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Poles continue rioting; Regime threats go on

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's Communist regime warned today that strikes and rioting could extend martial law, but underground militants of the outlawed Solidarity trade union called for more protests.

The threat to extend martial law, which was imposed Dec. 13, followed work stoppages and riots in Gdansk Monday and Tuesday and protests Wednesday in Nowa Huta and Wroclaw, where 170 people were reported arrested.

Rocks, tear gas canisters and remains of barricades littered the streets of the riot-torn cities, but tough measures taken by the authorities apparently forced people back to work and the country was reported calm.

"The operation of the oppositionist underground and its confrontation could extend, contrary to the government's intentions, the period of application of extraordinary measures," the party paper Trybuna Ludu said.

The headline army daily Zolnierz Wolnosci said, "The events of the past few days prove that class enemies, blinded by hatred, have not put up with reality."

It said workers should welcome the law passed Friday that banned Solidarity because the measure had widespread public support.

But Warsaw's underground union leaders called on workers to stage "sympathy strikes" to help the workers in Gdansk who called off their protest Wednesday. The statement, circulated in Warsaw today, said plants with more than 2,000 workers should begin occupation strikes but did not say when.

There were no immediate reports of workers in the Warsaw region complying with the appeal. The Gdansk workers ended their protest Wednesday in the face of massive police pressure and government "militarization" of the Lenin shipyard.

Solidarity's underground leaders in Krakow, meanwhile, said in another appeal circulated in Warsaw that workers in the southern city would stage a protest Oct. 20, but would start it sooner if the authorities attempted to prevent it.

Several thousands steelworkers, youths and bystanders battled martial-law enforcers Wednesday in Nowa Huta, near Krakow, and state television reported police jailed an unspecified number of "the most aggressive rioters."

Police sealed off the center of the southern city and rioters tore up roads and littered streets with glass shards and stones, official sources in Krakow said.

There was no word on injuries in the clash that erupted in Nowa Huta after riot police fired water cannon and tear gas into a crowd of 3,000 steelworkers demonstrating in support of the outlawed independent union.

The workers scattered, but within a few hours, Warsaw television reported, "rowdies blocked the streets and were damaging municipal and transport equipment."

Police tear-gassed the rioters again and sprayed them with powerful water hoses when the mob tried to destroy public buildings, the television said.

It said police "were showered with stones, glass, ball-bearings and concussion grenades. It is difficult to estimate the damage, but indications are that it is considerable."

The broadcast did not explain how the rioters obtained the concussion grenades, which have no shrapnel but can knock people down with the force of a handgun blast.

Sources said the uprising matched the fury of Aug. 31, when five people were killed and hundreds injured in protests and riots that swept scores of Polish cities on Solidarity's second anniversary.

Poland has been rocked by bloody protests since the government decreed martial law Dec. 13 and interned hundreds of union activists, including Solidarity chief Lech Walesa.

Anti-government demonstrations also erupted Wednesday in the southern city of Wroclaw, where about 700 people screamed "Gestapo!" A reporter for a Wroclaw newspaper said police fired tear gas and water cannon to disperse some of the protesters.

The unrest began Monday in Gdansk, the Baltic seaport where Solidarity was formed as the Soviet bloc's first independent labor federation during strikes in August 1980.



Sympathetic support

Demonstrators gathered in Chicago Wednesday night to mark the tenth month of martial law in Poland. They built a cross of white birch and stood around a grave symbolizing Poles killed since martial

law was begun last Dec. 13 by the Polish government. That government today threatened an extension of martial law if rioting doesn't stop. Meanwhile, rioting and strikes continued.

AP Laserphoto

Reagan insists he's helping nation to economic recovery

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan, insisting he is forging a lasting economic recovery, cautioned voters not to be tempted by those advocating a return to "big spending and big taxing."

In a speech billed by the White House as non-partisan but broadcast over Democrats' protests 20 days before the election, Reagan said the country's problems were years in the making and were the fault of big spenders and people playing politics with the economy.

Democrats, however, pointed out that unemployment has soared to its highest level in four decades during Reagan's presidency and said his recovery program must be changed.

"I was disappointed that the president failed to propose a single new measure to create jobs and put America back to work," said House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill, D-Mass. "If he thinks we should stay the

course, he should ask those millions of American families who have already reached the end of the line," O'Neill said in a statement. "If he thinks Reaganomics is working, he should ask the fellow who isn't."

Speaking from the Oval Office Wednesday night, Reagan said, "Now I do not pretend for a moment that in 21 months, we have been able to undo all

the damage to our economy that has built up over more than 20 years."

He said the current recession "is part of a long series — a series that hasn't stopped because, in the past, when the crunch came, too many in government resorted to quick fixes instead of getting to the root cause."

Sen. Donald M. Riegle of Michigan, giving the Democrats' formal response to Reagan, said the economy "is on a downhill slide."

"More people are out of work now than at any time since the Great Depression," said Riegle. "And it's getting worse."

"What kind of course is it that creates more business failures than at any time since the Depression?" Riegle asked.

The senator called for cuts in Reagan's massive Pentagon buildup, and said Democrats would seek legislation to protect American industries from unfair foreign competition, changes in the credit system to reduce interest rates and restoration of cuts in Social Security benefits.

White House officials insisted Reagan's speech was nonpartisan but it was packed with self-praise for the administration's program and scorn for previous remedies for inflation and unemployment.

See related story, Page 12C

Not many Californians are against nuke freeze

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Travel California from Eureka to San Diego, watch television on VHF, UHF and cable, scan the billboards and the shopping center handbills and try, just try, to find an argument against The Freeze.

It seems as though there's only one side in this debate. Blue and anti-nuke buttons are everywhere. Thirty-second TV spots feature honey-haired toddlers and grim warnings of atomic annihilation.

Three weeks before Californians and voters in eight other states have their say about a nuclear weapons freeze in the Nov. 2 balloting, a relative handful of people has taken a stand against it.

On the surface, the fight over California's Proposition 12, the nuclear freeze initiative, is an uneven match.

The freeze side is aglitter with movie star endorsements. It has a \$1.6 million budget, enthusiasm, volunteers and demonstrators. The freeze-niks, as the Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell calls them derisively, have a built-in advantage: It took 800,000 voters' signatures to get the issue on the California ballot.

The other side has Ronald Reagan. That evens the contest somewhat. While the battle for the minds and votes of 11 million eligible Californians would seem destined to produce a pro-freeze landslide, it may not work out that way. A Los Angeles Times poll in late September found the race to be fairly close. (The issue has split the Reagan daughters right down the middle — Patti Davis for the freeze, Maureen Reagan against.)

With some exceptions, notably San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson, who is running for the Senate and against the freeze, politicians are loath to oppose the proposal.

"You can't get someone to stand up and get characterized as a bomb lover," said Larry O'Donnell, a San Diego political consultant and nuclear advocate whose background includes 16 years with the old Atomic Energy Commission and five with the CIA.



Allan Stroker

Midlander gets lucky in Vegas

By VINCE GIORGI
Staff Writer

When Allan Stroker lost the raffle aboard weekend shuttle flight 711 from Midland to Las Vegas, he quickly surmised that perhaps this trip Lady Luck missed her plane.

As it turned out, the fortuitous female took the bus.

She arrived 11 p.m. Tuesday, when with a few tugs on a "bandit's" arm, Stroker realized the dream behind most treks to Vegas — the elusive pot-of-gold at the end of a "Glitter City" runway.

After a long day attending the American Mining Congress Convention, in the city's cavernous convention center, Stroker descended to the Las Vegas Hilton lobby for some milk, a

(See MIDLANDER, Page 2A)

Five die in refinery accident

PORT ARTHUR (AP) — A ruptured line that spewed superheated powder on employees at a Texaco refinery, killing five and injuring eight others, was part of a unit that had to be repaired last week, officials say.

The line ruptured Wednesday as workers were trying to restart the unit after repairs, said Texaco spokesman Charles Rentz.

The nature of the repairs was not disclosed and it was not known if the problem needing repair was linked to the accident.

The break was so clean that "it looks like somebody took a knife and sliced it right through sideways," said Ed Morse, a member of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union's safety committee.

The powder, which is heated to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit and is used to trigger chemical reaction during refining, was heaped ankle-deep in some places and covered the ground around the No. 1 fluid catalytic cracking unit for many feet, Morse said.

"There was a loud roar, the line exploded and the catalyst escaped," spraying the fine powder over the work yard near the unit, said James A. Werner, one of those injured in the accident.

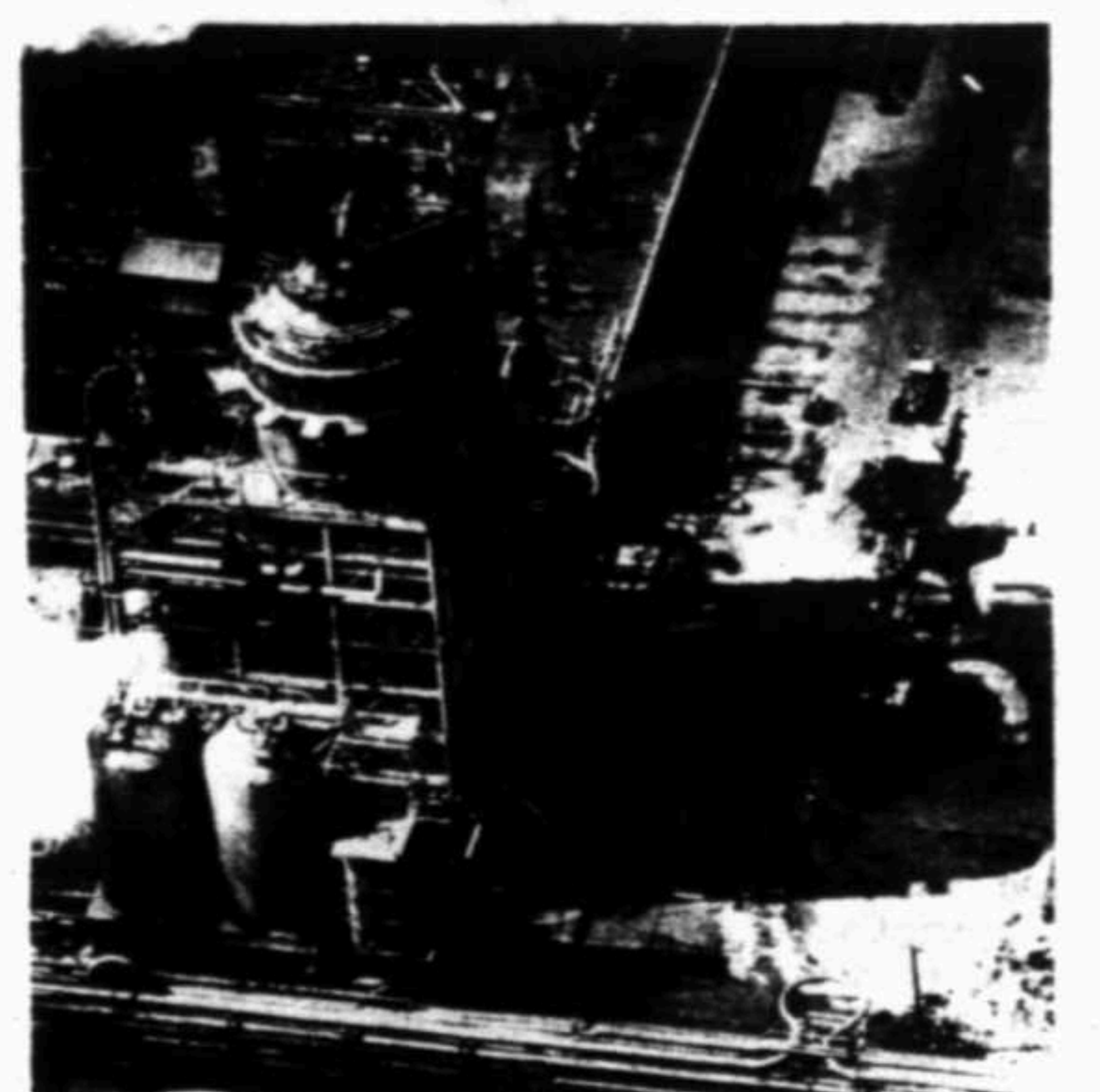
A safety specialist of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in Houston and an industrial hygienist today were to survey the six-story tower where the accident occurred, Rentz said.

