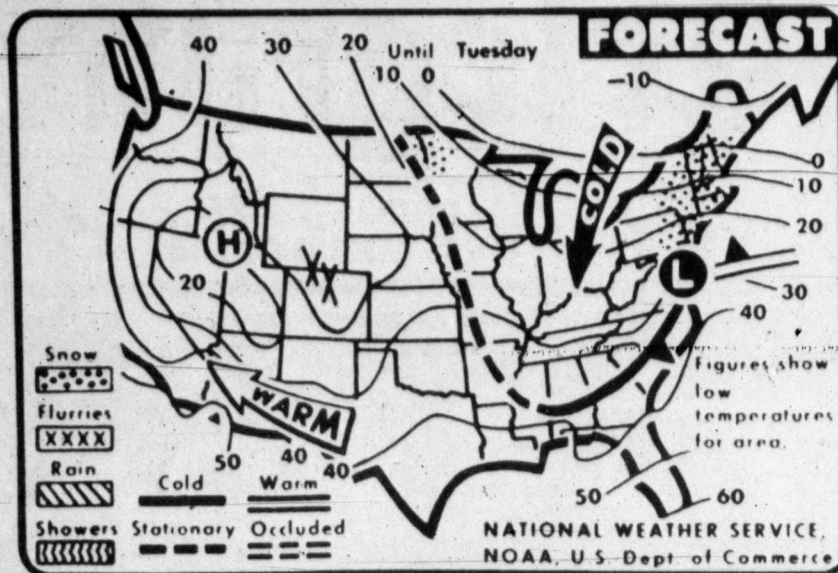
Federal authorities, who requested anonymity, identified James Licavoli, alias Jack White, as the reputed head of organized crime in Cleveland. But they added it was unclear if Fratianno meant Licavoli.

Presser, speaking to reporters, called the allegation "all fiction."



Jackie Presser, denies crime link

WEATHER SUMMARY



Cold weather is expected in the forecast period today from the northern Plains to the Northeast. Warm weather is expected from the Southwest to the Southeast.

Midland statistics

Table with weather forecast for Midland, including high/low temperatures and precipitation for the current month and year-to-date.

Weather elsewhere

Table listing weather conditions for various cities across the country, including high and low temperatures and precipitation.

Border states forecasts

Oklahoma: Fair through Wednesday, warmer Wednesday. Highs 60 northeast to 78 west. Lows 32 to 42. Highs Wednesday 66 east to 78 west.

Warm days ahead

Warm spring temperatures and fair skies the next couple of days should provide Midlanders an opportunity for several rounds of golf, tennis or whatever.

Christmas packages are again target of burglary

Christmas packages once again were the target of robbers in a house burglary Monday at 3805 Cobb St. Lorene Emerson told officers someone broke a window and opened the back door.

Police Roundup

spie, 3300 N. A. No. 209-B. The employee believed the check was forged and refused to cash it. He said the two men took it back and left the store.

Texas temperatures

Table listing high and low temperatures for various Texas cities, including Abilene, Alice, Alpine, Amarillo, Austin, Beaufort, Brownsville, Childress, College Station, Corpus Christi, Dalhart, Dallas, Del Rio, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Houston, Junction, Lubbock, Lufkin, Marfa, McAllen, Midland, Mineral Wells, Pecos, San Angelo, San Antonio, Shreveport, La., Stephenville, Terrell, Tyler, Victoria, Waco, Wichita Falls, and Wink.

Hijackers free more hostages, fly to Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Leftist guerrillas freed more passengers from a hijacked Colombian jetliner today and took those remaining on board to Mexico City, the fourth stop on a hijack odyssey that began yesterday shortly after takeoff from Bogota.

The aircraft landed at 8:29 EST amid tight security at the Mexico City International Airport after a flight from Panama, and was ordered to the end of the runway while authorities tried to establish contact with the hijackers.

Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has identified the hijackers as members of the Colombian guerrilla movement M-19. He said they wanted to steal the spotlight from a Latin American summit today in his nation.

The plane landed in Panama about 11:30 p.m. EST Monday, the hijackers demanded food, soft drinks and coffee and set a deadline of 1:30 a.m. EST for the jet to take off.

