



The Battalion



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Telephone 845-2226



THE LINE(S) UP

Although the shortest distance between two points is still a straight line, the shortest time between two points the first day of the spring semester yesterday was often measured by very crooked, and very long lines—like these leading to the registration desk in the Coke Building. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Ag's 'Passenger Containers' May Aid Crowded Airports

Air travel without time-consuming car transportation to an airport and ticket-buying, luggage-checking delays at the terminal is envisioned by an A&M aerospace engineering major.

His idea places the passenger in a seat at a neighborhood terminal. The traveler need not leave his seat until the plane reaches ton; its destination.

Called "passenger containerization," the concept involves a luggage container transported on the ground by one means and in the air by specially adapted jet airliners.

"IT BYPASSES the problems of vehicle traffic to airports, car parking and passenger congestion at the terminal," explained Lance Barlow of Houston, who graduated in January.

Even if cities can find a way

for their airports to handle larger number of passengers—predicted by the Federal Aviation Agency to increase 433 per cent by 1980—they have no practical solution for auto traffic congestion, Barlow says.

BOTTLENECKS caused by aircraft technology developing faster than ground facilities will become more critical, he adds. Jumbo-jets will dump an extra burden on over-crowded highway networks and terminals already jammed with people scrambling for phones, luggage, porters and cabs.

Barlow proposes detaching the terminal from the airport, subdividing it and placing segments at downtown and suburban sites.

The passenger buys a machine-readable ticket, places his baggage in a computer-routed and automatically handled container and enters a vehicle through a subway-like concourse. The vehicle is actually a separate container fitted to a container carrier, like a tin can riding on a roller skate.

and load passenger or freight containers according to airline and flight numbers.

"Several containers with common connecting doors would be loaded per plane," Barlow described. "When all containers are aboard, passengers shift so that those deplaning at the first stop are riding in the furthest aft container. Baggage would be scanned by monitor computer at each stop."

CONTAINERS described in the report by Dr. C. A. Rodenberger's senior seminar course could be made standard by all airlines. It would be light, relatively weak, structurally, but contain its own pressurization, electrical and emergency escape systems. After insertion into the aircraft fuselage, power would be connected.

Barlow estimates the system could substitute a maximum of 20 minutes passenger waiting time for an hour or more of auto travel and airport delay. Airports could realize parking and terminal space savings for more and more runway for super-transport.

THE CARRIER, travelling in underground tubes at 500 mph, takes the container to the airport. Due to restriction of jet engine noise over populated areas, it might be 50 miles from the city.

There, the container is detached from the carrier and inserted like a chambered rifle bullet into a waiting plane. Hinged tail section open, the plane was backed up to an inclined loading tube. Computer-controlled junction centers automatically sort

Applications Due For Army ROTC

Applications to enter the Army's two-year ROTC program next September should be made by March 1, announced Col. Jim H. McCoy, commandant.

Available to undergraduate and graduate students, the program substitutes six weeks camp next summer for the first two years of the regular four-year program and enables the two-year cadet to be commissioned upon graduation.

"Except for the substitution," McCoy noted, "the two and four-year programs are identical."

Applicants must have two years of undergraduate or graduate study remaining, a minimum of 60 semester hours college credit, passing grades and be at least 17 on application and not more than 28 years of age by graduate date.

McCoy indicated early application is necessary for the individual to be processed for summer camp this year. Successful completion of camp and recommendation by a camp board of officers will enable the student to enroll in the two-year program at A&M next September as an advanced ROTC cadet.

Information and applications may be obtained from Maj. E. S. Solymosy in the commandant's office, Military Science Building.

Late Registration Deadline Is Friday, Registrar Warns

Students will have until 5 p.m. Friday to register late for the spring semester according to Registrar Robert Lacey.

A fee of \$4 will be assessed late registrants. Deadline for registering without penalty was last Friday.

Lacey said this Friday's deadline also applies to students wishing to add courses to their schedules.

"All course additions will be honored if there is space available in the class section and if the course hours do not conflict with those already listed in the student's schedule," he explained.

Students will have until Feb. 18 to drop a course with no grade.

