





# Cocaine trade aided by officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — Carter administration officials say they believe at least two cabinet members of Bolivia's month-old military government are involved in that country's highly-profitable cocaine export trade.

The official administration position is that such involvement cannot be confirmed. But the State Department said Wednesday it is terminating the U.S. anti-narcotics program in Bolivia because it cannot count on Bolivian cooperation in the effort.

Speaking privately, American officials say credible evidence has been accumulated which substantiates allegations that key members of Bolivia's rightist regime are involved with cocaine traffickers.

The administration has been reluctant to make its evidence public be-

cause of fear for the safety of the remaining official American community in Bolivia, the sources said.

State Department spokesman David Passage told reporters Wednesday that the official American presence is being reduced from 120 to 80 since the Bolivian military took power on July 17, preventing the installation of a democratically-elected government. Among those being recalled are five officials of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Production of coca leaves, which yield cocaine, is centered in the area of Santa Cruz, Bolivia's second largest city and the stronghold of rightist groups which helped Army Commander Luis Garcia Meza to power.

Coca leaf output around Santa Cruz is said to have increased dramatically in recent years to meet a growing world-wide demand.

Passage stopped just short of directly implicating Bolivian government officials in cocaine exports. He said the United States is terminating drug-related programs in Bolivia because allegations of Bolivian government involvement in this trade "call into question the degree of cooperation we could expect."

Asked if that means the United States believes the allegations, Passage told reporters, "I leave it to you to draw parallels between the two."

Bolivia and Peru are the only major cocaine exporters in the world. According to U.S. officials, annual cocaine street sales in the United States net anywhere from \$500 million to \$2 billion.

The New York Times reported recently that the United States consumes 60 to 120 tons of South American cocaine each year. The report said

that in New York City, a single kilo, or 2.2 pounds, can be diluted into enough portions to be worth \$250,000 on the retail market.

Bolivia's democratically-elected leadership was expected to investigate the country's drug trade.

## Mexican held on drug charges

A 36-year-old resident of Mexico was in City Jail this morning on charges of importing narcotics.

The man was arrested at 10:35 p.m. Wednesday in Odessa by U.S. Marshal H. Harkrider.

Further details of the arrest were unavailable early this morning.

# Two girls injured in hit-and-run

Two girls were injured Wednesday afternoon when the bicycle they were riding apparently was struck by an automobile which left the scene.

As far as police can determine, the incident occurred shortly before 1:56 p.m. in the 1000 block of Carter Avenue. Eleven-year-old Ruth Alvarado, 1211 S. Pratt St., was riding on the handlebars of the bicycle, and Rita Lujan of 1211 S. Pratt was pedaling when the accident occurred. The

girls told police a 1965 or 1966 yellow Ford was heading west on Carter when it struck them and then left.

Both girls were taken to Midland Memorial Hospital emergency room where they were treated and released.

A Houston woman and her passenger were injured when their car and a truck-tractor-trailer collided on the south service road to Interstate 20, near South Midkiff Road.

Timothy B. Gerod of Odessa, driver of the truck-tractor-trailer, was east-bound on the service road, negotiating a left turn. Toni Lynn Cheatwood of Houston was westbound on the same road, making a right turn. The car and the back trailer tire collided.

Ms. Cheatwood, 15, and Jennifer Benson, 15 months, of Route 3, Box 416, were taken to Midland Memorial Hospital and admitted. Both were

listed in satisfactory condition this morning.

Midland firemen were called to two grass fires and a car fire since 1 p.m. Wednesday.

The grass fires occurred at 2:04 p.m., 206 S. Tyler St., and 5:14 p.m. on East Highway 80 about a mile out of Midland. The car fire was at 2:55 p.m. at Big Spring Street and George Avenue.

Three people were transported by CFD ambulance.

# Archbishop appeals to Iran's Khomeini

By The Associated Press

The Archbishop of Canterbury urged Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to free Jean Waddell, a British missionary held on spy charges in Iran. He also expressed concern for the safety of Dr. John Coleman and his wife Audrey, a British couple reported arrested and questioned by Iranian authorities.

