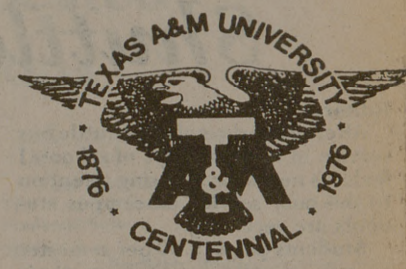


# The Battalion



## The weather

Fair to partly cloudy, high in low 90s. Low tonight in low 70s. Increasing cloudiness tomorrow, high in the upper 80s. Precipitation probability 10 per cent today, 30 per cent tomorrow.

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## Ward system suit challenged

# Intervention suit filed

By JAMIE AITKEN  
Battalion City Editor

Three Texas A&M students met last night with a Bryan lawyer to discuss defense tactics for tomorrow's ward system litigation in 85th District Court.

The students, Jerri Ward, Mary Ellen Martin and Robert Harvey, conferred with Kent Caperton to organize their attempt to have the ward system upheld in College Station.

The ward system was presented as a charter amendment on an April 3, 1976 ballot. The amendment was passed by a narrow margin, and dispute soon arose over the clarity of the proposal on the ballot. Many voters claimed that the ballot was ambiguous and that it had caused them to vote incorrectly.

A petition was filed asking for action to be taken to invalidate the election. A Sept. 8 court date was set for a ruling on the matter.

The students said they first met with Caperton last Friday to form some defense for the ward system.

The students, members of A&M's Student Government, said their involvement in the ward system case is not on behalf of or funded by SG, Harvey noted. However, student senators voted in the spring to endorse the ward system.

In a meeting with presiding Judge W.C. Davis, the students said they were told to enter a plea of intervention for the right to present their support for the ward system in court.

Under the counsel of Caperton, a two-page letter was submitted Friday at the county courthouse. The letter was prefaced with the statement: "It is our opinion that the charter revision election of the City of College Station held on April 3, 1976, relating to the ward system, is valid and should be upheld by the court."

The letter went on to contest the plaintiff's contentions that the ballot was ambiguous, with poor instructions, and in violation of Section 149 of the city charter. Section 149 states that only one substantive change may be included on the ballot. An

article included on the ballot affecting the choosing of a mayor is held by the plaintiff as a substantive change in addition to the ward proposal.

The plaintiff in the case is listed as D.A. Anderson. Anderson headed the list of names on the petition contesting the ward system.

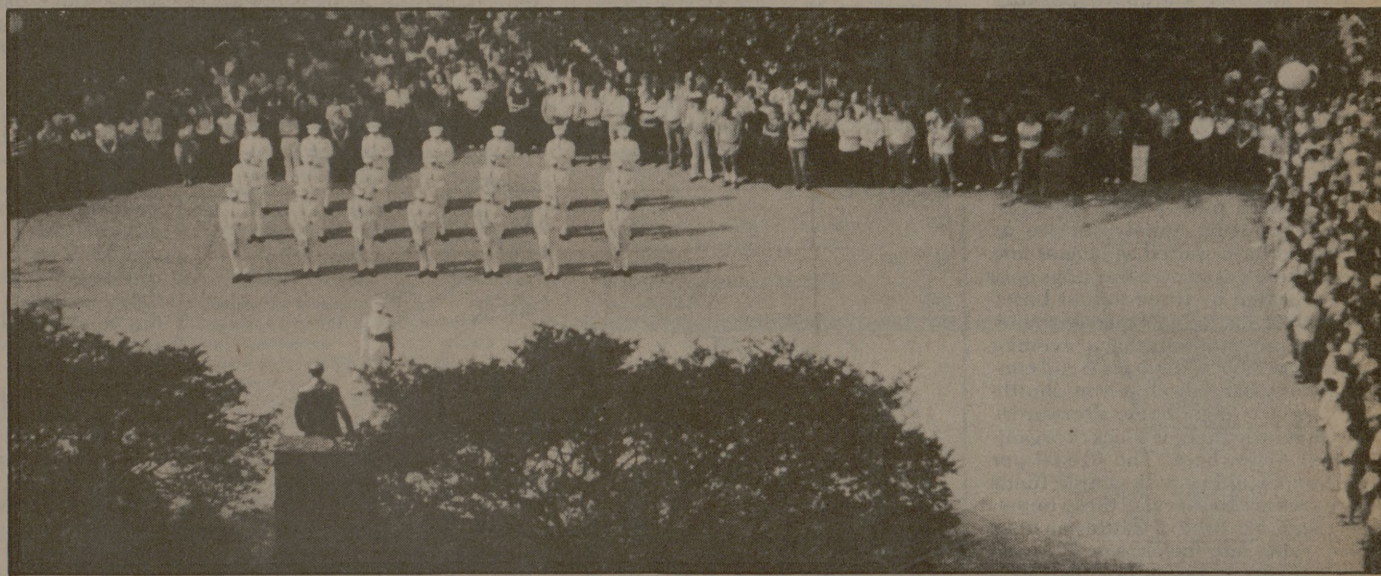
The students said they began their defense proceedings when they foresaw little or no defense for the ward system.

