

The Battalion

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Quake hits northern Italy

Associated Press
VENICE, Italy — About 300 persons are believed killed in an earthquake that hit northeast Italy last night. Strong tremors were felt in at least six other countries, causing panic among millions, but there were no reports of casualties or major damage outside of Italy.

In addition to the area of Italy rocked by the quake, there were tremors in sections of Yugoslavia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, West Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium. Hundreds of Belgians fled from their apartment houses.

Italy's quake devastated dozens of towns and villages in the Tagliamento River Valley near the Yugoslav border. Major Italian cities did not suffer heavy damage or casualties.

National police headquarters in Rome said 187 bodies had been recovered in 19 towns, but several villages nestled in the hills of the Alps were still cut off.

A police spokesman said most of the damage was in towns and villages along both sides of the Tagliamento, which flows from the eastern Alps into the Adriatic some 40 miles northeast of Venice.

Two more tremors struck the area this morning, but there were no reports of casualties or damage.

A few chimneys were knocked down in Venice and thousands rushed to the Piazza San Marco and other open spaces seeking safety, but no casualties or major damage was reported there or in other major cities.

The worst casualty toll was reported in Maiano, a town of 1,900 about four miles from the river and 11 miles from the district capital of Udine, where officials set up a command center.

Police said a series of sharp tremors killed 58, injured 300 and destroyed half the homes in Maiano. The town's mayor said the dead included a young girl crushed when a Renaissance bell tower fell.

The U.S. Air Force sent six helicopters with 10 medical officers, stretchers and other supplies from the air base at Vicenza to the quake area.

Italian army trucks carried troops into the area to begin digging through the rubble.

The national police in Rome said the quake leveled Forgaria, a town of 4,000, and destroyed a quarter to a half of the buildings in the towns of Buia, Osoppo, San Pietro di Ramogna and Collaredo.

Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga worked through the night in Rome coordinating rescue work. Troops, police, firemen and volunteers were rushed to the disaster area from hundreds of miles away.

Authorities in Udine, a city of 90,000 about 15 miles east of the Tagliamento, ordered all doctors in the area mobilized and made urgent appeals for blood. They said damaged hospitals were unable to handle the flood of injured.

The earth shocks also damaged an oil pipeline from West Germany to Trieste, on the Adriatic 35 miles east of the Tagliamento. Technicians stopped the oil flow after signals that a leak had developed.

The quake struck about 9 p.m. as many Europeans were watching television. Millions of Italians fled to the countryside in panic, choking the highways.

The quake was felt most strongly in the area from Bolzano in the Alps down to the northern edge of Rome, and from Trieste on the Yugoslav border to Turin near the French border. The intensity decreased from north and east to the west and south.

The Swedish earthquake agency in Uppsala said the quake registered between 6.5 and 6.9 on the Richter scale, which measures ground motion. A quake registering 4 on the scale can cause moderate damage in populated areas, 6 can be severe and 7 means a major earthquake capable of widespread, heavy damage.