Meanwhile, hundreds of protesters gathered again outside the British Embassy in Tehran in a mass display of anger once reserved solely for the U.S. hostages, now in their 285th day of captivity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Robert Runcie, the spiritual head of the Anglican Communion, told Britain's Press Association on Wednesday he had become increasingly alarmed about the fate of the Anglican Church in predominantly Moslem Iran.

He said Miss Waddell, a 58-year-old Anglican missionary, still suffered from wounds suffered during an attempt on her life before her detention Aug. 8 in the central Iranian city of Isfahan, about 140 miles south of Tehran.

"As events in Iran continue to unfold, my thoughts and prayers are focused on Jean Waddell ... and Dr. John Coleman and his wife," the archbishop said.

He denied the Iranian claim that Miss Waddell, secretary to the former Anglican bishop in Iran, had been involved in espionage. "The secretary of the Anglican bishop was not engaged in spying," he said.

Meanwhile, the British Foreign Office said it was "urgently" trying to locate the Colemans, who had been expected back Monday at their clinic in Yazd, 400 miles northwest of Tehran.

In addition to seeking the release of the American hostages seized Nov. 4, the United States is asking for the freedom of Cynthia Dwyer, a 49-year-old free-lance reporter from Buffalo, N.Y., arrested in April on spy charges.

Both the United States and Britain remain under threat of reprisal from segments of the Iranian regime who accuse them of mistreating Iranian demonstrators, a charge the U.S. and British governments have denied.

Reports of growing anti-British sentiment in Iran followed the arrest of dozens of Iranian militants in London last week when they clashed with police during a protest of the arrest of more than 100 Iranians at anti-American demonstrations in the United States.

Sixty-six Iranians remain jailed in London. About 37 of those were on a hunger strike, authorities said. All but one of the Iranians jailed in the United States had been released last week. The Iranian still in custody faces a deportation hearing in Washington.

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DEATHS



Inez Reese

Inez Reese, 87, of 1302 E. Parker Ave., died Tuesday in her home.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Friday in Antioch Baptist Church with the Rev. Johnny Mitchell officiating.

Burial will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Corsicana with burial in a Corsicana cemetery directed by Thomas Funeral Home of Midland.

Mrs. Reese was born Sept. 13, 1892, in Tyler. She had lived in Midland since 1963 and was the mother of the Antioch Baptist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Adeline Woodson and Emma Massey, both of Midland, a granddaughter, two grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

Percy Robinson

Services for Percy Robinson, 67, of Big Spring and formerly of Midland, will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday in the Thomas Funeral Home chapel with burial in Fairview Cemetery in Midland.

Robinson died Sunday in a Stanton hospital.

Kathryn Wright

STANTON — Services for Kathryn Florence Wright, 84, of Stanton will be at 3 p.m. Friday in Christ Episcopal Church in San Antonio with the Rev. John McNaughton officiating.

Burial will be in Mission Burial Park under direction of Porter-Loring Funeral Home in San Antonio. Local arrangements were handled by Gilbreath Funeral Home.

She died Wednesday afternoon in Stanton after a lengthy illness.

Born Aug. 24, 1895, in Denver, Colo., she moved to San Antonio in 1900 and from there to Stanton in 1979. She was a former employee of the City of San Antonio and was a member of Christ Episcopal Church there.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. W.S. Decker Sr. of Stanton; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Clara White

BIG SPRING — Mrs. L.B. (Clara) White, 63, of Big Spring and formerly of Martin County, died Tuesday in a local hospital after a sudden illness.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday in the Nalley-Pickle Rosewood Chapel with burial in Trinity Memorial Park under the direction of Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home.

Mrs. White was born June 12, 1917, in Hill County. She was married to L.B. White June 15, 1935, in Stanton. A Big Spring resident since 1946, she had previously lived in Martin County and was a member of the Hillcrest Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Gertrude White, in 1937, and by two brothers, Leonard Coolbaugh and Alfred Coolbaugh.

Survivors include her husband; three sons, Doyle White, Bobby White and Curtis Wayne White, all of Big Spring; three daughters, Bonnie Daniels, Ola Mae Hale and Juanita Lytle, all of Big Spring; five sisters, Lizzie Roberts of Big Spring, Nora Smith and Bertha Sherman, both of Mid-

land, Mary Toon of Waco and Myrtle Cathey of Tucson, Ariz.; a brother, Charlie Coolbaugh of Gustine; and 11 grandchildren.

