

Curry County sheriff 'makes it legal'

CLOVIS, N.M. (AP) — With an assist from Texas Gov. Bill Clements, the Curry County Commission now is confident it has a sheriff that is legally qualified to serve.

The county was without a sheriff for about five minutes Monday — long enough for Wesley Myers to resign and then be appointed to clear the air of confusing legal questions surrounding his eligibility for the office.

The unusual procedure was taken on the informal advice of Jill Cooper, a deputy state attorney general, whose opinion had been sought by District Attorney Bill Bonem.

Questions arose after disclosure of a 1961 felony conviction in Texas for theft over \$50 against Myers, who was 17 at the time of the crime. Myers and several other youths stole an automotive transmission.

Several days before Myers was to be sworn in as sheriff on Dec. 31, 1980, someone told Bonem they had learned Myers had a record in Texas.

Bonem contacted Myers, who traveled to Lubbock to talk with District Judge Denzell Bevers about the matter.

Bevers issued an order Dec. 29 releasing Myers from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the crime. Two days later, Bevers issued an amended order discharging Myers from probation, permitting him to withdraw his plea of guilty and dismissing the indictment with a full and complete relief from all penalties and disabilities.

The order restored all of Myers' political rights retroactive to Aug. 28, 1963, which was two years after the conviction. This allowed Myers to be sworn in.

New Mexico law says no person convicted of a felony, unless such person has been pardoned or restored to political rights, shall be qualified to be elected or appointed to any public office in the state.

There were still legal questions in the minds of some because Myers

signed a declaration of candidacy before the 1980 primary saying he would be eligible and legally qualified to hold office, although at that point he had not been pardoned or restored to political rights.

Bonem held that although when Myers filed the declaration it was flawed, when it came time to hold the office, Myers was statutorily qualified.

Monday's events were conducted because some commissioners questioned whether the county might be liable if Myers performed a function that might bring about a lawsuit.

Ms. Cooper said her suggestion to the county commission that Myers resign "was a possible alternative to resolve the outstanding problem. If he resigned his office, then executed a new affidavit of voter registration now that he has been properly pardoned, he would then be eligible to be appointed sheriff by the commission."

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Aiming that A&M shovel

Clayton Williams handles the controls of a "Texas A&M shovel" for groundbreaking ceremonies Monday for ClayDesta Plaza, one

of Midland's largest offices complexes to be built at the corner of Big Spring Street and Wadley Avenue. Williams, an independent oil

operator and a graduate of Texas A&M, is the principal developer for ClayDesta Plaza. (Staff Photo by Brian Hendershot)

Involvement escalated

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration is escalating its military involvement in El Salvador despite concerns of congressional liberals that the tiny Central American republic may become another Vietnam for the United States.

The State Department announced Monday night it is sending \$25 million in new military aid and 20 more U.S. military training experts to El Salvador. The increased U.S. support is needed to help the embattled junta put down Marxist rebels who the administration contends are armed by Cuba and other communist countries, officials said.

State Department spokesman William Dyess said four five-man teams of advisers will be sent to El Salvador to train the Salvadoran military in communications, logistics, intelligence and other skills to stop infiltration and respond to terrorist attacks.

Dyess said the extra advisers, bringing to 54 the number of Americans serving in military-related capacities in El Salvador, will not go beyond the garrison area or take part in combat operations.

Nevertheless, more than 40 members of the House said in a telegram Monday to President Reagan that one or more of the advisers are likely to be killed, "forcing the United States into another Vietnam or a humiliating withdrawal."

And Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, warned that the new advisers "go down there as prime targets" for the guerrilla rebels.

But Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., supported the administration action, saying there are "nervous Nellies saying we've got to do nothing, not even unhook the fire hose when the house is burning down."

The "nervous Nellies" phrase in itself evoked memories of Vietnam. Former President Lyndon B. Johnson used those words in the late 1960s to deride critics of the Indochina war effort.

Dyess said additional military aid beyond the \$10 million approved by former President Carter in January is justified because leftist guerrillas may launch a new offensive.

"The insurgents are regrouping and massive quantities of arms remain in their hands," he said, adding that the rebels have reason to expect additional supplies are on the way from Soviet-bloc countries. "We want to improve as much as possible the government's ability to deal with this problem."

The aid package will include additional helicopters, vehicles, radar and surveillance equipment and small arms.

Urban leaders critical of Reagan

Their budget interests aren't 'selfish'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Urban leaders, insisting President Reagan must have someone else in mind when he refers to "selfish interest groups" sniping at his economic recovery plan, are refusing to hold their fire to drive home the impact of proposed budget cuts.

The board of the National League of Cities reacted to the president's speech to the group Monday by adopting a critique which agrees to a few of the concessions Reagan asked of the cities but balks at far more.

"What he was concerned about was 'selfish' self-interest groups," said Mayor William Hudnut of Indianapolis, the league's president. "I do not view us as a selfish, knee-jerk, self-interest group."

Mayor William Schafer of Baltimore said he won't let himself be cast "in that defensive position, that if we suggest certain things we are selfish."

"I'm going to let everybody know the impact on the city (of Reagan's planned budget cuts) and if they're satisfied, I will have done everything I possibly can," Schafer said.

Mayor Charles Royer of Seattle

said: "Of course, we are supportive of means to fight inflation. We just don't want it to be done at the expense of people who are helpless or who are at or near the survival level already."

Councilman Donald Tucker of Newark, N.J., chairman of the city officials' black caucus, said: "It means that the disadvantaged and the poor are going to be dumped directly on the cities, and I don't believe we should stand by and let that happen, whether it's the president of the United States or anyone else."

Councilman Woody Etherly of Flint, Mich., said Reagan is right when he says the public supports his austerity moves, "but I don't think they really realize what those cuts mean...what that change means to them directly."

Reagan told the urban leaders they should view his election last fall as a signal to shake up the economy and wind down government at all levels "because it is a mandate for us all."

"We are all in the same boat, and we have to get the engines started before the ship goes over the falls," Reagan said. "The real threat to recovery comes from those who will

oppose only a small part of the overall program while supporting the overall effort."

"The small portion these parochial groups oppose always deals with cuts that affect them directly. Those cuts they oppose. They favor cutting somebody else's subsidy. The accumulative effect of this short-sightedness can be damaging."

The league's position paper, drafted during a three-day meeting here, endorsed Reagan's program in general terms. It even agreed to some of the 340,000 job cuts he proposes from public employment subsidies and some of the trimming in public housing money.

But the league directly objected to:

- Most of the job cuts.
- Most of the public housing losses.
- Changes in the Urban Development Action Grant program.
- Reagan's plan to kill the Economic Development Administration.
- Phasing out mass transit subsi-

dies.

—Imposing a tax on federally subsidized sewer and water subsidies.

Reagan's speech at the league's annual winter meeting was his first public foray in defense of his program since he outlined it Feb. 18 in an address to a joint session of Congress.

The administration, meanwhile, already is moving to implement some parts of the plan.

The Labor Department announced Monday it invoked a freeze last week on hiring public service workers under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

The New York Times today quoted Robert B. Carlson, a special assistant to Reagan for policy development, as saying the administration also is considering a sharp reduction in employees in 10 federal regional centers to shift control of numerous health and social service programs to the states. The affected cities would be New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Atlanta, Denver, Dallas, Kansas City, San Francisco and Seattle.

Attorney says he's 'target' of Wood investigation

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A local defense attorney whose home was the subject of a surprise, 13-hour search, says two FBI agents told him he is a "target" in the investigation of the murder of U.S. District Judge John Wood.

"There's no doubt in my mind I'm a target of the grand jury investigation of Judge Wood's assassination," lawyer Joe Chagra, brother of convicted drug trafficker Jimmy Chagra, said Monday night. "They told me I was now a target."

He said the agents were among about 70 federal officers who searched his home and that of four other Chagra relatives Friday, seizing a truckload of items including documents, jewelry and cash.

Afterward, federal sources here and in Washington said the agents were looking for evidence in the May 29, 1979 assassination of Wood. Both sources said a resolution to the 21-month-old investigation — the largest since the assassination of President John Kennedy — was near.

