



A SMALL CAR TRAVELING at 60 miles an hour and controlled by radio hits tubs of sand, escaping serious damage in a test by engineers for the California Division of Highways. The engineers are using the tubs of sand plus water-filled tubes and empty steel barrels to prevent cars from slamming into such fixed objects as bridge railings and signposts along freeways. (AP Wirephoto)

Controversial new draft bill returns to battle in Senate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The battered draft-extension bill returned to the Senate Monday beset by a new filibuster threat and a new question: What effect will the presidential wage freeze have on its military payboost provision?

President Nixon pleaded in vain for Congress to pass the bill so he could sign it before the beginning of the month-long congressional vacation, now ending.

The most controversial point in the long-embattled bill remains an antiwar amendment added by the Senate and modified by a House-Senate conference.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana has said that while he cannot accept that modified conference amendment urging the President merely to negotiate a deadline from U.S. military withdrawal from Indochina, he will not himself obstruct Senate action on the total bill.

But other senators, notably Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, have said nothing short of the original Senate-passed Mansfield amendment is acceptable and that they will once again filibuster the bill which would extend the draft for two years.

Developments of the past month in Saigon, which saw

President Nguyen Van Thieu emerge as the sole candidate in next month's South Vietnamese presidential elections, may give fresh ammunition to opponents of the draft extension.

The Mansfield amendment would declare as U.S. policy a nine-month withdrawal date for U.S. troops, provided all U.S. prisoners are freed, with Congress setting the date. The compromise leaves that to the President's discretion.

Gravel and some others also object to the extension of the draft at all and seek the creation of an all-volunteer armed

force. The entire bill, including the raises and the compromise Vietnam measure, has already passed the House 297 to 108.

The old Selective Service Act expired at the end of June, and, although a draft lottery has been held for men who turn 19 next year, the nation legally has had no power to call up new registrants since that time.

Selective Service officials have said that if a new draft law isn't passed soon, they may have to use residual authority to draft some men previously granted deferments.

Stanton receives NSF grant for California fossil study

Dr. Robert J. Stanton Jr. of A&M's Geology Department has received a \$27,400 National Science Foundation grant to study marine fossils along the California coast.

Collaborating on the research is Dr. J. Robert Dodd, geology professor at Indiana University. The two-year study is effective Sept. 15.

Dr. Stanton said the purpose of the research is to gain an understanding of the ecology

along the Pacific Coast five to 10 million years ago.

He is interested in the relationship between environmental factors and the grouping of marine shells. His studies will probably include parts of Baja California and Oregon, he said.

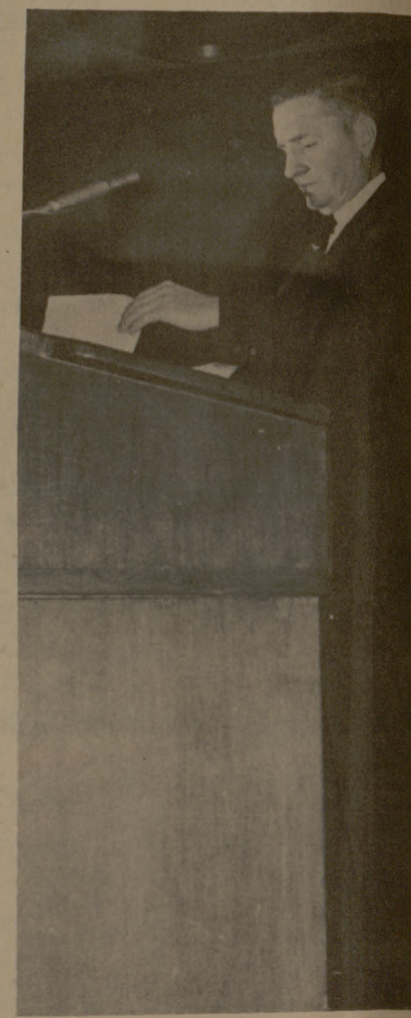
Some of the relationships, Dr. Stanton noted, include shell chemistry, temperature, salinity and the geographical setting that brought shell groups together.

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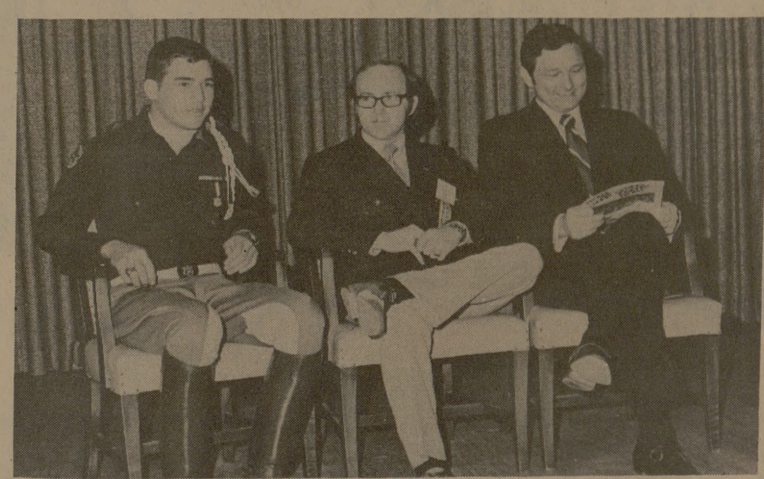
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