Lena B. Curry

Services for Lena Brunson "Lena B." Curry, 50, of Stanton and formerly of Midland, were to be at 10 a.m. today in the Bellview Baptist Church with the Rev. L.M. Hammitt officiating, assisted by the Rev. G.A. McGee of Bellview Baptist.

Graveside services were to be at 3:30 p.m. today in Resthaven Memorial Park in Lubbock under the direction of Newnie W. Ellis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Curry died Saturday. Born Nov. 9, 1929, in Gainesville, Texas, and lived for a time in Snyder.

She moved to Midland in 1952 and owned and operated Lena B's Beauty Shop at 4311 W. Illinois Ave. She had been in failing health for a year. She was a member of Bellview Baptist Church of Midland.

Survivors include two daughters, Emmie Ruth Walker of Houston and Virginia May Hash of Midland; three brothers, John I. Jones of Acuff, Wilburn Jones of Lubbock, and Wendell Jones of St. Lawrence; three sisters, Helen Jennings and Mary Ann Gestes, both of Lorenzo, and Penny McLaughlin of Lubbock; and six grandchildren.

Mabel Whatley

ANDREWS — Services for Mabel Edna Whatley, 78, of Andrews are pending with Singleton Funeral Home.

Mrs. Whatley died Tuesday at an Andrews hospital after a lengthy illness.

She was born in Danville, Ark., and had lived in Andrews, for 25 years, moving here from Columbia, South America.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. A.E. McDaniel of Andrews; and a brother, D.B. Murdock of Planada, Calif.

Saudi calls for 'Holy War'

By The Associated Press

Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, declared that "holy war" is the only way to deal with Israel's annexation of Jerusalem. But most of the 13 nations with embassies in the holy city are resisting Arab pressures to move.

Meanwhile, Butros Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, met in Bucharest with Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei to discuss the impasse over Jerusalem, which led to Egypt's suspension of Palestinian autonomy talks with Israel. Ghali's five-day visit comes amid signs that Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, a past go-between in sensitive Mideast negotiations, is launching a new peace effort.

In a declaration issued Wednesday, Saudi Arabia, long a moderate amidst the Mideast's more radical regimes, said Israel's new Jerusalem Law approved two weeks ago showed that a "desire for restraint and moderation" was useless in dealing with the Jewish state.

The oil-rich kingdom also warned the West — and in particular, parties to the 1978 Camp David peace accord signed by Israel and Egypt and sponsored by the United States — that Arab and Islamic nations could not be blamed "if we took the matters in our hands ... in one battle at whatever the cost and whatever the duration, allotting to it (the battle) all our capabilities and possibilities — everything, expensive and cheap."

The Saudi statement was made by Crown Prince Fahd, who rules the kingdom on a day-to-day basis and is the most likely successor to King Khaled. The statement, carried by the Gulf News Agency, was "a pledge from us to the Arabs and Moslems," Fahd said. He indicated the Saudis were trying to set up an Arab summit to form a unified stand on the Jerusalem issue.

Fahd's 500-word declaration marked a hardening in the Saudi position and followed a warning three months ago that his kingdom was

prepared to use "all weapons within our reach," including oil, if a just Mideast peace was not realized "and if the international community fails to discern our good faith."

That warning was delivered May 24, the original target date for Egypt and Israel to agree on a plan for Palestinian autonomy under the Camp David accords.

The talks were deadlocked over differing views on the extent of autonomy for the 1.2 million Palestinians living on land seized by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war. They are now stalled because of Israel's formal annexation of Jerusalem's eastern or Arab sector in the city holy to Jews, Moslems and Christians.

In his latest declaration, Fahd addressed the question of "jihad," or holy war, saying:

"Here, the question is inevitable — What has moderation achieved and is this (Israel's) annexation of Jerusa-

lem) the West's concept of just peace? And where is the comprehensive peace framework they envisaged, formulated at Camp David and promised us. Hasn't the call for Arabs and Moslems to a long and persisting jihad become the only answer to the Zionist religious and racist arrogance?"

