



The Battalion

Weather
Friday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, winds Northerly 10-20 m.p.h. High 58, low 38.
Saturday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, winds Southerly 5-10 m.p.h. High 61, low 42.

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Drill Team Invited To National Meet

The Fish Drill Team has been invited to compete in the 1968 National Intercollegiate ROTC Drill Team Championships in Washington, D. C., April 5-6.

FBI Explores New Lead On Embassy Bomb

WASHINGTON (AP) — Working under President Johnson's personal order to clear up the case quickly, police and FBI agents probing a bomb explosion at the Soviet Embassy are exploring a possible link with a dynamite theft in nearby Virginia.

Eighteen sticks of dynamite and 50 blasting caps were reported stolen from a construction site in West Springfield, Va., a Washington suburb.

The theft was noticed Wednesday shortly after the pre-dawn explosion shook the four-story embassy, just four blocks from the White House.

NO ONE WAS hurt in the blast but it did slight damage to a first-floor office and reception room, shattered windows in nearby buildings — and shook U.S.-Soviet relations.

The Soviet government formally protested the incident, accused the United States of providing inadequate protection and demanded compensation.

Johnson and Secretary of State Dean Rusk expressed regrets but the State Department rejected the charge of inadequate protection.

There were indications the Soviets would be compensated.

ONE EMBASSY official said the explosion could have been the work of fanatics inflamed by a three-day mock trial of communism which ended Wednesday on the Georgetown University campus in Washington. It was sponsored by a coalition of anti-Communist groups and included lengthy testimony concerning prison torture and religious persecution in Iron Curtain countries.

An embassy source also said the FBI should have photographs of the dynamites because it maintains camera surveillance on the embassy from a window across the street. But the FBI wouldn't comment on that.

MSC Leaders To Be Chosen In Interviews

Interviews are now being conducted to fill the chairmanships of the Memorial Student Center Council committees, Benjamin J. Sims, Council and Directorate president-elect, announced.

Positions to be filled include the chairmanships of Town Hall, Great Issues, Leadership Committee, Camera Club, Chess Club and Flying Kadets. Other committees needing chairmen are Bridge, Recreation, Dance and Travel.

Sims pointed out that the class representatives to the Council and Directorate will be elected by the student body later in the year.

In an earlier meeting the Council picked Sims as president, Donald B. McCrory as chairman of the Fourteenth Student Conference on National Affairs, Wayne H. Prescott as executive vice-president of programs and Keller W. Webster as executive vice-president of operations.

Sims said the interviews by the nominating committee will continue until March 4, when the council will vote on recommendations of the committee.

"Although there is a lack of interest in a couple of the committees, we are enthusiastic about the interest shown in most of the directorate groups," Sims said.

First Bank & Trust now pays 5% per annum on savings certificates. —Adv.

Gov. Connally To Address Ag Confab Here Tonight



NEW MSC OFFICERS

The Memorial Student Center Council and Directorate's three top officers for next year look over a schedule of activities. They are, from left, Wayne Prescott, executive vice-president of programs; Benny Sims, president; and Keller Webster, executive vice-president of operations. See related story, column 6. (Photo by Mike Wright)

petition chairman at the District of Columbia National Guard Armory, announced FDT advisor Calvin Reese.

Competition is limited this year to 30 teams. The Fish Drill Team, commanded by Sammy Garcia of San Antonio, was one of about 20 male teams invited.

A&M opened spring competition last weekend in Canyon by taking all four trophies in West Texas State's Scabbard and Blade Tournament.

Coed units also compete at the nationals held in conjunction with the Cherry Blossom Festival at the nation's capitol.

The invitation includes appearances in the drill championships April 5 and the Cherry Blossom Parade of Princesses April 6.

A&M's 1966-67 team, which won 21 trophies, was second in the competition last spring and placed fifth in the parade. Whiskey Company of Villanova won the national championship and Rutgers' Scarlet Rifles finished third behind the Fish.

Sam Houston State's Loman Rifles also competed for the drill title. They brought home first place in the parade.

This year's drill will be on a DC Stadium parking lot at the intersection of Oklahoma Avenue and Benning Road N. E. Last year, the teams marched on the Ellipse south of the White House, in the shadow of the Washington Monument.

Congressmen Bob Casey of Houston and Olin E. Teague of College Station are helping with arrangements in Washington.