Wood, who had been assigned to preside over the narcotics trial of Jimmy Chagra, was shot in the back and killed by a sniper in San Antonio. Chagra was later tried by another judge and sentenced last year to 30 years in prison without parole for continuing criminal enterprise.

Joe Chagra, who helped defend his brother, denied any involvement or knowledge of the death of the federal judge. "I had nothing to do with Judge Wood's murder, before, during, after or anytime to the present time," he said. "In my own mind I know I haven't done anything wrong."

Officially, federal agencies have held to a strict "no comment" policy when asked about the Chagra searches, but in Washington a federal law enforcement source who asked that his name not be used said, "Execution of the search warrants indicated that progress is being made in the investigation of Judge Wood's murder."

He added he was "confident of a resolution to that case," but gave no prediction as to when. His information agreed with that of a federal source based in El Paso who said during the weekend "if we find what we're looking for it should lead to indictments" in the Wood case.

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SILENT WITNESS
685-1190

Shanks given 99-year sentence

By ED TODD
Staff Writer

Pale, blue-eyed Rex Shanks got 99 years for his "master-mind" role in a murder-for-hire scheme.

And defense attorney Michael McLeaish got rather incensed and indignant over the guilty verdict.

"I do believe the decision is a tragic miscarriage of justice," McLeaish said in rebuking the 10-woman, two-man jury, which spent about an hour's deliberation Monday afternoon to find 27-year-old Shanks guilty of stabbing James David McPeters, 46, to death on the night July 28.

"For somebody I truly believe not guilty," an "hour considering a week's testimony" seemed somewhat rash, the defense attorney suggested.

In contrast, the prosecution conformed to etiquette and custom and

politely thanked the jurors for their service. So did the judge.

Shanks was the second person found guilty by a jury for killing McPeters on an isolated spot off Interstate 20 between Midland and Odessa.

McPeters' widow, Patricia Louise "Patty" McPeters, 27, was sentenced to 50 years in prison for her part in plotting her husband's death.

Mrs. McPeters, a stoic, impassive woman, and Shanks, who seemed equally unflappable, were charged with plotting McPeters' death even as they were "lovers" for a week. They had renewed their high school friendship in an Abilene bar in mid-July 1980 and began cohabitating.

The prosecution had claimed Mrs. McPeters and Shanks had planned to cash in on McPeters' \$39,000 life insurance policies. Both had contracted with Shanks' Wichita Falls friend,

Willie Wayne Jennings, 20, for several thousand dollars to help kill McPeters.

Jennings, who turned state witness in testifying against Shanks and Mrs. McPeters, is under a murder indictment.

His 22-year-old wife, Tammy, who tagged along as an alleged disinterested and unbelieving witness to the scheme, has been granted immunity by a Midland County Grand Jury in exchange for her testimony, which was crucial in the Shanks-Mrs. McPeters trials.

McLeaish had pleaded that Mrs. Jennings should be considered an accomplice and indicted. Such did not occur, however.

He also had made at least eight motions for mistrials; all were denied by 142nd State District Court Presiding Judge Pat Baskin. McLeaish had made numerous objections,

mostly to Prosecutors David Joers and Jim Rex's tactics and questions to the witnesses; most were overruled.

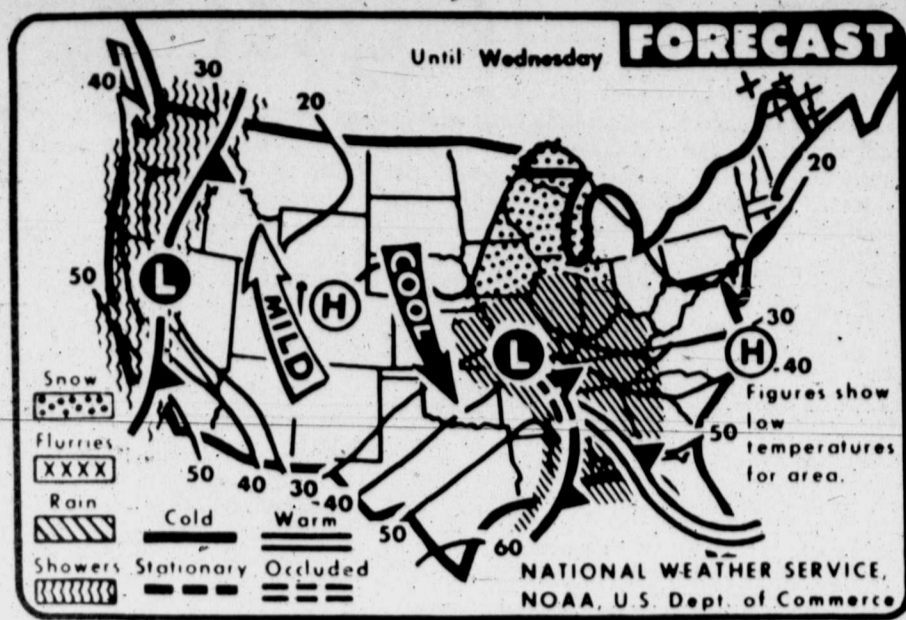
But Baskin did grant McLeaish's motion for a hearing on suspected jury tampering, which the defense attorney claimed was prejudicial to his client. On a motion by the prosecution last Thursday, Baskin one-by-one questioned the jurors to determine if anyone had directed or indirectly tried to influence their view of the proceedings; none had.

"It (jury-tampering proceedings) planted the seeds in the jury's mind that somebody was fooling with this jury," said McLeaish, who suspected that the jurors probably thought "the defendant or his family was doing it."

"I don't know what the state had in

(See 'MASTER-MIND,' Page 2A)

WEATHER SUMMARY



Rain is expected in the forecast period, today until Wednesday morning, from the central Gulf to the Midwest and eastern Plains.

Midland statistics

Table with columns for WEATHER FORECAST, WEATHER SERVICE, LOCAL TEMPERATURES, and SOUTHWEST TEMPERATURES.

Weather elsewhere

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

Texas area forecasts

West Texas: Cloudy with showers or thunderstorms tonight, possibly a few locally heavy thunderstorms.

Gloomy skies to prevail in Basin

Weatherwise, West Texas will be gloomy through Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service at the Midland Regional Airport.

Theft, burglary complaints keep local officers busy

Several theft and burglary complaints capped the list of police activity during the past 24 hours.

Police, Fire Roundup

cupant of the Haystack Apartments, 2438 Whitmire.

Three more sheriff's office members injured during scuffle at county jail

Three more members of the sheriff's department, including Sheriff Dallas Smith, fell victim Monday to a prisoner who sent Chief Jailer Richard Sexton to the hospital Sunday.



A Yonkers fireman carries family pets rescued from a three-family house that burned in Yonkers, N.Y., early today.

Brezhnev re-elected as Soviet chief

Says world revolution can't be prevented

MOSCOW (AP) — Leonid I. Brezhnev was re-elected as head of the Soviet Communist Party today and said "the revolutionary transformation of the world cannot be prevented."

balance or of any program to bring younger people into the party leadership.

lights and frequently clearing his throat. Brezhnev said the re-elected leadership will "concentrate all our efforts on two interrelated directions."

Court to decide white collar union eligibility

WASHINGTON (AP) — While turning a deaf ear to three "free speech" appeals ranging from the profane to the frankly commercial, the Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether workers who handle confidential material can be barred from joining unions.

employee activities. It is that ruling the Supreme Court has agreed to consider.

major blow at white collar unionism.

'Master-mind' given 99-year prison term

(Continued from Page 1A) mind" in twice interrupting the trial last week to discuss in the judge's chambers and in open court the rumors of jury tampering.

McPeters had called her husband from the truck stop and asked him to bring her and D.J. some child-support money on the darkened roadside.

on appeal, would amount to 15 to 20 years of actual time served.

escapade, has a drinking problem.

BIRTHS

- MIDLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Feb. 26, 1981 Mr. and Mrs. Randall Joe Mitchell, 3305 Tanner Ave., a boy.

- 610 Burleson St., a girl. Mr. and Mrs. Claude Douglas Givhan, 5127 Storey Ave., a girl.