As regards autonomy for the Palestinians, it requires from those still betting on it to take a dignified stand, admit failure and courageously retreat from whatever has happened and still is happening."

There was no immediate reaction to his statement from Egypt, or other Mideast nations or Israel.

By Israeli intelligence analysts in Jerusalem said they viewed it as an attempt to reassert Saudi authority in the Arab world.

Iranian mood said worst since hostage crisis began

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — The mood in Iran now is "the worst it has been since against Americans since the hostage crisis began in November," says a man who has headed two private peace missions to Tehran.

Norman Forer, a University of Kansas associate professor, blamed the situation on "police mishandling" of last month's demonstration by Iranians in Washington.

He also said negotiations for a third peace pilgrimage to Iran by the Coalition for U.S.-Iran Understanding have been put off because of that incident.

Forer led two missions to Iran by the recently formed activist organization without government sanction in an attempt to resolve the hostage situation privately.

"The police handled this situation just like they

handled the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago," Forer said. His group has written to Iranian officials apologizing "for the regrettable behavior of the Washington, D.C., police," he added.

The 192 Iranians were arrested for disorderly conduct July 27 by Washington police after their pro-Khomeini demonstration near the White House turned violent. Only a few Iranians identified themselves, hardly any carried identification and almost all began a hunger strike.

Six days later, the charges were dropped and the Iranians were turned over to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, which negotiated an agreement in which the students identified themselves and were released.

Only one demonstrator, a student from Louisiana,

faces deportation.

Those events "have created an atmosphere of antagonism with the Iranians, and have seriously damaged negotiations for the release of the hostages," Forer said.

Meanwhile, the INS has concluded that many of the Iranians arrested at the demonstration were students at Midwest colleges and universities.

Spokesman Vern Jervis said Wednesday that while the INS review of the arrests is only half finished, it is obvious that many were students at Midwest colleges and universities.

The INS has refused to release the names of those arrested because no charges were formally brought against them.

Koreans regret statements

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The South Korean government "deeply regrets the intemperate statements of foreign government officials concerning the trial of Kim Dae-jung and 23 of his supporters," a government spokesman said today. He apparently was referring to a State Department comment.

Kim Su-dock, director general of the Korean Overseas Information Service, said that "it is an internationally accepted practice to withhold any comment on pending judicial matters, and premature expressions of concern are inappropriate and can be considered tantamount to an attempt to manipulate the judicial processes of a friendly country."

On Wednesday, U.S. State Department spokesman David Passage urged South Korean authorities to adopt measures which conform with accepted judicial standards and expressed U.S. interest in moves toward "liberalization of some of the measures undertaken in recent months which do not conform with commonly accepted human rights practices and standards."

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### Legal implications of takeover studied

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — As the takeover of a west side high school moved into its seventh day, school officials were heading for a meeting on the legal implications of the occupation and protesters were working on proposals to resolve the standoff.

Neighborhood residents last Friday seized the West Business-Management Center, formerly West High School, to protest the school's closing. They ousted school staff and chained the doors shut. Sympathetic neighbors have been bringing them food.

The board of education decided Aug. 5 to close the specialized school because of dwindling enrollment and high costs.

But angry residents said that without a secondary school of their own, the neighborhood could lose its identity.

The board planned to meet in closed session today, its second meeting in three days, to discuss legal issues raised by the takeover.

Meanwhile, spokesmen for the protesters say they are preparing proposals for the Kansas City School District that could help end the fight over the school.

City Councilman Robert M. Hernandez, who has been meeting with the protesters, said a solution could come as soon as a proposal is given to the board. He would not reveal details of the plan.

On Wednesday, another group of west side residents met with District Superintendent Robert R. Wheeler and two school board members to discuss a possible compromise.

John Sanchez said he urged officials to give residents one more year to make the school economically viable.

He said his group would develop a proposal for the possible use of West for presentation to the board today.

The Coalition for the Preservation of Education on the West Side, whose members took over the school, said it was trying to work out plans for opening a community school at West on Sept. 3.

## Billy questioned for upcoming probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Billy Carter is being questioned by Senate investigators who are preparing to hear as early as next week his public testimony on his dealings with Libya.