AF Personnel Recognized By Vietnam Wing

Air Force ROTC personnel at Texas A&M have been honored with an Outstanding Homefront Award presented by Detachment 1, 314th Tactical Airlift Wing, stationed in Vietnam.

The certificate cites A&M's aerospace studies personnel for contributions to a civic project the 314th unit carried out for the children of a Vietnam village.

Through the project and A&M support, 500 Vietnamese children received Christmas stockings filled with candy.

The project was initiated by Maj. John Gargus, 314th detachment civic actions officer who was formerly assigned at A&M. Lt. Col. Thomas F. Hines, unit operations officer, was also in the aerospace studies department.

Col. Vernon L. Head, A&M's ranking Air Force officer and professor of aerospace studies, said the certificate will be displayed in the military science department instruction annex.

The award cites the A&M detachment's generous contributions.

"Your thoughtful support of our many-sided war effort indicates your loyal dedication to the American ideals and to our mutual desire to share them with all those who strive to be free. By your action you have contributed greatly, not only to our morale and effectiveness but also to the accomplishment of our organization's mission," the citation reads.

It is signed by Lt. Col. Dow A. Rogers Jr., 314th detachment commander.

Colonel Head noted 16 officers and seven enlisted men contributed to the project.

Oceanography Gets \$3,600 Fellowship

The Pan American Petroleum Foundation of Tulsa has awarded Texas A&M \$3,600 for renewal of a doctoral fellowship in oceanography, announced Dr. Richard A. Geyer, head of the university's Oceanography Department.

Recipient of the funds is G. S. Edwards of Houston, a Ph.D. candidate studying sedimentation of Mexican coastal waters. He received an identical award from the foundation last year.

Dr. Geyer was notified of the fellowship renewal by J. M. Allen Jr., the foundation's executive director.

'Sully' Took Three Months To Reach That Pedestal

By DAVIS MAYES
Battalion Staff Writer

It took Sully three months to step up to his granite pedestal, but when he did, Gov. W. P. Hobby, A&M President W. B. Bizzell and little Betsy Ross were all there to watch him.

The bronze statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, whose term as A&M president is still referred to as the "Golden Age of A&M," was originally scheduled to be unveiled March 2, 1919.

The ceremony was to coincide with the memorial services for 38 A&M men who died in World War I.

On Feb. 12, however, the "Bryan Daily Eagle" reported that Gov. Hobby and members of both houses of the legislature requested the date be changed "on account of the inaugural ball set for March 3 making it impractical . . . to attend both functions."

BIZZELL appointed a faculty committee to name a new date for the unveiling.

The committee had originally considered April 21, San Jacinto Day. They had hoped the state holiday would "be convenient for state officials and other admirers to attend the exercises."

Other complications must have arisen, because the date of the ceremony was postponed until Sunday, May 4.

The "Alumni Quarterly," fore-runner to the "Texas Aggie" and the "A&M Directory," reported the "very simple but beautiful and impressive ceremonies."

"THE VEIL formed by United States and Texas flags was drawn aside by little Miss Betsy Ross of Houston, granddaughter of the late Governor Ross, while the Ross Volunteers presented arms and the College band played the Star Spangled Banner.

President Bizzell then made a few introductory remarks, relating the history of the statue to the audience of "1,500 loyal Texans."

Principal speaker was Judge

Norman G. Kittrell of Houston, a personal friend of Ross, who "in his eloquent manner, paid a beautiful tribute to the patriotism and high ideals of Ross as a soldier, scholar and statesman."

GOV. HOBBY formally presented the statue on behalf of the state and L. J. Hart of San Antonio, president of the board, accepted for Texas A&M.

Hart said "No other gift would be accepted by the college with so large appreciation or be the means of more inspiration to young men . . ."

Captain Kellie, one of the color bearers of the Confederate Brigade commanded by Ross, displayed "the last remaining flag of the Texas Legion . . . and told of many fine principles of manhood as set forth by Gen. Ross."

MISS Louise Cline, representing the Daughters of the Confederacy, placed a floral wreath upon the statue.

Sen. R. M. Johnson of Houston, author of the joint resolution appropriating money for the statue, sent his regrets that legislative sessions kept him from attending the unveiling.

Watching the ceremonies in the audience was Pompeo L. Coppini of Maglia, Italy, who had designed the statue of Ross.

