

It isn't too late to vote—the polls are open until 7:30 p.m.

# The Battalion

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845-2226

Cloudy  
and  
warm

Thursday — Mostly cloudy. Southerly winds 15-20 mph. Afternoon thundershowers. High 87°, low 66°.  
Friday — Same as Thursday.

## North Viets launch heavy tank assault

SAIGON (AP)—North Vietnamese tanks and hundreds of infantrymen Thursday launched what appeared to be an all-out assault on the provincial capital of An Loc, 60 miles north of Saigon. Tanks and heavy street fighting were reported in and around the city.

Initial reports said nine enemy tanks out of a column of 20 had been knocked out, two by U.S. fighter-bombers and seven by defenders of the besieged city. Field reports said the city was still in government hands. In other action, a dozen large North Vietnamese rockets exploded in and around Da Nang air base, the biggest U.S. fighter-bomber installation in Vietnam. Enemy troops also renewed attacks across a key river defense line anchoring the gov-

ernment's northern front. One rocket which hit on the Da Nang flight line set fire to a twin-engine transport about 250 yards from an ammunition dump. Over-all damage at the base was light, officials said. Two hours after the attack U.S. jets roared off the runway on missions to support South Vietnamese troops. Officials said no Americans were hit but that at least two South Vietnamese civilians were killed and four wounded. Within minutes of the first explosions an aircraft with a large searchlight took off. Its task was to pinpoint the enemy rocket launcher positions and to guide fire on any weapons still unfired. The last attack on Da Nang, Feb. 9, killed three Vietnamese and wounded six Vietnamese and

10 Americans with a salvo of 37 rockets. The Bien Hoa air base used by American Air Force units was shelled 24 hours earlier. Mortar rounds wounded two Americans in the attack 15 miles northeast of Saigon. U.S. Air Force and Marine F4 Phantom squadrons operate from the Da Nang base as do South Vietnamese fighter-bombers and transports that are vital in keeping the northern front resupplied. In reporting the new enemy attempt to cross the Dong Ha-Cua Viet River 10 miles south of the demilitarized zone, the Saigon command said 52 enemy troops were killed. After the collapse of their defensive line south of the DMZ in the opening days of the enemy offensive, Saigon's troops man-



ATTEMPTING TO CUT THINGS SHORT. Illusionist Andre Kole performs one of his feats, using Glenn Rossi, senior ROTC cadet, as a subject. The Wednesday night attraction crowded one of the largest audiences into the Memorial Student Center Ballroom. (Photo by Mike Rice)

## GIs hesitant to advance, claim task too dangerous

PHU BAI, Vietnam (AP)—About 100 GIs reluctantly moved into a forward defensive position inside an important American air base Wednesday after first refusing because they believed it was too dangerous. They took up the assigned position about three miles west of Phu Bai, the northernmost point in South Vietnam occupied by Americans. An electronic communications facility and a key strip are there. The battalion commander, Lt. Col. Frederick P. Mitchell, assailed television newsmen and other journalists who were present when the incident took place. "All you press are bastards," he said. "I blame you for this and you can quote me on it." In Saigon, the U.S. Command said, "A rumor to the effect that the area was an ambush site loaded with booby traps circulated among some members." The unit involved is Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, 196th Brigade. The command statement, without offering any direct criticism of newsmen, said: "Numerous correspondents were in the area interviewing soldiers. Several soldiers told correspondents that they did not want to go into the field."

No soldier actually disobeyed orders or refused to go into the field, the command said. No disciplinary action was taken. The men at first refused to board trucks waiting to take them to the position, but after a lieutenant called for volunteers and a handful stepped forward, all except one platoon had climbed aboard within an hour. The platoon of about 45 men, after saying they were told other American defenders in the area of the position would be endangered by their absence, agreed a short time later to go. Fierce fighting is in progress about 13 miles further west, around Fire Base Bastogne, which is surrounded by North Vietnamese troops. Although often shelled in the past, Phu Bai has not been a target of the current offensive. Combat refusals have become a not infrequent occurrence among U.S. troops in Vietnam in the past 2½ years, especially since the American withdrawal began. The U.S. Command has adopted a policy of trying in most cases to reason with soldiers who refuse such orders, rather than invoking punitive measures. Usually, the soldiers eventually agree to carry out the orders, officers say.