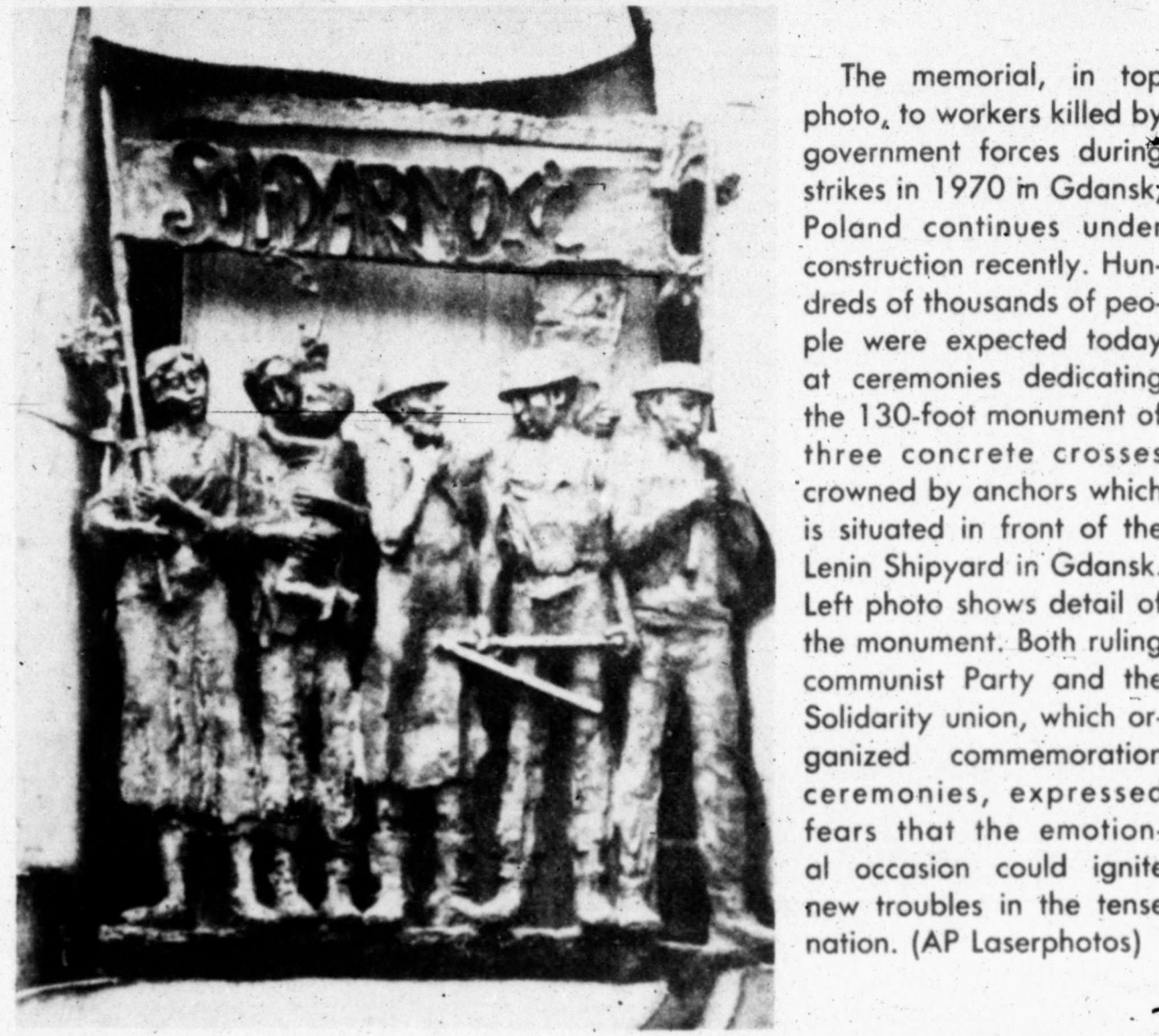
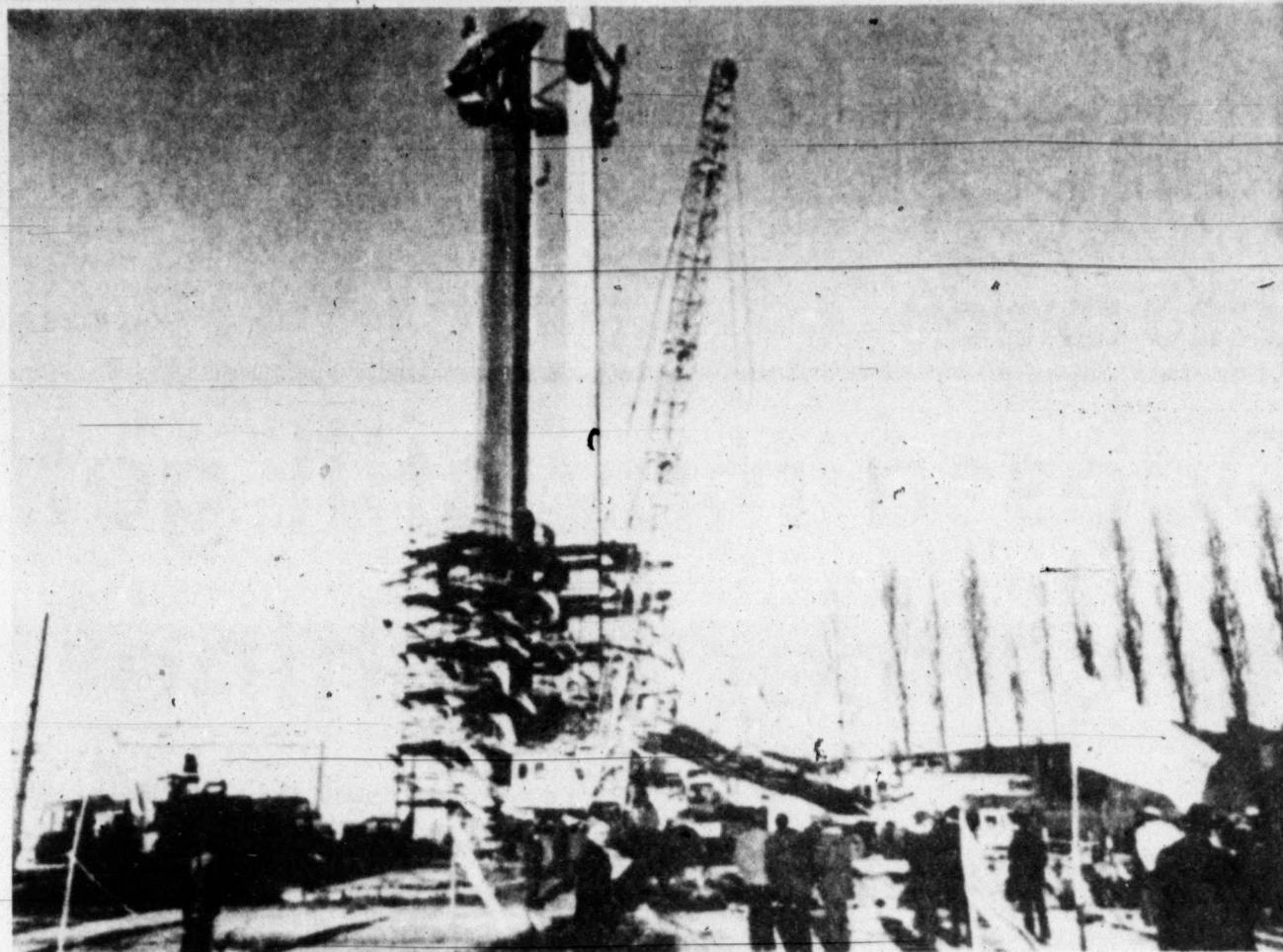
The jet carried 129 people when it was hijacked Monday shortly after taking off from the Colombian capital of Bogota on a flight to Pereira, in western Colombia. The hijackers forced the jet to land at Santa Marta, where the Latin summit opens today.

The jet stayed in Santa Marta for two hours, then flew to Barranquilla, another Caribbean port city 40 miles west of Santa Marta, where 30 passengers were freed. The plane then refueled and took off again for Santa Marta, but was prevented from landing because authorities lined the runway with firetrucks and ambulances. It then flew to Panama City.

GDANSK, Poland (AP) — Union leaders and the Communist Party urged hundreds of thousands of workers to maintain calm and order as they assembled today in Poland's Baltic port cities for a two-day commemoration of workers killed by army gunfire in food price riots 10 years ago.

Both Solidarity, the biggest independent labor union that organized the ceremonies, and the party were fearful of disturbances that could increase the threat of Soviet intervention to check the independent labor movement.

Solidarity leaders asked the workers to show their respect for the dead by maintaining order.



Calm, order suggested at Polish commemoration

The Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu said the period of "national reflection" should be a constructive one reflecting "the broad forces of common sense and civic responsibility."

Alcohol sales were banned in the Baltic area during the ceremonies, which will include requiem masses and the dedication of a 130-foot-high monument in Gdansk.

The government erected the monument to those killed in the 1970 riots to meet one of the 21 demands made by the workers in Gdansk during the strike wave last summer that resulted in legalization of the independent labor movement.