After the exercises, the audience adjourned to the steps of the YMCA to hear a "very excellent" concert given by the College band.

Travel Loans

Now Available

"A&M students needing financial aid to travel to a foreign country are urged to apply for loans from the Memorial Student Center Travel Committee," Davis G. Mayes, committee chairman said Wednesday.

Mayes said students must apply at the Student Programs Office in the MSC between Feb. 23 and March 1.

"Interviews for applicants will probably begin on March 5," he said.

Mayes added that the loans would charge no interest and be repaid on a monthly basis after graduation.

Bryan Building & Loan Association, Your Savings Center, since 1919. —Adv.

Top Farm Leaders Will Hear Speech

By MIKE PLAKE
Battalion Features Editor

Texas Governor John Connally, a "rancher and farmer in his own right," will speak tonight at the Southwest Agricultural Market Power Conference at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center.

"Governor Connally will speak from a background of first-hand experience on the importance of continually improving market facilities for the agricultural producer," John Hutchinson, director of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, said.

Texas A&M's Ross Volunteers, the Governor's official honor guard, will form an honor corridor for Gov. Connally as he enters the Memorial Student Center.

The Conference theme is the need for the agricultural producer to develop more influence in the market place.

"Governor Connally believes there is a great potential for increasing agricultural incomes in Texas," Hutchinson noted. "He has indicated, however, that producers must increase their influence in the market place."

"This way, they would be able to earn a greater return on their investment before their potential can be fully realized."

Officers and representatives from the Board of Directors of the major farm organizations in Texas, as well as representatives from each of the agricultural commodity organizations, will attend the conference.

The conference is co-sponsored by Louisiana State University, the University of Arkansas, and Oklahoma State University. Also supporting it are the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M, and the Agricultural Adjustment Center at North Carolina State University.

"This center has provided funds

enabling us to bring outstanding speakers from all over the nation to this conference," Hutchinson said.

"A significant feature of this conference is the providing of opportunities for free discussion of the concepts presented by each of the speakers," he added. "Especially important will be the consideration of how the market power position of farmers and ranchers in the Southwest are utilized."

LBJ, U Thant Meet To Talk Peace Hopes

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Johnson and Secretary-General U Thant of the United Nations met for one hour Wednesday for an intensive discussion of Vietnam peace prospects.

A statement of less than 100 words issued by the White House after the session said the President had reaffirmed his desire to achieve a peaceful settlement under the San Antonio formula.

The San Antonio formula was contained in a speech the President made in the Texas city Sept. 29, 1967. It said the United States "is willing to stop all aerial and naval bombardment of North Vietnam when this will lead promptly to productive discussions." It said this assumes that while discussions proceeded, North Vietnam would not take advantage of the bombing cessation or limitation.

U Thant "conveyed to the President his impressions regarding the prospect of peace in Vietnam in light of his recent discussions in various capitals of the world," the statement said.

Thant met with North Vietnam diplomats in New Delhi and Paris and also conferred with officials in Moscow and London on the Vietnam conflict, before coming to Washington.

Following the meeting with Thant, the President met with the National Security Council.

The White House described the Johnson-Thant meeting as a "friendly exchange of views on a number of matters, including Vietnam." There was no hint of any agreement being reached.

In latest war developments, U.S. planes for the first time in the war attacked the Hanoi radio station that beams out all Communist propaganda from North Vietnam, the U.S. command announced today. But monitors said Radio Hanoi was still on the air.

The attack on the station apparently was intended as a blow against Communist propaganda claims of great victories in the South and of shooting down more than 2,000 U.S. warplanes in the three-year bombing campaign against the North. The U.S. Command has accused Radio Hanoi of gross exaggeration and distortion.

The station apparently had heretofore been on the Pentagon's list of targets out of bounds to U.S. pilots.

SW Veterinarian Magazine Ready

The Winter issue of The Southwestern Veterinarian is now ready for distribution. This issue can be obtained at the new Student Publications office, Room 217, Services Building, across the street from the Chemistry Building and next to the A&M Press. All Pre-Vets are urged to come by at their earliest convenience.

University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M" —Adv.



GAMMA ALPHA CHI PLEDGES

New members of Gamma Alpha Chi, national advertising sorority, sign membership blanks following their initiation this week. They are, from left, Nancy Grossenbacher, Nancy Manning, Jane Mills and Elizabeth Lyne. (Photo by Mike Wright)