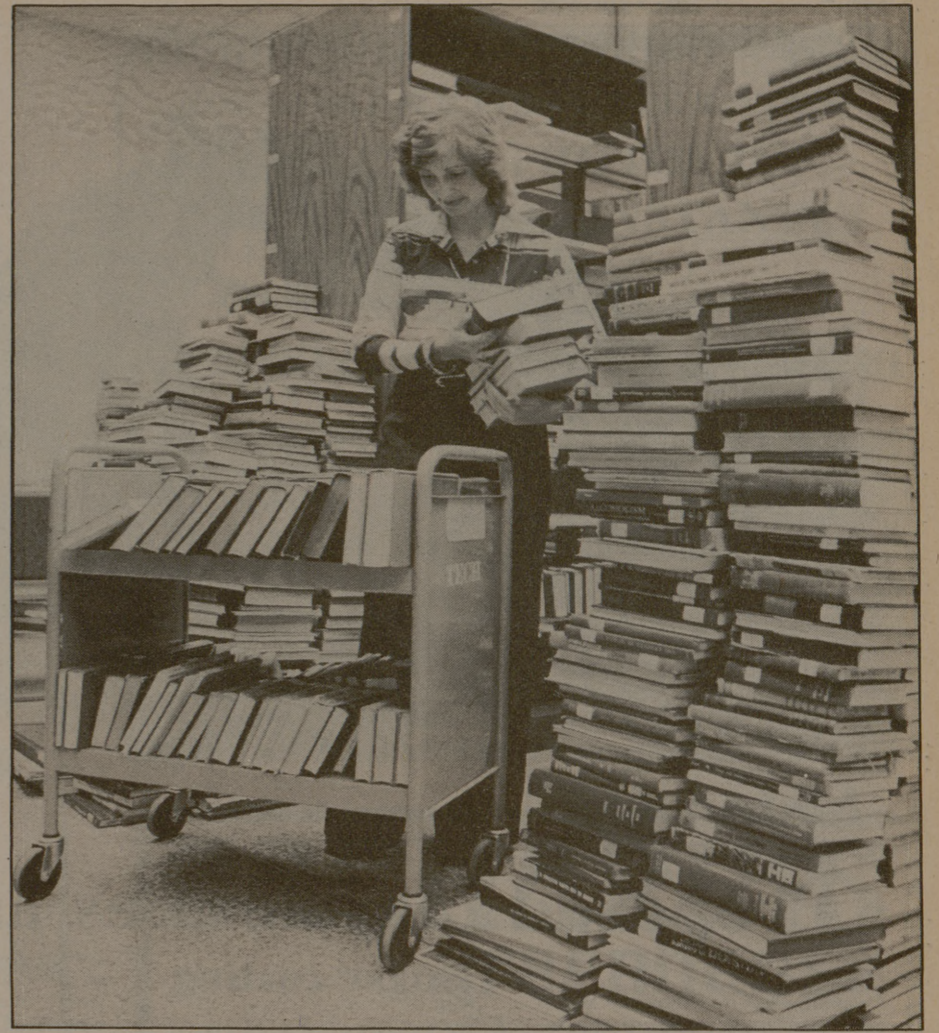


Photo courtesy of Pat Casey

Book overflow

Pat Mercer, library clerk, prepares to add even more volumes to the mountains of books that await reshelving. The end of semester rush has caused the library to fall behind in its work.

African policy reconsidered

Associated Press
PARIS — Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger plans a phased campaign for congressional support of the Ford administration's new African policy.

First he will go to Capitol Hill to report on his two-week tour of Africa and to get what U.S. officials call "a sense of support."

Then, barring hitches, the administration will ask Congress to repeal the Byrd Amendment, which permits Rhodesian chrome exports into the United States in

defiance of a United Nations embargo.

The administration will also ask Congress to appropriate funds to help finance projects Kissinger talked about during his tour.

In Senegal, he called on other nations to join in a development program for the drought-stricken sub-Saharan region.

In Nairobi, at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, he said the United States would contribute \$200 million to a new "international

resources bank" to get multinational corporations to invest in Third-World development.

He also agreed to help organize buffer stockpiles of key raw materials to regulate prices of the commodities.

In Zambia, he called for black-majority rule in Rhodesia. He condemned the white Rhodesian government and promised to try to get the Byrd Amendment repealed. He also offered Mozambique \$12.5 million to offset hardships resulting from its

closing its borders with Rhodesia, and he promised help to refugees from Rhodesia.

Kissinger will testify on these proposals before the Senate Foreign Relations and the House International Relations committees later this month, before going to Oslo for the annual spring meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

He does not intend to be deflected by the primary fights between Ford and Ronald Reagan for the Republican presidential

nomination, reporters were told as the secretary of state flew here from Nairobi for talks today with French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and President Felix Houphouët-Boigny of the Ivory Coast.

