

The Battalion

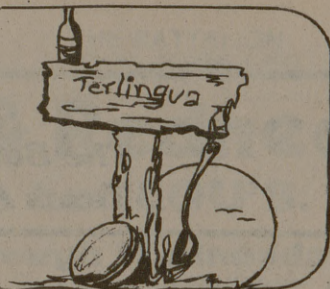
Vol. 71 No. 28
10 Pages

Monday, October 10, 1977
College Station, Texas

News Dept. 845-2611
Business Dept. 845-2611

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Battalion photo by John White

Forgotten windmill

No longer pumping water, a forgotten windmill stands as a bit of roadside scenery for drivers taking Hwy. 30 east to Huntsville last Sunday.

Military chiefs battle over treaty with Panama

United Press International
WASHINGTON — As one member proposed an on-the-spot study by the entire Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Panama, two high-ranking retired military officers Monday were prepared to support the controversial canal treaties.

Adm. Elmo Zumwalt, chief of naval operations from 1970 to 1974, and Gen. Maxwell Taylor, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff between 1962 and 1964, were set to testify the treaties would not endanger U.S. national security.

But they'll be crossing swords with Adm. Thomas Moorer, another former chairman of the joint chiefs, who opposes the treaties and also was scheduled to testify.

Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, a ranking member of the Senate panel, proposed the full Foreign Relations Committee travel to Panama to clear up some concerns about the treaties.

Church proposed the trip during a television inter-

view (CBS-TV's Face the Nation) in which he was asked if it would be a good idea for the chief Panamanian negotiator to testify about differing interpretations of some treaty provisions.

"I'd much prefer to see the whole Foreign Relations Committee, after we have completed our initial hearings and during the recess, to go to Panama," replied Church, who is acting chairman of the 16-member Senate panel when Chairman John Sparkman, D-Ala., is absent.

That would give the lawmakers a "first-hand view" of Canal Zone defenses, he said, and they could get "some feel of the political climate in Panama and also the attitude of other countries in the Caribbean — Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica and possibly some of the island governments in the Caribbean itself."

Church also said the administration must act strongly to shift public opinion about the treaties if it hopes to win Senate ratification.

"I think the treaties are in deep trouble now," he said.

Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., a determined opponent of the treaties, has questioned the sincerity of some active duty military officers like Gen. George Brown, current chairman of the joint chiefs, in their support of the treaties.

Thurmond and other opponents hinted the active officers are not free to speak their minds because of administration pressure.

Last week, Thurmond introduced a letter against the treaties from four retired naval officers — Moorer and three former chiefs of naval operations, Arleigh Burke, Robert Carney and George Anderson.

Since studying the treaties, however, Carney has modified his position and told Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., he could support the accords if amended as Dole suggests.

Committee sources report Gen. Matthew Ridgway, former U.S. commander in Korea, and Gen. William Westmoreland, former U.S. commander in Vietnam, also favor the treaties.

Meeting held in Kansas City

Officials testify for tower

A six-member delegation with representation by all major local entities presented testimony Friday at Kansas City, Mo., in support of continued operation of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) control tower at Easterwood Airport.

The group included Texas A&M University's vice president for business affairs, Howard Vestal; Ed Davis, director of management services for the university; Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce President Armand Frank Brazos County Commissioner Bill Cooley; Bryan Mayor Pro Tem Henry Seale, and College Station City Councilman Lane Stephenson.

They appeared before a four-man panel which conducted a public hearing for response to the FAA's recent announcement that the government is considering the discontinuance of control tower operations at 73 airports throughout the nation, including Easterwood.

The local delegation emphasized safety considerations and cited the recent and

projected growth of Bryan-College Station and the surrounding area in its request that the tower continue to be operated by the FAA.

Resolutions supporting continued operations at Easterwood were formally presented to the FAA on behalf of the City of Bryan, City of College Station and the Metropolitan Planning Organization of Bryan-College Station.

In requesting that Easterwood be excluded from any closure plans, Vestal said the local airport appears to be an "unfortunate victim of timing."

He pointed out the facility exceeded last year the volume of operations that the FAA predicted for fiscal year 1978 — 104,000 take-offs and landings. He also said the FAA's projected loss — even with the low figures — is only \$8,000 over the next 15 years.

Vestal added that nearly 10,000 operations were conducted at Easterwood last month, a rate rapidly approaching the 114,000 annual figure which the FAA con-

tends is the break-even point for its cost-benefit consideration.