"Our involvement is very informal," Harvey said.

The three did not yet know whether they would present their own defense or if Caperton would act in their behalf.

They indicated that the matter may be settled quickly in their favor, reporting that the burden of proof lay with Anderson.

"I think their (the petitioners') grounds are completely frivolous," Martin remarked. She said the results of the June 29 straw vote were irrelevant to the case, and that she hoped to see those results disallowed in the proceedings.



Battalion photo by Jim Woods

## Not forgotten

Eight deceased Aggies were honored last night during the traditional Aggie ceremony of Silver Taps. The large crowd gathered under a full moon to pay tribute to their comrades. The Aggies recognized last night were: James G. Derrock, 61; Dr.

J. A. Strickland, 44; Dr. Bryant F. Cobb, III, 40; John Mallory Davis, 32; Daniel E. Copp, 22; Susan M. Zenner, 20; Glen A. Burns, 20; Catherine B. Wagner, 19. This picture was possible with the bright moon and a time exposure.

## Kissinger ready for talks

# Two persons die in Johannesburg fire

Associated Press

Victims of Zulu attacks in the Soweto township set fire to an eight-block hostel for Zulu migrant workers early today, and two charred bodies were found in the ruins.

Eyewitnesses said blacks from areas in the big ghetto south of Johannesburg, South Africa, who had been targets of Zulu attacks two weeks ago, attacked the Mzimhlope hostel with gasoline bombs. It housed 11,000 Zulu bachelors.

The report raised fears that the Zulus, members of South Africa's largest and most warlike tribe, would retaliate and set off another round of violence and bloodletting in Soweto, where the country's black upheaval began in mid-June.

At least 306 persons—all but three of them black—have been killed since then.

Two weeks ago, a clash between Zulu workers and black militants trying to enforce an antigovernment work boycott touched off a series of attacks and counterattacks between the Zulus and permanent Soweto residents in which 35 persons were killed.

More violence also was reported in Cape Town, on the southwest coast, where police killed four "coloreds," as persons of mixed race are called South Africa, during 12 hours of rioting Tuesday.

Today, Cape Town police fired tear gas to disperse colored youths who set up roadblocks in one district and were stoning cars. Other police were stoned as they broke up a crowd looting a shop.

The police fought rioting coloreds through Cape Town on Tuesday. They said that in addition to the four dead, scores of persons, including some whites, were wounded or cut by flying glass. They said they arrested a large number of people, including two whites.

The rioting stemmed from a demonstration by colored students against a government order closing all colored high schools on the Cape peninsula until Monday.

Police said quiet was restored in downtown Cape Town late Tuesday night, but they reported widespread arson in the nearby township of Ravensmead and nearby areas.