In March 1977, eight workers at the Texaco plant died in a fire in which the plant's main stabilizer unit exploded.

Danny Dement, brother of one of the injured, said a break in such a line was unusual. "I've been out there 15 years and I never heard of anything like that happening," he said.

Rentz identified the dead as Frederick T. Rhine, 39, Jessie Dennis Jr., 34, and Herman C. Hope, 35, all of Port Arthur; Vernon J. Cole, 56, of Groves; and Charles L. Choate, 33, of Nederland.

One injured worker was reported in fair condition and three other men were hospitalized in stable condition with burns, officials said. Rentz said four workers suffered minor injuries and were treated at the plant.



AP Laserphoto

Five workers died and eight were injured Wednesday when a feeder line snapped, spewing a 1,200-degree chemical over people in this Port Arthur Texaco refinery. Texaco officials say the chemical is used to trigger a reaction in the refining process.

Walk-ins won't find IRS help anymore

By VINCE GIORGI
Staff Writer

Deep within many disgruntled taxpayers lurks a dark, unspoken desire to just once corral an Internal Revenue Service agent and engage in a few moments of intense axe-grinding.

Yet 11,751 Permian Basin residents with tax-related questions got help — not even — through walk-in tax assistance service provided by Midland's IRS office during the fiscal year ended Sept. 30.

But jittery taxpayers accustomed to an occasional fix of one-on-one help from local IRS employees will be forced to look elsewhere after the Mid-

land office eliminated walk-in tax assistance service effective Oct. 4.

Robert Ray, group manager for Midland's IRS office, said taxpayers instead may seek answers to tax-related questions between 8 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. through a toll free telephone number, 1-800-492-4830, connecting them with district IRS headquarters in Dallas.

Ray said the elimination of walk-in taxpayer assistance represents a "re-allocation of resources" within the IRS. "We feel we can give better service and reach more taxpayers by the toll-free service."

Marlene Gaysek, public affairs officer for a 143-county IRS district centered in Dallas, said eliminating the

service is part of an effort to decrease overhead and boost efficiency within the IRS.

"What we've been working toward is stretching our resources, getting taxpayers the most for their money," she said.

Ms. Gaysek added that although federal agencies are still awaiting final budget allocations for fiscal year 1983, preliminary budget proposals call for reducing taxpayer assistance funds by \$43 million.

While eliminating the service may disappoint some taxpayers, Ray said the Dallas office is often better (See IRS, Page 2A)

INSIDE TODAY

Medical efficiency

Lydia Mendoza, Midland Memorial Hospital medical records employee, operates Sylvester, an automated filing and retrieving system which holds all of MMH's patient's records.

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Weather

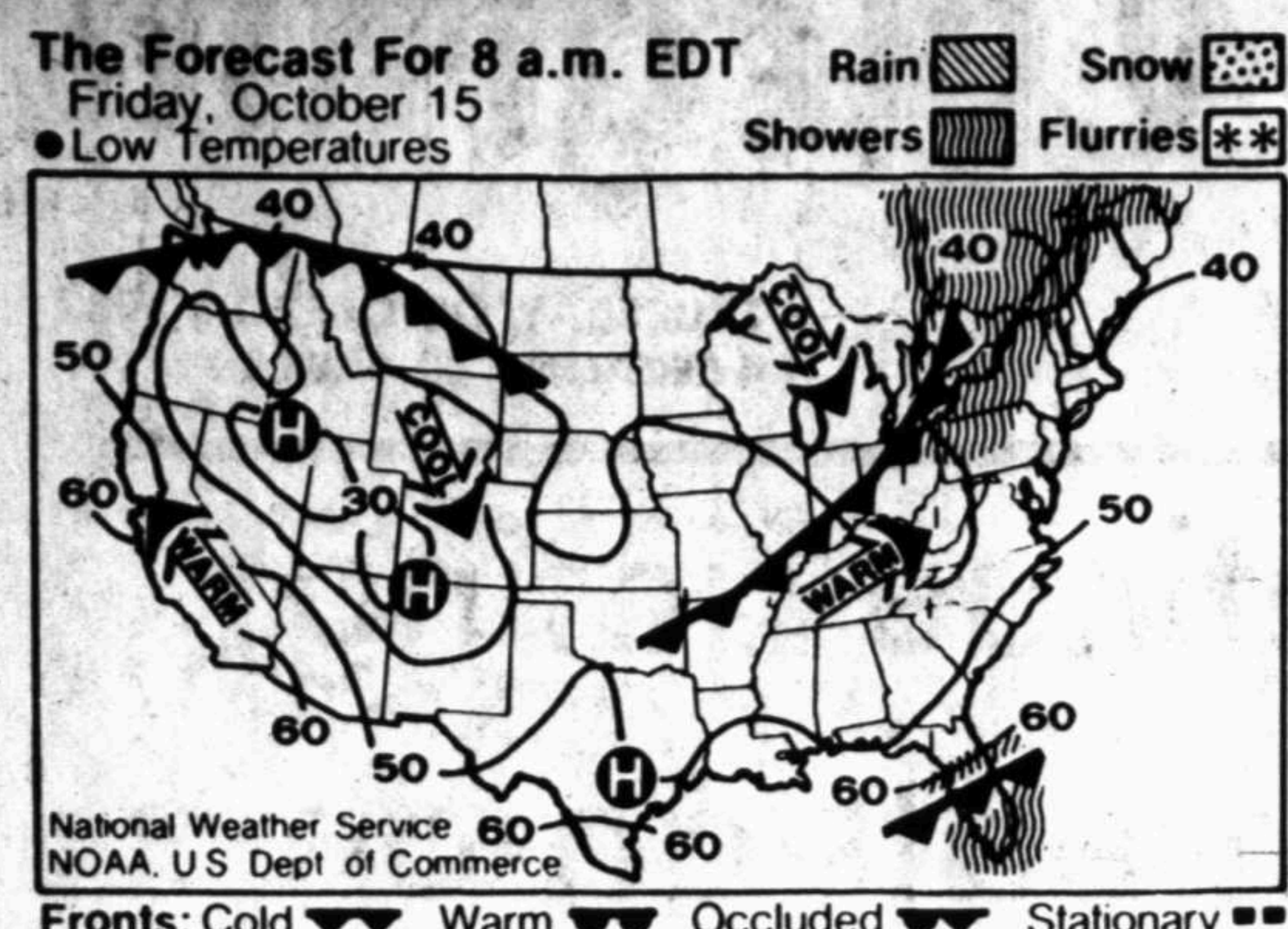
Fair and cool tonight. Fair and warm Friday with high in upper 70s. Details on Page 2A.

Service

Delivery..... 682-5311
Want Ads..... 682-4222
Other Calls..... 682-5311



WEATHER SUMMARY



The National Weather Service forecasts showers for the northeast and Florida.

Midland nights will continue to be cool

Another chilling night, nature's hint that winter is just a season away, will visit Midland tonight and will cool the night air.

The low temperature tonight will be in the mid-40s, according to the weatherman at the National Weather Service at Midland Regional Airport. Winds will be light and variable.

Friday's forecast calls for a high in the upper 70s and for winds to be southwesterly at 5 to 10 mph.

Wednesday's high temperature of 68 degrees was far away from the record high of 94 degrees for the comparable date in 1968. The overnight low of 41 degree was within two degrees of tying the record low of 39 degrees for the date in 1969.

Sunset today will be at 7:18 p.m. Sunrise Friday will be at 7:52 a.m.

Midland statistics

WEATHER FORECAST

Fair and cool tonight with a low in the mid-40s. Winds light and variable. Fair and warm Friday with a high in the upper 70s. Southwesterly winds at 5 to 10 mph today.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE READINGS:

Yesterday's high 68 degrees
Overnight low 41 degrees
Sunset today 7:18 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:52 a.m.

Precipitation:
Last 24 hours 0.00 inches
This month to date 1.01 inches
1982 to date 12.6 inches

LOCAL TEMPERATURES:

6 a.m.	42	9 p.m.	45
7 a.m.	41	7 p.m.	40
8 a.m.	40	5 p.m.	38
9 a.m.	39	3 p.m.	36
10 a.m.	38	1 p.m.	35
11 a.m.	37	midnight	34
noon	36	11 p.m.	33
1 p.m.	35	10 p.m.	32
2 p.m.	34	9 p.m.	31
3 p.m.	33	8 p.m.	30
4 p.m.	32	7 p.m.	29
5 p.m.	31	6 p.m.	28
6 a.m.	27	5 a.m.	24

SOUTHWEST TEMPERATURES:

Arlington	41	Lubbock	40
Denver	51	Midland	38
El Paso	46	Odessa	37
Amesbury	46	Wichita Falls	36
Phoenix	75		
Fl. Worth	75		
Houston	73		
Lubbock	47		
Marfa	47		
Odessa	47		
Chico, Ariz.	73		
Wichita Falls	36		

Texas temperatures

City	High	Low	Pcp
Arlington	71	48	0.00
Alice	76	61	0.00
Amarillo	64	37	0.00
Austin	76	58	0.00
Beaumont	71	49	0.00
Brownsville	74	63	0.00
Childress	71	43	0.00
College Station	75	51	0.00
Corpus Christi	78	60	0.00
Dallas	71	48	0.00
Del Rio	78	53	0.00
Fort Worth	75	51	0.00
Galveston	72	63	0.00
Houston	76	50	0.00
Longview	73	47	0.00
Lubbock	67	39	0.00
Lufkin	74	48	0.00
Marfa	66	42	0.00
McAllen	73	63	0.00
Midland	66	42	0.00
Palacios	74	54	0.00
San Angelo	72	43	0.00
San Antonio	76	49	0.00
Shreveport, La.	72	50	0.00
Stephenville	75	46	0.00
Texarkana	76	50	0.00
Victoria	77	54	0.00
Waco	77	49	0.00
Wichita Falls	76	45	0.00
Wink	70	49	0.00

Extended forecast

Saturday Through Monday

West Texas: Fair and warm Saturday and Sunday becoming partly cloudy and turning colder Monday. Highs in the mid 70s Panhandle to near 90 Big Bend Saturday and Sunday cooling to lower 60s Panhandle to mid 80s Big Bend valleys Monday. Lows mid 40s Panhandle to mid 50s lower Pecos Valley Saturday and Sunday cooling to mid 30s Panhandle to mid 50s Big Bend valleys Monday.

North Texas: Clear to partly cloudy and mild. Highs 70s. Lows 50s.

South Texas: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers Southeast Texas Monday. Highs 80s. Lows upper 50s to upper 60s.