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Table with columns for HOME DELIVERY, Paid-in-Advance, and MAIL RATES IN TEXAS.

DEATHS

Ernest Walker

SAN ANGELO — Ernest Walker, 55, of San Angelo and formerly of Midland, died Sunday night in a San Angelo hospital after a short illness. Services are pending with Gutierrez Funeral Home of San Angelo.

Walker was born in Midland. He had been a resident of San Angelo for 10 years. Survivors include four sisters, Mrs. Connie (Gladys) Matt of Houston, Mrs. K.K. (Myrtle) Hughes of Houston, Mrs. Lon (Agnes) Fannine of Canyon and Mrs. Earl Baker of Midland; a brother, Mack Walker of Houston; and several nieces and nephews.

Jimmy Jay Loftin

Jimmy Jay Loftin, 45, of 1701 E. Highway 80, died early Monday. Services are pending with Totten &

Son Funeral Home in Electra. Newbie W. Ellis Funeral Home is handling local arrangements.

Loftin was born Nov. 16, 1935, in Killeen. He was reared around Electra and Olney. He entered the U.S. Army in the 1950s. After his discharge, he lived in California, Arizona and Texas. He had lived in Midland the past six months.

Survivors include five sons, Jimmy Loftin and Jerry Loftin, both of Nevada, Calif., and Chad Loftin, Jason R. Loftin and Mica Loftin, all of Sedona, Ariz.; a daughter, Terri Loftin of Nevada; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Loftin of Hobbs, N.M.; four brothers, Windell Loftin of Countyline, Okla., Gary Loftin of Vernon, and David Loftin and Kenneth Loftin, both of Midland; four sisters, Betty Maxwell of Archer City, Nelva King of Midland, Loena Soileau of Lake Charles, La., and Alice Blakley of Hobbs, N.M.

Woman handed life, man gets guillotine for murder

PARIS (AP) — The woman pulled the trigger and got life while her lover was sentenced to the guillotine, demonstrating once again that sexism works in the woman's favor in France when the death penalty is involved.

Yves Maupetit, a 31-year-old escaped convict, and Jeanine Terriel, a 49-year-old ex-prostitute, were convicted last week of murdering a farmer and a married couple they encountered while Maupetit was on the run. The prosecuting attorney asked the death penalty for both. The jury of nine men and three women deliberated for 7½ hours, an unusually long time for a French jury, then sentenced him to die and her to life imprisonment.

"Jeanine Terriel was saved because she was a woman," said the headline in the tabloid *France-Soir*.

"The gallant death penalty," said *Le Quotidien de Paris*, another tabloid. France's capital punishment laws make no distinction between the sexes except to specify that a pregnant woman cannot be executed until after her child is born. However, no

woman has died under the guillotine, France's official instrument of execution, since 1949. Twelve were sentenced to death, but all the sentences were commuted to life imprisonment. Meanwhile, 60 men were beheaded during that period.

Miss Terriel, a plain, plump woman, admitting shooting one of the victims — the man's two children saw her do it — but said her good-looking lover 18 years her junior "told me to fire and I fired."

"I pulled the trigger, and I deserve to die for it," she told the jury, tears running down her cheeks, then appealed for mercy and "most profound forgiveness."

"It's often very difficult to convict someone so repentant," said one lawyer involved in the case.

Maupetit and Miss Terriel were the only witnesses to the other two shootings, so each accused the other of firing the shots.

"I didn't kill those three persons," he testified, "but I am in a way responsible for their deaths because I was with Jeanine when she killed them."

U.N. Assembly bars South Africa

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly barred South Africa's delegation from its special session on South-West Africa, and a parade of members began calling for stiff sanctions to force Africa's last white government to give up the neighboring territory.

Zambian Ambassador Paul J.F. Lusaka, president of the U.N. Council for Namibia, as South-West Africa is also known, and Niels Peter George Holskov of Denmark, vice chairman of the Special Committee on Decolonization, urged the assembly to demand that the Security Council put South Africa in quarantine.

The U.N. General Assembly can only propose sanctions to the 11-member council, where the United States or any of the four other permanent members can veto any action. Only arms sales to South Africa are now banned, and the United States is expected to use its veto if necessary to prevent any substantial expansion of the embargo.

Panama's foreign minister, Jorge

Enrique Illueca, said his government, which now holds one of the six rotating Security Council seats, also advocated sanctions to compel South Africa to recognize South-West Africa's independence. He warned that the issue has "the potential to destroy the United Nations" if the world body proves to be ineffectual.

South Africa's delegation took its seats at the start of the special session Monday for the second time since 1974, when the assembly ruled the white-minority government did not have proper credentials to represent South Africa's people. And as in 1979, also before a debate on South-West Africa, the assembly refused to seat the South Africans.

The body voted 112-22 with six abstentions to accept a credentials committee recommendation that the South African delegation be barred. The delegation immediately left the hall.

The Reagan administration's new chief delegate to the United Nations, Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick,

cast her first vote against the ouster. She noted that the United States took the same stand in 1974, holding that the U.N. charter prohibits expulsion of a member without a recommendation from the Security Council.

"The passage of time has not given the General Assembly a better basis for doing in 1981 what it did improperly in 1974," she said.

In Johannesburg, South African Foreign Minister R.F. Botha said the ouster was "scandalous and revengeful."

"It must be remembered that South Africa is told daily to help achieve a peaceful settlement in South-West Africa-Namibia and therefore to act internationally responsible in that sense," he told the South African Broadcasting Corp. "But now you can see for yourself just how impossible this is being made."

South Africa captured South-West Africa from Germany during World War I and got a League of Nations mandate in 1920 to administer it. The

United Nations canceled the mandate in 1966, but South Africa refused to give up the territory and is fighting a war against guerrillas of the South-West African People's Organization, or SWAPO, which the United Nations recognizes as the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

Theo-Ben Gurirab, SWAPO's U.N. observer, said Monday that South Africa was "digging its menacing heels more and more into the ground in order to further entrench the illegal occupations, colonial oppressions and exploitation in our country."

South Africa is resisting a plan adopted in 1978 by the Security Council calling for U.N.-supervised elections and independence for South-West Africa later this year. The South Africans say the United Nations is biased toward SWAPO and would not protect the interests of the white minority in the territory or of black factions opposed to SWAPO. About 10 percent of the estimated 1 million population are white.

Lions Club members selling Pancake Jamboree tickets

The more than 300 members of the Midland Downtown Lions Club are engaged in the advance sale of tickets for the club's 25th annual Pancake Jamboree, to be held March 14 in the Dellwood Plaza Mall Shopping Center.

Serving hours are scheduled from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., with special entertainment to be furnished throughout the day.

Morris Hulsey, club president, said plans are being made to feed 10,000 persons at this year's jamboree. Pancake mix, sausage, butter, syrup, coffee, milk and soft drinks to take care of the record number of patrons already are on order.

Captains in charge of the advance ticket sale include Eloy Villfranca, Paul Lawrence, Ray Vaden, David Messersmith, Clyde Peterson, Jack Hilliard, John Phipps, Brad Blackburn, Jim Galyean, Dan Foreman, Tom Probasco, Dave Hoff, Charles Phillips, David Cristiani, Roy Darden, J.D. Webster and Paul Murray.

All members of the club will work in staging the event, which has come to be recognized as one of the Tall City's major annual attractions. All chores, from mixing the batter and cooking the pancakes, to frying the sausage, to serving the meal, to the final clean-up, will be handled by club members.

Proceeds will be used to finance the club's many and varied activities and projects, ranging from sight conservation, aid to the deaf, youth welfare projects, aid to senior citizens, Eye Bank support, park improvements, charity and other community programs.

San Francisco Bay area hit by moderate quake

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A moderate earthquake estimated at 4.1 on the Richter scale toppled bottles from shelves, triggered a minor rockslide and jolted people awake throughout the San Francisco Bay area early today.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or serious damage.

The 2:45 a.m. PST quake was centered in the Fremont area south of Oakland and was followed by a 2.7-rated aftershock at 2:57 a.m., said Robert Uhrhammer, research seismologist at the University of California seismology laboratory in Berkeley.

The earthquake information center of the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., said the quake registered 4.0 on the Richter scale.