Kissinger not optimistic

Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger appears ready to embark on a round of African shuttle diplomacy that he considers to have no better than a 50 per cent chance of heading off race war in southern Africa.

Kissinger is to report to President Ford today on his weekend talks in Switzerland with South African Prime Minister John Vorster and is expected to discuss plans for a trip to Africa.

Kissinger yesterday said that Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere has invited him to come to Africa as soon as possible. Kissinger said he would hold off a final decision on going until he receives a report from his top aide on African affairs, William E. Schaufele Jr.

A spokesman for Nyerere insisted that Kissinger had invited himself.

# U.S. prisoners in Mexican jails begin protest, hunger strike

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — American prisoners in two Mexico City jails began a hunger strike Tuesday as federal prison authorities predicted proposed legislation would result in the release of hundreds of Americans held on drug-related charges.

The prison authorities said only 52 men, including two Canadians, participated in the strike, which was called to protest alleged delays by the United States in responding to a Mexican prisoner exchange proposal.

Sergio Garcia Ramirez, deputy secretary of government and head of the federal prisons, said 13 prisoners quit eating at Reclusorio Norte and 39 inmates joined the strike at Reclusorio Oriente.

The two new prisons opened about a month ago after the government closed its ancient Lecumberri Prison.

Garcia Ramirez said none of the prisoners in the women's jail or the other men's facility in Mexico City had joined the strike.

President Luis Echeverria sent to Congress this week two reform measures which would affect the plight of the Americans jailed in Mexico.

One would amend the Constitution to allow the president to sign prisoner exchange agreements with foreign govern-

ments. The other would restore the right of parole to drug offenders.

Legislation passed in 1971 prohibited parole for inmates held on drug-related charges.

There are an estimated 572 Americans in Mexican prisons, most of them accused of importing cocaine or possessing marijuana.

Garcia Ramirez said hundreds of Americans would be eligible when congress passed the legislation. The measure is virtually assured of congressional approval.

The federal prison director said 30 social workers were sent to the prisons Monday to begin interviewing prisoners and reviewing their files to determine who would be eligible for parole.

## Echeverria rips up poster at fair

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — President Luis Echeverria of Mexico said he tore up a protest poster waved in front of him by a Mexican-American activist because he found it "insulting."

In a brief flash of anger last night, the Mexican president, here to open the Mexican Trade Fair, grabbed a poster calling for "freedom for political prisoners," tore it in half and threw it back at the protestor.

The incident lasted only a few seconds, witnesses said. U.S. Secret Service agents, who helped guard Echeverria, refused to comment. Mexican secret service men

rushed the president into the hotel as a handful of other demonstrators continued to wave posters calling for the release of "political prisoners."

The Mexican government maintains that there are no political prisoners in the country. Witnesses said Echeverria hurled the poster back at the protestor and called him "little fascist."

Later Echeverria told Charles O. Kilpatrick, publisher of the San Antonio Express and News, "Yes, I tore up the sign because I found the lettering on it very insulting."

There were no arrests following the incident.

## Ford stays home

# Demonstrators dog Carter

Associated Press

While President Ford campaigns for the security of the White House, Jimmy Carter is out pressing the flesh. It seems that meeting the public has more hazards.

Campaigning through the Northeast on Tuesday, Carter said he would have fired FBI director Clarence Kelley and speculated that cheating by Richard Nixon and other Washington big shots encourages crime.

But for a group of angry demonstrators in Pennsylvania the big issue was abortion and they were noisy about it.

Carter met the demonstrators as he arrived Tuesday night in Scranton, Pa. They lined the route Carter took from the airport to his hotel, waving antiabortion signs and shouting at the candidate.

And they mingled with Carter supporters at the hotel as the candidate arrived, making a throng estimated by police at 1,000 persons, with one side shouting "We want Carter" and the other chanting "Life, life, life."