Border states forecasts

Louisiana: Sunny through Friday. Fair and cool tonight. Highs in the 70s. Lows 40s north to near 50 southeast coast. Highs Friday 40 except 70 to 80 southeast coast.

Oklahoma: Mostly sunny and a little warmer through Friday. Fair and cool tonight. Highs mostly in the 70s. Lows 40s Panhandle to 50 southeast.

Appeals court dismisses San Francisco's new handgun law

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who was propelled into office by the assassination of her predecessor, says a state appeals court's dismissal of the city's new handgun ban "is only a ruling and it can be appealed."

District One of the state Court of Appeal ruled unanimously Wednesday that while San Francisco may regulate firearms, it cannot supersede state laws already on the books regarding handgun licensing and registration.

The three-judge panel ordered the city not to enforce the ordinance and to tell residents that it will not be enforced.

"Obviously, I am very sad," Ms. Feinstein said. "But it is not the end of the battle. It is only a ruling and it can be appealed."

City Attorney William McCabe said Wednesday's ruling would be studied and "likely we'll appeal it to the state Supreme Court."

San Francisco has California's worst per capita homicide rate with 126 murders reported in 1981, according to police department figures. Handguns were responsible for 81 of the deaths.

Ms. Feinstein, who became mayor after the assassinations of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in November 1978, spearheaded the effort to enact the ban, the second in the nation. It was patterned after a law enacted by the Chicago suburb of Morton Grove, which has been upheld in federal court.

The San Francisco ordinance was passed by the Board of Supervisors in June and took effect in July. During a 90-day grace period due to end Oct. 27, handgun owners could get rid of their weapons, but starting Oct. 28, violators would have faced misdemeanor charges punishable by up to 30 days in jail and fines of up to \$500.

Berkeley has since passed a similar gun ban ordinance, and that law is now under a cloud.

The Court of Appeal said the state Penal Code, which contains a section on handguns, takes precedence over local regulations.

The judges said they were "sensitive to the political and social overtones of a case such as this..." but added that they were concerned "only with the narrow legal question of whether the state Constitution and state statutes permit San Francisco to enact such an ordinance. We conclude that they do not."

Under the ordinance, peace officers, members of the military on duty, people using licensed target ranges, certain licensed collectors, certain licensed guards and special peace officers were exempt. Also exempt were people with permits to carry concealed weapons and those authorized to sell handguns.

The issue will be on the state ballot Nov. 2 as Proposition 15, which would require handgun owners to register weapons with the state Department of Justice no later than Nov. 2, 1983, and would make it a misdemeanor to buy, sell or transfer an unregistered handgun.

Both supporters and opponents agreed state law is paramount in the registration and licensing of handguns. The Court of Appeal said the issue was whether individual possession also was a matter of state legislation.

The city argued that state law says nothing about a local government's ability to regulate possession. It said the ordinance imposed an outright ban on possession, exempting those who have permits under state law. The appellate judges disagreed.

BIRTHS

- MIDLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**
Oct. 12, 1982
- Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Olivares, Route 2 Box 176 A-1, a girl.
 - Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Craig Walker-Orr, Number 1 Greenview Lane, a boy.
 - Mr. and Mrs. George Van Syckel Holton, P.O. Box 313, Crane a boy.
 - Mr. and Mrs. Terry Jon Mansell,

- Route 3 Box 418, a boy.
- Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gregory Zamenski, 5104 Bellaire, a boy.
- Odessa's Women's and Children's Hospital Oct. 5, 1982
- Mr. and Mrs. Doug Avery, 5128 Sunnyside Drive, a boy.

Texan sought in Tylenol extortion case

CHICAGO (AP) — Police searched for a second time the home of a "closet chemist" in connection with seven cyanide killings as federal agents looked in Texas for a man accused of trying to extort \$1 million from the makers of Extra-Strength Tylenol.

Roger Arnold, 48, an employee of Jewel Food Stores, had been held without bond from Monday to Wednesday night while city detectives pursued what they said was circumstantial evidence that led them to consider him a possible suspect in the poisonings, homicide Sgt. Monroe Vollick said.

"There are a lot of circumstances surrounding it that can't be overlooked," Vollick said.

"He has not been discounted as a suspect...he is not a strong suspect," said homicide Detective Robert Brown.

Illinois Attorney General Tyrone Fahner, who is heading the multi-agency task force investigating the killings of seven people who took Extra-Strength Tylenol laced with cyanide, described Arnold's arrest as "another one of those (incidents) that are unrelated" to the killings.

Bond was set at \$6,000 Wednesday night and Arnold was released after posting \$600 cash bond, or 10 percent of the bail.

Police also searched Arnold's automobile and work locker, Vollick said, but there was no immediate word on the results of the new searches. His home had been searched Monday with

his permission, detectives said.

Police Area Commander Kenneth Curin and Lt. August Locallo said a series of coincidences surfaced when Arnold talked with investigators and they had no choice but to investigate further.

Meanwhile, federal authorities issued an arrest warrant Wednesday and were searching in Texas for a man accused of trying to extort \$1 million after the killings, Fahner said.

The warrant alleged that Robert Richardson, in his mid 30s, wrote a letter to McNeil Consumer Products Co., manufacturer of Extra-Strength Tylenol, demanding money "if you want to stop the killing."

The letter told the company to deposit the money in an account at a Chicago bank. The account, which officials said was closed, had belonged to a suburban resident questioned last week by the FBI. Fahner said the man, who ran a travel agency that is now closed, has "never been a suspect" in the extortion or killings.

Richardson's wife, Nancy, once worked for the travel agency, Fahner said. He said the couple was believed to be in the Amarillo area.

Arnold was arrested late Monday night after an informant told police he was known to keep cyanide in his home, and was charged with five counts of failure to register firearms and one count of aggravated assault, Detective James C. Gildea said.



Robert Richardson

Gildea said that among the books found in his apartment was one that explained how to put poison into a capsule. Arnold "said he was a 'closet chemist' and had 'a working knowledge' of chemicals and compounds, he said.

When police first searched Arnold's South Side apartment, they found a plastic bag containing a white powder as well as five guns, ammunition and literature on poisons and explosives.

The powder was sent Wednesday to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration laboratories in Cincinnati for analysis, Vollick said.

Vollick said Arnold had two one-way tickets to Thailand and intended to leave the country Friday for a 28-day vacation there. He said Arnold previously had traveled to Thailand, China and Hong Kong.

Arnold's lawyer, Thomas J. Royce, said his client refused a police request for a lie-detector test after consulting Royce. "He says he didn't do it (the cyanide killings)," Royce said.

Arnold works as a warehouseman at a Jewel salvage building in Melrose Park, Jewel spokeswoman Janie Armstrong said.

Jewel operates a chain of supermarkets and drugstores in the Midwest, including two in the Chicago suburbs where four of the seven cyanide victims had bought their poisoned bottles of Extra-Strength Tylenol capsules.

Detective Jerry Beam said the assault charge against Arnold stemmed from a recent, unrelated incident involving a bartender at a local tavern who provided police with the tip leading to Arnold's arrest. Beam declined to elaborate.

A task force of more than 100 local, state and federal investigators has been working to find whoever placed deadly cyanide in the capsules, killing seven people in the Chicago area between Sept. 29 and Oct. 1.

Women's groups back candidate

CLAYTON, Mo. (AP) — Harriett Woods is more than just the Democratic nominee for the U.S. Senate against incumbent John Danforth: She is the standard-bearer for the women's movement in this fall's elections.

National women's groups are making major efforts in the 55-year-old state senator's long-shot bid to unseat the first-term Republican.

Mrs. Woods knows how difficult her task is.

"You don't go into a race against a multi-millionaire incumbent who is perceived as a good guy with any illusions that it's going to be easy," she said in an interview last week.

The Democratic activist is one of three women running for the Senate as a major party nominee this fall. But the other two have not attracted the unified support from women's groups that Mrs. Woods has.

In New Jersey, Republican Rep. Millicent Fenwick's support for President Reagan's budgets and spending cuts have cost her the backing of the National Organization for Women and some other feminist groups.

In New York, Florence Sullivan, the Republican choice to face Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, is a strong opponent of abortion, which prevented most of the women's groups from backing her campaign.

"The Woods campaign is one of our highest priorities," says Ranny Cooper, who runs the Women's Campaign Fund.

Despite the backing of women's organizations and a number of unions, Mrs. Woods still trails in the polls and in fund raising.

GOP officials say Danforth, an heir to the Ralston-Purina fortune, will win by a substantial margin, but they no longer describe his seat as "safe" for the incumbent.

A Democratic Party professional in Washington conceded that Danforth has a comfortable lead, but added that Woods can win the race in the final weeks.

A state Senate colleague of Mrs. Woods said "underestimating her would be a mistake."

"When you get in a fight with Harriett, you're in a fight."

Mrs. Woods backing is from the National Organization for Women, the National Abortion Rights Action League, the National Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Campaign Fund, Friends of Family Planning, the American Nurses Association and the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, among others.

Danforth likes to mention some of those groups on the campaign trail.

"I have been targeted by the National Organization for Women, the National Abortion Rights Action League, and now we get in the paper that I have been targeted by Ralph Nader. Teddy Kennedy is coming into the state to campaign against me and any minute I expect Jane Fonda to storm the battlements of Missouri."

He explained in an interview that his statement is not "not male vs. female...the groups and individuals who have become active in stating their opposition to my candidacy have been far out."

Mrs. Woods, not surprisingly, takes a different view.

"There is some danger that he could antagonize women by implying that any woman who dares to run for the Senate has to be a militant female."

"I don't think I carry with me the baggage of militancy — I would say conviction is the right word."

Midlander wins \$250,000 in Vegas

(Continued from Page 1A)

sandwich and a few last turns at the slot machines.

He had won about \$87 during the afternoon but was disappointed to find that day's favorite machine occupied. Stroker moved to another Super Pot-of-Gold machine. "I figured, what the heck, I was going to spend \$20 and go to bed," said Stroker, a sales manager for Drlico Industrial.

He began feeding the slot \$3 at a time, scoring some small wins as he went. With \$5 in hand and some winnings in the payoff trough, his last pull brought four plums — a \$20 win — into view behind the middle of three sets of windows.

Simultaneously, the bottom windows revealed four triple bars, the \$250,000 bonanza. Later, Stroker calculated the prize cost him \$2 plus labor.

Lights flashed and people rushed toward Stroker. "I was not aware of what happened, seriously, until they told me."

"Sir, do you know what you've done?" a hotel employee asked the bewildered Stroker. "You've just won a quarter of a million dollars!"

"Sure, you're really kidding me," was the only reply he could muster. "This

one person behind me said you're supposed to be jumping up and down," said Stroker. "But I said, 'No, I don't react that way.'"

Security guards and hotel officials quickly hustled in to keep curious onlookers at bay and whisked Stroker away to begin the paperwork incumbent upon his new-found wealth.

After signing publicity releases and receiving congratulations from the hotel management, Stroker was escorted to his room by guards.

A phone call early Wednesday morning roused the Stroker household, eliciting screams of joy from his wife, Jolene, and mother-in-law, Nell Prater. Mrs. Stroker left Midland Wednesday to join her husband.

According to Lynn Berk, Las Vegas Hilton assistant publicity director, Stroker's win proves doubly sweet since it qualifies him for a spot in the Hilton Hotel Million Dollar Super Pot-of-Gold Championship Slot Tournament April 5 at the Reno Hilton.

Berk said 26 contestants are already scheduled for the tournament, when participants will be given \$300 and 30 minutes to accumulate as much money as they can, winner take all.

