

Colombian Fireman Recalls Large Fire

A large high-rise building fire in Bogota, Colombia, three weeks ago sparked interest by several Latin American countries in the Spanish-speaking fire school at A&M.

The 49-story Avianca Building in Bogota started burning on the 10th floor and flames went upward to the top of the structure before local fire departments could map a plan of attack on the inferno.

One of the men who fought the blaze which claimed 18 lives attended the A&M-sponsored school which ended at noon Friday.

Major Alonzo Arrubla Jaramillo, chief of the Fire Department in Medellin, Colombia, a suburb of Bogota, said through an interpreter that he felt the blaze might have been more successfully fought had the firemen battling the flames been trained with instruction equal to the courses offered at A&M.

"Things were happening so fast," he said, "nobody knew quite what to do. By the time the first alarm was sounded, the flames were already engulfing the immediate floors above the tenth story where the fire started."

The "jefe de bomberos," as fire chiefs are called in Colombia, said he felt better prepared for a blaze such as the one that ruined the high-rise structure. He plans to send several of his firemen to the Spanish-speaking segment of the Texas Firemen's Training School next year.

To further inform Spanish-speaking countries of the school offered at A&M by the Texas

Dollar Value Shows Increase

Dollar value of research projects at A&M through 11 months of the current fiscal year reflected a one million dollar increase over the cumulative total for 1971-72.

Dr. Robert R. Berg, director of university research, said new projects reported for July had a dollar value of \$932,811, bringing the cumulative total since September, 1972, to \$32,039,627. The total for 1971-72 was \$30,950,432.

The August 9 report of the Office of University Research showed the College of Engineering had the month's largest value for new research projects, \$456,764; followed by the College of Science, \$217,960; Agriculture, \$196,008; Geosciences, \$50,442; and Liberal Arts, \$11,637.

The cumulative totals are College of Agriculture and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, \$14,319,575; Engineering (including the Texas Engineering Experiment Station and the Texas Transportation Institute), \$9,050,192; Science, \$2,999,665; Geosciences, \$2,680,481; Veterinary Medicine, \$838,646; Education, \$835,871; Liberal Arts, \$316,906; Moody College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Resources, \$310,316; Architecture, \$146,584; and Business Administration, \$113,893, and other, \$927,498.

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Engineering Extension Service, a film and taped radio interview with Maj. Arrubla was made by TAMU representatives at the request of U.S. Embassy personnel in South America.

This year's Spanish fire school registered 123 students from Texas, Arizona, Colorado and Ohio; from 21 states in Mexico, and from seven other South American countries and Spain.

A President's Endowed Scholarship in the name of the late George Rollie White has been established at A&M.

President of the A&M Board of Directors the last 10 years of his 29 as a member, G. Rollie White was known as "Mr. Brady" and "Mr. Aggie" to a wide circle of acquaintances in Brady and West Texas. The 1895 A&M graduate died in 1965, at age 89. At

the time, two A&M buildings carried his name.

He was a banker, rancher, sportsman, philanthropist and civic leader.

Endowment of the G. R. White President's Scholarship was arranged through the G. R. White Trust of the Fort Worth National Bank.

A&M Development Director Robert L. Walker said invest-

ment of the \$25,000 principal will enable the first White Scholarship to enroll at A&M in the Fall of 1974.

President's Endowed Scholars receive \$1,000 a year for up to five years of undergraduate study.

"Mr. White has meant so much to Texas A&M," Walker said. "This is a wonderful way to carry on his continuing concern and

interest in young people. The White President's Endowed Scholarship is a permanent means of providing a scholarship in his name."

A&M's soon to be expanded coliseum bears White's name, as did a recently renamed dormitory.

He retired as a board member and board president in 1955. One of Brady's greatest civic leaders,

White helped finance the July Jubilee race plant, was Commercial National Bank's president and an official of eral cattle and financial institutions.

White was co-organizer in of Brady's water and light plant. It was sold to the city after years ownership and operated for \$40,000, on credit and ing down.

G. R. White Scholarship Established

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