The monument — three steel crosses topped by anchors — stands at the gate of the Lenin Shipyard where troops shot and killed six workers on Dec. 16, 1970. The Lenin yard was also the headquarters of the strike movement last summer.

Odessa may get its own cancer machine after all

its ailing cobalt machine. Persons connected with the Allison Center immediately opposed Odessa's move to obtain the 6MEV. A machine in Odessa would result in Midland taxpayers being forced to subsidize more than necessary the operations of the Allison Center during its initial years more, claimed Midland officials.

MC pre-registration up for year

New and returning students are flocking to pre-registration and early counseling at Midland College. Hours are 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

Break in pipeline causes oil spill

County Road 90 East, which passes through a tank farm east of Midland, was temporarily shut down Monday after an ARCO Pipeline Co. six-inch crude oil line broke, spilling crude oil across the road.

"It was a line break on a six-inch transfer crude oil line — that is a line used to transfer crude oil from one tank farm to another," Brechbill said. "It happened close to the county road, and the line broke on start up of a transfer of oil."

Inspection this morning indicated the pipe had a weak spot, probably caused by a piece of machinery operating close to the line recently. "It was not broken through (by the machinery) but it was eroded, and that made the pipe weak so that it broke at that point (Monday)," said Brechbill.

According to Brechbill, the line was shut down immediately — within a matter of minutes — but some of the oil flowed across the road onto Mobil Pipeline Co. property. The road was shut down Monday as a safety precaution. It was reopened by Monday night, said a company employee.

ARCO Pipeline employees dug a pit to collect the oil from the break. As of this morning, 200 barrels had been collected with a small amount still in the pit awaiting cleanup. Total amount of oil that escaped from the broken line was unknown this morning, Brechbill said, but the net loss would be minimal. The section of pipe that ruptured will be replaced before the line is started again, according to Brechbill. The Railroad Commission was notified.

Freddie

Services for Freddie... of Midland, will be in Faith Te Christ with the cialing.

Opha

JUNCTION Cordelia Mor mother of Lou row, both of M p.m. today in Home chapel was to follow Aubrey Fife charge of loca Mrs. Morro Junction hospi Born Dec. 6, ty, Ala., she w her husband- wife and lived She was a Me Other sur daughters, tw dren, 40 great great-great gr

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LOUISVI (AP) — Har ers, the whi white-suited colonel who sales ability recipe into a en empire, di Jewish Hospi ville. He was Sanders, in ly known as and symbol tucky Fried food franchi 7:40 a.m. EST to company John Cox.

Odessa may get its own cancer machine after all

oped last year, the Allison Center is established as a level 2 — medium radiation services facility — while Odessa is recorded as a level 3 facility providing minimum radiation services.

Midland board representative Carroll Thomas said by delaying Odessa's project for a year, the HSA's decision "could be based on fact instead of speculation."

Extra cash! Sell it... DEATHS... Services for... Burial will be... He died Sat... hospital follow... Graves was... Midland. He... and a memb... Church of God... Carver High S... Survivors in... die Graves Sr... ers, Larry G... Graves, both... sisters, Linda... Graves, both... Opha... JUNCTION... Cordelia Mor... mother of Lou... row, both of M... p.m. today in... Home chapel... was to follow... Aubrey Fife... charge of loca... Mrs. Morro... Junction hospi... Born Dec. 6... ty, Ala., she w... her husband-... wife and lived... She was a Me... Other sur... daughters, tw... dren, 40 great... great-great gr... Claren... Clarence E... Midland, died... hospital. Grav... side a.m. Wedn... es South Cem... ete arrangem... ents Thomas F... une Seaman wa... Texas. He had... last 20 years... er... Col... LOUISVI... (AP) — Har... ers, the whi... white-suited... colonel who... sales ability... recipe into a... en empire, di... Jewish Hospi... ville. He was... Sanders, in... ly known as... and symbol... tucky Fried... food franchi... 7:40 a.m. EST... to company... John Cox... He first to... en franchise... when he was... when many... sider retire... still worki... tucky Fried... age 89 who... diagnosed a... mia in June... "It's just... thing we've... quer," he sa... of the dise... overcome a... in my life... He was hos... peatedly fo... ments in th... followed th... In Septemb... said the cat... remission... Sanders, w... signature w... string tie ev... lating learn... age 5, "I... Mom did, an... I went into... rant busines... on doing it... way," he on... In his late... traveled so... miles annua... mational tou... jucky Frie

Odessa's unwanted waters flow into Midland County

By ED TODD
Staff Writer

Midland and Odessa are being linked in ways that appear far from desirable, particularly to some Midlanders.

That link is Monahans Draw. And natural drainage of the draw is being transformed into an "abomination," although ducks and mosquitoes like it, and is drawing criticism for its urban use and, by some accounts, misuse.

The stream winds like a snake river and is carrying Odessa's unwanted sewage waters easterly into Midland's domain.

Some like it, some don't. Either way, it's being tolerated for now. The stream may not be the makings of another Pecos River.

It meanders through range and pasture land, some cotton fields and occasionally floods roads and barns, runs into water wells, breeds mosquitoes between Midland and Odessa, and provides some irrigation.

But the draw becomes a "little river" that is running amuck.

This natural drainage basin runs from west of Odessa, through the city, picks up effluent waters from the runoff of Odessa's Sewage Treatment Plant 20 to 25 miles away, naturally flows with the lay of the land easterly into Midland County and to just south of Midland and eventually, according to maps, runs into the Colorado River.

It's creating problems.

"IT'S NOTHING BUT an abomination on the West Texas scene," said Midland County Commissioner Win Brown, who's been attacking Odessa's alleged misuse of the draw.

Others, too, are frowning on this

unnatural water invasion via the draw.

"A lot of people are squawking about it," said Harold Vroman, as he was flying about 500 feet over the draw to pin-point its source. "What I want to do is to stir up things, so I can get the road fixed. We know it's coming from Odessa; that's for sure."

Recently, the draw's running water has been steadily flowing down the channel and across a dip in Midkiff Road at a point about 4 1/2 miles southwest of Midland. The flowing water is gradually tearing up the paved county road, which leads to Vroman's Sky Ranch Airport-southwest of Midland, to Texas 349 and to Rankin, Midkiff and elsewhere.

"That's a lot of water running that many miles," said Vroman, who was piloting his 1946 Luscombe AE tail-dragger aircraft over the draw. "(But) they like it over here, because it irrigates to beat hell."

BUT IN MIDLAND, it's becoming increasingly unpopular.

"We've got problems down here," said Otis Day, who lives on a hill just north of the draw.

"We think this water is not just from the rain or snow; we think it's something else."

And he's right.

Midland's most recent rain was more than a week ago. It was a light downfall in places and hefty showers in others. Snow fell in late November, and September's drought-breaking downpour gave renewed life to the draw. But that was almost three months ago.