The investigators for a special Senate judiciary subcommittee were to take a deposition from the president's brother today at his lawyers' office here.

Carter met with his lawyers, Henry Ruth and Stephen Pollak, for five hours Wednesday and told reporters later he does not know what the Senate investigators will ask.

"I guess the same things they've been asking," he said.

Asked if he thinks the affair has been blown out of proportion, he said "Of course. Of course."

The president's brother may testify to the Senate subcommittee late next week, according to Richard Paul, an aide to Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind.

Paul said the schedule for hearings next week has not been completed but said the investigators want to hear Billy Carter's testimony early in the investigation.

President Carter has said he also is willing to testify publicly in an effort to dispel questions of White House involvement in his brother's dealings with Libya.

But Bayh has said he does not know if the president's testimony will be

needed. Billy Carter told reporters Wednesday that Libyan officials agreed to talk to him about a business deal in which he would supply Libyan crude oil to the Florida-based Charter Oil Co. But he said Libya made no commitment to supply the oil.

"The Libyans have at no time reneged on any commitment," he said. "They really never made a commitment.... They said we'd talk about it."

Asked if he still has any expectation of getting the oil, he replied, "I have no expectation of anything."

The subcommittee is investigating the brother's delayed registration as a foreign agent for Libya, his acceptance of \$220,000 from that country, and the Carter administration's handling of the affair.

Billy Carter has said the \$220,000 was a business loan and has denied he was an agent for Libya. He said he registered as a foreign agent only under pressure from the Justice Department.

President Carter says his brother's relationship with Libya has not influenced U.S. policy, although Billy Carter did arrange a White House meeting with a Libyan official on efforts to free the American hostages in Iran.

On political matters, Billy Carter said Wednesday he enjoyed Sen. Ed-

ward M. Kennedy's speech at the Democratic National Convention Tuesday night and said he thinks President Carter's prospect for reelection is getting better.

He was asked if he thinks some critics are using him as "a scapegoat" when their real target is President Carter's economic and other policies.

### Nine climbers killed, another 20 injured in massive Mt. Fuji rockslide

TOKYO (AP) — Hundreds of rocks up to 6½ feet in diameter tumbled from the upper slopes of Mt. Fuji today, killing nine climbers and injuring at least 20 others, police said.

Officers in Fujiyoshida at the base of the volcanic mountain, Japan's highest peak, said the climbing party was about 9,180 feet up the 11,385-foot mountain when the rock slide occurred. Rocks continued to cascade down the slope more than an hour afterward, they said.

Police said a rescue team and a helicopter from a local ground self defense force base were on their way to the accident scene. Neither the cause of the slide nor information about the victims was immediately available.

More than three million people climb or visit the barren, conical mountain every year. Many ascend it at night to see the sunrise from the peak. Paths are carefully maintained and accidents on the mountain are rare, officers said.

### Construction site damaged in fire

HOUSTON (AP) — A four-alarm fire Wednesday did an estimated \$1.2 million in damage to an apartment complex under construction, Houston Fire Department officials said.

The blaze, which started about 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, gutted 70 units in a 328-unit complex being built in north-

west Houston. Officials said the fire started in a corner of the complex.

Firefighters brought the blaze under control after about an hour. Three firefighters and a civil defense worker were treated at local hospitals for minor injuries and released.

Arson investigators were investigating the cause of the blaze.

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## Dropouts receive "college" degrees

By NANCY SHULINS  
Associated Press Writer

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — Can a 70-year-old former ketchup-shaker from Cloverport, Ky., find happiness recruiting students for one of the world's strangest universities?

J. Henry Ballman, who holds a "doctorate" from the University of Hard Knocks, is living proof. UHK was born 30 years ago in the imagination of Jim Comstock, publisher of the weekly West Virginia Hillbilly. Comstock, a college graduate, had a partner and a problem.

The partner, Bronson McClung, had never been to college. Despite his success, he still felt disadvantaged. Comstock remedied the situation with a trip to the printer. He returned with a diploma, which he hung over McClung's desk. And like the Scarecrow who felt smarter when the Wizard of Oz awarded him a degree, McClung's feelings of inferiority lessened.