The timing for asking Congress to repeal the Byrd Amendment, which would put an economic squeeze on Rhodesia while enhancing U.S. standing with black Africans, will be decided by Ford after the President confers with congressional leaders.

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Weather

Cloudy and mild through tomorrow, high in low 70s today. Cooler tonight, low in upper 50s. Precipitation probability 70 per cent today, 20 per cent tonight and tomorrow. High tomorrow in the mid-70s.

Ags plan banquet to honor head coach

The Brazos County A&M Club will honor Coach Emory Bellard at a May 11 meeting at the Ramada Inn.

The Texas A&M athletic director and head coach of the Southwest Conference tri-champion Aggies will be featured on a dinner program.

Brazos County A&M Club President Al Bormann said Bellard will give a rundown on just-completed spring training and 1976 recruiting. Bellard also will show a 30-minute

film of highlights from the 1975 season.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. with a social session and scholarship benefit dinner at 7:15 p.m. The Ramada Inn will contribute the \$5 meal cost to the club for its scholarships.

Reservations can be made by calling Hesta Mulloy at 846-1223 or 846-7578, or Pat Gersbach at 845-7514, extension 38. Dinner reservations will be accepted through May 10.

Benefit rodeo scheduled

A benefit rodeo to raise money for Cathy Wagner's medical expenses will be held Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Bryan High School Rodeo Arena. Wagner, an A&M student, was critically injured in a motorcycle accident at Lake Somerville last month. She is in a respirator in the Houston Methodist Hospital, paralyzed from her neck down.

Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

Entries will be taken at the arena from 5

p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday. All riders are invited to enter. However, because of a limited number of livestock, potential riders will draw for a slot. There will be a jackpot for each event.

A ticket booth has been set up on the first floor of the MSC. Volunteers are needed to staff it.

For more information, contact Mrs. Virginia Cogar at 845-6751 or 693-7472.

Six distinguished alumni get awards

Texas A&M University tomorrow will bestow "distinguished alumnus" designation on six of its graduates who have made their mark on state government, the military, education, business, the oil industry and worldwide marketing.

Receiving the "Distinguished Alumni Award" at Texas A&M's spring commencement exercises will be State Sen. William T. Moore of Bryan, Gen. O. P. Weyland (USAF-Ret.) of San Antonio, Fred Hale of College Station, E. L. Wehner of Houston, L. F. Peterson of Fort Worth and George Demetrie Comnas of Oosterville, Mass.

The award, previously bestowed on only 49 of the more than 75,000 graduates in Texas A&M's 100-year history, is jointly presented by the University and its alumni organization, the Association of Former Students.

Sen. Moore, a 1940 graduate, has been a member of the Texas Legislature for 29 years, the past 27 as a senator.

A 1923 graduate, Gen. Weyland was the first Texas A&M graduate to attain four-star rank. His World War II service prompted Gen. George Patton to call him the best general in the Air Corps.

Hale, 1922 graduate, was designated professor emeritus of animal science when he retired in 1965 after 40 years of service to Texas A&M and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

Wehner, 1941 graduate, is a director of Arthur Anderson & Co., one of the largest accounting firms in the world, and is managing partner of the organization's key Houston office with responsibility for a three-state area.

A 1936 graduate, Peterson is an inde-

pendent oil operator and petroleum consultant and member of the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. He was a member of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents from 1963 until 1975 and was board chairman in 1967-68.

Comnas, 1935 graduate, is an independent consultant and a leading authority in organization of shipping and marketing operations on a global scale for petroleum products and other commodities.

Anthropology honor grad, 59, enjoys being an Aggie student

"I'm excited about tonight, the whole family is going to be here."

Mrs. Carl J. Niederauer, who will receive her degree in anthropology tonight, says she has many reasons to be in good spirits. She said that she is proud, not only because she is graduating from A&M at age 59, but also because she became a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Tuesday night. Niederauer will graduate with a 3.8 GPR.

Niederauer was once a T.U. teasip, she said, but after being asked if she now con-

siders herself an Aggie, she replied, "You bet your boots!"