Stroker was to have received his

\$250,000 check this morning. As of Wednesday evening, in a telephone interview, Stroker said he had some level-headed plans for the booty.

"Like the average person I think I'll try to become completely free from small debts," he said. "I don't intend to change much, I don't think."

Stroker said he'll replace his wife's car with a new one and probably complete payments on a converted trailer home gracing the banks of Hayden Lake in Idaho.

He also plans to take his wife and mother-in-law for a Mississippi River paddle-boat cruise. "We've been talking about it for quite a few years," he said.

Stroker, a father of three children who moved his family from Denver to Midland two years ago, said his immediate plans are "to sit down with my tax accountant and figure out the best way to store this until next April, when Uncle Sam takes his chunk of it."

Meanwhile, Stroker said his celebrity status followed him into the convention hall.

"It's been fun, but it's a little bit hectic," he said. "The customers all heard about it and I've been repeating the experience, but it's a blast."

IRS removes walk-in aid from services

(Continued from Page 1A)

equipped to answer specific questions because its employees have access to computerized account records. He suggested callers avoid peak calling hours, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. during the early days of the week.

Midland's office will continue dispensing some basic tax forms, including the 1040 and 1040A, but will no longer dispense W2 withholding forms or any of the 90 free informational publications published by the IRS. Ray said order blanks will be provided for obtaining forms and publications not available in the office.

Ray said the IRS locally will continue to sponsor the Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, providing tax help through volunteers trained by IRS employees. He said VITA sites for Midland and surrounding communities will be announced soon.

Ms. Gaysek said several other IRS branch offices, including San Angelo, Lubbock, Abilene and Wichita Falls, will also lose walk-in assistance. She said the service will be retained in only three district cities: Dallas, Fort Worth and Amarillo.

Despite service cut-backs, IRS officials expect to provide walk-in assistance to about 5.2 million people nationwide during fiscal year 1983.

Ms. Gaysek said a study of the questions handled by Midland's office last year revealed that only 831 people — about 7 percent of the cases — needed personal assistance. "The proportions convinced us that the phone was the most efficient method for answering questions," she said. "There are plusses and minuses to all decisions and what we try to do is benefit the most people."

Ms. Gaysek said IRS officials are developing another source of taxpayer information, Tele-Tax, a battery of pre-recorded informational messages for curious or confused taxpayers.

She said a pilot Tele-Tax program was conducted in Baltimore and she predicted the Dallas district could be one of the first to receive Tele-Tax once IRS officials move ahead with the plan.

A simplified, 11-line tax form — the 1040EZ — could alleviate many questions and problems encountered by taxpayers filing returns in 1983, Ms. Gaysek said. She estimated that as

many as half of the nation's taxpayers could file with the new form.

Ray said that reducing taxpayer assistance jibes with the Reagan administration's plans to remove government services where the private sector will suffice.

Gene Kail, senior manager at Beneficial Income Tax Service in Midland, said calls from quizzical taxpayers will likely increase and business may as well. Elimination of the IRS's service "can only help us, it certainly can't hurt us," he said.

Kail said individuals with low incomes and complicated tax questions may have difficulty deciphering answers on the phone. "It's hard to call a number and do your taxes, I assure you," he said.

Horace Robb, president of the Periman Basin Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, said taxpayer assistance is becoming increasingly important because tax laws are growing increasingly complex.

In January, Robb said the chapter will conduct a six-hour, two-night course on income tax preparation for the public.

Sims concerned with natural resources

By LANA CUNNINGHAM
Staff Writer

Preserving natural resources, and especially water, was the focus of a non-political talk by state senatorial candidate Bill Sims, who was the featured speaker for the Lions Club Wednesday luncheon in Midland Center.

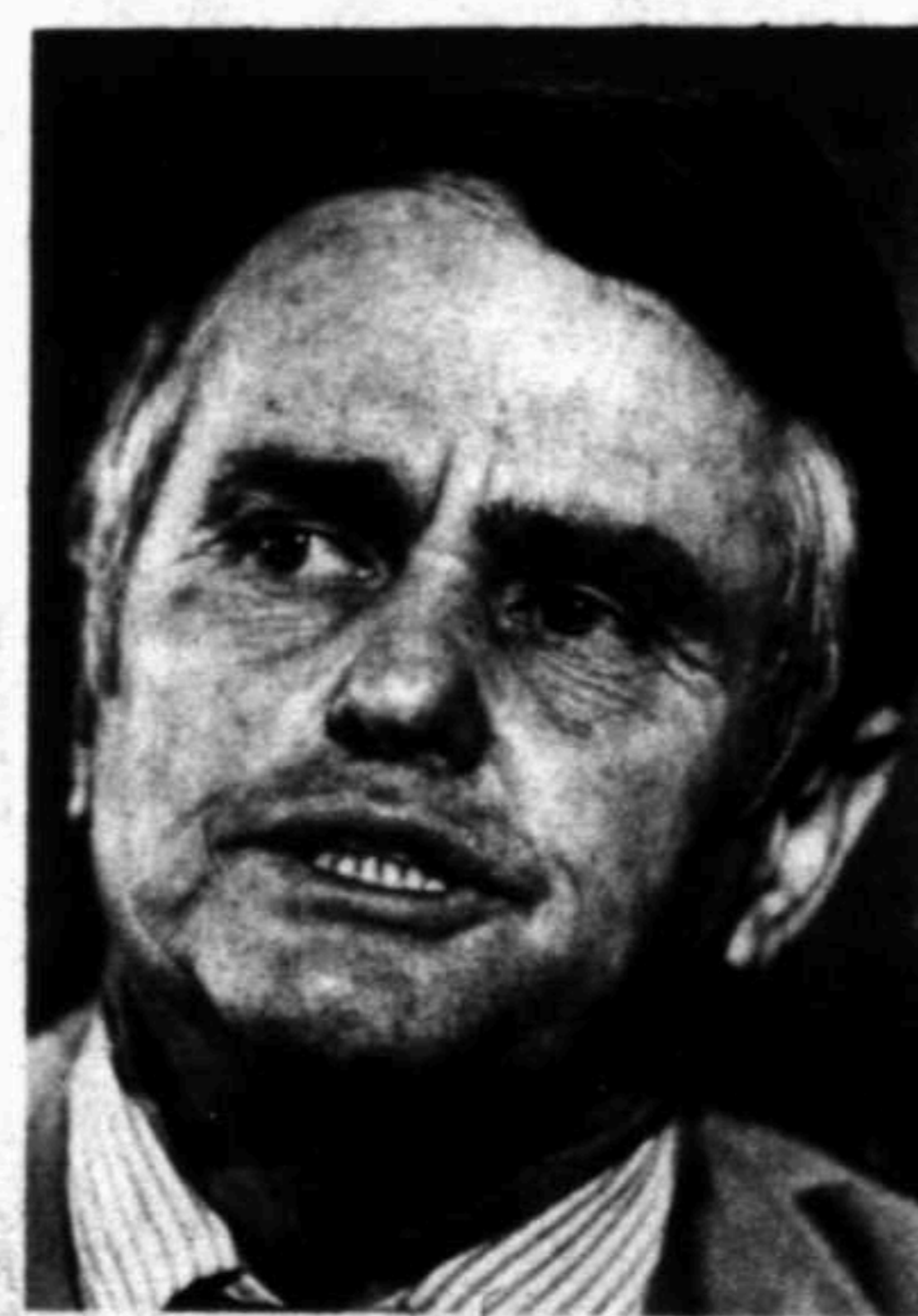
Sims, a Democrat from San Angelo, is seeking the 25th Senatorial District seat held by W.E. "Pete" Snelson of Midland. He is running against Ernest Angelo Jr., a petroleum engineer and former mayor of Midland.

Turning to the "importance of natural resources," Sims said, "We're on the verge of a real problem."

Pointing out there are depletable and non-depletable resources, he listed coal and oil as belonging to the first category. "There are x-number of days we can enjoy these petrochemicals. It's up to us to maintain these resources as long as we can."

Although his family has been involved in the ranching and sheep business for three generations in the Concho Valley, it has dealt some with the oil business. Sims told the story of his grandmother who traded a milk cow and Model T Ford for a lease in Yoakum County. The well didn't start producing until after her death, he said.

To illustrate his point of depleting resources, Sims talked about his Grandpa Sims who came to the Concho Valley from Missouri, "where it rained 50 inches a year." Thinking he could graze the same number of animals per acre as he had done in Missouri, the



Bill Sims

man woke up one day to find all the grass gone. "He learned you can only put a few animals per section," said Sims.

"One resource that everyone talks about but doesn't seem serious about is water. Some say it's a depletable product," he said, disagreeing with that theory. "All the water that will be available is in the world today."

When it's used for irrigation, the water goes into a hydrological cycle where it is cleaned up and returned to the ground water system. "Water is not a depletable product, but we tend to transport it away from us."

Poor use of water by early ranchers can be seen in the Rankin, McCamey and Pecos area which used to be the site for cotton farmers. Now the land is covered in mesquite, Sims noted.

Hurting Texas is the fact that "it's growing much faster than our water resources will sustain. We'll wake up in 15 to 20 years and see we didn't have enough water. People are coming down from the north and we don't have water for all of them."

Wondering aloud if the state should limit its growth, Sims offered an answer and that was "probably, because we don't have enough water."

"We need to get our heads out of the sand and do something now" about the water supply, he said. "We can't afford to pollute the water where it can't be used again."

Although he offered no specific solutions to the problem, Sims said he is optimistic about the possibilities with support from the governor.

"I feel we'll correct the problem we have about water."

Mountain man charged

DOVE CREEK, Colo. (AP) — A mountain man who calls himself "Navajo Sam" faces felony charges for allegedly stealing food from hikers and threatening to open fire on game hunters.

Leo Lyyjoki was charged Wednesday with four felony counts of robbery, threatening death and bodily harm and intimidation with a firearm.

Lyyjoki, 51, told Delores County Judge Bob Johnson he would act as his own attorney. Bond was set at \$10,000.

DEA
Milo

DEATHS

Mildred DeChicchis

Services for Mildred DeChicchis were Wednesday at the Chapel of First Presbyterian Church with Dr. F. Ray Riddle Jr. officiating.

Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park, directed by Ellis Funeral Home. She died Monday in a Midland hospital.

Pallbearers were Jack Yosh of Dallas, Robert F. Freeman, Wayne Gideon, Thomas C. Brown, Dr. E.M. Farha and Leonard "Scrooty" Skaggs.

Ferdinand A. Koch

SANTA FE, N.M. — Services for Ferdinand A. Koch, 84, of Santa Fe, N.M., father of Charles E. Koch of Midland, will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Santa Fe, N.M.

He died Monday in a Santa Fe hospital after a brief illness.

Koch lived in Santa Fe for 71 years. He held a Silver Beaver Award in the Boy Scouts of America. He was a recipient of the Harris Award of the Rotary International with a perfect attendance record of 59 years. He was a charter member of the Santa Fe Rotary Club. He was the founder of Santa Fe Country Club and the Santa Fe Ski Basin. He

retired as president of the Santa Fe Electric Laundry Company and New Method Cleaners.

Other survivors include his wife, four sons, 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family requests that memorials be directed to the Midland Society of University Women, P.O. Box 4291, Midland, or to the Santa Fe Rotary Club Koch Memorial Fund, La Fonda Hotel, Santa Fe, N.M.

Mary Ann Gaultney

McCAMEY — Services for Mary Ann Gaultney, 76, of McCamey will be at 11 a.m. Saturday in St. James Episcopal Church in Monahans. Burial will be in Monahans Cemetery under direction of Richard W. Box Funeral Home of McCamey.