The University of Hard Knocks was born. Hundreds became overnight "graduates." Alderson-Broadus, a Phillips, W.Va., college, invited the mythical UHK to use its campus. Diplomas, 1,200 to date, were printed in the official UHK colors — black and blue. They come with a gold seal and a bandage.

For awhile, that was that. Then came Ballman, Class of '66, and holder of one of UHK's rare "doctoral" degrees. What's a university without a branch campus, Ballman wondered.

The University of Hard Knocks-Evansville Branch was born. It will hold its first graduation ceremony Sept. 12 for men and women who have succeeded sans sheepskins.

"I left school after the eighth grade," recalls Ballman, a round-faced man with white hair and bushy black eyebrows. "There were six of us kids and my father wasn't well. My brother and I dropped out to help him on the farm."

The family left Kentucky seeking a better life in Indiana. In Evansville, Ballman worked first at a canning factory, shaking bottles of ketchup to distribute the spices. He drove a truck and built river levees.

As an employee of a refrigerator manufacturing company, Ballman climbed the ladder from welder to regional sales manager.

Ten years ago, he retired. But he and his wife, Mildred, have a musical-comedy act they put on at nursing homes and conventions, and between performances, Ballman writes his memoirs and builds up his basement collection of woodpecker holes. He has 40.

But of all Ballman's projects, UHK is his pet. "When I first started out way back when, I felt I couldn't go out and compete with people who had college degrees," he recalls.

"When I did go out and start competing, I found that the woods were full of successful people who didn't go to college."

UHK is not a diploma mill, he says. Only those who have never graduated from a bona fide college are eligible, and in lieu of tuition, applicants must show they have donated \$100 to the Shrine Crippled Children's Fund.

## Nuke operators ordered to produce documents

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — A federal nuclear hearing panel has ordered the operators of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant to produce computer records that allegedly could show whether maintenance was improperly deferred on its undamaged reactor.

Labeling the allegations by an anti-nuclear group "a serious, serious matter," a three-member hearing board of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission directed Metropolitan Edison Co. on Tuesday to supply the data.

Chairman Ivan Smith said his panel is interested in "whether work orders went undone to avoid a shutdown."

If that is the case, he said, "it certainly reflects on the management ability of Met Ed."

The utility was also told to submit a better explanation of a June 27 spill of 10,000 gallons of radioactive water within the Unit 1 plant.

And the board rejected the company's motion that the charges of neglected repairs be dismissed before the start of hearings Oct. 1 on the reopening of Unit 1.

Although ready for service, Unit 1 has been closed since a March 1979 accident crippled its sister reactor, Unit 2.

The board, which was to meet again today, is holding preliminary discussions with Met Ed and a number of groups opposed to the company's plans to restart its undamaged reactor.

Company attorneys said computer personnel were to be sent to today's meeting to explain what information is available.

"The board wants us to be as helpful as possible and we will," said Met Ed counsel George Trowbridge. "We need somebody (at the meeting) who understands computers."

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## Mystical cures abound for hiccups

By JANE SEE WHITE

NEW YORK (AP) — In horses, they're called "the thumps."

For 58 years, they've prevented an Iowa farmer from swallowing solid food. Aristophanes cured his by tickling his nose until he sneezed. They plagued Pope Pius XII in his last days.

In Old English, they were spelled "hicket;" the Swedish pronounce them "hickning" or "hicka." Though

the proper medical term is "singultus," we commonly describe them by their sound: Hiccups.

Popping up, as they do, from nowhere — out of beat in a sing-along or as shrill punctuation in conversation — hiccups can be comical. Everyone has a pet cure, a cure that absolutely never fails. Often the treatment is more absurd than the malady.

Wait them out with a brown paper bag over your head; arrange a sud-

den fright; knock back an eye-watering shot of vinegar; sit quietly, firmly gripping your out-thrust tongue between thumb and index finger.

Hippocrates warned that "if singultus supervenes on excessive purging in those of advanced years, it is not a good sign." He recommended an induced sneeze as a cure.

In medieval times, cures like these were touted: pulverize and eat the yellow membrane of a hen's stomach;

press the pulse hard and stretch your arms above your head; rub your little finger in your ear; if all else fails, hold Masterwort root in your hand.