She said that she will begin work for the Anthropology Department on May 31 as an archeology lab coordinator.

Niederauer said that she will continue to attend school because she likes to study. She may obtain a few more degrees before she ends her schooling because she plans to live 105 years, she said.

She added that this is the place to spend those years. "I just love A&M—every brick."

Eleven awards given by Former Students

Nine Texas A&M University professors and two staff members received \$1,000 checks and commemorative watches Thursday from the Association of Former Students for distinguished achievements.

Former Students President Mayo J. Thompson presented the coveted "Distinguished Achievement Awards" at the university's annual spring faculty and staff meeting which included remarks by President Jack K. Williams, Jeff Dunn, student body president and John C. Calhoun Jr., vice-president for academic affairs.

Teaching awards were presented to Drs. James G. Anderson, associate professor of physiology and pharmacology; Richard Costa, professor of English; Charles L. Hall, associate professor of veterinary medicine and surgery; Harry P. Kroiter,

professor of English, and Stan H. Lowy, professor of aerospace engineering.

Cited for their research activities were Drs. Herbert A. Roller, professor of biology; William Sackett, professor of oceanography, and James B. Smathers, professor of nuclear engineering.

Robert L. Melcher, administrative officer in the Division of Student Services, and Clifford H. Ransdell, College of Engineering counselor and professor of engineering design graphics, received the awards for individual student relationships.

The extension/continuing education award was presented to Garlyn O. Hoffman, range brush and weed control specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

15 retiring professors honored at reception

Three-hundred and seventy-eight years of service to Texas A&M University were represented last night by 15 retiring A&M professors.

Dr. John C. Calhoun, vice-president for academic affairs, directed the presentation of awards to the educators.

The banquet and awards honored the following professors.

Jesse B. Payne has been assistant professor and subject matter specialist with the Agricultural Education Department for 10 years.

Fred D. Maurer has been distinguished professor of pathology and associate dean for research, College of Veterinary Medicine for 10 years and coordinator of the Institute of Tropical Veterinary Medicine for two years at Texas A&M.

Paul R. Hensarling has been professor of educational administration at Texas A&M for 18 years. He served as department head of educational psychology for seven years. Hensarling has been with the University for 18 years.

Leslie V. Hawkins has been professor of industrial education at Texas A&M for 22 years.

Harold B. Sorensen has been with A&M for 25 years and is presently an associate professor of agricultural economics.

Sidney S. Cox has been professor of English at Texas A&M for 28 years.

Jesse B. Coon has been associate professor and professor of Physics at A&M for more than 30 years.

Glen D. Hallmark has been a professor

at A&M for 22 years and was head of the Electrical Engineering Department for eight years.

Phillip B. Goode has been professor of management at Texas A&M for 30 years.