Mrs. Gaultney died Wednesday in a McCamey hospital.

She was born in Midland in 1906 and lived in Odessa before she moved to McCamey.

She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church of Odessa and was an associate member of the Methodist Church.

Survivors include two daughters, Joyce Young of McCamey and Milly Manning of El Paso.

Swedes make contact with another 'possible' sub

BERGA NAVAL BASE, Sweden (AP) — Search patrols dumped more depth charges today after making new contact with a "possible" but elusive alien submarine lurking near Sweden's anti-sub warfare school, the Swedish navy said today.

Navy spokesman Capt. Sven Carlsson refused to say how many charges were used or what happened after they exploded in the area, where anti-submarine patrollers have been searching two weeks for one or two submerged intruders. Both are believed to be Soviet-bloc vessels.

It was the navy's first offensive action against the intruders since last Friday. During the first week of the search, surface vessels and helicopters dropped thousands of pounds of explosives on areas near sonar and other contacts.

The Swedish News Agency quoted Navy Lt. Col. Evert Dahlen as saying the new contact was within the search area about 30 miles south of Stockholm near Berga Naval Base, the site of Sweden's anti-submarine warfare school.

Frogmen and surface vessels today pressed their hunt in Hors Bay, outside the training center, and outer Mysingen Bay near Sweden's top secret Musko Naval Base, the agency said.

But top military leaders visiting the press headquarters here Wednesday

evening sounded pessimistic, saying their search equipment was obsolete and Sweden's anti-sub defense budget was insufficient.

"No one else in the world has forced up a submarine before," said Army Gen. Lennart Ljung, the military's supreme commander. "It is difficult, especially in this archipelago."

Sweden's rugged Baltic coastline is believed one of the toughest areas for hunting subs because of its craggy bottom and sonar distortions caused by varying water temperatures, currents and salt concentrations.

Underwater intruders also take advantage of peacetime laws barring this neutral nation's navy from blowing the alien vessels apart, military experts say.

"Our plan is not to murder a lot of people but to get this damned thing up and show the world just what is going on here," said Maj. Bengt Sjöholm, a Defense Staff spokesman.

Searchers have dumped depth charges, set mines and laid steel nets in Hors and Mysingen bays in the effort to force the one or more intruder submarines to the surface, identify themselves and go home.

Ljung said he did not believe a submarine sighted at Hors Bay on Oct. 1 was still trapped there. The navy has said it may have escaped before the blockade of the bay was completed.

New pioneers searching for treasures of Amazon

BELEM, Brazil (AP) — Deep within the Amazon jungle, new pioneers are prospecting for mineral riches with the hope they can prevail over the "green hell" of tropical heat and wilderness that so often defeated their predecessors.

The government says the 1.3 million square-mile Amazon River basin contains tons of gold, the world's largest iron ore reserves, manganese, nickel, bauxite, copper and tin. New roads are being built, rails are under way and a Wild West atmosphere has sprung up with the overnight boom towns.

Brazil's right-wing military leaders consider the Amazon's wealth a means of assuring economic freedom in the future and a ticket for buying confidence today. Brazil has a foreign debt of more than \$60 billion, largely because it does not have enough oil for its needs.

Many workers head for the jungle projects to escape chronic land disputes and the poverty that plagues so many of the country's 125 million people.

BUT THERE IS an element of danger in the steamy and unpredictable Amazon jungle, which covers more than half of Brazil, the world's fifth-largest country. While there have been success stories, there have been failures that cost the government and individuals their money and their dreams.

Among the successes: Thousands of prospectors are discovering gold in the Amazon, increasing the government's reserves and adding to their personal wealth. Cattle ranchers are finding that cows and water buffalo adapt well to the tropical jungle area.

The 1,200 mile north-south road succeeded in opening the western part of the country and the Amazon region. But the east-west TransAmazon Highway failed to draw the hoped-for number of homesteaders to the Amazon, and in some areas the jungle has reclaimed its territory.

Two wealthy Americans have tried but failed to use the Amazon to export its agricultural riches. Henry Ford's rubber plantations, started some 50 years ago, are covered over with jungle brush. And the "Jari" timber project of American billionaire Daniel Ludwig was nationalized earlier this year.

TIMBER, RUBBER and cattle industries still thrive in the Amazon, but the face of the region is changing. "The focus by the 1990s will change from agriculture to mining," said Michael Goulding, a California native working as a researcher at the Emilio Goeldi Museum in Belem.

The government has lumped together all the mineral projects in a 350,000 square mile area and calls the package Carajas, after the mountain range where the iron ore lies. Workers will begin to tap what is believed to be 18 billion tons of ore in 1985. Meanwhile, a 540-mile railroad is being built

to carry the ore to the Atlantic Ocean.

A huge hydroelectric plant, said to be the fourth-largest in the world, is being constructed 186 miles south of Belem to provide the energy to turn bauxite into aluminum. The once sleepy little town of Tucuruí which sits on the Tocantins River now boasts a population of 60,000 and has jet flights from Rio de Janeiro, Brasilia and Belem.

President Joao Figueiredo has described Carajas as the "salvation of Brazil." The government expects the minerals to bring in billions of dollars.

FOREIGN FIRMS, including Alcan of Canada, Reynolds Aluminum of the United States, as well as Spanish and Norwegian companies have joined in a consortium with the Brazilian government to develop bauxite.

The new pioneers must contend with the same dangers their predecessors faced — malaria, snakes, leprosy, tuberculosis and occasional Indian attacks.

The two-lane road that runs north from Brasilia, the inland capital, to Belem on the coast, opened the frontier and spawned colonization along the 1,200 mile stretch. Created in the same package that gave birth to Brasilia in 1960, the road is now lined with scores of villages, restaurants and small hotels. Jose Vicent Vaz de Lima of the Planning Ministry said the population along the route has grown from 300,000 in 1959 to 6 million in 1980.

The east-west Trans-Amazon Highway, however, is another story. The 3,350 mile road, started in 1970, was intended to open up the Amazon and give the poor in the northeast a chance to escape the misery of chronic droughts by moving west to homesteads. The government offered the pioneers a home, tools and land for a nominal price.

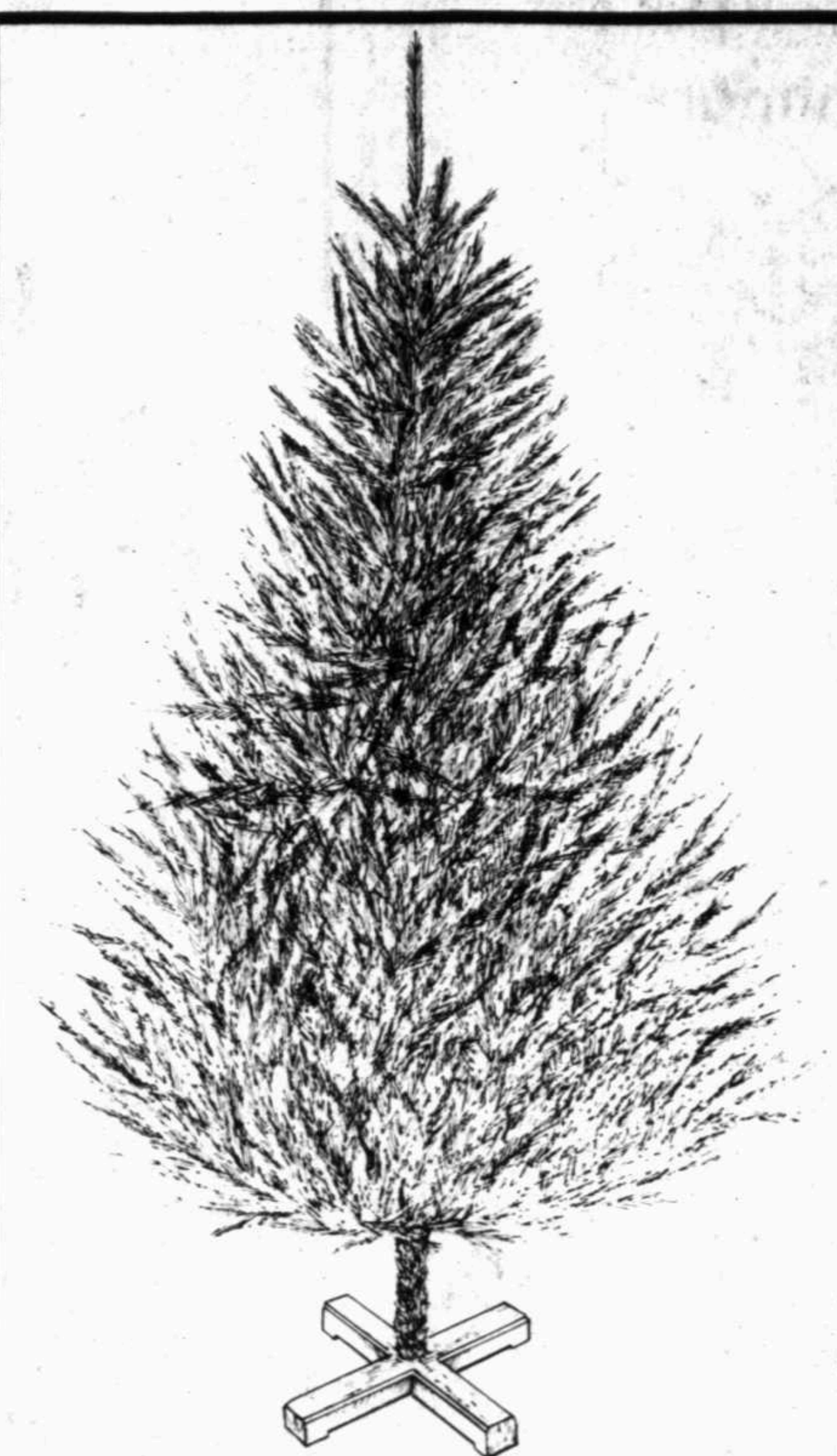
THE GOVERNMENT planned on moving 5 million people to the Amazon. "I think they only got 40,000," Goulding said.

The jungle has grown across many stretches of the TransAmazon and the rains make other parts impassable at certain times of the year.

"Some people call it a victory for the 'green hell,' as the Amazon has been called.

Gold prospectors working from dawn to dusk south of Belem in an area called Serra Pelada carry huge sacks up and down the hills, and swarms of men have joined the gold rush. Recently, a lump of gold weighing about 42 pounds — said to be the second-largest lump discovered this century — was carried out of the hills. The gold is sold on the spot to the government.

"Actually, there's gold all over the Amazon," said Raimundo Nelson Teixeira, a native of the area who now works for the U.S. Consulate in Belem.



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Man lives nightmare

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Eighteen months ago, Gary Smrekar was a highly touted laboratory technician with Frito-Lay, where he was in line for a big promotion and a seemingly limitless future.

Smrekar now rises daily at 6:30 a.m. and feeds a flock of ducks while struggling to comprehend what happened to him in a car wreck that killed three of his friends.

The wreck left Smrekar, 25, with a head injury and an IQ of 67.

He was in a coma for three weeks in Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas after a speeding automobile in the wrong lane struck the car in which he was a passenger on April 28, 1981.

THE LAST 18 months have been a living nightmare for Smrekar.

When he regained consciousness, the left side of his brain was severely damaged. His head was tilted to the side and his eyes were glazed. He did not speak for a month and a half, and two weeks after that started learning to walk.