The main quake was felt along at least 100 miles of the California coast from Monterey to Marin County, according to the state Office of Emergency Services.

"It just knocked a lot of wine bottles off, soda pop, medicine, books, coffee

pots ..." said Larry Foster, a worker at a Fremont 7-11 store.

"It scared ... me," he added. "I've been through mortar explosions, but I've never been through anything like this."

The California Highway Patrol said the quake triggered a small rockslide, blocking part of Niles Canyon Road in Fremont, but workers quickly cleaned the debris off the roadway.

Fremont police said that "probably about a half dozen" shop windows were broken in the city.

"It was hard," said Nancy Day, a waitress at a Denny's Restaurant in Fremont. "It felt like somebody picked up Denny's and dropped it. The business just went real quiet."

She said one customer bolted out the door, and another quickly put down his coffee cup and left when the quake struck.

The Richter scale measures ground motion and the amount of energy released. A 4.0 quake is considered capable of moderate damage in a populated area.



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Funding libraries

There's an interesting tale that answers the question: How important are libraries? According to that tale, if every source of our knowledge — every school, every university — was destroyed in some catastrophe but the library survived, then civilization, too, would survive. Civilization as we know it could be rebuilt and mankind could resume its progress.

The Texas Library Association says that despite the importance of libraries, public halls of knowledge in Texas have been kept on a starvation diet throughout our history. The association wants that fact changed.

This year libraries are asking for nine hundredths of 1 percent of the state budget. That would amount to about \$1 per capita for libraries from an appropriation for 1982 for statewide library development of \$12,880,000 out of state revenues of some \$13 billion.

Furthermore, the Texas Conference of Libraries urged that level of support and at its meeting in Austin in 1978 passed a resolution asking "... the State Library budget item of Statewide Library Development be aggressively sought

at the level of \$1 per capita, through concerted action by the State Library, the Texas Library Association, and the citizens of Texas at the earliest possible date.

During 1980 California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin all spent more on libraries than Texas. In fact, the TLA says, figured on a per capita basis Texas is 34th in the nation on library financing.

Texas' 378 public libraries are vast sources of knowledge. They feed young minds, expand adult minds and entertain all minds. But it's up to all of us to keep our libraries adequate sources of knowledge.

Even if the type of catastrophe noted writer Harrison E. Salisbury was talking about never comes to pass, we have an obligation to see that the knowledge we have accumulated is left behind for our posterity.

In that context, the funding being sought by the Texas Library Association doesn't appear unreasonable.

Marcos' essential ally

Millions of Filipinos saw a remarkable scene on their television sets recently: Pope John Paul II delivering a homily on human rights in the opulent presidential palace while, next to him, President Ferdinand Marcos sat stiffly in a throne-like gilded chair. The political implications of the pope's two-edged message of praise and warning could not have been clearer.

Pope John Paul's visit came barely a month after Marcos lifted eight-years of martial law in a nation plagued by violence and human rights violations. The timing of the pontiff's visit and his carefully chosen words in praise of "recent initiatives" obviously were designed to encourage further liberalization of government policies.

The pope made clear that nothing, not even perceived threats to state security, can justify depriving Filipinos of their basic human rights. Although those words gave hope to activist priests and nuns, practitioners of liberation theology, John Paul reminded them that their mission is to carry the Gospel, not rifles, to the poor, that they should concern themselves more with their faith and less with advancing the political and social cause of the oppressed.

The pope's message was more than a pious homily of good wishes and Marcos understands that. The Catholic Church plays a central role in the lives of 30 million of the nation's 48 million people.

Marcos needs the church as an ally. He may find that restoring some semblance of human rights is a small price to pay for the alliance.



CHARLIE REESE

Kaiser waging private war against TV irresponsibility

Kaiser Aluminum Co. is waging a war against what it calls trial by television that every fair-minded American should support. The reason is simple. The ultimate victim of unscrupulous network television activities is the viewer.

Kaiser originally obtained an agreement by ABC Television to give it four minutes of air time for an unedited rebuttal to ABC's "20/20" episode in which Geraldo Rivera accused Kaiser of marketing unsafe aluminum wiring. But ABC has reneged.

Unlike many victims of network irresponsibility, Kaiser bravely asserted that the accusation was false and demanded time for a rebuttal. It also began to prepare a slander suit and launched a print media advertising campaign to inform the public. It is now going ahead with the slander suit, a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission and with an approach to Congress.

Right on!

This is an issue that is long overdue for settling. If it is kept alive, it will at least educate the public that in television, seeing is not believing. A long line of abuses of the viewer can be arranged for any congressional committee interested.

If you want to understand how television producers can distort the truth, all you have to keep in mind is the principle of selectivity. By selecting



Charlie Reese

what pictures the viewer will see and what words the viewer will hear, the producer can build a case for any point of view he chooses.

The accused is without defense. Even when television claims that it will interview the accused to allow him to present "his side of the story," how the interview is conducted and how it is edited can completely distort what was said. A person or company faced by an accusing TV journalist is a fool to give him an interview. A skilled technician can make the final result incredibly damaging to the subject. In some instances, TV journalists have been caught dubbing in differently worded questions from the ones they asked the subject on the air. This is a blatant deception of the viewer.

One thing which misleads the public is the phrase "investigative journalism" as applied to television. "Investigative journalism" implies that an investigation is conducted to gather facts and that after the facts have been gathered and analyzed, some conclusion is drawn. Television producers work for the opposite end. They start with a conclusion and construct "the facts" to fit the conclusion.

The reason is simple economics. An honest investigation may or may not turn up a good story. Networks are not prone to investing thousands of dollars in what might turn out to be a wild goose chase. Therefore, they start with a story.

Another factor in television's habitually sleazy performance is that the nature of the medium requires drama. In most cases, truth is not especially dramatic. Few situations are clear-cut with easy villains and easy good guys wrapped up in 15 minutes of air time. Television news is a misnomer. It is really another variety of entertainment.

The pious claims of TV journalists to the contrary don't hold much water. All one has to do is look at the cultural garbage poured into American living rooms for the sake of a big buck to understand clearly the morality of network television.

The worst indictment of television journalism comes from the journalists themselves, who moaned that ABC's original offer of rebuttal time would have a "chilling effect" on television reporting. If being required to be honest, fair and accurate is a "chilling prospect" then Kaiser can rest its case.

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Budget-cutters overlooking Defense waste?

WASHINGTON — More than 20 years ago, President Eisenhower shocked his old military buddies by warning of the growing power of what he called the "military-industrial complex." But it is doubtful that even he foresaw the extent to which the sweetheart relationship between Big Business and the brass has taken control of the single biggest slice of the federal government's budget pie.

President Reagan may have given his budget cutters an unintended signal in his economic address to Congress when he singled out waste and fraud in the social service agencies as the target for cuts in federal spending. By omitting mention of the Defense Department, he apparently encouraged his budget officials to ignore the monumental waste and fraud in the Pentagon.

As a result of being given more money than they can spend themselves, the Pentagon brass have farmed out an increasing number of their own military functions to private consulting firms. Many of these consultants are former high-ranking Defense Department officials. They are, in effect, charging the government for the expertise they gained while they were in government service.

What makes the "old boy" system particularly disturbing is that the private consultants have not only taken over jobs the Defense Department should be doing itself — but the profit-motivated contractors are identifying, defining and dictating the very programs the Pentagon hires them to run.



Jack Anderson

In short, the former officers are telling the Pentagon that it needs a particular job done, and that they're the only ones who can do it right. And their old buddies in the Pentagon — perhaps hoping for a post-retirement job themselves — OK the project. It's a self-perpetuating boondoggle.

A confidential government report obtained by an associate Indy Badhyar details the problems raised by the "privatization" of the Defense Department. And it's not chicken feed involved: The Pentagon is currently spending about \$3 billion a year on private consultants whose "expertise" is often matched by high-salaried Defense Department employees.

The government investigators said they found a few cost comparisons done by the Pentagon to determine if the functions performed by contractors could be carried out by DOD's own civil servants at less cost. In the rare instances where comparisons were done, they showed that the government would have saved money by doing its own work "in-house." For example, a Navy study showed that it

could have saved \$159,000 over a five-year period by letting its own employees design a manpower planning system.