aged to stabilize their northernmost line on the south bank of the river. They inflicted heavy casualties on waves of enemy attackers who sought to breach it with tanks and infantry. The town of Dong Ha lies just below the river and has been one of the enemy's major objectives so far in the offensive. The provincial capital of Quang Tri lies 13 miles further south. Enemy troops also tightened their siege of an infantry and artillery base guarding the most vulnerable approach to the ancient imperial capital of Hue. Field reports said enemy troops now had surrounded Fire Base Bastogne 12 miles southwest of Hue and 60 miles south of the DMZ. Enemy gunners fired 50 rounds into the base Tuesday and government forces battled an estimated 300 to 400 North Vietnamese troops three miles from the shell-scarred base's barbed wire perimeter. The situation around Bastogne was described as critical. It commands Route 574, a narrow dirt road that was used by the enemy during the 1968 Tet offensive to spearhead a drive that partially captured Hue. A major problem in easing pressures in the northernmost provinces has been the low rain-heavy monsoon clouds. No air strikes were flown against North Vietnam because of poor weather which continued. Tactical air strikes in support of embattled infantrymen such as those at Fire Base Bastogne were restricted.

## Judiciary committee avoids conflict

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Judiciary Committee Wednesday avoided a confrontation with President Nixon by refusing to order or invite testimony from White House aides in its ITT hearings. In another action, the panel voted to have two Denver heart specialists examine Dita Beard to determine whether the lobbyist for International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. is well enough to testify for a second time. The hearings, now in their seventh week, were precipitated by columnist Jack Anderson's publication of an interoffice memo attributed to Mrs. Beard. It appeared to link the Justice Department's out-of-court settlement of antitrust actions against ITT to the big conglomerate's pledge of financial support for the Republican National Convention in San Diego next August. Mrs. Beard has denied she wrote the memo. Anderson's allegations involved acting Atty. Gen. Richard G. Kleindienst who was deputy attorney general at the time of the settlement. As a result, Kleindienst asked the committee to reopen hearings on his nomination to succeed John N. Mitchell

as attorney general, even though his appointment had won unanimous committee endorsement prior to publication of Anderson's accusations. The Wednesday success of committee Republicans in blocking any committee subpoenas or requests for testimony from White House aides headed off, at least temporarily, any direct clash between the panel and Nixon. A White House spokesman had said the doctrine of executive privilege would be invoked to prevent such testimony. Presidential aides Peter Flanigan and William Timmons have

been identified by some witnesses as having played some role in the ITT case. Sen. Sam J. Ervin, D-N.C., moved in an executive session to summon Flanigan, Timmons and other executive department employees to be named by the committee. This was defeated by a 6-6 party line vote with the Democratic committee chairman, Sen. James O. Eastland of Mississippi, declining to cast the tie-breaking vote. An identical vote blocked a motion by Sen. Quentin Burdick, D-N.D., that Flanigan alone be called. Finally, a 9-4 vote defeated a compromise proposal by Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., that Flanigan be asked to testify in a closed session. Sen. John V. Tunney, D-Calif., said the committee's votes will jeopardize Kleindienst's chances for Senate confirmation. "There is no way we can get the truth until Flanigan testifies," Tunney said. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., said he expects the matter of Flanigan's testimony to come up in the committee again before the agreed-upon April 20 cutoff of hearings.

## Presidential war power bill refused go-ahead by Senate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate refused again Wednesday to set aside a bill to limit the war powers of the President. It defeated, 56 to 23, a substitute proposed by Sen. J. Glenn Beall Jr., R-Md., to appoint a 24-member national commission for a year-long study of the warmaking roles of Congress and the President. The test was the second in two days indicating majority Senate support for legislation designed to implement the constitutional authority of Congress alone to declare war. On Tuesday, the Senate turned down 60-26 a motion to send the bill to its own Judiciary Committee for 45 days to review its constitutionality. The bill would limit the President's use of the armed forces to emergency defense against attack or threat of attack or rescue of Americans endangered abroad, and then only for 30 days unless Congress consented. "Implicit in this is what has gone on in Vietnam and the prevention of future Vietnams," Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton, D-Mo., told

the Senate Wednesday. Arguing that the war-powers issue has had study enough, Eagleton said a study commission is "a way to postpone" necessary action. "This is the time to act," said Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., principal sponsor of the bill. Beall said the war-powers issue is of such extreme importance that it should have all the study it can get. Beall said the bill, opposed by President Nixon, is not likely to be considered in the House this year and is highly unlikely to be signed by the President.