"The add-drop procedure will be no different than that at pre-registration in November and December," Lacey advised.

A student wishing to add or drop a course first must go to his academic adviser and have him fill out an add-drop form. He must then turn the form in to room 212, Richard Coke Building, for processing and return the next day for his revised schedule.

"Any change in registration

fees resulting from the add-drop process will be billed or refunded to the student at a later date," Lacey said.

Most students, returned from a week-long mid-term break, began classes Monday, having taken advantage of A&M's new automated registration system, first of its type in the state.

More than 10,500 were processed for spring classes during the fall pre-registration period, Lacey noted.

WEATHER

Wednesday — Cloudy. Light rain. Wind Southerly 10 to 15 mph. High 66, low 48.

Thursday — Cloudy to partly cloudy, afternoon rain showers. Wind Southerly 10 to 20 mph. High 71, low 52.

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Navy Once Ordered Destroyer To Retake Pueblo, Court Hears

By RICHARD E. MEYER
Associated Press Writer
CORONADO, Calif. (AP)—After the capture of the Pueblo, two high ranking Navy officials ordered a destroyer to prepare to go into a North Korean harbor to board it and tow it away if necessary, an admiral has testified.

Rear Adm. George L. Cassell detailed the order Monday to a Navy court of inquiry into the Pueblo's capture by North Korea. But a further question, asking whether any actual attempt to rescue the Pueblo was ever carried out, was left unanswered.

THERE was no known actual attempt to remove the Pueblo from North Korean custody. When the Pueblo was seized a little over a year ago, Cassell was assistant chief of staff for operations for the commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet, based in Honolulu. He agreed with earlier witnesses that neither U.S. ships nor planes were close enough to help immediately but said recovery action was possible the next day.

"Adm. John Hyland, myself and the Operational Control Center directed the Seventh Fleet to dispatch a destroyer and position this destroyer off Wonsan Harbor in international waters," Cassell said. Hyland was fleet commander.

"WE further directed Commander Seventh Fleet to provide air cover for this particular destroyer and be prepared to recover the Pueblo either by going into the harbor and manning the ship and getting under way or towing as necessary. I forget the precise words, but she was to be prepared to recover or tow the Pueblo."

He said naval officials discussed other possibilities, such as sending aircraft to destroy the ship "to prevent classified material from falling into the hands of the Koreans."

Executive officer Lt. Edward R. Murphy Jr. was called to the stand today as the first of the Pueblo's crew, other than skipper Lloyd Bucher, to testify in open court.

LT. STEPHEN HARRIS, in charge of the Pueblo's intelligence detachment, testified for more than five hours Thursday and Monday. The Navy said his testimony was classified in the interest of national defense, but

that Harris would give unclassified testimony in open court later this week.

Cassell said he was in the home of Admiral Hyland when the Pueblo was seized.

Cassell said he and Hyland went to the Operational Control Center four or five minutes from the house. Cassell then described the orders to the Seventh Fleet, and Capt. William Newsome, counsel for the court, asked: "You were positioning your ships then with a view toward retaliation?"

"Yes," Cassell said, "retaliation and what we could have done the next morning as far as recovering the ship was concerned. Let me say we began positioning our forces to carry out whatever higher authority ordered. Whether that would have been in retaliation I couldn't say . . .

"I WANT to make it clear that there could be no launch of aircraft, no reprisal, or retaliatory attack with CINCPAC Commander in Chief of Pacific forces authority," Cassell said.

Newsome asked: "After the forces were positioned was any action taken . . . to either attempt to effect recovery or to assist her?"

Before Cassell could reply, Newsome was called to the bench for a whispered conference with Vice Adm. Harold G. Bowen Jr., president of the court.

Newsome then asked a different question: "Admiral, were any other actions taken by you at Commander Pacific Fleet headquarters?"

"No," Cassell said.

UNDER questioning from E. Miles Harvey, attorney for Cmdr. Bucher, Cassell said there were plans for the Seventh Fleet to send a reconnaissance plane over the Pueblo in the North Korean harbor.

"CINCPAC did not authorize it," Cassell said.