He now lives at the Tangren Rehabilitation Center south of Austin, where his treatment in a special program for brain-damaged patients costs \$14,000 a month. Tests last April showed he was functioning at the level of a 7-year-old.

Before the accident, Smrekar had scored 65 points out of a possible 66 on his job review at Frito-Lay, where he was a lab technician performing genetic experiments in the cloning of potatoes.

"Gary was one of the most outstanding young men, especially at that age, that I have ever worked with," said Dr. John Carmichael, director of the Frito-Lay agricultural research group where Smrekar worked.

NOW SMREKAR'S achievements are small — and painful.

Everything comes to him slowly. To learn something, he must be told 20 — or even 50 — times, and with his progress comes frustration and emotional problems, said Dr. Stanley Seaton, director of the center.

Seaton said that unlike someone born retarded, Smrekar senses he has lost something he can't regain and suffers from frustration and depression.

When Smrekar first came to the center, he could not carry on a conversation, Seaton said.

"He simply repeated the same half-dozen sentences that had been said to him: 'My name is Gary Don Smrekar. I was in an automobile accident. Three people were killed. My friends are now in heaven.'"

SEATON SAID Smrekar's improvements have been modest.

"Now if you meet him, he may still use some of those sentences, but most of that kind of repetitive talk and that manner is gone. He can carry on some conversation, but it'll be interspersed with things that don't tie in."

The center, one of a handful in the nation, emphasizes rehabilitating brain-damaged patients through repetition of lessons and a predictable routine.

Few people with severe head injuries survived 20 years ago, but about 400,000 people annually live through serious head injuries because of improvements in medical techniques, Seaton said.

While Smrekar is learning to perform some of life's simple tasks, Seaton said most complex brain function — such as abstract reasoning and an understanding of social inhibitions — probably will remain lost.

EVEN THE minimal progress is terribly high-priced.

Smrekar's \$14,000 monthly bills are paid in part by a multi-million-dollar insurance settlement awarded in September. His lawyer, Frank L. Branson, said the award gives Smrekar up to \$25 million during his lifetime.

Smrekar's parents had sued the company that employed Bobby Joe Rust, the driver who hit Smrekar's car.

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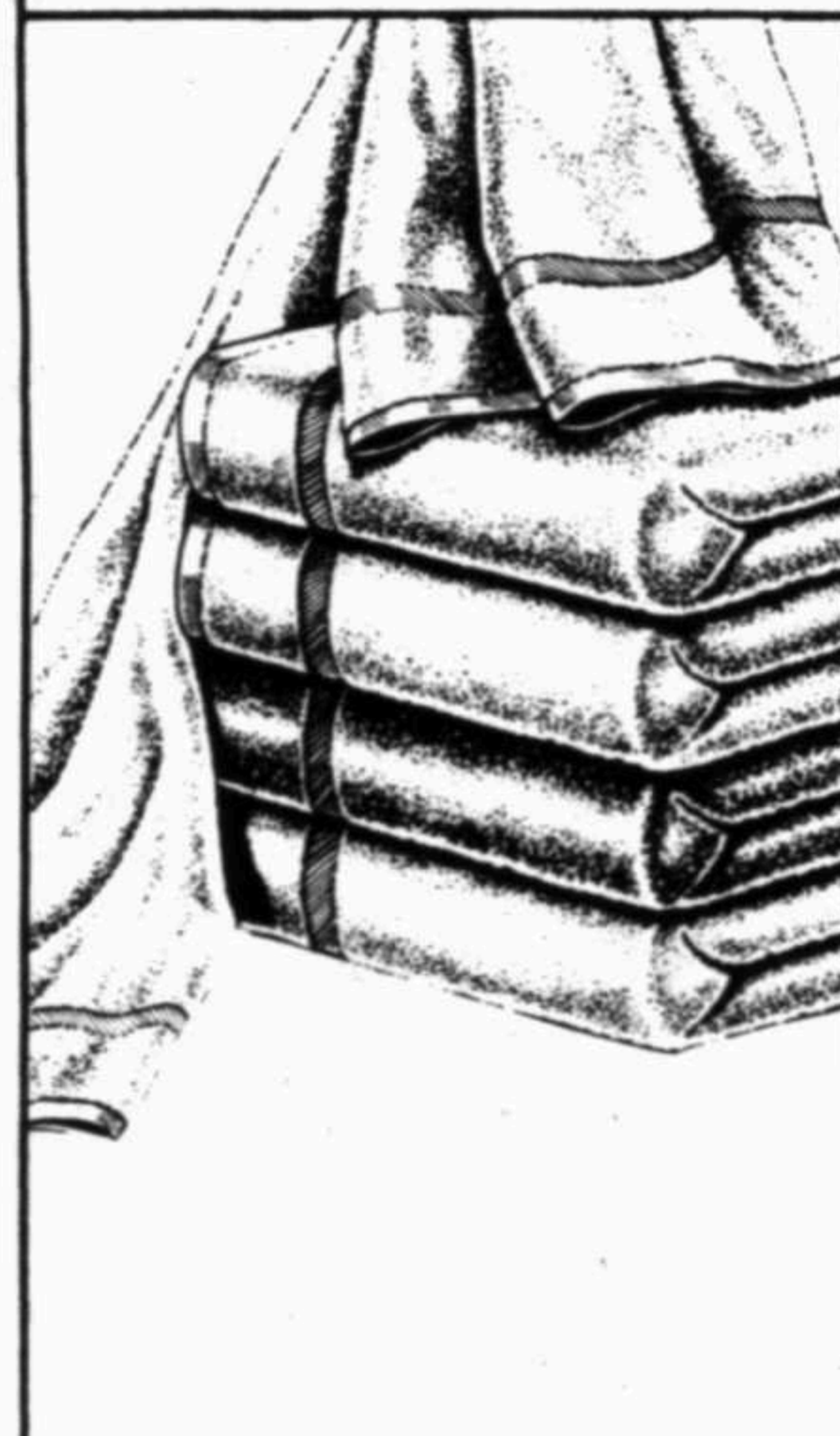
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Pierre Cardin sport shirts 17.99

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Fieldcrest Royal Velvet... 5.99

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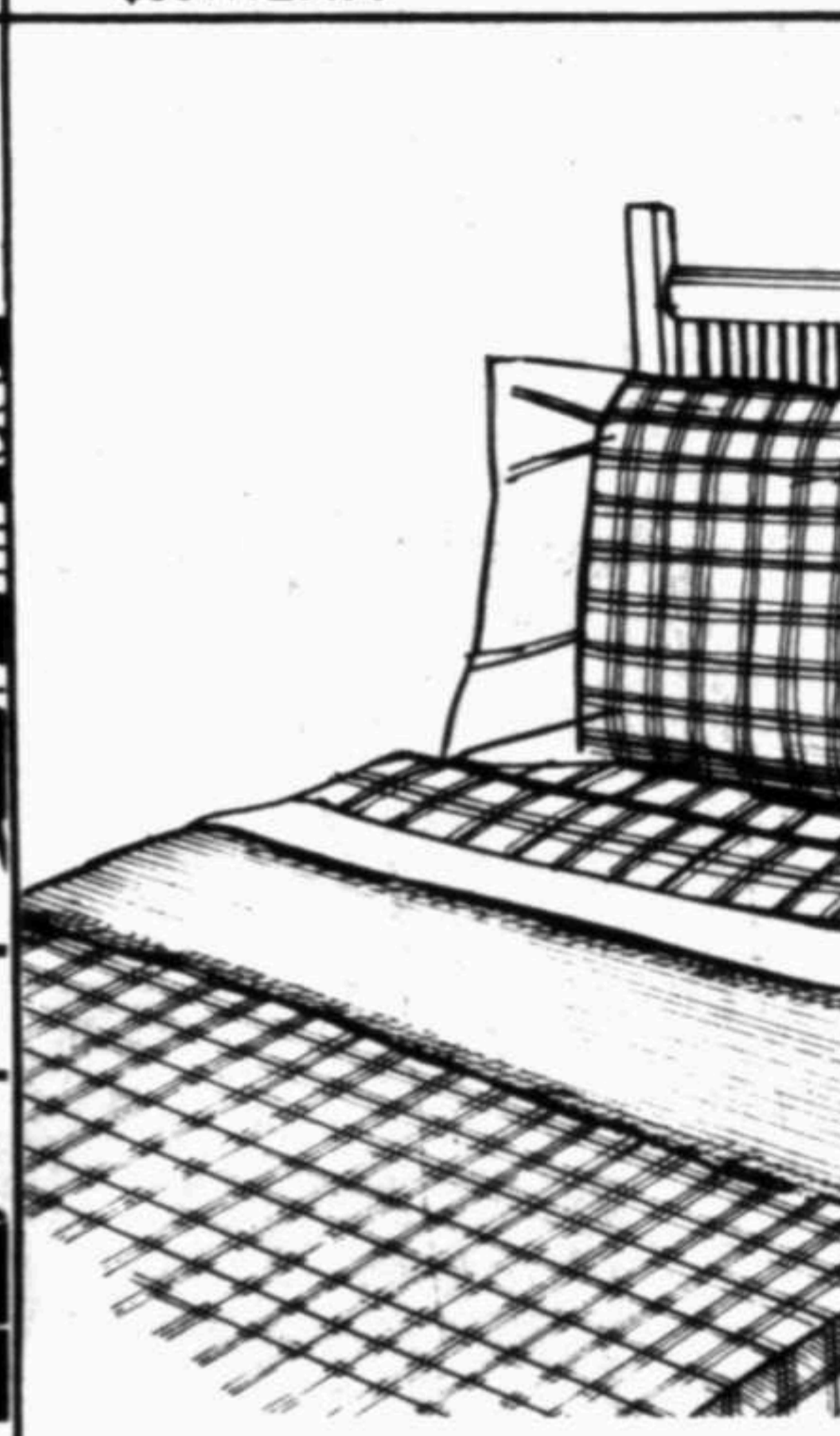
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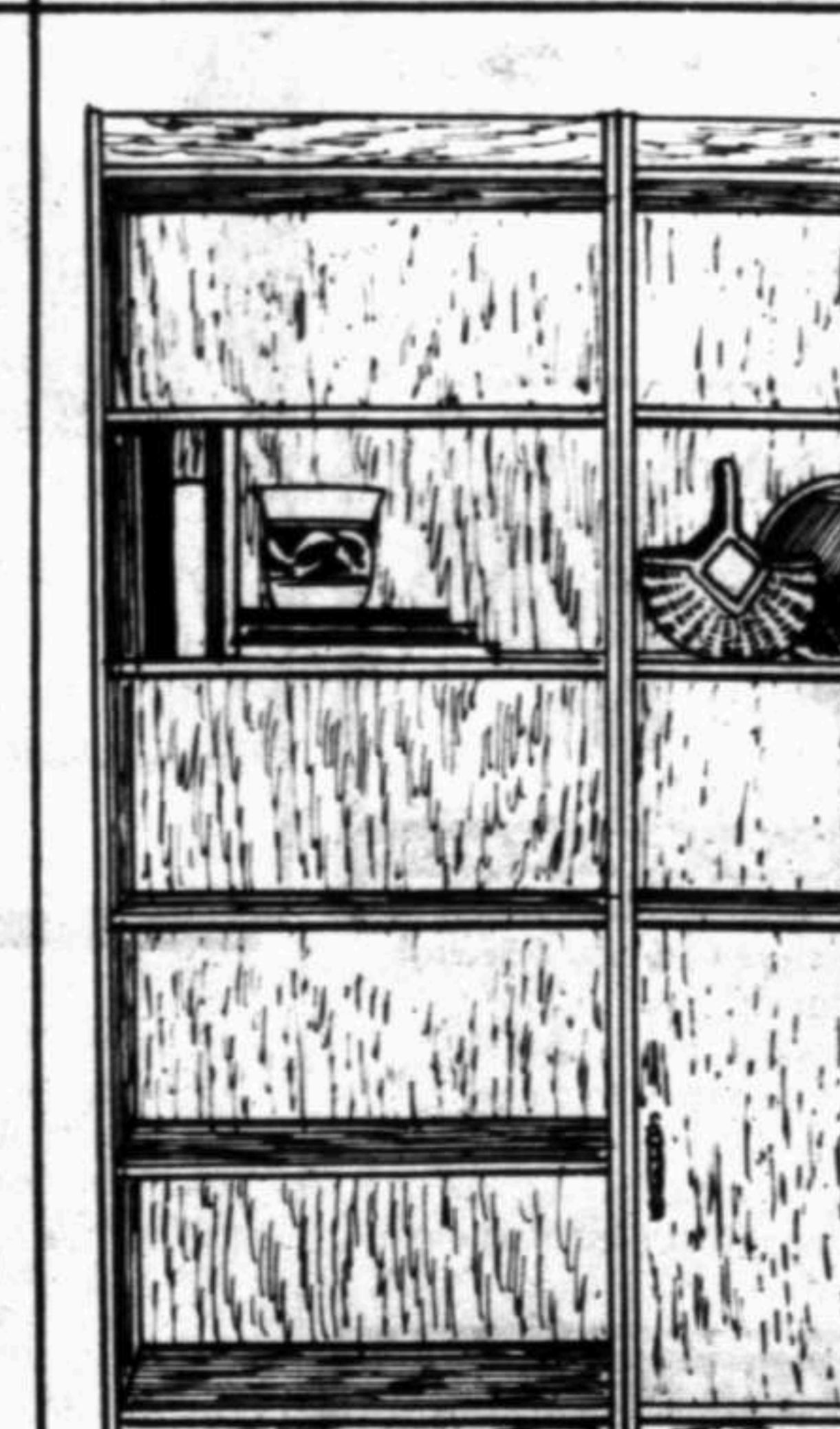
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Harvester plan approved

