

The Battalion

Weather

Partly cloudy skies today. Warm and with the high today 88 and the low 67. There's a 20 per cent chance of rain today, tonight and tomorrow. Conditions expected to remain the same through tomorrow.

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Briscoe: Session only on condition

United Press International

AUSTIN — Gov. Dolph Briscoe says he will call legislators into a special session if House and Senate leaders assure that a compromise school finance plan is passed.

Briscoe said yesterday Speaker Bill Clayton and Lt. Gov. William Hobby already agreed to activate the House and Senate Education Committees to begin work immediately on a compromise proposal. A special session became necessary only when the legislature did not pass increasing state aid to public schools \$400 million during the closing hours of the regular session.

No special session is called school finance would continue under the present law. That would result in a loss of revenue for almost half the state's school districts.

No legislative priority exceeds the obligation to improve public education while taxing taxpayers fair and equitable treatment," Briscoe said. "Gov. Hobby and Speaker Clayton have agreed to activate respective education committees to prepare a bill."

Assuming completion of this assignment and upon concurrence of the leadership of the House and Senate, I shall call a special session of the 65th Legislature," Briscoe said. The special session probably will convene in July.

School districts begin a new fiscal year Sept. 1, and a two-thirds majority of each House would have to agree to legislation during the summer to implement it by September.

Asked if he would demand the two-thirds majority agreement before convening a session, Briscoe replied, "Yes. I don't see that as a major hurdle."

"I do not want to call a special session unless we can assure the issues can be resolved and we can meet the goals," Briscoe said. The six-week break before the special session would give lawmakers an opportunity to return to their homes and discuss the school plan with their constituents. He said he hoped those talks would help the lawmakers complete their work quickly if they return.

"It is our intention that we expedite the legislative process and lessen the expense associated with the full 30-day session," he said.

Briscoe also said he would ask the session to consider reducing the state sales tax on utility bills. A tax reduction measure was killed by legislators on the final day of the 140-day regular session.

Although Briscoe praised the legislature's work in the regular session, he said the tax reduction and school finance bills were top priority issues which failed to pass.

Carter calls in 200 consumer advocates

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Refreshed from a day vacation on an island off Georgia, President Carter has called in some 200 consumer advocates to spur interest in his proposal for a consumer protection agency.

The meeting today, described as a briefing for representatives of almost every state, was designed to dispel rumors on Capitol Hill that Carter is not really interested in the agency.

Carter and members of his Cabinet are scheduled to address the group. The bill to create an agency passed both House and Senate last year but died under Ford's veto threat. The new version was approved by a House committee weeks ago by a single vote.

On his way back from St. Simons Island, Carter spent about five hours in his home in Plains, visiting his family and enjoying old friends and neighbors.

Wearing gray slacks and a blue knit shirt, Carter strolled down Main Street, mobbed by tourists and the press. He stopped at each store, kissed and greeted the salesladies and greeted acquaintances.

Carter appeared to be proving the point that he remains very much a part of Plains. "I'm still a farmer at heart," he told reporters. "I miss the farming season."

Sitting on the platform of the old depot with his legs dangling, Carter chatted with reporters about his nostalgia for his town. He spoke of "the community, the attitudes, the closeness and the sharing of a common life . . ."

He said at home when I'm here," he said. "The President ignored the transformation of Plains into a tourist mecca, more on remembering how it was."

He said to him it had not changed, and he raised the townspeople for their "very capable" handling of the "thousands of thousands of tourists."

"I'm very proud," he said. "The President also expressed his devotion to Plains' First Baptist Church whose congregation has split over the issue of racial integration and a controversial minis-

ter. When he returns to Plains "it will still be my church."

Carter acknowledged the church has gone through "difficult times . . . and some animosity," and blamed himself for part of the disruption because of the publicity surrounding the presidency.

But he told reporters "I believe God will take care of it."

Carter's face lightened when he saw his 78-year-old mother "Miss Lillian" and his brother Billy waiting to greet him as he landed by helicopter at the Plains airport.

The President brought along his daughter Amy, 9, who made a list of the friends she wanted to see, and then he began a day of near perpetual motion.

Two students die in one-car crash near Bastrop

Services were held in Rockne Catholic Church near Bastrop Monday for two Texas A&M University students and a companion killed in a one-car crash near there early Sunday.

The dead were identified as Howard Allen Fiebrich, 19, of Bastrop; Ronald Joseph Goertz, 19, of Cedar Creek; and Caryl Ann Seidel, 18, of Red Rock.