"If this water is being contaminated, it's going to ruin our water wells," said Day, who for a moment entertained the idea that the water just

might be potable by the time it reaches Midland.

"We're getting to the point where we think we're getting contamination in well waters."

"What we're afraid of," his wife, Doreen, allowed, "is people bootlegging chemicals in the (draw's) water and ruining our water wells."

That may be. Commissioner Brown, who in the mid-1970s fought to keep Odessa's sewage run-off out of the draw and out of Midland, said the run-off is polluting the shallow water wells.

"It already has contaminated several wells along that draw," said Brown, who has not given up the fight to get Odessa's sewage overflow out of the draw even though the Texas Water Quality Board has deemed Monahans Draw a "navigable stream" and OK'd the dumping of effluent waters into the drainage basin.

THE TEXAS WATER Quality Board skimmed over Brown's objections and ushered out his protests.

"That was the best well-greased skids I have ever been on," he said with a flavor of sarcasm.

"It (Odessa's sewage plant) is not capable of handling all the sewage and treating it. The serious question is whether it is treated before it runs down the draw," he said.

"They've just got a heck of a problem on their sewage disposal," charged Brown. "Odessa is trying to correct the situation (by building a new treatment plant), but even raw sewage is going through the plant and halfway across Midland County."

But, according to Brown, the flow of water down the draw and its overflow into cotton fields and rangeland and washing out of roads and polluting of water wells along the way isn't the only problems caused by effluent waters pouring into draw.

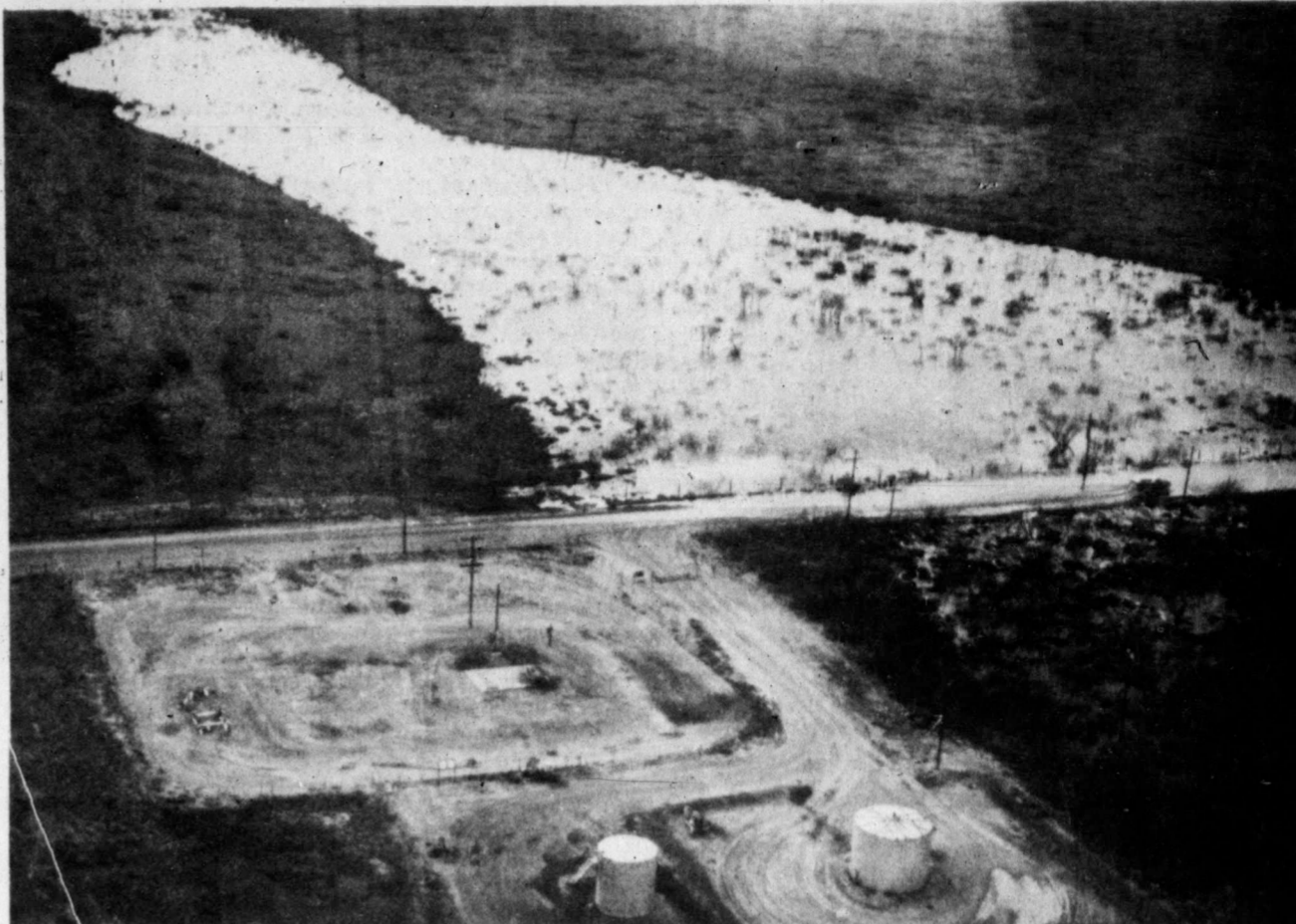
"Wet surfaces are fertile breeding grounds for mosquitoes," the commissioner noted, and the sewage has contributed to the proliferation of the insect, which has "created all sorts of problems for Midland County."

When warranted, the county has ordered aerial and ground-level spraying of mosquitoes along the draw and has set up a vector control program to counterattack the pesky and possibly disease-carrying mosquitoes.

The draw, which varies from about 50 to 200 or so feet in width, is a ripe culture for salt cedar, particularly midway between Midland and Odessa.

Warfield cotton farmer Vernon Chandler has been living with the draw for years. He said that he is not complaining about it as much as he did in the past; Odessa is putting cleaner effluent in the draw.

"I don't object to the water like I used to," he said. "The quality of the water is a whole lot better than it was."



A truck slowly rolls over Midkiff Road and through waters running down Monahans Draw. More than just waters from rains in September and snows in November, the running water seems to

be coming some 20 miles away and from Odessa's sewage treatment plant on that city's eastside. (Staff Photo)

"The ducks sure do like it," Chandler said. "The thing I'm griping about now is the mosquitoes. It's ideal for them; they sure do enjoy it."

The September rains, the November snow and the hard showers in early December in the Warfield area got the draw's waters on the rise.

THE OVERFLOW from the draw has flooded some patches of cotton fields and rangelands, has washed out culverts and damaged private property.

Barney Stricker is a victim. His barn is flooded, and some of his equipment has been damaged.