CHICAGO (AP) — International Harvester Co. says it won approval from 200 creditors for a new plan to reorganize its huge and mounting debt and to forestall the need to file for protection under federal bankruptcy laws.

However, industry analysts noted that the latest version of the debt reorganization plan hinges on concessions Harvester hopes to win from its suppliers, raising the possibility that further revisions might be necessary if the concessions do not materialize.

The cornerstone of the plan announced Wednesday was a provision allowing the truck, tractor and heavy equipment manufacturer to convert up to \$350 million of its debt into equity that the lenders would own, at the rate of \$3 for every \$1 in concessions granted by suppliers. The concessions, which are now being negotiated, would include price cuts, easing of payment terms and inventory adjustments.

In addition, Harvester will not be required to pay any interest on its debt for the final quarter of fiscal 1982, and will enjoy interest reductions throughout fiscal 1983, beginning at 2 percent in the first quarter and rising to 11 percent in the fourth quarter.

Harvester said the plan would reduce interest payments on its debt by about \$200 million over an 18-month period, assuming a prime interest rate of 13 percent.

Governor to seek protective legislation

AUSTIN BUREAU

AUSTIN — Gov. Bill Clements said Wednesday he will seek legislation to protect Texas petroleum royalty owners and independent producers from "harsh treatment" under federal bankruptcy laws.

In issuing his statement, Clements also commended Earnest Angelo, Midland, who Clements said had brought the issue to his attention on behalf of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association and Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association.

Clements also said he is looking at seeking similar aid for grain farmers who suffer losses in grain elevator

bankruptcies.

Under current laws, Clements said, owners of oil royalties lose all claim of ownership to the oil once it is produced and delivered to buyers, and become "unsecured creditors."

"If the petroleum buyer goes into bankruptcy, the owner and investor are generally left with no compensation for their product," Clements said, "even if the oil has been refined and sold to the public."

"The problem has become acute in recent months with bankruptcy petitions of several oil purchasers, including Basin Inc. (of Midland); Brio Petroleum Inc.; Compton Petroleum Corp.

and Compton's subsidiary, Gatex Corp.

"In the case of Basin Inc., individuals and families across Texas and throughout the country lost million in debts owed them by the purchaser," Clements said.

The governor said he will support legislation next session to allow royalty owners and independent producers to hold a lien against their oil, so that they are assured of payment.

"Our concern," he said, "is for the 75,000 royalty owners and independent producers across Texas who are left holding the bag by the federal bankruptcy laws."

"We are not talking about big oil

companies here," Clements said.

"These are small investors: families, working people, widows, farmers and ranchers, who depend on a small monthly income from their royalties."

"We must protect these people from the harsh treatment they receive under the present law."

The governor said he is looking at an Illinois statute adopted last June which provides that farmers, with written evidence of ownership of grain, will have first priority on the grain, proceeds from grain, commodity exchange accounts, future contracts or any funds which could be traced to sale of the grain by a bankrupt dealer.

Banks go to 12-percent prime

NEW YORK (AP) — A 12 percent prime lending rate has been adopted across the banking industry, and consumer loan rates are beginning to fall faster.

Most major banks cut their prime rate by one point Wednesday, matching the level set a day earlier by Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. and three other big banks.

That left the prime rate at its lowest level in 25 months. The prime rate is a base from which banks calculate interest charges on loans to corporations. Some top-rated companies pay less than the prime while smaller companies usually pay more, but virtually all businesses have complained for more than two years that high borrowing costs have stunted economic growth.

The prime rate has fallen four percentage points since July, but lenders have been slower to reduce rates on consumer loans, in part because consumer loans are generally for longer periods than business loans.

Crocker National Bank in San Francisco said it lowered its rate on certain home loans by one percentage point, to a range of 14 percent to 14.25 percent. And in San Diego, Great American Federal Savings & Loan Association cut its home loan rates by as much as three-quarters of a point, to as low as 12.75 percent.

Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., a major New York City bank, reduced rates on new personal loans by as much as 1 1/2 percentage points.

Germany to deny U.S.S.R. cheap credit for exports

By John P. Wallace
Hearst Foreign Affairs Editor

WASHINGTON — West Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl has informed a Soviet trade commission headed by a member of the Kremlin's ruling Politburo that West Germany no longer will be extending cheap credit to finance Russian exports to the West, West German officials disclosed here today.

The development, which was reported to the White House Wednesday by U.S. Ambassador Arthur Burns but has not yet been made public, is a major breakthrough for President Reagan's campaign to deny the Soviet Union below market rates of interest on loans until martial law is lifted in Poland.

"It's happy news," State Department spokesman John Hughes said in commenting on the cable from Burns that was received after the U.S. envoy held his first meeting with Kohl in Bonn Wednesday. The Soviet trade commission has been holding talks with the new government for the last three days.

If other European nations follow West Germany's example, it should also make it easier for Reagan to eventually lift U.S. trade sanctions that have caused new strains in the Western alliance. Secretary of State George Shultz has hinted that Reagan will lift them if new, tougher steps are agreed on.

As a first step in that direction, the 16 NATO nations last week sought to ease tensions over the Soviet natural gas pipeline by agreeing to coordinate their energy and security policies in the future. U.S. officials hope that they will agree to implement the new policies by the end of the year.

But no one in the Reagan administration expected such good news from West Germany so quickly. "This is in line with all our thinking — that you don't subsidize the Russians," Hughes said. "Why should they get credit at any less than the market rates?" he asked.

The Soviet trade commission currently in Bonn is headed by Alexander Solomenzew, an alternate Politburo member. He also is prime minister of the largest of the Soviet republics, the Russian S.F.S.R.

Solomenzew is accompanied by the director of the Foreign Trade Ministry and several other high-ranking Soviet officials. The move by Kohl, who only Monday was sworn in as chancellor, is courageous for other reasons.

West Germany is in the midst of its most serious economic recession, with unemployment topping 7.5 percent and a record 1.8 million Germans out of work. That means West Germany badly needs the business with the Soviet bloc, which already accounts for almost one-third of its overall trade.

But Kohl, who will pay his first visit as chancellor to the White House when he arrives here around November 15, is determined to toe a more pro-American line than his predecessor Helmut Schmidt, who envisaged West Germany playing more of a middleman's role with one foot in each Moscow and Washington.

Although the leader of the new Christian Democratic government supports the Soviet pipeline project, he was critical of the outgoing Social Democrats for importing too large a volume of natural gas and thus making West Germany more heavily dependent on Russia for its energy needs than necessary.

Economist expects low interest

NEW YORK (AP) — Murray L. Weidenbaum, the former White House chief economist, says he expects short-term interest rates to fall another two percentage points by the end of the year or by early 1983.

Yet Weidenbaum cautioned at a news conference Wednesday that continued heavy borrowing by the Treasury Department in order to finance the federal deficit is "not good news for interest rates," and could limit their declines.

He also said unemployment, which hit a post-World War II high of 10.1 percent in September, would "stay above 9 percent for some time" even with economic recovery.

Weidenbaum was chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers through last August. He then resigned to return to teaching at Washington University in St. Louis.

In forecasting that the nation's real, or inflation-adjusted, gross national product would expand "in the neighborhood of 3 percent" next year, Weidenbaum said his improved confidence about the chances for recovery stemmed from the Federal Reserve Board's temporary shift last week toward a more accommodating stance on the money supply.

Automobile sales up slightly

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. automobile sales rose only slightly in the first 10 days of this month.

The five major auto companies reported Wednesday that new car sales rose an average 0.5 percent from the same period last year. The results varied widely among the companies.

The daily selling rate of 16,428 was the lowest since 16,343 cars were sold daily in early October last year.

General Motors Corp. said it sold 86,703 cars in the period, up 12.3 percent from 86,887 a year earlier. The sales percentage is based on the daily selling rate because there was one more selling day in the Oct. 1-10 period last year than this year.

Ford Motor Co. reported new car sales of 23,086, down 25 percent from last year's 34,618. Chrysler Corp. sales were 18,071, a 2 percent boost over 19,932 last year.

American Motors Corp. does not release 10-day sales but estimated 2,400 sold, a drop of 13.5 percent from 3,122 in the period in 1981.

Volkswagen of America Inc. said it sold 1,166 cars, down 48 percent from last year's 2,529.

August sales fell further faster

WASHINGTON (AP) — Business sales fell further in August as inventories ballooned.

The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that sales fell 1.6 percent from July — the fastest rate of decline since last January. Inventories rose 0.4 percent.

The report — the last of the government's major economic indicators for August — showed the same condition as earlier studies: a national economy still mired in recession.

"There's very little doubt, according to the economic data, that the recession continued in August," said Robert Ortner, the Commerce Department's chief economist.

"The September figures we have look a good deal better," he said.

Glass trade picks up, workers back

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Chattanooga Glass Co. says that improved sales helped the company to reduce inventories and to recall almost all of the nearly 300 production workers laid off last month.

"We're at 100 percent operating capacity and at full employment at this time," Gene Watson, the company's manager of industrial relations, said Wednesday.

The Chattanooga-based company laid off the employees in early September at its Chattanooga plant as part of a production cutback aimed at reducing product inventories. Chattanooga Glass operates five plants around the country, but the layoffs only affected the Chattanooga plant, which makes bottles for the soft-drink industry.