Fiebrich and Goertz were both freshmen at Texas A&M last year. Seidel attended Southwest Texas State University.

Fiebrich, a finance major, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fiebrich Jr. of Bastrop.

Goertz was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Goertz of Cedar Creek. The agricultural engineering major was a Distinguished Student both his semesters at A&M. His sister, Cheryl Louise Goertz, is a food technology major at Texas A&M.

Fiebrich and Goertz were the third and fourth Texas A&M students that have died since the spring semester adjourned May 13.

Silver Taps, traditional Texas A&M memorial service, will be conducted at the start of the fall semester.

bodies that didn't exist. Stine said 19 victims remained unidentified. FBI agents armed with fingerprinting ink and dental charts were still at work.

Sixty-three persons remained hospitalized yesterday, in from fair to critical condition.

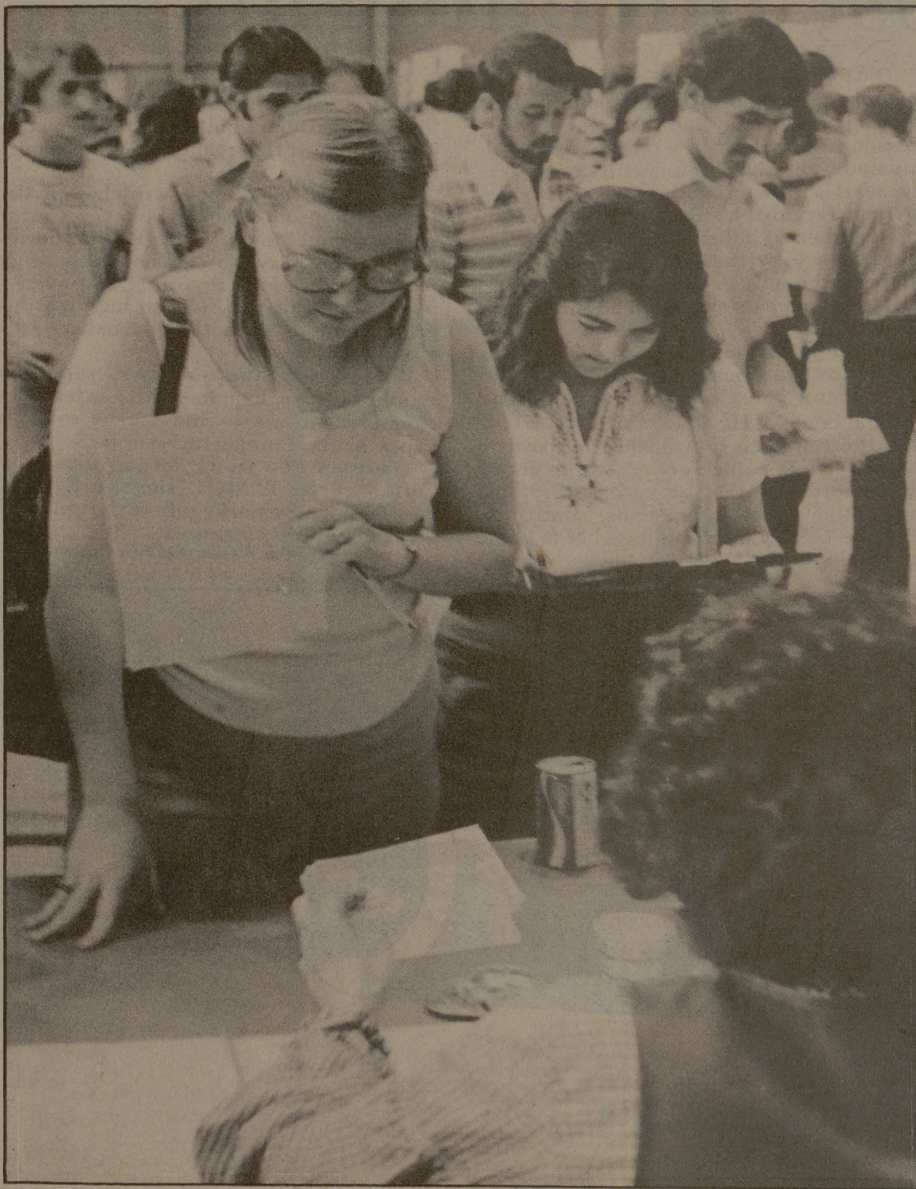
Southworth refused to theorize what touched off the fire, saying it would only add to the "confusion." He said he wants to hear all the eyewitness reports.

