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# Bill extends oil controls

Associated Press  
WASHINGTON — The House passed a bill Thursday to extend domestic oil price controls until Oct. 31 to gain more time to work out an energy compromise with President Ford.

But the Senate, working on a similar extension, abandoned the effort until Monday after Democrats insisted on restricting Ford's ability to raise oil prices during the extended period.

Under the House bill, Ford still would be able to impose price increases, as he was in the price control law that expired Sept. 1, unless either house voted against the increase within five days.

The House, on a quick voice vote, approved an extension to Oct. 31, retroactive to Sept. 1. Senate Democrats refused to accept that version on grounds it would have

allowed Ford to offer his own energy plan to Congress on a take-it-or-leave-it basis.

Despite the Senate action, it still is possible for Congress to agree on a price-control extension and send it to Ford for his approval late next week.

Ford is reported ready to sign the extension voted by the House. But Griffin said the Senate bill, with the restriction on Ford's powers and what amounts to an extension until at least Nov. 18, invites a veto.

The House action came only a single day after the Senate sustained

Ford's veto of a six-month extension of oil controls.

Generally, Democrats have been pushing for lower price lids on domestic oil and a longer time for decontrol than the President has been willing to accept.

Ford has supported removing

controls to raise fuel prices to force consumers to save on energy, and channel more funds into the petroleum industries to encourage increased production in this nation.

The President has indicated he would consider gradual rather than sudden decontrol.

## Illiteracy still 20% in HISD

Associated Press  
HOUSTON — More than \$70 million in federal funds spent here has had little effect on improving the academic performance of poor children and more than one in five of Houston school children are still functionally illiterates, an official said here.

Houston School Superintendent Billy R. Reagan cited lack of parental interest and "social promotion" as two causes of continued poor education for Houston's disadvantaged.

Speaking at a meeting Wednesday, Reagan said a massive infusion of between \$70 to \$75 million in federal aid has not helped sharpen the basic skills of the poor children.

"We have no evidence that the federal money earmarked to help deprived students is making a difference in the academic performance" of poor children, he said.

He said some 45,000 of the district 206,000 pupils are not acquiring the fundamental skills in reading and math necessary to function outside of school and are, in effect, functional illiterates.

More and more money and addi-

tional teachers, he said, will not help the situation. The key is the parents.

"We have to have the support and interest of the parents," said Reagan.

Another factor is the so-called "social promotion." Pupils are promoted who should receive failing marks, he said, because teachers cave in under pressure to keep children with their own age group.

Reagan said that often when parents know their child will be promoted regardless of performance, they lose interest in encouraging the child to make good grades.

The Houston Independent School District this year will receive between \$14 and \$16 million in federal money to help the economically deprived.

Reagan said that during the past two years the Iowa Test and Basic Skills scores, which assess academic performance in schools over the nation, have reached an all-time low here.

Houston has participated in a variety of federal programs, including Head Start and bilingual education programs aimed at the poor.

## SOTA represents older students

Those persons who are returning to school or who haven't been to school in a matter of years are represented by Students Older Than Average (SOTA).

The social organization is for people who feel they are out of place in classes filled with 18 to 21-year-olds, said Jean Bailey, SOTA president.

Groups similar to SOTA are recognized on the University of Texas at Austin and University of Houston campuses. The A&M group is chartered with the university.

The organization is open to men and women, undergraduate and graduate, single or married.

The first fall meeting will be held Tuesday beginning at noon in the Memorial Student Center social room, in the older part of the building.

It is a brown-bag program with Dr. Wade Birch, personal counseling service, speaking on services available at his office.

"SOTA charges no dues and offers the returner a chance to orient himself with the university," said Bailey.

## Workshops planned

Workshops dealing with finance, advertising and organizing of student groups will be held Sept. 15-18, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Sept. 16 and 17 meetings will be a quick overview on how to use the Student Finance Center. How to write checks, pay bills and keep records will be taught. The program will be the same both days, held in the Student Finance Center, second floor Memorial Student Center.