Here are some examples the report gives of the way the old-boy network operates:

- A \$13,835 contract went to a private individual who acted as the Defense Secretary's Man Friday. The contractor helped prepare the secretary's annual report to Congress.
- An \$82,000 contract to review Army support unit requirements for the first 30 days of a NATO war, was awarded to former DOD employees, including a retired lieutenant general and a retired lieutenant colonel. A month after the private study was completed, Pentagon civil servants were ordered to prepare a similar report.
- A \$304,000 contract to assess the Pentagon's responsibilities in the event of general mobilization went to a firm that employed a former vice chief of the Army, a former Air Force general and a onetime deputy assistant secretary of defense.
- An Air Force contract originally costing about \$1 million has been going up by about \$500,000 a year. The private contractor is studying the problems of command and control in electronic warfare. Ten of the contractor's employees are former Pentagon officials.
- The boondoggle is not only self-perpetuating, but self-aggrandizing. Every contract gives the private consultant additional expertise on Pentagon operations, providing a "snowball" effect for additional consulting contracts.

MARK RUSSELL SAYS

It's nice to see that Great Britain's Prince Charles will marry Lady Diana Spencer. Considering the British economy, these kids probably figured two can live as cheaply as one.

Charles and Diana used to live in the same neighborhood. Charles, quite a bit older, would let Diana play with some of his old toys — Ireland, Wales and Rhodesia.

Diana will replace Princess Margaret as the object of attention in the press. It's all part of the back to basics morality of England's Reaganaut Prime Minister Thatcher. Besides, there's nothing like a nice wedding to take the people's minds off starvation for a while.

Charles, a 32-year-old bachelor, was getting tired of the bar scene. Every time he discussed romance with a girl, she would ask, "But will you crown me in the morning?"

I confess that I've made all of this up. Charles and Diana are to be wed, however, and it's heartening to see two people so very perfectly matched. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that they met through a computer dating service.

INSIDE REPORT:

Kemp's 'veto talk' request to Baker falls on deaf ears

By ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK



EVANS NOVAK

WASHINGTON — Rep. Jack Kemp won't get a significant Reagan agreement that significant congressional change in his tax program deserves a veto. But any such warning was excluded from the press briefing of Reagan's private weekly session with House Republican leaders.

As newly-elected chairman of the House Republican Conference, Kemp gets to attend those weekly sessions where most other Republican leaders are less than enthusiastic about Reagan's embrace of the Kemp-Roth tax reduction bill. At the Feb. 24 session, Kemp suggested vetoing any bill that had the net effect of raising taxes or that significantly departed from the Reagan policy. "Jack's right," the president replied, recalling that he had vetoed hundreds of bills as governor of California.

After the meeting, Kemp suggested to Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker that he repeat Reagan's veto talk in his briefing to the press on the day's meeting. But Baker, never an enthusiastic tax-cutter, said not a word about it.

CASEY STRIKES OUT
A power play by CIA Director William Casey to name a Vietnam amputee veteran as head of the Veterans Administration (VA) backfired, embarrassing Casey and Pendleton James, President Reagan's personnel adviser.

Casey ordered John L. Behan's name put back on the "active consideration" list for veterans administrator after he was ruled out as not qualified for that major management job. On Feb. 19, in Reagan's helicopter on the way to Andrews Air Force Base, James persuaded the president to approve the appointment of Behan.

now a New York assemblyman from Long Island (Casey's home).
But when the president's unannounced decision was leaked to the press, veterans' organizations protested to the White House. The American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars had broken a long-standing neutrality rule to back Reagan for president. Now they demand and almost surely have won a voice in filling the top VA job. Former Republican Rep. William H. Ayres of Ohio, who arranged Reagan's endorsement by the veterans' organizations, has strong veterans' support to supplant the sidetracked Behan.

BREZHNEV'S MAN IN D.C.
The second-ranking diplomat in the Soviet Union's Washington embassy, Vladilen Vasev, found himself toe-to-toe with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev over the question of an early summit meeting with President Reagan. As expected, Vasev lost.

Vasev, in charge of the Soviet Embassy while Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin attended the Communist Party Congress in Moscow, ruled out an early Brezhnev-Reagan summit in his interview with Cable News Network on Feb. 14. When asked whether the Soviet government would "welcome" a summit to "clear the air,"

Vasev replied: "If you ask me personally, I would have difficulty in recommending such a meeting... it's not prepared."
Nine days later, Brezhnev stunned the world with his call for a quick summit meeting with Reagan. That put Vasev in the curious position of having espoused the opinion of Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig that now is definitely not the time for any summit.

TROUBLE AT HUD
While most Reagan Cabinet members have been leaning over backwards to accommodate budget-cutting in their department, Secretary Samuel Pierce of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has antagonized the White House and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by resisting deep slashes in federal housing programs.

Pierce has had several confrontations with budget director David Stockman over the HUD budget. Other Reagan Cabinet members have few ties with their constituency groups, but Pierce does. "I think he lets himself get pushed around by the mayors," a Reagan adviser told us. Pierce, the only black in the Cabinet, feels responsible for representing the inner city.

That brings murmurs of I-told-you-so from right-wing New York Republicans, who were unpleasantly surprised when Pierce was named to the Cabinet without their clearance. Pierce, a Manhattan lawyer, has been associated with the liberal wing of the state party that was headed by the late Nelson Rockefeller and had no previous association with Reagan.

HELMS VS. HAIG
Opposition by Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, chairman of the conservative Republican Senate Steering

Committee, has tied the hands of Secretary of State Alexander Haig in trying to fill top diplomatic jobs for almost two months because of Helms' campaign to name the next disarmament negotiator.

The target on Helms' hit list is former Ambassador Lawrence Eagleburger, a protégé of Henry Kissinger. Helms' opposition to Eagleburger is a key reason why Haig still has not won White House clearance to ask for Senate confirmation of his top assistant secretaries. Helms' influence at the White House has proved sufficient to keep Haig's list from going to the Senate.

But intimates of Helms say his real goal is not to block Eagleburger so much as to persuade President Reagan to name William Van Cleave as chief strategic arms (SALT) negotiator. Hard-liner Van Cleave was axed from a top Pentagon job by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, but would accept the post of SALT negotiator. Helms then would withdraw his reservation about Eagleburger as assistant secretary of state for European affairs and Haig, belatedly, could staff his department.

the small society



3-3

Two wildcats staked in Pecos Co.

Two wildcat operations have been reported in Pecos County. C.F. Lawrence & Associates, Inc., of Midland, will drill one of the projects as a 1,700 foot operation and Joe H. Warren, of Dallas, will drill a A-320 foot operation.

Warren No. 10 Nelle Gray is 11 miles east of Imperial, section 34, block 9, H&GN survey. The project is a southwest twin to Clear Fork discovery of the 4-C multipay zone.

C. F. Lawrence No. Cedar is located seven miles south of Iraan, J.M. Swisher survey, section 47. The project is 7/8 miles northwest of a 1,853 foot failure and 7/8 miles southwest of the nearest producer in the Midland Queen Field.

ANDREWS COUNTY

Exxon Corp. of Midland has completed No. 1441 Fullerton (Clear Fork) Unit. Potential test indicate 62 barrels of oil, 93 barrels of water over a 24-hour period. The gas-oil ratio was 480-1 and the gravity was reported to be 42.3. The well, located 17 miles northwest of Andrews, 2,625 feet north and 1,320 feet east of lines in section 12, block A-32 of PSL survey, has a total depth of 7,405 and plug back depth of 7,349 feet. The 5 1/2 inch casing is set at 7,390 feet.

Perforation zone is from 6,226 to 7,038, using 4,250 gallons of acid and fractured with 7,200 gallons.

HOWARD COUNTY

Three completions have been reported for Howard County.

Amoco Production Co., of Odessa, No. 21 Mrs. Cora Lee Echoes "B," in the Iatan (East Howard) Field, three miles west of Coahoma potential 33 gallons of oil and less than a barrel of water over a 24-hour period. Gas-oil ratio is less than one and the gravity is 30.1.