"This time, it isn't as bad as it was last time," Stricker said over the waterfall-like roar of the stream.

The "last time" was in late September, when that downpour fell over the Permian Basin. The rain was needed; it essentially broke 1980's drought.

After the rain, water in Monahans Draw naturally subsided.

Commissioner Brown readily acknowledged that the draw, by its very nature, likely would harbor mosquitoes and other insects. But, he said, the addition of effluent waters from Odessa greatly magnifies the problem.

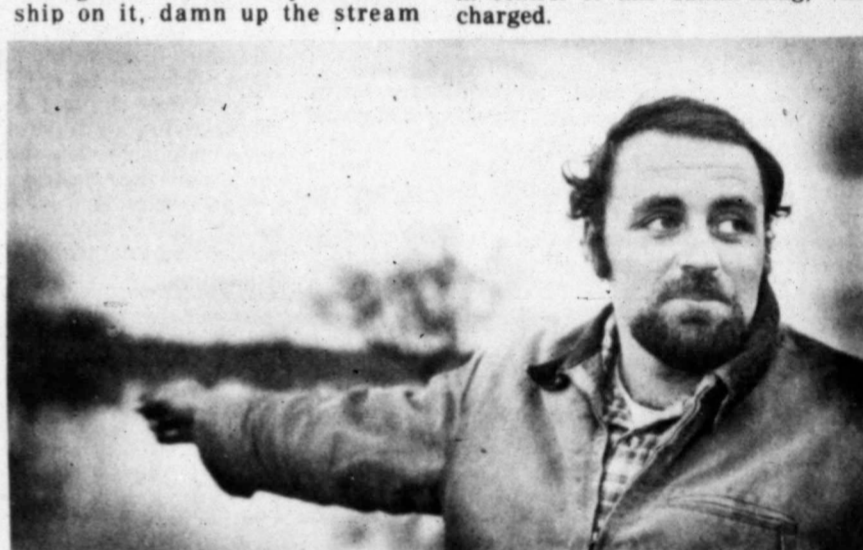
One benefit — irrigation — of the draw is "well and good," but its use is

limited, Brown noted. "We've got to do something in Midland County to stop that water from coming down here," the commissioner said.

And what Brown proposes to do to solve Midland's problem with this "navigable stream" is to put a battleship on it, damn up the stream

and thereby better control the mosquitoes. And then, in another wishful whim, the commissioner would let some of Midland's effluent waters flow into Odessa.

"I'm going to put a battleship on it (the draw), and we'll find out who's in control of this damn thing," he charged.



Barney Stricker is growing increasingly familiar with the overflow of Monahans Draw. It's flooding his barn just south of Midland and west of Midkiff Road. "It isn't as bad as it was last time," however. (Staff Photo)



Monahans Draw meanders like a major river, as it runs easterly from Odessa to Midland. The draw, fed by overflowing effluent waters from Odessa's sewage treatment plant, is invading Midland and is causing some people to squawk. (Staff Photos by Ed Todd)

Water plan needed Oklahomans are told

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — State and federal officials have balked too long in deciding who will plan for the country's water development policies, a development expert told the first statewide Governor's Water Conference Monday.

"Surely we have avoided an evaluation of this delicate issue long enough," said Joe Hall, conservation officer for the Western Area Power Administration in Golden, Colo.

Hall was one of several speakers to appear before the 850 people gathered for the meeting. Gov. George Nigh predicted water will replace energy in the next decade as the foremost challenge in the state.

And Herbert Grubb, director of planning for the Texas Water Resources Department, said it's time to look for ways to pay for water resource development. He said federal regulations have forced up the cost of that development.

"If we fail to provide for maintenance and growth of water systems, a critical factor in production will be missing," he said. "We expect technology to help in this cause, but I don't see technology finding a substitute for water."

Grubb said some methods being considered to help local and state governments in addition to revenue and general obligation bonds

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Old forest fire lookout towers abandoned to curiosity seekers

By MELISSA EMBRY
Longview Morning Journal

HALLSVILLE, Texas (AP) — You can see for miles from the 100-foot fire tower which crowns a hill in this East Texas hamlet.

But nowadays the Texas Forest Service has all but abandoned the view to curiosity seekers.

In fact, if the Forest Service had its way, the tower here will be one of only three fire towers left in a district which includes Gregg, Harrison and Marion counties. And local Forest Technician Thomas Richardson estimates as many as half of the other fire towers in East Texas may also go the way of the treehouse perches they replaced 50 and 60 years ago.

The towers just aren't as efficient for fire sighting as the airplanes the Forest Service began using almost a decade ago, he said.

"They were the best we had then," he said, "(but) they're not near as accurate as an airplane spotter."

The Forest Service has put many of the towers on the bidding block, trying to get the 100-foot metal structures torn down.

But because the Hallsville tower includes a relay house for long distance communications between firefighters, it "will probably be here for some time to come," Richardson said.

Most most days, it stands alone — as it has since 1973 — except for an occasional visit from maintenance workers and vandals.

The tower was built for \$932 in 1936 during a sort of fire tower building boom in the area.

"This was about the time 90 fire towers in East Texas were completed," Richardson said.

Tower construction started in Southeast Texas in the 1920s and continued in this area until 1970, when a tower was erected near Mount Pleasant, Richardson said.

But the final one had hardly been raised before the era of the fire tower passed. In the early '70s, the Forest Service "started using fire planes pretty regularly," Richardson said. By 1973 the planes became, in effect, the services' only method of spotting fires.

The Hallsville tower has not been used regularly since 1973 and was used only one day last year.

Not that it wasn't considered a modern innovation in its youth. Before the Hallsville tower was built, local forestry patrolman Junius Perry had to climb a hickory tree to look for fires.

When it was in regular use, tower workers climbed the steps early in the morning and spent the day in a 6-by-6 foot cab glass enclosure at the top, "crossing out" with other towers, Richardson said.

When smoke was spotted, readings from the two nearest fire towers were used to determine the location of the fire "within a half mile of accuracy," he said.

Drifting smoke sometimes obscured the true location of a fire from the tower-top viewers, Richardson said. And because the towers are so isolated, "it takes a while to get to a fire from here," he added.

The Forest Service would like to be rid of the responsibility for maintaining the towers, but unlike many things in this world, fire towers are more easily built than destroyed.

It's one thing for vandals to shoot out the windows, as they have. But it's quite another to dismantle a hundred vertical feet of metal and dig up a concrete foundation.

Haskell County sheriff pleads guilty to charges

HASKELL, Texas (AP) — Although Sheriff Garth Garrett of Haskell County has pleaded guilty to failing to arrest an Arizona fugitive, the veteran lawman says he won't resign.