Sept. 15 and 18 meetings will teach people how to organize using campus sponsored activities such as the Memorial Student Center Graphics Arts lab, how to place ads, how to raise money and plan programming. These identical sessions will be in room 301, Rudder Tower.

## Summer training worldwide

# ROTC cruises high seas

By DON MIDDLETON  
Battalion Staff Writer

Texas A&M University's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets trained world-wide this summer on naval ships and at camps and military installations as close as San Antonio, and as far away as the Philippines.

Naval cadets served aboard Navy ships in the Pacific, Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Sophomore and senior cadets were sent in groups to one of several areas. One group cruised the West-

ern Pacific, anchoring at ports in Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Taiwan. The tour also included shore leave in Tokyo, Japan.

Another detachment was deployed in the Middle Pacific, stopping at the Hawaii Islands. A third group was stationed in the Mediterranean, calling at Athens, Rhodes, Greece, and Barcelona, Spain.

The rest of the 29 seniors and 46 sophomores were split into two groups. One cruised the West Coast of the United States, stopping at Seattle, Wash.; Monterey, Calif.; San Francisco, Calif.; Long Beach, Calif.; and San Diego, Calif. The other group sailed down the East Coast, calling at Newport, R.I.; Norfolk, Va. and Charleston, S.C.

Junior Naval Cadets participated in a four-phase summer program. The first two weeks were spent in flight orientation at Corpus Christi Naval Air Station. A second two-week period was spent in Little Creek, Va., undergoing amphibious assault training.

The third phase consisted of a one week cruise on Naval destroyers out of Norfolk, Va. The final stop was a week-long submarine orientation course in Charleston, S.C.

Six Naval ROTC cadets were involved in nuclear power training aboard nuclear ballistic missile submarines, attack submarines and surface ships.

A total of 87 juniors attended Air Force ROTC summer camps: 82 at Eglin Air Force Base near Fort Walton, Fla.

At the first four-week session Richard Ingenloff was given the Commandant's award as the outstanding cadet in attendance. Bryan Miller received one of four Vice-commandant's awards.

Cadet James Patterson received the Commandant's award at the second session, with the Vice-

commandant's awards going to Scott Logan and Floyd Carpenter.

Four 2-year cadets who have not had basic ROTC were stationed at Lackland Air Force base in San Antonio, while one cadet was stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California to receive missile training.

Fort Riley, Kan. was the site of Army ROTC advanced summer camp, with 83 Aggie seniors in attendance. Marcus G. Dudley was awarded the Association of U.S. Army medal for superior achievement at the session.

Also receiving recognition were Paul W. Toler, who earned the American Logistics Association Award, and Charles A. Ellison who

received the Camp Commandant's Leadership Award.

Six junior cadets attended basic ROTC camp at Fort Knox, Ky., and four completed Ranger training at Fort Benning, Ga. Ranger school consists of basic training, mountain training and swamp and survival school.

A total of six cadets from various branches of the service participated in Airborne training, also held at Fort Benning.

Sixty-one Army cadets were awarded Recondo badges for successfully completing a water training course and the Army physical fitness test. Cadet Ronnie O'Neal compiled the maximum possible score on the physical fitness test.

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## Meetings scheduled

The Saddle and Sirloin Club will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 225 of the Memorial Student Center.

Guest speaker will be J. T. White, world renowned Brahman cattle breeder.

Alpha Phi Omega will have a regular meeting Sunday in Room 229 of the Memorial Student Center at 8 p.m.

Alpha Phi Omega will have a pledge meeting Sunday at 7 p.m. in Room 229 of the Memorial Student Center. All students interested in joining should attend.

The Engineering Technology Society will meet Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Room 304 of Fernier Hall.

The Agricultural Economics Club will meet Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 112 of the Plant Science Building. All interested agricultural economics students should attend.

The American Meteorological Society (TAMSCAMS) will meet Tuesday in Room 110 of the Oceanography and Meteorology Building instead of Room 112.

The Muslim Students Association will meet Sunday at 4 p.m. in Room 510 of the Rudder Tower. Order of business will be elections and Ramadan.

Students Older Than Average (SOTA) will meet in the Memorial Student Center social room at noon Tuesday, Sept. 16.

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