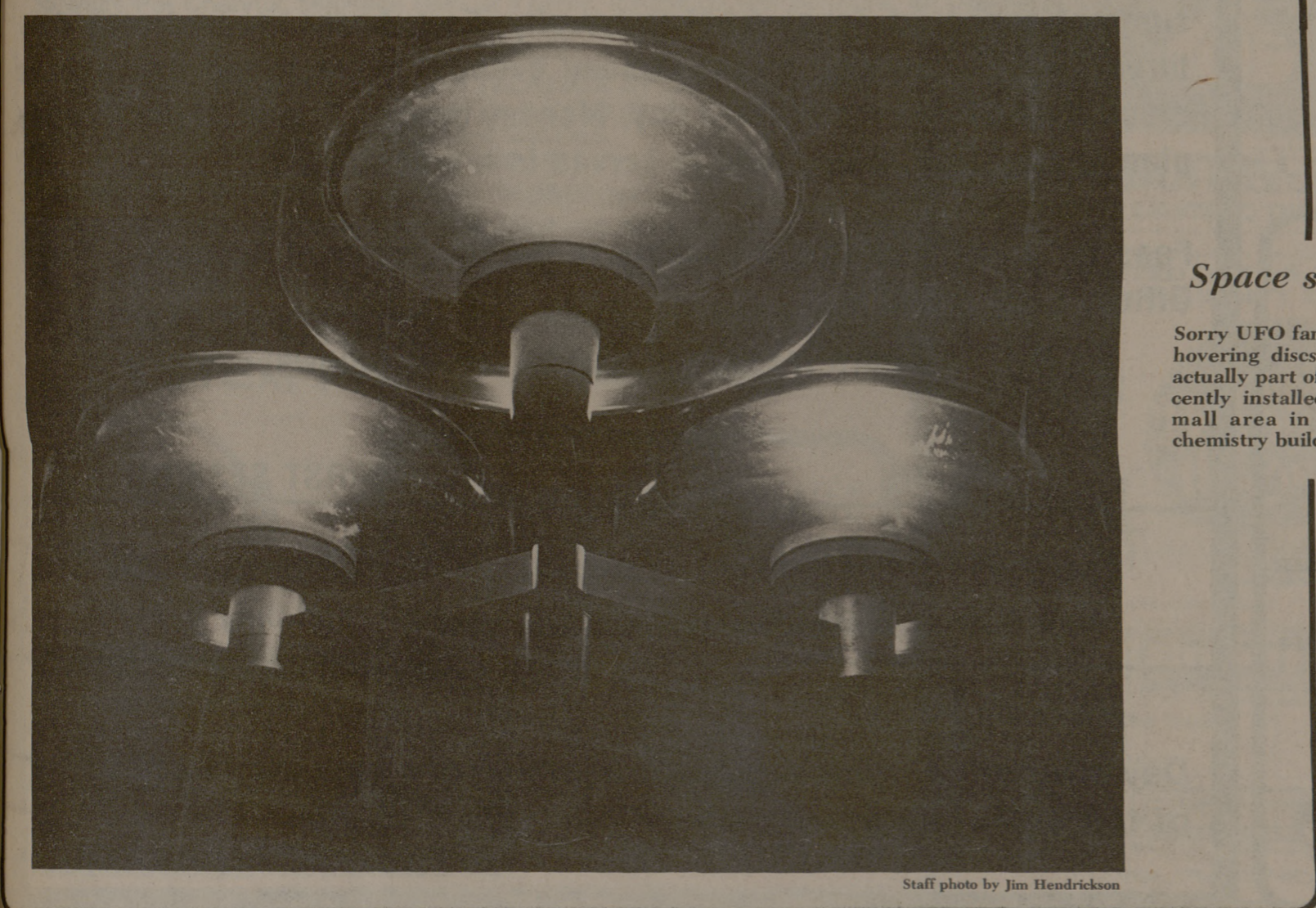
Howard L. Gravett has advanced through the ranks from assistant professor to professor of Biology at Texas A&M for 30 years.

James H. Caddess has been an associate professor for 23 years and received the Former Students Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching in 1966. Caddess has been with A&M for 33 years.

Raymond Reiser was state chemist for the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station from 1940 to 1947. From 1947 to 1965 he became associate professor, then professor, Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition. From 1965 to the present, Reiser has been a distinguished professor, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics.

Clifford H. Ransdell taught engineering graphics for 13 years, served as dean of the basic division when it was at Bryan Field from 1947-1950 and as associate dean when the basic division was moved to the main campus in 1950. He has been assistant dean of engineering for 16 years and has been with Texas A&M for 39 years.

Included in this year's retirement program but unable to attend the Thursday evening program were Profs. Robert R. Rhodes, Forestry and Range Science, with 30 years of service, and Prof. Clara E. Huggett, English, five years. Prof. Rhodes retired Jan. 31 and Prof. Huggett Jan. 15.



Space station?

Sorry UFO fans, these three hovering discs of lights are actually part of the lights recently installed in the new mall area in front of the chemistry building.

Staff photo by Jim Hendrickson