"I will do just like I've always done for the citizens of Haskell County," Garrett said after entering his guilty plea to the state misdemeanor charge.

He has been sheriff for 20 years, and was elected to a sixth term on Nov. 4.

The long-time sheriff pleaded guilty to a charge that he "refrained from performing an official duty" when he did not arrest Gerald R. Pyle on May 5. Pyle was wanted on an Arizona fugitive warrant.

Under the plea bargain arrangement, Garrett was fined \$250 plus court costs, and agreed to repay \$165.27 that was allegedly improperly charged to county credit cards. Prosecutors dropped three felony charges and one misdemeanor in return for the plea.

The agreement was announced at about 11:50 a.m. Monday, an hour before jury selection was slated to begin in Garrett's trial on the charges.

Austin Bray of the Secretary of State's office in Austin said that there is no law barring Garrett from holding office. Had he been convicted of felony charges, however, he would have been disqualified, Bray said.

Garrett was indicted in August on three felony charges of aggravated perjury, unauthorized use of county credit cards, and tampering with a witness. He was also indicted on misdemeanor charges of failing to perform an official duty and of working county prisoners on his property.

Now that the criminal proceedings are over, Garrett said, "maybe we can give people the justice they deserve."



Cullen Davis, a Fort Worth industrialist, who spent 610 days in jail charged with capital murder and solicitation of capital murder before he was cleared of those charges looks at a book that he says helped his understanding of what was plaguing the country. Davis says he has studied humanism thoroughly and is convinced a "humanist conspiracy" encompasses the nation's educational system, policies, the media and some churches. (AP Laserphoto)

Millionaire declares war on humanism

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Millionaire industrialist Cullen Davis, who announced his "born again" Christian faith earlier this year, says he is trying to "turn this country right-side up" by sounding the battle cry against a "humanist conspiracy."

Davis was acquitted in 1977 in the shooting death of his 12-year-old stepdaughter and was cleared of charges last year that he tried to buy the murder of his divorcee judge.

Last spring, Davis and his wife, Karen, professed their faith when they joined the First Baptist Church of Euless, in a Fort Worth suburb. Television evangelist James Robison, a member of the church, accompanied the Davises during their proclamation.

Now, Davis says he is "trying to do my part to turn this country right-side up," as well as tending to Kendavis Industries, his 80-company conglomerate. Davis blames "liberals" who "operate under the banner of humanism" behind deteriorating values and morals.

"Humanism can be defined in several ways, but basically it's a philosophy that defies man and does away altogether with the supernatural," Davis said.

"Liberal humanists are trying to remove the moral values from any decision making in government and education," he said. "They are saying that moral values play no part in the technical decisions made by government and educational institutions."

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Solid Oak Bedroom by De Soto Dresser, Mirror, Chest Headboard & Nightstand	1449 ⁹⁵	949 ⁸⁸	829 ⁰⁰
Super Soft Sofa Chair Ottoman Heavy Nylon Cover, Slight Damage	799 ⁹⁵	649 ⁸⁸	499 ⁰⁰
Modern All-Wood Dining Room China, Table & 6 Chairs, Slight Damage	1449 ⁹⁵	899 ⁸⁸	599 ⁰⁰
Chrome & Glass Dinette, Table & 4 Chairs With Velvet Cover	519 ⁹⁵	319 ⁸⁸	269 ⁰⁰
Solid Oak Bedroom by Pulaski Dresser Twin Mirror Chest, King Headboard & 2 Nightstands	3999 ⁹⁵	2188 ⁸⁸	1888 ⁰⁰
Sofa, Loveseat, Chair, Beautiful Nylon Covers Wood Trim! Fantastic!	1669 ⁹⁵	1049 ⁸⁸	899 ⁰⁰
Solid Wood Bedroom by Lea Dresser Hutch Mirror, Chest Headboard, & Nightstand	1099 ⁹⁵	629 ⁸⁵	549 ⁰⁰
Modern Bar & 2 Stools, Tan Vinyl Cover, 1 Only	349 ⁹⁵	219 ⁸⁸	169 ⁰⁰
Early American, Living Room Sofa, Loveseat, Chair	999 ⁹⁵	699 ⁸⁸	488 ⁰⁰

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Adele McDaniel, left, representing the women of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, presents a check for \$1,700 to Elizabeth Glenn, R.D., director of Meals on Wheels and Need-a-Meal. The money will be used to help fund the Meals on Wheels program. Contributions are tax deductible and may be mailed to Midland Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 5724, Midland, 79704. (Staff Photo)

AT WIT'S END

Volunteer's anatomy

By ERMA BOMBECK

The anatomy of a volunteer who was asked to fill a table of eight for a style show benefiting needy children:

Monday: Called Jeanette. Jeanette bought a ticket and in turn sold me two tickets for a gymnastic exhibition to send six baton twirlers to the inaugural. Also gave me three books of chances to sell on a microwave oven to lobby against dirty books.

Tuesday: Saw Marge in supermarket. Marge bought a ticket and sold me two tickets to a ball to fund "Save the Whale Sperm." Gave me 60 flyers to distribute for a race to be run a week from Sunday to Stamp Out Puberty Among Our Young People.

Tuesday Night: At the tennis match, met Nancy who bought a ticket and in turn sold me ten chances on a pony and enlisted me to sell peanut brittle to benefit restoration of an 1890 brothel that was being torn down to build a 1980 brothel.

Thursday Morning: Sold two tickets to Elaine who sold me a cookbook

and two tickets to a luncheon with proceeds going to a Home for Retired Girl Scout Cookie Chairmen.

Thursday Afternoon: Called Marty and sold her a ticket. Marty, in return, asked me to make a table decoration for a luncheon and solicit a Weight Watchers scholarship as a door prize. The luncheon would benefit a Shotmobile that would administer flu shots to the elderly.

Thursday Evening: Saw Mayva. She bought a box of peanut brittle and sold me a ticket to a house tour benefiting Misplaced Homemakers. She was sorry she couldn't attend my style show but signed me up to drive a group of Women in Crisis over Night Driving to a concert Friday night.

Friday: Saw Helen selling fruitcakes in a supermarket to buy a camper for the nuns at the school. She reminded me that when she bought a ticket from me last year for the Sponsor-a-Tree picnic, I told her I would collect door-to-door for Foot Health Week coming up next

month.

Friday Afternoon: Heard Marsha just got home from the hospital and wanted to get to her before anyone else. Sold her two tickets to the style show, but not before she made me promise to serve as chairman of the next year's Devotion to Motherhood and Wine-Tasting Seminar.

Saturday Morning: Georgia finally returned my call. Before I could make my pitch, she asked me to fill a table of eight for a style show benefiting needy children.

Is there no compassion left for a volunteer suffering from Terminal Weakness?

