

# Senate approves study of bays

## Prayer, speed limits other topics of legislation

### News briefs International

**FLAMANVILLE, France (AP)**—An instinctive fear of the atom and other factors have come in the way of French government plans to build a huge nuclear power station on the edge of this farming and fishing community.

The government's plans to reduce France's dependence on imported oil by building dozens of nuclear reactors has been condemned by ecologists, scientists and, because the reactors are of United States design, by the Communist party.

**SAIGON, South Vietnam (AP)**— Viet Cong gunners blasted the Da Nang air base early Wednesday, hours before an emergency U. S. airlift was to start evacuating hundreds of thousands of refugees who had fled to the port city.

The Saigon command said 14 Soviet-built rockets smashed into the base, killing 6 civilians and wounding 34.

A U. S.-financed airlift and sea evacuation will seek to transfer some 350,000 refugees to government territory along the central coast, Western diplomats said. But the rocket attacks could inflict massive casualties on refugees gathered at the airport and also damage the aircraft and runways.

### National

**WASHINGTON (AP)**— Senate-House conferees agreed Tuesday that a major tax-cut bill will include a 1974 rebate of \$100 to \$200 for most Americans.

If Ford vetoes the bill, said Press Secretary Ron Nessen, the President might call Congress into special session next week, forcing the lawmakers to give up their own recess, to approve a recession-fighting tax cut more to his liking.

**AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)**— Former First Lady Mamie Eisenhower was hospitalized at an Army hospital Tuesday with internal bleeding, a spokesman said. Her condition was described as stable.

The 79-year-old widow of President Dwight D. Eisenhower was vacationing at Augusta National Golf Course when she was stricken.

### State

**AUSTIN (AP)**— The nation's economy will definitely be on its way to recovery by the end of this year, Secretary of Treasury William Simon told a cattle industry convention Tuesday.

"I'm not here to tell you prosperity is just around the corner," Simon said. "But there will be some strengthening of prices this spring and summer."

Simon said the federal government will take positive steps to help the economy in such areas as guaranteed loans to cattle producers and possible quotas on imported beef.

**SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (AP)**— Nearly 1,500 Moslems, including 400 Saudi Arabians broke off their study of English at the Defense Language Institute here Tuesday after the death of King Faisal.

The 400 Saudis met for prayers at Lackland just before noon and were addressed by Maj. Gen. Joe P. Flynn, who expressed this nation's sympathy to the foreign students.

**AUSTIN (AP)**— House members adopted a school prayer bill Tuesday that a Jewish legislator claimed might hurt — rather than help — religion in the classroom.

Senators forwarded 10 proposals to the House, including a measure to protect Texas' bays and estuaries.

An apparent estrangement between Texas Republicans and past and present national GOP leaders surfaced on another bill approved by the Senate.

The prayer bill would allow teachers to set aside part of their class time for periods of silent prayer or meditation, although children could simply read or take part in other quiet activities.

"By doing this (passing the bill) you simply give this the color of law and by so doing you make this more challengeable," said Rep. Abraham Ribak, D-San Antonio.

Five representatives and five senators were named to a conference committee to try to reach a compromise on a bill extending the 55 mile an hour speed limit.

The bay-estuary proposal by Sen. A. R. Schwartz, D-Galveston, declares that it is state policy to maintain a "proper ecological environment." It authorizes the Texas Water Development Board to investigate the effects of fresh water inflows on bays and estuaries.

Schwartz said the report, due no later than Dec. 31, 1979, would form the basis for environmental impact studies of the future.

Republican Sen. Walter Mengden of Houston blamed former U. S. Atty. Gen. John Mitchell for originating the idea of tax-free revenue bonds which are issued under the name of a governmental unit. He said such tactics had cost New York \$104 million in defaulted bonds in connection with urban development.

"Who was governor then?" asked Sen. Jack Ogg, D-Houston, who was sponsoring a similar proposal to build a new facility for Houston Memorial Hospital.

"Who else but Nelse," replied Mengden.

Ogg said his bill would permit non-profit hospitals to issue revenue bonds in the City of Houston to get the tax break, but the city would have to agree to the arrange-

ments. "You're trying to bring down to Texas one of those tricky, innovative financial deals" thought up by Mitchell, once a bond lawyer, Mengden said.

The Senate rejected, 24-4,

Mengden's "buyer beware" amendment, which would have required a bond buyer to acknowledge in writing that he knew if the hospital defaulted the city would not make good on the bonds.

Senators also approved and sent

to the House bills that would: -Allow the Parks and Wildlife Department to regulate waters within state parks, such as the new Sea Rim park in Jefferson County.

-Appropriate \$379,790 so South-west Texas State University at San

Marcos can pay its utility bills through Aug. 31.

-Permit the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to give surplus property to its community centers.

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### Parr out

## Manges can't take over

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — "He can't any more take over Duval County that I can take wings and fly to heaven," a defiant George Parr chuckled Tuesday as he reviewed what he feels is an attempt by a former associate to unseat him as political boss of this South Texas region.

Parr, in a rare meeting with reporters, was referring to Clinton Manges, a banker-rancher who has thrown himself into the struggle for political control of Duval County politics between the Parris and the Carrillo family.

Parr predicted that two Duval County political figures would be

indicted on federal income tax evasion charges at Corpus Christi Friday. Parr said that Manges had made a trip to Austin to arrange lawyers and bond money for the two men.

The 74-year-old Parr, long known as the Duke of Duval because of his firm grip in area politics for nearly half a century, was dressed in casual attire and mixed his tough-talk and friendly-gestures as he gathered newsmen around him at the offices of the San Diego School Board. The interview took place shortly after the first meeting of commissioners court presided over by Dan Tobin.

Tobin, a man Parr said had doubt-

crossed the Parris twice, was appointed after the removal, under orders of District Judge O. P. Carrillo, of Duval County Judge Archer Parr, the older Parr's nephew. Judge Parr was removed after Dist. Atty. Arnulfo Guerra filed a petition accusing the county judge of "incompetency, gross carelessness and official misconduct."

Judge Parr was sentenced to five years in prison last year and was ordered to pay fines and court costs of \$63,810. He is free on \$121,500 bond. The conviction arose from charges he lied to a federal grand jury concerning a \$121,500 payment he received from the Duval County Conservation and Reclamation District.

The older Parr was convicted last year on income tax evasion charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

Both are appealing their convictions.

Manges has controlling interests in banks in Starr and Bexar counties and a large ranch operation in Duval County. At one time he appeared to be solidly on the Parr side. He posted bond and fine money for the two Parris following their convictions.

on higher education.

Another proposal to be brought before the Senate is the Compulsory Committee Participation Resolution which provides for a point system to determine whether or not a senator should be dismissed for not participating in senate committees.

Appointment of a new judicial board chairman will be announced at the Senate meeting after the resignation of Jerri Ward who stepped down to run for office.

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