Dallas man receives 2,000 years for 1971 super market robbery. DALLAS (AP)—A Dallas jury sentenced a 23-year-old man to 2,000 years imprisonment Wednesday for the April 1971 armed robbery of a super market in which a security guard was killed. A nine-man, three-women jury returned the sentence against Jimmy McBride after 1½ hours deliberation. The jury had returned a guilty verdict Tuesday evening after 50 minutes deliberation. McBride also faces murder charges for the shooting death of Odell Miles, 32, during the April 17 robbery of a Dallas super-market. Dwight Bryant, one of the store's cashiers, testified that as Miles walked from the back of the store a robber shot him in the face at a distance of about 20 feet. Bryant said he could not identify the man because he wore a mask. Also testifying was Emmett Sneed, an off duty security guard, who identified McBride as one of two men who removed stocking masks as they ran out of the supermarket. University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M." —Adv.

## Eichorn eligible in recorder race

Sandy Eichorn will be eligible for today's recorder race, according to David Moore, Election Commission chairman. Eichorn's candidacy has been questioned by Mitch Michelson, who is running a write-in campaign against her, when it was discovered that a state funded postage meter was being used to send out Eichorn's campaign letters. Use of the postage meter is illegal and would have invalidated Eichorn's candidacy. Moore said he and Michelson were satisfied that Eichorn did not know what she was doing was wrong and that she should not be disqualified.

## Fall preregistration will begin April 17

Preregistration for the fall semester at A&M has been scheduled for the week of April 17-21, Registrar Robert A. Lacey announced. The procedure will be the same as followed during previous preregistration periods, Lacey noted. Only students currently enrolled are eligible to preregister. All new freshmen and transfer students will preregister during the summer. New graduate students and old returning students register the week of Aug. 21-25. A student begins the process by taking his identification card to his major department office

to receive the registration card packet. Each department will set its hours and class order. The departmental registration advisor will register the student. Fee statements will be mailed to the student's permanent mailing address on or about June 15. Fees must be paid by mail by Aug. 1, otherwise the preregistration is subject to cancellation. After fees are paid, the student's class schedule, fee receipt and ID card will be mailed to his permanent mailing address. Fall semester classes begin Aug. 28.

## At Parent's Day

## Year's Aggie Mother to be presented

Presentation of the Aggie Mother of the Year, the naming of outstanding 1971-72 Cadet Corps units and other activities will highlight Parents Day at A&M. More than 20,000 visitors are expected for the Sunday event. TAMU's unique "Avenue of Flags," marching cadets, pretty girls and open dormitories will mark the special observation for parents. The event formerly coincided with Mother's Day, when the TAMU school year included the May observance. Parents Day leads off Civilian Student Week at the university.

Activities begin at 7:30 a.m. Sunday with the traditional flower pinning ceremony in the cadet area. A Student Senate program at 9 a.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum will include greetings from President Jack K. Williams, tributes to parents and presentation of the Honor Mother Award. She will succeed Mrs. Ruth H. Hewitt of College Station. Presentation of corps individual and unit awards follows at 9:30 a.m. in the coliseum, according to Col. Thomas R. Parsons, commandant. A special drill by the Ross Vol-

unteer Company commanded by Michael J. Weynand and performance by the state and national champion Fish Drill Team will bracket a 2:30 p.m. corps review on the main drill field. The RVs will march at 1:15 p.m., the Fish Drill Team at 3 p.m. Edwin M. Dayton, Senate treasurer, will preside at the 9 a.m. coliseum program. Corps Chaplain Jimmie Cook will give the invocation and Dr. Williams will speak following student greetings by John Sharp, Senate president. Tributes to fathers and mothers will be presented by James McLeroy, Senate issues chairman,

and Randle R. Ross, welfare chairman. Senate life chairman Layne Kruse will announce the Aggie Mother of the Year and make the award. The new Aggie mom also will be honored at the review, heading a reviewing line including Dr. Williams, Parsons and Lt. Col. Roscoe P. Thorpe, professor of aerospace studies. Special programs for parents and guests of the Ross Volunteers and Fish Drill Team are scheduled during the afternoon. Banking is a pleasure at First Bank & Trust.