The project is 460 feet south and 1,042 feet west of lines in section 6, block 30, TIS T&P survey. The well, at an elevation of 2,407 has a total depth of 3,130 with 5 1/2 inch casing at 2,435 feet. Perforations between 2,435 and 3,130 feet were fractured with 36,000 gallons.

FLORAC COUNTY

Florida Exploration Co., of Midland, No. 1 Stella Petty 31 in the Florac (Straun) Field reported tests of 5 gallons oil and no water through a 12/64 inch choke during the 24-hour test period. Gravity was 43 and gas-oil ratio was 10,000-1.

Total depth is 9,790 feet, plugged back to 9,722 feet with 5 1/2 casing sitting at 9,789 feet. The well is five miles from Big Spring, 660 feet east and 2,080 feet west of lines in section 31, block 33, TIS T&P survey.

Elevation is 2,512 feet, with perforation zones from 9,790 feet to 9,722 feet. Perforation was with 3,000 gallons of acid.

LOVING COUNTY

Bass Enterprises Production Co., No. 5 Bass State 2, tract 2 tested 23 barrels of oil and 64 barrels of

water. Total depth is 4,850 feet with 5 1/2 inch casing on bottom. The well is plugged back to 4,803 feet.

Elevation is reported as 2,863 feet from ground level.

Perforation zones were from 4.661 to 4.671 feet, fractured with 8,600 gallons and 12,000 pounds. Gravity is 39 and gas-oil ratio 4,304-1.

The project is 5 miles northeast of Mentone, 2,310 feet east and 330 feet north from lines of section 2, block C-27, PSL survey.

John L. Cox, of Midland, has two new completions in Midland County. No. 1, Mabee Found "C," in the STA, reported 33 barrels of oil and 44 barrels of water in potential tests. Gravity was listed as 40 with gas-oil ratio of 620-1.

Well depth is 9,230 feet with 4 1/2 inch casing sitting on the bottom.

Perforation zones from 8,268 to 9,176 feet were fractured with 100,000 gallons. The project is located six miles northeast of Midland, 1,320 feet east and 1,320 feet south from lines of section 14, block 38, TIS T&P survey.

Elevation is listed as 2,786 feet.

No. 1 Mabee Found "D" reported test of 29 barrels oil and 18 barrels water over a 24-hour testing period. Gravity is 39 with a gas-oil ratio of 675-1.

Total depth is 9,230 with 4 1/2 inch casing sitting on bottom. Perforation was from 8,356 feet to 9,185 feet, fractured with 100,000 gallons.

The project is located five miles northeast of Midland, in section 22, block 38, TIS T&P survey.

MITCHELL COUNTY

Sun Oil Co. of Midland has completed No. 1 Ellwood, W.L. Trust "B." Tests over a 24-hour period resulted in six barrels of oil, 11 barrels water, gravity of 49 and gas-oil ratio of 1,833.

Total depth is 7,310 feet, with 5 1/2 inch casing on bottom, plugged back to 7,309 feet.

Perforation was with 1,000 gallons of acid from 6,973 feet to 7,000 feet.

The project is located eight miles north of Silver, 660 feet north and 660 feet east from lines of undesignated section in block 12, 13 H&TC survey. Elevation is 2,021 feet.

STERLING COUNTY

Wagner and Brown No. 5-2 Flint "B," 15 miles southwest of Sterling has been completed, with potential tests reporting 350 barrels oil and 5 barrels water over a 24-hour period, through a 18/64 inch choke. Gravity is listed as 48.2 with gas-oil ratio of 5,715-1.

Total depth is 8,300 feet, with 4 1/2 inch casing sitting at 8,206 feet. The project is plugged back to 8,165 feet.

Perforations were from 7,688 feet to 8,039 feet fractured with 94,000 gallons and 500 pounds.

Location is 2,490 feet from west and 1,767 feet from east lines of section 2, Harry Tweedle survey. Elevation is 2,532 feet.

Poll finding shows

Oil deregulation hits sour note

By EVANS WITT
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans weren't pleased by President Reagan's decision to lift federal controls on domestic crude oil, one of the first major actions dealing with energy by the new administration, an Associated Press-NBC News poll says.

Overall, the public is not happy with Reagan's actions and policies in the energy field. They give him a remarkably low rating for his work in the area, only about a month after he took office.

This low rating contrasts sharply with the favorable ratings Reagan received in the poll on his work overall and his work on the economy and foreign policy.

As one of his first actions in office, Reagan ordered the final level of price controls be lifted from crude oil produced in this country, arguing that the regulations discourage oil exploration and are an unnecessary burden on oil producers. The controls were due to expire in September in

any case. Lifting of the controls was one reason that gasoline and heating prices have risen a dime or more a gallon in recent weeks.

The public takes a somewhat negative view of Reagan's action, although there is a substantial lack of knowledge about the move, according to the AP-NBC News poll taken Feb. 23-24.

Thirty-one percent of those questioned said they approved of lifting the controls, while 39 percent disapproved. But 30 percent of the 1,597 adults interviewed by telephone nationwide said they really didn't know enough about the decision to have an opinion on it.

And the public is not too happy with Reagan's work overall in the energy area.

Only 32 percent of the public said that the President's work in this area has been good or excellent, while another 32 percent rated his efforts "only fair." Twenty percent said Reagan's work has been poor and 16 percent were not sure.

This relatively low rating is in defi-

nite contrast to the judgment of Reagan's work in other areas.

On his work overall, 56 percent gave Reagan top marks. Twenty-one percent said he has done only a fair job and 5 percent judged his work poor. Eighteen percent said they were not sure.

In dealing with the economy — the focal point of Reagan's first month in office — 50 percent of those questioned gave his work good or excellent marks, with 24 percent saying it has been only fair and 9 percent rating it poor.

Reagan got 48 percent excellent or good ratings in foreign affairs. Twenty-five percent rated his work in the international arena only fair and 8 percent said it has been poor.

As with all sample surveys, the results of the AP-NBC News polls can vary from the opinions of all Americans because of chance variations in the sample.

For a poll based on about 1,600 interviews, the results are subject to an error margin of 3 percentage points either ways of such chance variations.

President seeks commercial development in west

By BILL STALL
(c) 1981, The Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — While President Reagan's economic plan may face a tortuous journey through Congress, his program for opening up Western lands to vigorous new commercial development is riding high at the Department of the Interior.

In just one month, there has been an eye-opening turnabout in the sprawling agency that manages most of the federal domain:

- A speedup in mining and oil and gas leasing.
- Elimination of park and recreation grants to cities and states.
- New life for the dormant dam-building program.
- A shift of land management attitudes back toward meeting the needs of the stockman, the prospector and the oil geologist.

And in 43-year old James G. Watt, the new secretary of interior; Reagan has found the man to take on those he calls "extreme environmentalists" and to open up more federal land to the development of natural resources.

A sometimes blunt, sometimes genial man who makes no apologies for his commitment to economic development of "locked-up" public lands, Watt has stunned traditional environmentalists by the speed with which he has changed the course of policy-making at the Department of Interior.

This is happening, of course, because the Nov. 4 election results, particularly in the West, indicated that the people agreed with Reagan's campaign thesis: environmentalists have had their way too long and have shielded too much of the public domain from economic development.

Given the November returns, it was inevitable that things would be different at the Interior Department, that Sierra Clubbers in turtle-necks and

blue jeans would no longer roam the department's halls the way they did — their place taken, more often than not, by visitors in Western-tailored suits and cowboy hats, just in from Cheyenne, Bozeman or Susanville.

What is surprising is that changes have come so rapidly and in such contrast with the style of the more environmentalist-inclined department under the last secretary, Democrat Cecil D. Andrus.

Before the dust settled from the

Feb. 18 budget cuts and reordering of priorities, Rep. Phillip Burton, D-Calif., a flag-carrier for conservationists, declared "The worst nightmares of the environmental movement have become reality."

But in Watt's first meeting with the Washington press corps, he made it clear that he was willing to take such flak and give it back in kind — sometimes with a candor that borders on bluntness and sometimes with a flash of down-to-earth good humor.