Usually hiccups simply stop the way they started, suddenly.

But when hiccups linger, when no cure works, when the spasms go on ... and on ... and on ... for hours, days — yes, even years — then hiccups are a special sort of torture.

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## Reading expert to speak Tuesday

Roger Farr, internationally recognized reading specialist, will speak at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the San Jacinto Junior High School auditorium.

Dr. Farr has chosen as his topics "Challenges in Today's Education" and "Issues in Teaching Reading."

Farr, who is past president of the International Reading Association and current director of the Smith Education Research Center at Indiana, says that trends in education have changed to include 75 percent of the student population among those who go on for higher education as opposed to the 25 percent who sought to take college entrance exams in 1950.

"While critics point to a decline in test scores, they do not realize that we are working with a drastically broadened group."

"We might have expected a very dramatic drop in the scores on college entrance exams, but scores have actually fallen off by only a few questions," Farr says.

Farr added he believes all children can be taught to read and comprehend. Also, he noted that all students who want to go to college can be prepared to do so.

"There are many misconceptions about reading trends," says Farr, "and tales about a growing illiteracy rate are just not true."

"We have, however, focused too much on the accountability of the child and too little on teacher practices. When teaching is better, student outcome will follow," Farr notes.

About a growing number of students who remain in school longer than ever before, Farr concludes, "It is not too much to expect equal education to be bound to quality education."

In addition to his talk with the public, Farr will work with school teachers and administrators while in Midland.

## Group disagrees with health report

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some members of the U.S. military serving in Hiroshima and Nagasaki after World War II were subjected to increased cancer risk, despite a government report asserting that working in the atomic bomb-struck cities did no such harm, one organization claims.

"The Pentagon's claims about safety of the post-bomb radiation were false when first made 35 years ago and they are false now," said the statement Tuesday by the Committee for U.S. Veterans of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Norman Solomon of Portland, Ore., a researcher for the committee, said the group has about 350 members, either ex-servicemen or widows.

The committee said the Defense Nuclear Agency's report "provides the same old theoretical arguments but fails to come to grips with the evidence of extremely excessive multiple myeloma (bone marrow cancer) among ex-Marines from the Nagasaki cleanup, for example."

In a report Monday, the Defense Nuclear Agency said its "extensive research over the past 10 months has disclosed no basis for concern by veterans of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki occupation force over an increased risk of adverse health effects."

## Two students killed as plane collapses

WACO, Texas (AP) — Two students at a technical college here were crushed to death by the landing gear of DC-3 airplane that collapsed while they were practicing maintenance procedures during an aviation class Wednesday.

Bill C. Criss, 21, of Copperas Cove, and Stephen J. Wood, 18, of Van Horn, were inside the wheel well of the plane when the landing gear collapsed, officials said. The gear was forced back inside the well where the students were working, decapitating one of the men.

They were pronounced dead at the Texas State Technical Institute campus by Justice of the Peace John Cabaniss.

"They were taking an actuator (hydraulic device which extends and retracts the landing gear) off the gear when it collapsed," said Nelson Wilcox, the last student to talk to the pair before the accident.

The two men were 10 minutes away from finishing the job and completing class when they were killed, shortly after 9:30 a.m.

Wilcox said the right side of the landing gear may not have been braced properly.

The students were alone when the accident occurred and had just received instructions from the teacher, Wilcox said.

A school spokesman said the state Attorney General's office had been advised of the accident and was sending an investigator to Waco since the mishap occurred on state property.

An investigation by the school's safety department is under way, the spokesman added.

Criss was only four days from graduating after an 18 months training program, and Wood was a week from finishing his fourth quarter in aviation maintenance training, officials said.

## Slayer of 13 executed

PEKING (AP) — A commune member in remote Guizhou Province in south-central China was executed for murdering 13 persons after he convinced them they would die and "fly to heaven and become immortals," the nation's leading newspaper reported.

The People's Daily said Wednesday that that Xie Xianji, 24, killed eight children in a mountain cave and drowned five other persons who willingly weighted themselves with stones and waded into a river. Two persons entered the river carrying children in their arms, the paper said.

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