Q. Harvey: Did the Navy discuss torpedoing or sinking the Pueblo?

A. Cassell: "We discussed a lot of proposals. One was sending aircraft in there and destroying the ship to prevent classified material from falling into the hands of the Koreans."

At another point, Harvey asked whether Cassell felt the Pueblo's two .50-caliber machine guns added to her ability to defend herself.

"Yes, I do," Cassell replied.

Bucher has said he was hopelessly outgunned by the North Koreans, and had wanted the Navy to install two 20mm cannons before he set sail.

HARVEY asked whether Cassell thought the commander of naval forces in Japan complied with instructions to provide the Pueblo with adequate devices to destroy classified material.

After a pause, Cassell answered, "No," adding, "My answer is just an opinion."

Bucher has testified that his only way to destroy classified electronic equipment was with

sledge hammers and fire axes.

Because the risk of attack against the Pueblo was considered minimal, Cassell said, Air Force planes weren't ready to provide quick help "and simply could not have gotten there in time."

Cassell said: "The Fifth Air Force would have had to change the armanent configuration and that would have taken an hour and a half, and then launched, and then taking into consideration the flight time . . . it would have taken an hour and 45 minutes or perhaps two hours to reach the Pueblo."

Cassell said he went on board the Pueblo before it left Hawaii on its mission adding his initial reaction was to her small size and that "her vintage impressed me."

The Pueblo was an Army coastal freighter during World War II and was used by the South Koreans during the Korean War before she was converted into an intelligence ship.

Civilian Councilmen To Attend Residence Halls Conference

Texas A&M will be represented for the first time at the National Association of College and University Residence Halls conference, Feb. 6-8, in Long Beach, Calif.

The four-member student delegation will be headed by David Wilks of Pampa, president of the Civilian Student Council. Other delegates include Andy Scott, Childress, president of Walton Hall; Earl Roddy, Lancaster, president of Davis-Gary Hall, and Mike Glasgow, San Antonio, representing Leggett Hall.

Ed Cooper, Civilian Student director, will accompany the students.

Sessions to be held at the California State College are expected to attract 600 students from about 100 universities.

The three halls represented have been involved in special pilot programs since September. The halls are operating as "clubs" with their own elected officers including disciplinary committees. Similar programs are expected to start soon in additional halls.

Resident Hall Adviser Howard Perry said the A&M delegates are expected to gain "insight into resident hall operations and programs and get ideas on hall government."

Upon their return, delegates will recommend or reject membership in the national association, Perry added.

A&M was represented by 14 delegates at last month's state residence hall delegates' meeting at Texas Tech.

Legislators Moore, Presnal Named To Committee Posts

Two state legislators from the Bryan area, Rep. Bill Presnal and Senator William B. (Bill) Moore, have been appointed to legislative committees in Austin.

Presnal has been appointed to five standing committees of the Texas House of Representatives: appropriations, agriculture, higher education, congressional and legislative districts, and public health.

The Appropriations Committee is considered one of the most powerful committees in the House. This committee largely determines how much and where state monies are spent.

Presnal was formerly a civilian counselor in the Office of the Commandant.

Moore, an attorney, has served in the Senate since 1949 and is the third ranking member in seniority. He was named to ten committees.

The A&M graduate was appointed chairman of the Senate Committee on State Affairs and vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation.

He also was named to the committees on banking; constitutional amendments; finance; insurance; jurisprudence; legislative, congressional and judicial districts; privileges and elections; and water and conservation.

Senate Will Poll Students Tonight

A polling of student opinions concerning automated registration will be conducted today during the evening meal at both university dining halls, according to Al Reinert, chairman of the Student Senate subcommittee on computer registration.

Reinert said that results of the poll will be included in a subcommittee report at Thursday's 7:30 p.m. Senate meeting in the library.



NOTHING TO IT

Ronnie Peret slithers through the Texas defense for an easy layup above in second half action as the Aggies won their fifth straight conference game going away 65-57. With Peret leading the way the Aggies dominated the backboards 39-26, as they warmed up for their showdown with second-place Baylor tonight at 8 in Waco. (Photo by Mike Wright)