The laid-off employees have been returning by groups during recent weeks, putting about 280 workers back on the job, Watson said.

The company had shut down two electrically powered glass-making furnaces in September, leaving just a gas-fired furnace operating, but has now restored all three furnaces to operation, Watson said.

Charles F. Casey, the company president, said last month that inventories had accumulated to a more than 60-day supply. He said the company prefers to keep its inventories in the 45-to-60-day range.

"The shipments, which

relate directly to the sales, have been a little better than we anticipated. Can't knock that," Watson said.

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Edwards wants WPT done away with soon

DALLAS (AP) — U.S. Energy Secretary James Edwards says he will urge President Reagan to work to abolish the windfall profits tax on crude oil "as soon as possible."

"We've got to get the oil patch back to work again," he said. "We have got to do away with the windfall profits tax as soon as we can, so that domestic producers can be competitive."

The remark drew applause Wednesday from delegates at the Independent Petroleum Association of America here.

Edwards also said the White House probably would send a bill calling for accelerated decontrol of natural gas prices to Congress early next year.

"I think the president will come out early in the next session and push through the natural gas deregulation bill," he said.

Reagan declined to push for decontrol of natural gas prices last March after Edwards predicted that he would do so in 1981.

"It was one of our big disappointments," Edwards said. "I was a little afraid to recommend the deregulation of natural gas. Coming from the political side, I could see the dangers of it." Reagan was right to delay his push

for lifting natural gas price controls until the new Congress convenes next year, Edwards said.

Congressmen from both parties had pleaded with Reagan to delay the move, arguing that consumers had just paid high home heating bills the previous winter.

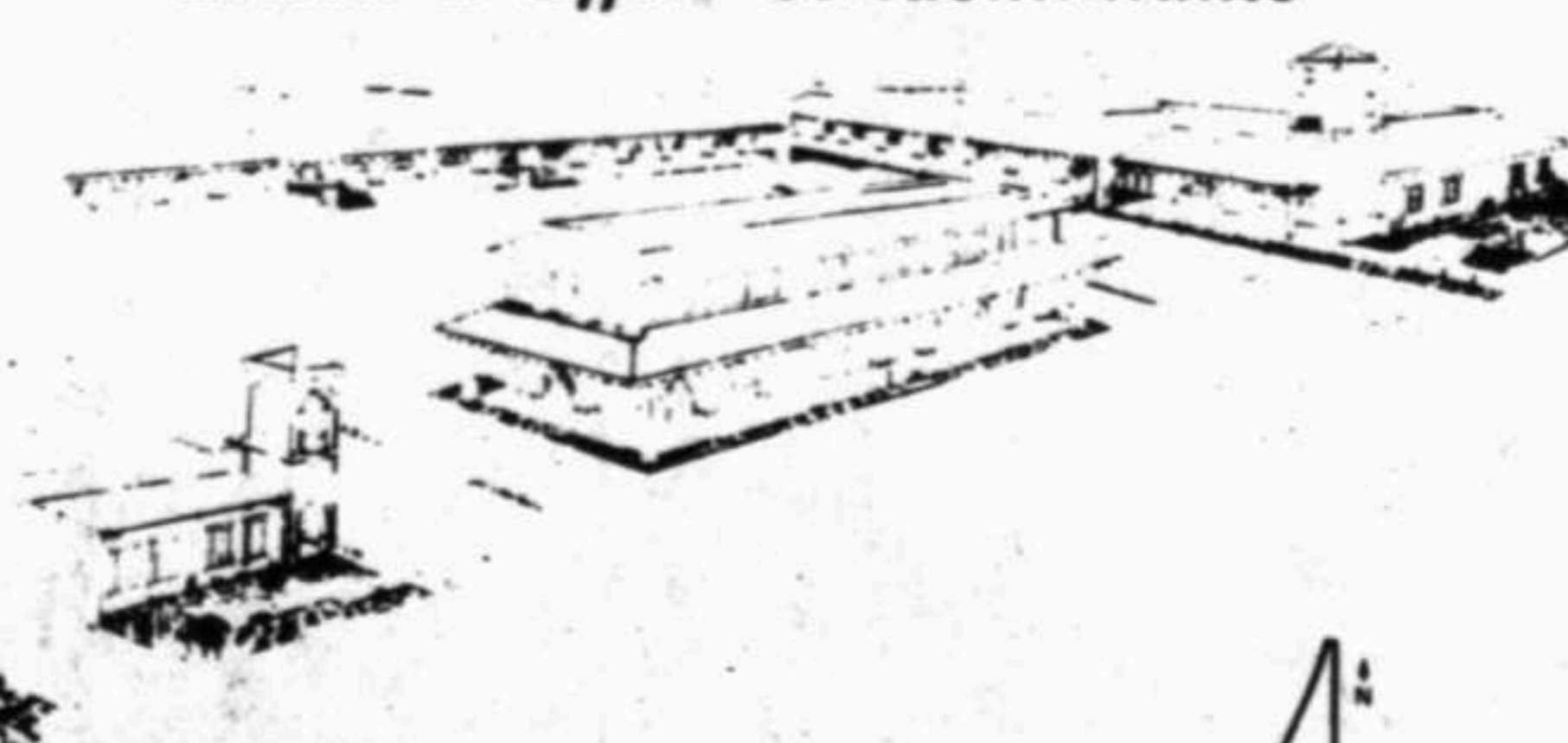
He said the bill the White House probably will send to Congress will ask for accelerated decontrol of natural gas prices, the removal of restrictions on the use of natural gas, deregulation of "old gas," and allowances for gas prices to rise or fall in the marketplace.

In a convention sidelight, an Amarillo independent gas producer blamed major interstate pipeline companies for driving up natural gas prices.

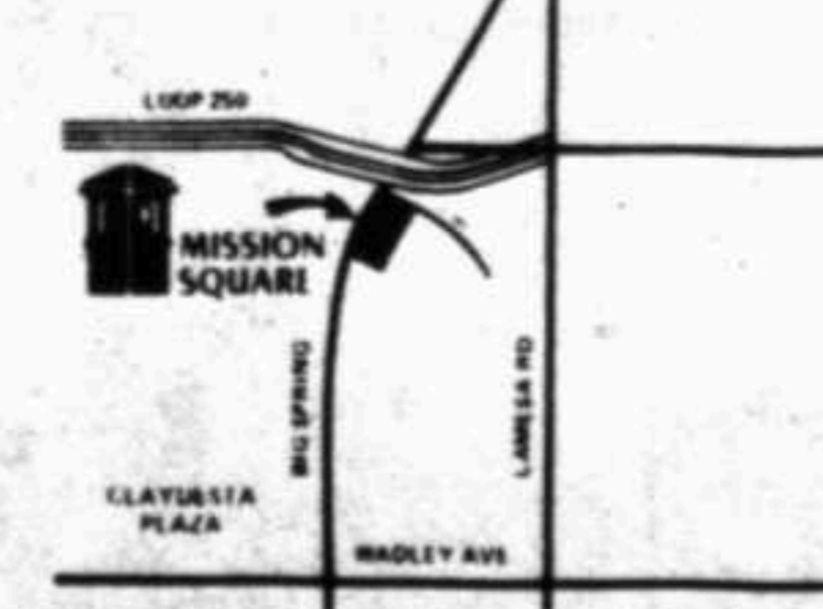
Danny Conklin, the association's natural gas committee chairman, said the need for total decontrol of natural gas prices is more obvious than ever.

"Consumers naturally are angry about rising prices, but it is time they blamed the Natural Gas Act, Natural Gas Policy Act and all of the governmentally induced distortions that are causing the pipeline industry to do the things it is doing," he said.

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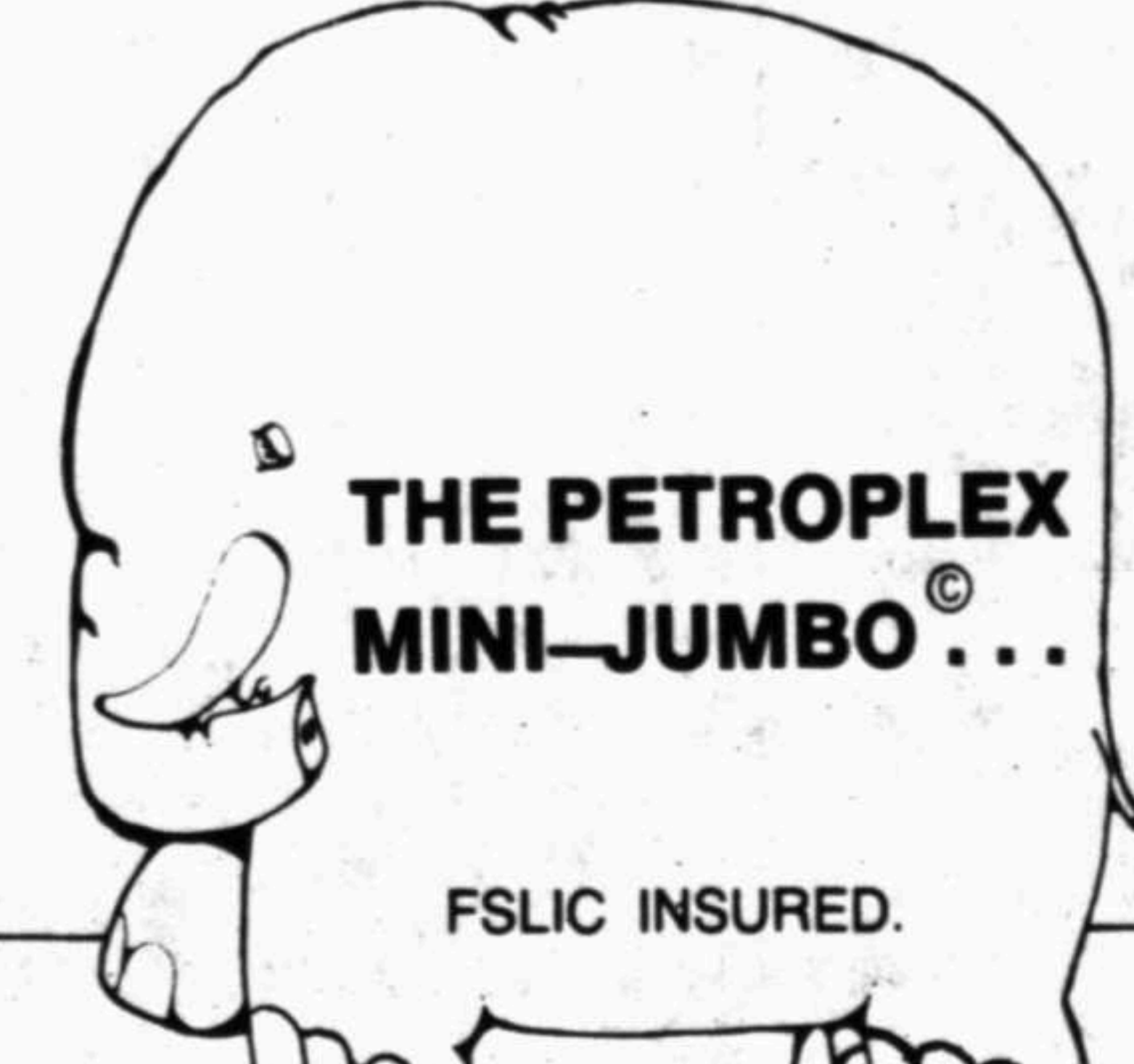
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