8 Shopping Days Left till Christmas at SAN MIGUEL SQUARE Midkiff & Wadley, Midland



DEAR ABBY

'The other woman' won't ever be the wife

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: Quite often I read in your column what I call "the other woman lament." I understand her position, but from where I stand, I think her position is most enviable.

I'm a respectable married woman but would almost welcome being "the other woman." If I were "the other woman," my lover would probably remember me on my birthday and special holidays. My husband does not. My lover would probably compliment me from time to time. My husband does not—even though I am considered an excellent

cook and housekeeper, attractive, and weigh within 3 pounds of what I weighed when he married me. My sex life would probably be much improved, as my husband seldom wants sex, and when he does, he satisfies only himself. My lover might even tell me he loves me occasionally. My husband never does.

The respectability and security of marriage are important, but they're not enough. In the next life, (if there is one), I want to be "the other woman."—ENVIOUS

DEAR ENVIOUS: Before committing your next life to being "the other woman," please read this letter from my

files: DEAR ABBY: I am another one who lives in New Mexico and has been mistaken for a foreigner.

I mailed a check to National Geographic magazine for the renewal of my subscription and received the following letter: "We are sorry to inform you that the amount of your check does not cover a subscription to a foreign country."

I turned the letter over and wrote on the back: "I have placed a stop-payment order at my bank for the check to renew my subscription. I do not realize National

Geographic was not published in the United States of America. I do not wish to subscribe to a foreign publication."

MRS. R. L. KOPP, ROSWELL, N.M.

DEAR MRS. KOPP: So what happened? Did the magazine acknowledge the human error, or blame the computer like everybody else does?

Tuition refunds

SEATTLE (AP) — A tuition-refund program that compensates employees according to the grade received in a college course has been instituted by an air express company.

Japanese art exhibit

NEW YORK (AP) — An exhibition, "Exquisite Visions: Rimpa Paintings from Japan," is on show at Japan House Gallery through Jan. 4, 1981.

The exhibition was organized by the Honolulu Academy of Arts in cooperation with the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Tokyo, and in association with Japan House Gallery. It was first shown in Honolulu, and this showing will be the only other one because of the age and delicate condition of the works.

In the exhibition there are more than 50 priceless screens, hanging scrolls, hand scrolls and fan paintings, executed over a span of four centuries, the 16th to the 19th, by the masters of the Rimpa school. The paintings, with their characteristic brilliant colors in bold compositions on gold and silver backgrounds, combine classical natural images with flowing calligraphy.

The exhibition was funded by grants from the American Express Foundation and the National Endowment for the arts.

Oil wells galore

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. (AP) — Oil-well drilling activity is at its highest level in 20 years.

Some 56,000 wells — averaging 4,500 feet in depth and totaling more than 250 million feet — will be drilled in the U.S. this year, according to Drilling Specialties here.

Many Pennsylvania wells are as shallow as 1,500 feet, or less. In the Southwest, wells are frequently as deep as 20,000 feet.

420,000 Americans to die of cancer in '81, says society

By ULA ILNYTZKY Associated Press Writer NEW YORK (AP) — Cancer, the No. 2 killer in the United States, will claim 420,000 lives in 1981

—1,151 people a day or about one every 75 seconds, according to the American Cancer Society.

But of the 420,000 pro-

jected victims, 134,000 might be saved by earlier diagnosis and prompt treatment, according to the society's 1981 "Cancer Facts and Figures" report, released Sunday.

The report said cancer causes one in five deaths and is second only to heart disease as a killer of Americans.

Although cancer deaths have risen steadily over the years, not all the news in the society's report was gloomy. Of the 805,000 people who will be discovered to have cancer in 1981, a third will survive at least five years after treatment begins, the report said.

If cancer patients who die from unrelated causes — heart disease, accidents and old age diseases — during the next five years are excluded, the survival rate for the new cases would rise to 41 percent, the society said.

It also said more than 3 million Americans have survived cancer. Of those, 2 million were diagnosed five or more years ago. Most of those who have gone that long without recurrence have the same life expectancy as people who never had cancer, according to the society.

Almost 56 million Americans now living — one in four — eventually will have cancer, the report said. In coming years, cancer is expected to strike two out of every three American families.

According to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, an esti-

mated 412,000 Americans died of cancer in 1980; 404,000 in 1979; 396,992 in 1978 and 386,686 in 1977.

Among other findings in the report:

—Lung cancer, most commonly caused by cigarette smoking, continues to be the most frequent cancer in men. Breast cancer tops the list for women.

—The overall cancer rate for blacks has increased 8 percent over several decades while it has dropped 3 percent for whites. Cancer mortality rates also are greater for blacks than whites.

—In 1981, the District of Columbia will lead the nation with 250 cancer deaths per 100,000 population. Others in descending order include Rhode Island with 247; Florida with 245; Pennsylvania, 212; New Jersey, 211; New York, 209; Connecticut, 206.

—Fourteen cancers, which a few decades ago almost certainly were fatal, now often are cured because of advances in chemotherapy treatments. They include Hodgkin's disease, acute lymphocytic leukemia, ovarian, breast and testicular cancers.

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Santa Claus (Charles Bryan) and Christine Ratliff, 6, who is deaf, use sign language to talk about reindeer recently in a shopping mall in Columbus, Ohio. Bryan, who is legally deaf, doubles as counselor and job placement adviser for handicapped students at Columbus Technical Institute. (AP Laserphoto)



Wendy Marotz, 8, Maplewood, Minn., playing the role of an angel, rode a llama in a procession to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Maplewood recently. Wendy was part of a living Christmas manger scene following the procession. (AP Laserphoto)

Study shows more than half Louisiana bridges deficient

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — More than half of Louisiana's 14,800 bridges are deficient by state and federal inspection standards, according to a study made for builders of bridges and highways.

The Road Information Program report said the bridges were not necessarily unsafe, but merely need to be "rehabilitated or replaced" at a cost of \$130.7 million over the next 15 years.

The study, released Monday, said there was little danger of bridge collapses as long as posted vehicle weight limits are observed. It said, too, that the state of Louisiana will

have to pay for more of the bridge repairs because the federal government was cutting back on bridge repair projects.

TRIP said its study was conducted for the Associated General Contractors of America Inc. TRIP identified itself as a non-profit research and information agency supported by such highway-related industries and organizations as Associated General Contractors.

TRIP said 57 percent of Louisiana's bridges — 8,500 of 14,800 — are either too old or too weak and should be improved or replaced.

Nobody with state government

could be reached for an immediate comment, but the chairman of the Transportation Committee of the Louisiana House of Representatives said perhaps more than 57 percent of the state's bridges might be substandard by government definitions.

Rep. Richard Baker of Baker said many existing Louisiana bridges were designed years ago to carry weights far lesser traffic than they do now.