Hunts' new dream goes up in steam

By JERRY KNIGHT
(c) 1981, The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Hunt family of Texas, accused in the past of trying to corner the markets in silver and soybeans, once again is trying to dominate an important natural resource. This time the Hunts are in hot water.

Family members have obtained federal leases making them the biggest developers of geothermal energy: the power of Old Faithful and Mount St. Helens, hot water, steam and blistering rock trapped below the earth's surface.

Hunt family members, Hunt trusts and Hunt corporations have staked claims on roughly one-sixth of all the federal land that has been leased for geothermal power exploration, Department of Interior records show.

The Hunts hold 252 of the 1,600 geothermal leases issued by the Bureau of Land Management, which oversees development of geothermal resources.

The Hunts' leases give them control over about 480,000 of the 2.9 million acres of federally leased geothermal land, according to BLM records.

And they are trying to get still more, with applications pending to lease 435,000 additional acres.

A little-publicized source of energy, geothermal power generates much of the electricity for San Francisco and heats homes and offices in Boise. It is used to dry onions in Nevada and heat greenhouses for growing roses in Utah. The hot springs in Bath County, Va., use geothermal energy, and an exploratory well at Crisfield, Md., has shown geothermal potential.

Geothermal power someday could supply 10 percent of the nation's energy needs, the Department of Energy estimates.

Many major oil companies — Phillips Petroleum, Chevron, Occidental Petroleum, Atlantic Richfield — are getting into geothermal energy, but the Hunts' holdings are already three times as big as any of theirs.

The Hunts have moved into geothermal energy with the same techniques they used in silver and soybeans.

As with silver, once they decided to invest the Hunts went in heavily, quickly making themselves the biggest in the business. Their purchase of as much silver as the United States consumes in six months is still being investigated by three federal agencies, a congressional committee and a federal grand jury.

As with soybeans, the Hunts evaded limits on how much geothermal land an individual can control by obtaining leases in a dozen different names. A federal judge ruled that all the Hunts' beans had to be counted together, but the Department of Interior says there is nothing illegal about splitting geothermal leases among several family members.

Geothermal is one of two alternative energies into which America's richest oil family is trying to diversify.

The other is gasohol, the blend of

grain alcohol and gasoline.

Until last week, when they abruptly withdrew their application, the Hunts were seeking federal subsidies to build the third-largest fuel alcohol plant in the United States.

The Hunts pulled back their application for gasohol loan guarantees after a House investigations subcommittee headed by Rep. Benjamin S. Rosenthal, D-N.Y., began asking questions about it.

The heads of the Hunt family tangled with Rosenthal last year, when the same Commerce consumer and monetary affairs subcommittee investigated their silver dealings. The committee slapped a contempt of Congress citation on Nelson Bunker Hunt and his brother, W. Herbert, and withdrew it only after the two agreed to testify and turn over records.

The House panel is still pursuing the Hunts, and has expanded its probe into other activities of the billionaire Texas clan, including both the gasohol project and the geothermal leases.

The Hunts, who shun publicity, did not respond to inquiries about their interest in geothermal energy. Calls to the Dallas law firm that represents the family were not returned.

Geothermal is an infant energy industry, just as petroleum was when H.L. Hunt founded what has become an oil dynasty.

The U.S. Geological Survey has identified about 2.1 million of acres of federal land that have known geothermal resources: deposits of 300-degree hot water and steam. The government has taken bids on some of the tracts, and several successful geothermal wells have been drilled. Electricity is being produced from geysers in California. Other sites are waiting for power plants to be built to harness the heat.

But the frontier of geothermal development is 55 million acres of national forests, Indian reservations and other federal lands in 12 Western states that have been identified as "potentially valuable geothermal resource areas."

On these tracts, hot water wildcaters can stake a claim and, without competitive bidding, get the right to develop geothermal power for the next 10 years.

BLM records show that virtually all the Hunt investments have been in non-competitive leases, in Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Idaho and Utah. The Hunts have also filed for non-competitive geothermal leases in Arizona and California.

Getting a non-competitive geothermal lease is a relatively simple process, BLM officials say. It takes about 20 minutes to fill out the forms.

The maximum size for an individual geothermal claim is 2,560 acres, or four square miles. Hot-water wildcaters typically "block up" several adjacent claims, giving them a bigger target at which to aim.

The leases are cheap, \$1 per acre per year for the first five years. The government gets a 10 percent royalty of any geothermal energy found, and can get more, if the lease produces

over a long period.

Federal law limits the amount of geothermal land an individual can lease to 20,480 acres per state, but that has not prevented the Hunts from acquiring nearly half a million acres of federal claims in five states.

The Hunts have made the limit meaningless by taking out leases in 20 names, including individuals, corporations and trust funds consisting of various groups of Hunts.

Nelson Bunker Hunt has leased 50,000 acres in his name. Brother W. Herbert has 24,000. The third brother, Lamar, owner of the Kansas City Chiefs football team, has the biggest individual holding, more than 56,000 acres.

Herbert's wife, Nancy's, name is on leases for 33,500 acres, and his son, Douglas, is listed as owner of 21,000 acres.

Several other groups of leases are held by trusts composed of various Hunt family members. A Hunt son-in-law, Hugo M. Schoelkopf, has 24,500 acres under lease. About 48,000 acres are held by the Rosewood Corp., whose mailing address is the Dallas office of the various Hunt enterprises.

Interior Department officials said use of various entities to acquire more than the usual limit of land does not violate regulations, as long as any one does not exceed the limit.

If all the pending applications for additional leases are approved, some members of the Hunt group would appear to have more than their legal shares. BLM officials said that if any Hunt hits the limit, he will have to turn back some leases before getting new ones.

The Hunts used a similar technique of splitting holdings among family members when they invested heavily in the sybean market, where there is also a federal limit on how much one investor can own.

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Gas prices up

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The cost of gasoline actually increased more in the first two months of 1980 than this year, despite price decontrols ordered by President Reagan in January, an oil industry newsletter released Saturday said.

Meanwhile, February had the largest ever wholesale and retail price increases for one month, but the Lundberg Letter cautioned that the price jump was "a temporary acceleration, not a trend."

The president's decontrol order of Jan. 28 was not the chief villain in the latest round of retail price increases, according to the letter published by oil industry expert Dan Lundberg in North Hollywood.

"Almost all of January's and much of February's increases were the result of world crude price increases initiated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries," the newsletter said.