Meanwhile, President Ford remained in Washington, making some unusual appearances designed to make use of the White House as a backdrop for what his campaigners hope will show him to be working instead of campaigning.

Carter's running mate, Sen. Walter Mondale, said Ford was "practicing being president" and is "failing to take his campaign to the people." Carter, faced with the crowd outside his hotel Tuesday night, first tried to greet supporters and shake hands. But in the crush of bodies and the din of the conflicting shouts, Secret Service agents circled the candidate and hustled him into the hotel.

Carter was not struck or injured and did not appear shaken by the incident. Inside the hotel, he smiled and waved to people in the lobby. Demonstrators outside the hotel said they opposed Carter's stand on abortion. Carter opposes a constitutional amendment outlawing abortion, although he says he personally is against abortion.

He is running on a party platform that says it recognizes religious and ethical concerns over abortion, but opposes a constitutional amendment.

Earlier the former Georgia governor said if he were president he would have fired

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley, who received gifts from subordinates and \$355 worth of government-supplied window decor.

But asked if he will fire Kelley if elected president, Carter replied, "I will cross that bridge if I come to it."

"When people throughout the country, particularly young people, see Richard Nixon cheating, lying, leaving the highest office in disgrace... when you see the head of the FBI break a little law and stay there, it gives everybody the sense that crime must be okay."

He said people ask themselves, "If big shots in Washington can get away with it, why can't I?"

Carter has said he does not plan to make Ford's pardon of Nixon an issue and he did not mention it.

## Briscoe to aid Carter

In Texas, Gov. Dolph Briscoe last night reiterated that he will continue to campaign actively on behalf of Carter.

Briscoe, in San Antonio to attend a private state dinner for Mexican President Luis Echeverria, told newsmen afterward that he would emphasize Carter's record as a former governor of Georgia.

"He supported fiscal responsibility while governor of Georgia, and this will be the chief issue of this campaign," Briscoe said.

Former Texas Gov. John Connally, a Democrat who turned Republican, recently warned that Briscoe should back off on his support of Carter.

But Briscoe last night said that he is convinced that Carter "can bring fiscal responsibility to the federal government, and this is something that is badly needed."

He said Carter had introduced "zero-based" budgeting in Georgia and the concept has been adopted in Texas.

"Nobody can carry a state for somebody else. He (Carter) makes the difference. The candidate makes a difference. He proved that in the Texas primary," Briscoe said.

Briscoe went to the Democratic national convention in July as an uncommitted delegate but actively supported Carter.

The recent Republican administration

# Japan says Soviet pilot given asylum

By PHIL BROWN

Associated Press

TOKYO — The Soviet air force pilot who landed his MIG25 fighter jet in northern Japan will leave for the United States in a day or two unless some unexpected development delays his departure, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

The flier, Lt. Viktor I. Belenko, 29, told police after his surprise landing Monday that he wanted asylum in the United States.

The U.S. Embassy declined to comment, but White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen told reporters in Washington "If the pilot requests asylum in the United States, I'm sure he will be welcomed here."

Washington sources reported that U.S. experts were making a thorough examination of Belenko's plane, but the Japanese spokesman denied this.

"As far as I know, no foreigners have touched the aircraft," he said.

The Soviet Embassy said it lodged "more than five protests" because the Japanese government would not let it see Belenko.

The Soviet Union demanded that both the pilot and the plane be returned. The Japanese Foreign Ministry said the Soviet Embassy's request to interview Belenko had been denied, and the government took the "humanitarian view" that his request for asylum should be honored.



Battalion photo by Kathleen Hess

## Sweet sleep

With only 8 days of classes under their belt, many Aggies have already lost many hours of rest. For some, the pace will slow. For others, activity will seem to decrease as their bodies become accustomed to a rigorous schedule. And alas, there are those who never give their body enough time to make the first adjustment before another load is taxed. . . Let's hope the pace is slowing for this coed.

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