Baker said the 1980 Legislature appropriated \$10 million for bridge repairs and he expects the 1981 Legislature to appropriate more, particularly for older rural bridges serving

farm-to-market or farm-to-school traffic.

"When a parish-by-parish, bridge-by-bridge report is released, there may be more than 50 percent which are found to be substandard. This may be a conservative number," Baker said.

"These observations confirm a report by federal authorities and justify the expenditure made by the Legislature last session and, I hope, additional expenditures by the next session of the Legislature."

TRIP said 6,570, or 44 percent of the bridges were "structurally deficient" — inadequate to handle maximum vehicle weights now authorized on roads leading to them.

TRIP said another 1,930 bridges, or 13 percent, were "functionally obsolete" — narrow clearances, treacherous approaches, too few lanes for existing needs, etc. It said most of

those bridges were more than 40 years old.

"Louisiana's bridges are wearing out faster than they can be repaired or replaced with existing funds," said James M. Winford.

TRIP said 2,502 of 7,300 state-maintained bridges were found to be substandard and 2,640 of the 3,300 maintained by parishes and cities were below minimum standards.

Doggett angry about vote

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A critic of organized medicine's lobbying tactics says the Texas Medical Association scored a victory when the Sunset Advisory Commission refused to recommend changes in the State Board of Medical Examiners.

Sen. Lloyd Doggett, D-Austin, said the board wanted more secrecy than other agencies and had objected to proposals allowing non-doctors on peer review committees and placing license fees in the state treasury.

"It's outrageous," he said Monday.

The commission's final vote was 3-3-1, with six votes needed for adoption.

The medical examiners board, which has been criticized for not requiring doctors to serve in rural areas or city slums, was among 28 state agencies reviewed by the commission at its final meeting prior to the 1981 Legislature.

Although the commission will not offer a legislative proposal to extend the life of the board past the automatic Aug. 31 cutoff date, Doggett said lobbyists for the board and the TMA will introduce legislation of their own.

"The only bill will be the one they will write. It's the only agency that took that position. It thinks its lobbying hand is strong enough that it doesn't need any recommendation," said Doggett, who sponsored legislation creating the Sunset Commission.

TMA Lobbyist Greg Hooser said whether the commission's failure to recommend a bill will affect legisla-

tive action "depends on how the Legislature views the commission's work. We think we're on the right side."

He denied he had suggested how any commission member should vote, and he said any proposal offered to the Legislature would contain 90 percent of the "votes the commission has made."

"My lobbying effort would be easier if we had a (Sunset) bill to track," said Hooser.

"That's bull," said Doggett.

The Sunset Commission flip-flopped three times before recommending that the Amusement Machine Commission be maintained as a separate agency, instead of giving up its regulatory authority to State Comptroller Bob Bullock.

Sen. Ed Howard criticized Bullock — without using his name — for estimating it would cost more to shift the Amusement Commission's duties to the comptroller's office.

The Sunset staff had estimated the comptroller's office could collect taxes on amusement machines for \$350,000 less per year than the Amusement Commission.

The comptroller's estimate was \$25,000 higher for the fiscal year starting Sept. 1.

"The (Amusement) commission is seriously attempting to resolve its problems," said Howard, D-Texas, "and I don't think elected officials should attempt to play these kind of games."

"But senator, Leroy doesn't want the ball," replied Rep. Bennie Bock

II, commission chairman.

The Sunset Commission voted to abolish the Board of Tuberculosis Nurses Examiners, which has a fund balance of \$18.05, no source of revenue and has not met since 1974. The staff said only 30 persons are registered as tuberculosis nurses, and no jobs would be jeopardized by abolishing the board.

The commission also voted to abolish the Civil Air Patrol Commission, the State Board of Library Examiners, the Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz Memorial Naval Museum Commission and the Texas Water Well Drillers Board.

The Civil Air Patrol Commission's duties would be transferred to the Governor's Division of Disaster Emergency Services, the library board's functions would be shifted to the Library and Archives Commission and the Nimitz Museum Commission would be handled by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The Water Well Drillers Board would continue to exist as an advisory agency but its licensing duties would be transferred to the Department of Water Resources.

The Sunset Commission declined to offer recommendations on the Board of Examiners in Social Psychotherapy and the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

The staff had recommended continuing both agencies, with 10 proposed changes for the physical therapy board and 17 for social psychotherapists.

Another guerrilla joins hunger strike

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — One more convicted Irish Republican Army guerrilla today joined a hunger strike "to the death" by 33 other guerrillas held in Northern Ireland prisons, Britain's Northern Ireland Office said.

Sinn Fein, the outlawed IRA's political front, said five other prisoners had also been expected to join the hunger strike launched by seven guerrillas Oct. 27, but apparently did not because of a "communications breakdown" with IRA leaders outside.

Twenty-three IRA activists in the top security Maze facility near Belfast joined the original seven Monday in a move that apparently caught the IRA's leadership by surprise.

Three convicted IRA women guerrillas in Armagh prison have been fasting since Dec. 1.

"The men who were supposed to join the strike today are in a different cellblock from the others and it ap-

pears they didn't know it was their turn," a Sinn Fein spokesman said. "Communication within the prison is getting more difficult."

The hunger-strikers, who belong to the IRA's "Provisional" wing and the smaller Irish National Liberation Army, are demanding the British treat jailed guerrillas as political prisoners rather than criminals.

The two mainly Roman Catholic movements are fighting to push the British out of Northern Ireland and reunite the Protestant-dominated province with the neighboring Irish Republic, which is overwhelmingly Catholic.

Today's abortive effort to widen the hunger strike and an apparent drop in support for the prisoners among the province's 500,000-strong Catholic minority, on whom the guerrillas depend, raised speculation that the prison protest campaign may be running out of steam.

There has been persistent specula-

tion that four of the original seven hunger-strikers now are ready to make a compromise deal to end the fast. Monday's escalation of the hunger strike was seen as an effort to bolster their resolve to hold out.

These sources reported that the IRA leadership seems to have lost control of the men held in the Maze, who now are making their own decisions in their bizarre battle of wills with the British.

But the British are under increasing pressure to negotiate a compromise deal with the protesters following Monday's action and as the condition of the original seven deteriorates after 51 days without solid food.

A British statement Monday noted that all seven have lost a lot of weight and are growing increasingly weaker mentally and physically. All the hunger-strikers are taking only salt and water.



First lady Rosalynn Carter holds her granddaughter Sarah, the daughter of her son Jack, as she examines the White House Christmas tree recently. This year the tree represents what Mrs. Carter called "an old fashioned Christmas." It is hung with Victorian-style dolls, miniature hats, and 1000 dusty rose tassels. (AP Laserphoto)