DRILLING REPORT

WILDCATS	
BORDEN COUNTY Robert E. Landreth No. 1 Daugherty; drilling at 5,600 feet in shale and lime.	June Spright; id 6,531 feet, setting pumping unit. Bass Enterprises Production Co. No. 3 Monteith; drilling at 4,180 feet in anhydrite. Perry R. Bass No. 1 C.A. Luman; preparing to perforate. William N. Beach No. 1 Pennonell; Federal; waiting on completion unit. Cotton Petr. Corp. No. 1 Scharbauer Estate; id 5,140, swabbing through perforations. David Fasken No. 1 Consolidated; State; id 11,873 feet, preparing to plug and abandon.
CHAVES COUNTY Depco, Inc. No. 1 White; id 9,587 feet, preparing to test, through perforations at 8,219-8,228 feet.	ROOSEVELT COUNTY Energy Reserves No. 1 Miller; drilling at 6,010 feet in lime.
CRANE COUNTY Andover Oil Co. No. 1-29 A B. Conell; drilling at 3,781 feet in anhydrite.	SCHLEICHER COUNTY Discovery Operating Co. No. 1 Lincoln; id 7,029 feet; still waiting on completion unit.
CROCKETT COUNTY Andover No. 1-34 Universal "C"; waiting on completion unit.	WARD COUNTY Energy Reserves Group No. 1-East Vermorel; id 17,939 feet; circulating and conditioning mud.
ECTOR COUNTY Jack N. Blair No. 1 Vest Ranch; drilling at 10,400.	FIELD TEST ANDREWS COUNTY Frimel, Smith & Carpenter, Inc. No. 1 University "W2"; id 1,981 feet waiting on potential.
EDDY COUNTY Perry R. Bass No. 49 Pulker Lake Unit; drilling at 12,960 feet and fishing. Perry R. Bass No. 30 Paker Lake Unit; flowing well to pit; testing at estimated 100 MCFPD.	BORDEN COUNTY William N. Beach No. 2 Briles; id 7,960 feet, still setting equipment.
GAINES COUNTY Forest No. 1 Barron; drilling at 10,143 feet.	CULBERSON COUNTY Conuro, Inc. No. 5011 G.E. Ramsey; drilling at 3,180 feet in sand and shell.
GARZA COUNTY Alkman Petroleum Inc. No. 1 King; waiting on completion unit.	EDDY COUNTY nadarko Production Co. No. 1 Glass; id 9,980 feet preparing to plug back. Perry R. Bass No. 85 Big Eddy Unit; drilling at 6,720 feet Bone Springs. Belco Petr. Corp. No. 1 Cavalier; drilling at 9,727 feet. Same No. 11 James Ranch Unit; id 14,600, waiting on completion unit. Same No. 1 Kimberly; drilling at 12,473 feet. Ford Chapman & Assoc. No. 1 Gulf "A"; drilling at 3,32, preparing to plug. E.J. Fano, Natural Production No. 1 Juragan; State; id 10,730 feet; waiting on completion unit.
HOCKLEY COUNTY Ammitt USA, Inc. No. 1 Reed Estate; swabbing and testing, no gauges, through unperforated perforations.	FISHER COUNTY GMW No. 1 Crouching Eagle; id 3,310 feet, potential 1-2-81. Same No. 1 Keokuk; id 8,500 feet potential 1-2-81. Same No. 1 White Nosed Fox; id 3,580 feet, potential 1-2-81.
LOVING COUNTY GMW No. 1 Yellow Bear; moving in and rigging up rotary. HCW Exploration No. 1 Rendova State; drilling at 6,830 feet in sand and shale.	LEA COUNTY Anadarko Production Co. No. 1
NOLAN COUNTY C&K Petroleum Inc. No. 1 Herdon; id 5,800 feet; pb 5,566 feet; moving in completion unit.	
PECOS COUNTY Adams Exploration Co. No. 1 McClintyre; drilling at 10,521 feet.	
REEVES COUNTY Jack N. Blair No. 1 Campbell Estate; drilling at 11,000 feet.	

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Texas will gain through defense funding: Tower

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increased defense spending will make Texas a net gainer in the amount of federal funds it receives despite the Reagan administration's proposed budget cutbacks, says Sen. John Tower.

The Texas Republican said President Reagan's plan to boost the military budget will affect the state's aviation and electronic industries, including the many subcontractors in the aviation field.

Tower told reporters Monday that defense spending hikes also would be felt in the state through a bigger operations and maintenance budget, including more training at Texas bases, and an increase in the military payroll.

He predicted that the increases in defense dollars coming to Texas will be more than the proposed reductions in domestic spending.

Reagan outlined \$41.4 billion in proposed budget cuts, and Tower estimated that between \$1.6 billion and \$2 billion of that amount would be in funds otherwise headed for Texas.

He said a state-by-state breakdown was not available yet on how specific programs would fare under the proposed spending cutbacks.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, said last week that an analysis by his staff showed that the proposed cutbacks included about \$1.7 billion affecting the state. Figures were not available for specific programs.

Tower said he had received a generally favorable response from the state to Reagan's economic proposals, although some complaints about specific budget cuts had been lodged.

He added that he had pledged to support the president's entire package of budget cuts even though one of the specific proposals may prove to be politically difficult.

"Taken individually, there were some that are a little bit uncomfortable," the senator said.

The "genuinely needy" will not be hurt by the proposed reductions in federal spending, Tower said.

Shortage of avocados could hurt restaurateurs

DALLAS (AP) — California farmers are seeing red over Texas' month-long embargo of California produce, but Lone Star restaurateurs are turning green over the prospect of 30 days without avocados for guacamole.

The avocado ban was imposed Sunday by state officials who feared infestations of the Mediterranean fruit fly in California would spread here. Some Texas customers think the ban is strictly for show.

Bill Prather, wholesale buyer for Avocado Sales, a Dallas produce broker, complained that fruit flies don't even like avocados.

"They found them in two counties out there (in California) and they were a long way from the avocado groves," he said.

He said Texas officials are allowing produce into the state if it is fumigated, but that the fumigation must be done at 90 degrees — "which would burn them up."

"You can hold one for three or four weeks, but you've got to have it in a temperature of 40 degrees," he said.

Prather agreed that avocados from Florida and Texas' Rio Grande Valley don't measure up to California avocados, and added that the Florida harvest doesn't begin until June or July.

"Avocado out of Florida does not make good guacamole because it doesn't have the oil content. It's full of water," he said. "I don't see that we can bring anything in for a month."

Monterey House might consider going to another avocado source, said John Covington, the Mexican restaurant's production vice president in Houston.

"But over the years when there were shortages, we told customers it was unavailable rather than sell something below our standards," he said.

"Certain varieties that we use probably have a shelf life of three weeks... After that time, I just can't say what will happen," he said.

El Chico restaurants also would rather not sell guacamole than use sub-standard avocados, said purchasing agent Carmen Summers of Campbell-Taggart Inc., a service company.

"We stocked up to some extent," she said. "...We really are going to wait and see. We do have a bit on hand that will hold in the cooler for some time."

Texas ranks behind only California in avocado consumption, marketing statistics say. California growers planned a record harvest of 400 million pounds of avocados this season, with about 3 million to 4 million pounds destined for Texas each month.

"There are some avocados grown here, but not many (of them) are sold here," buyer Jim LaBarba of American Produce and Vegetable Co. Inc. said Monday.

Confession, tapes OK'd

WACO, Texas (AP) — A signed confession and three tape recordings can be used in the trial of three Central Texas men accused of trying to extort \$60,000 from a grocery chain, a federal judge has ruled.

Attorneys prepared to today to pick a jury in the court of U.S. District Judge Fred Shannon.

Waco police said Daniel Glenn, 23, and brothers Stephen and David Howard participated in a scheme in which they told H-E-B officials by telephone that strychnine had been placed in food in the grocery chain's Waco stores.

TODAY'S ANSWER

BATS	CARAT	PALE
ELIA	AROMA	ARES
EVER	SETIN	RIGS
PASADENA	GREASE	
SASA	SEEN	
VAPOR	SPARE	TIME
EDITED	EVIL	NAN
SHEA	ALDEN	SEND
TOY	KNAR	ELAPSE
SCARECROW	OPTED	
WED	IAGO	
RELISH	MEMORIAL	
ERTIN	ALONE	OGLE
DANE	LIVEN	UNITS
SLEED	LEERS	SITTS

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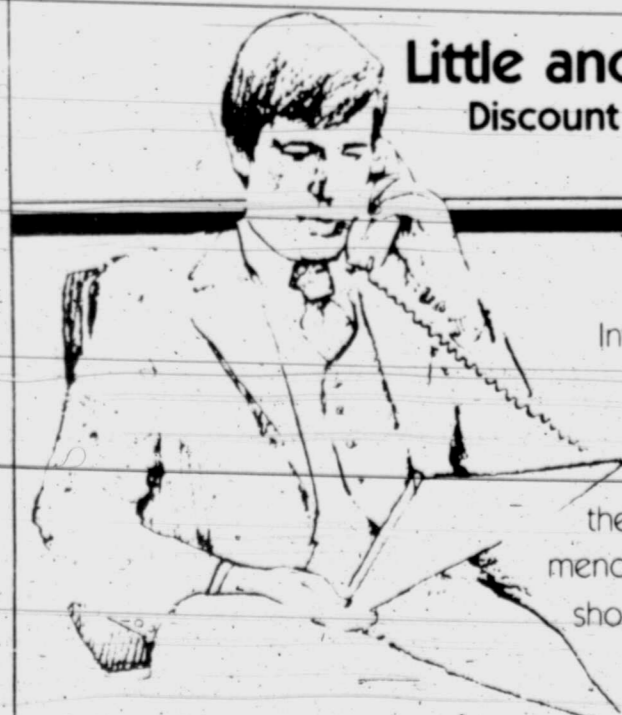
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