The eyewitnesses, however, have done some public speculation.

Walter Bailey, an 18-year-old busboy who became a hero by giving the first warning of the fire on stage in the nightclub's Cabaret Room, said the blaze may have started in tablecloths containing the contents of dumped ashtrays.

He said it was a common practice to clear tables by hauling away tablecloths of dirty dishes and ashtray dumpings.

Bailey's account was discounted, however, by Oran Hall of Elyria, Ohio, who rented the Zebra Room Saturday evening for his son's wedding reception.



How Long?

Students registering yesterday for the first summer session were faced with long lines. One line wrapped completely around Deware field house and Wofford Cain swimming pool.

Battalion Photo by Jim Crawley

Dutch government delays answer to gunmen's calls

United Press International

ASSEN, The Netherlands — The government has delayed answering a call for mediation from 60th Moluccan gunmen holding 60 hostages at a train and school, saying it wants a fuller explanation of the request.

At the same time, four young men calling themselves members of a group called "Free Moluccan Youth," said at a news conference yesterday they feared "a violent end" if the government concerned itself only with releasing the hostages "instead of looking into the demands of our boys."

The terrorists want the Dutch government to press for independence for their island homeland from Indonesia. They also have demanded the release of 21 jailed South Moluccans and a flight to an unnamed destination.

The gunmen — holding 56 persons aboard a hijacked train and four teachers at the school where they kidnapped more than 100 children last week — requested mediators yesterday.

The Dutch cabinet, which has been in constant emergency session since the crisis began 10 days ago, offered no immediate response.

A government spokesman explained, "The delay is due to our wish for elaboration about exactly what the terrorists mean by mediation and who might qualify as a mediator."

While seeking an end to the crisis, the government has maintained security around the train, halted in open country behind a barrier of steel and barbed wire.

A few miles to the north, marines practiced boarding a similar train from ar-

mored flat-top wagons, officials said. The government has said an attack is possible if the gunmen kill or injure any of their hostages.

The request for mediation was the second backdown on demands by the gunmen in as many days.

The estimated 50 gunmen began their twin sieges vowing to start killing hostages if the government attempted to send in mediators. They also had demanded to take the hostages on a flight out of the country but abandoned that demand.

While authorities discussed whether to send in a mediator, negotiations with the gunmen revolved around other details, including the government's insistence that the Moluccans release 25-year-old Nelle Ellenbrook, who is pregnant and in need of medical attention.

A spokesman said the gunmen refused, saying the woman was in good health.

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Lawmakers blame failures on greed

United Press International

AUSTIN — Texas lawmakers yesterday blamed a lack of leadership and early passage of the \$528 million highway bill for what they considered a plodding and uneventful 65th Legislature.

Greed was a controlling factor from the beginning of the session, some lawmakers said, due mainly to forecasts of a \$3 billion state budget surplus. House and Senate leaders urged legislators not to push pet projects. "This was so they could retain as much as possible of the \$3 billion. The session ended with about \$1 billion of the surplus left."

Other legislators complained the session was gloomy and dull, due to an increased workload and poor leadership. They said this was the reason the school finance legislation failed.

"The thing that went wrong was we established priorities at the beginning of the session — special interest legislation that incumbered our money from the beginning," Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Houston, said. "The highways blew our whole appropriations process to hell."

In a personal privilege speech during the waning hours of the session Monday, Leland chastised his colleagues for their priorities — putting "concrete" ahead of poverty and the elderly.

"I'm not satisfied with the leadership this session. I'm disillusioned with the whole system," Leland said.

Sen. Max Sherman, D-Amarillo, disagreed, saying he was pleased with the session.

"I don't think you've had the big, explosive issues that make it more dramatic," Sherman said. "But it's kind of been a plodding kind of session."

Rep. Paul Moreno, D-El Paso, agreed

with Sherman, but blamed most of the plodding on Speaker Bill Clayton.

"As the session progressed things bogged down with the speaker's bills and toward the end the speaker lost control of his troops and everything would end up with chaos and no bills," Moreno said.

Sen. Ron Clower, D-Garland, blamed his colleagues, rather than legislative leaders, for any failures the 65th Legislature suffered.

"This session was marked with greed," Clower said. "It was all eaten up with everybody trying to divide up the money. Everything was consumed with greed."

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, who served four sessions in the House, said his freshman year in the Senate was the worst yet.

"There has been no leadership, no morale, no esprit d'corps," Truan said.