Frank indicated industrial development would be "seriously curtailed" if the tower were closed.

"Without this tower, the case for Bryan-College Station would be seriously hampered in serving and attracting industry," the chamber president told the FAA representatives.

Commissioner Cooley, citing projections for continued population increases, predicted it would just be a matter of time until the FAA would be forced to reopen the tower if it should go through and its current plan.

"Any proposal to close the airport control tower at this time should be considered in the light of the possible necessity

of reopening the tower in a short period of time," he observed.

He also said that closing of the tower would jeopardize operation of the community's commercial air service, "thereby denying to a large segment of our population a highly desirable means of transportation."

In addition to underscoring the growth trends for the area, Seale questioned the FAA philosophy of spending more than \$300,000 last year to upgrade the tower and then immediately initiate action which could lead to its closing.

"The compelling and overriding reason for continuing to operate the tower is safety," Stephenson said.

He estimated that nearly a quarter of a million people used Easterwood last year.

Soviet space capsule fails; returns to earth

United Press International
MOSCOW — Unexpected troubles with the Soyuz 25 space capsule Monday forced the two cosmonauts to cut short their mission and prepare to return to earth, Moscow Radio announced.

Moscow Radio said the Soyuz 25 capsule had approached to within 120 yards of the Salyut 6 orbiting space laboratory early Monday when unspecified troubles developed and made a linkup impossible.

The radio broadcast said the two cosmonauts aboard Soyuz 25 have begun preparations for a return to earth.

Soyuz 25 — with rookie cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Valery Ryumen aboard — was launched early Sunday on a mission to link up with Salyut 6, which was put into orbit Sept. 29.

It was the first Soviet manned spaceflight since last February. Western

observers said it had been intended as a space spectacular to mark the 20th anniversary of the launching Oct. 4 of the world's first satellite — Sputnik 1 — and the Nov. 7 celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

The announcement that Soyuz 25 was being aborted was made at the end of the noon (5 a.m. EDT) Moscow Radio news after a 24-hour silence on the mission's progress.

The Soyuz 23 mission returned safely to earth after a flight of only 48 hours from launch to touchdown.

The Soyuz 25 cosmonauts are a pair of rookies, who never have flown a space mission before.

The latest mission lifted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Soviet Kazakhstan before dawn Sunday from the same pad used for the launch of Sputnik 1 into orbit 20 years ago.

Aggie warfare: ammo-flour; injured-none; winner-???

By LIZ NEULIN
Battalion Staff

It wasn't exactly a scene out of "A Bridge Too Far." But the "soldiers" who fought a battle in a training field near Easterwood Airport Saturday night didn't seem to mind the makeshift war.

The battles are part of a semester-long competition among platoons in the Texas State Band.

"We went out there to have fun and get to know people in the other platoons," said Ron Boehm, the senior band member

who served as commander of the action. "Most everybody got killed at least once."

Killing was easy. Each warrior was given three bags filled with flour. This ammunition was then dumped on one's opponent. Boehm noted that about 200 pounds of flour were used.

Fighting occurred on two lanes of woods separated by a small lake. Boehm said that because of the dense undergrowth, it was "real easy to get lost." But no one was reported missing or injured.

The goal of the offense was to place a

white helmet on the "objective," a metal pole or group of trees lighted by flashlights. Each platoon had two chances to defend their territory and to attack their enemies' and action ended about 11 p.m.

The senior band members who served as umpires had the task of deciding which soldiers had been killed. Only "live" players could advance toward the objective.

Umpires had to mingle with the group to avoid giving away the group's position, but they also had to stand up to count the

fatalities. Hence, the platoons' two umpires were easy targets.

"The umpires got creamed with flour," said Boehm. "One umpire stood up and got hit with about six bombs before he could say anything."

Band leaders are still trying to figure out who won the conflict, and Boehm said they hope to "weed through all the stuff" and declare winners based on participation, numbers "killed" and tides of the various battles.



Robert Fields blackens Ron Greenwade's face to decrease reflection of the evening sun during war games. Steve Smith (left) and Doug Coats watch preparation for the battle at Easterwood Training Area.
Battalion photo by Curt Schwake



Curt Stumberg helps camouflage Tom Rhinelander with grass.
Battalion photo by Curt Schwake



Courtney Suttle is dead. Actually, that's just the position band members killed in war games were required to take, to avoid getting hit again and to enable them to keep up with their platoon fighting in the woods Saturday night.
Battalion photo by Bernard Gorr