Although the legislature approved only a couple of energy proposals and rejected his energy package, Rep. John Wilson, D-LaGrange, said he was not disappointed by the session.

"This is a democratic form of government. The way it functions here is it reacts and not acts," Wilson said. "There wasn't much action by the public to require reaction."

Rep. Bill Prensall, D-Bryan, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said lawmakers realistically approved fewer bills, but made certain they were substantial.

"I think the leadership has been outstanding," Prensall said. "You can play burnout with all these issues to the very end, but there is not a serious reason why the funding of highways should be in that category."

Rhodesians capture Mozambican town

United Press International

SALISBURY, Rhodesia — A defiant Rhodesia says its troops have captured a Mozambican town and will remain deep inside Mozambique until they "eliminate" black nationalist guerrillas headquartered there.

Lt. Gen. Peter Walls, the Rhodesian military commander, said yesterday his troops have destroyed four guerrilla bases and penetrated as far as 47 miles inside Mozambique where they captured the town of Mapai.

The invasion, which began before dawn Sunday, has disrupted "the chain of command and logistical support" of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, the guerrilla group led by Robert Mugabe, he said.

"The troops will be withdrawn as soon as they complete their task of eliminating ZANLA terrorists in the area in question and destroying and removing arms and ammunition, equipment dumps and caches," Walls said.

He said Rhodesian troops have killed 32 guerrillas but lost none of their own men. "Would I have liked to kill hundreds? Yeah. Sure," Walls said.

The invasion drew strong protests from U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who in New York demanded the im-

mediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Rhodesian troops.

In London, British Foreign Secretary David Owen said the invasion could spark a "serious military conflict" and threaten Anglo-American plans for a peaceful transition to black rule in Rhodesia. The State Department in Washington said it deplored the invasion.

Mugabe, in Mozambique, charged the Rhodesian invasion was made with British and American complicity and called it "the last kicks of a dying horse."

Walls said the four guerrilla bases destroyed so far included "a major administrative center" three miles inside Mozambique, a main supply and logistics headquarters outside Mapai and two welcoming centers for recruits at Jorge do Limpopo and Madulo Pan.

Walls said no Mozambican civilians have been killed "as far as I know" and that there "probably" were no civilians in Mapai when the town fell to the Rhodesians.

Despite the Rhodesians' presence, gunners in Mozambique Monday night lobbed rockets and mortars on the southeastern Rhodesian border post at Vila Salazar, causing no casualties but drawing return fire, a communiqué said.

Kentucky officials searching for cause of restaurant fire

United Press International

SOUTHGATE, KY. — Authorities say there are scores of rumors about what started the Beverly Hills Supper Club fire Saturday night, and they aren't discounting any possibilities.

But they said yesterday it's going to be next week before they have a good idea of the nation's deadliest fire in 33 years.

Both Gov. Julian Carroll and state Fire Marshal Warren Southworth have agreed to report on the fire which killed 158 persons will be ready by the end of next week. They said it would pinpoint the cause and lay blame — if there is any.

Southworth said "about 100 rumors" have been compiled by his office and officials aren't eliminating "any single factor" in their investigation.

Among the rumors are reports of a defective basement electrical generator and a tablecloth loaded with cigarette butts.

The death toll was revised downward from 160 yesterday by Campbell County coroner Dr. Fred Stine. Stine discovered that two numbers had been assigned to

"I'm not saying it couldn't have been started by cigarettes," he said. "But I think it's improbable."

Hall said his family and guests went into the room about 5:15 p.m. after the marriage of his son Larry in the club's garden chapel.

"We started to sweat and thought the air conditioning was off," he said. "It was so hot we asked a waitress to check to see if there was something wrong with the air conditioning but she never came back."

Hall said there was no fire in the room when his group left about 8:30 p.m. He said he doubted cigarettes burning on a tablecloth could have touched off the kind of blaze first reported at about 9 p.m.

"There were only three or four of us in the Zebra Room who smoked and there couldn't have been more than four or five butts in an ashtray," he said.

Stine has said officials are suspicious of an oil-fueled electrical generator located beneath the Zebra Room. He said the generator could have shot flames down a hallway, causing the rapid-spreading blaze.



Boogie Fever

Two Texas A&M University students "get down" with the music at the Grove Dance last night. GypSee Eyes was the band for the dance which marked the opening of the outdoor theater for the

summer. "Hang 'Em High, with Clint Eastwood will be the Grove's first film, scheduled for tonight at 8:45 p.m.

Battalion Photo by Steve Goble