

The Battalion

71 No. 63
Pages

Wednesday, November 30, 1977
College Station, Texas

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

Inside Today:

Counseling Center helps relieve stress, p. 11.
Freedom of the press in local high schools, p. 8.
Ags prepare for Cougars, p. 16.



Longshoremen's strike ends; work starts today

United Press International
NEW YORK — The leadership of the International Longshoremen's Association Tuesday evening ordered an end to the two-month East and Gulf Coast dockworkers strike against containerized shipping.

Thomas W. Gleason, president of the 50,000 member union, said longshoremen were voting overwhelmingly to ratify new three-year contracts. The settlement contains job security provisions and wage and fringe benefit increases.

"Balloting in this union is over except in Philadelphia and New Orleans," Gleason said. "With the total vote taken so far, and as far as this international union is con-

cerned — and myself — I'm ordering the men back to work. The strike is over."

Dockworkers in the Northeast had approved the tentative settlements by a vote of 10,537 to 3,583 as of Tuesday evening and trends in other Atlantic and Gulf coast cities were running "three to four to one in favor of the agreements," Gleason said.

Gleason said complete vote totals would not be known until Wednesday, but said the striking dockworkers in all of the affected cities were ordered back on the job Tuesday night.

In New York, the busiest East Coast port, where 24 container or automated ships from nearly all over the world were

berthed and waiting to be unloaded, extra dockworkers lined up at 6 p.m. EST and started unloading container ships at 7 p.m., management officials said.

A dissident local in Philadelphia and the six New Orleans locals planned to vote on the settlement Wednesday. One of the New Orleans locals was trying to overcome a provision it felt could possibly violate a federal court order concerning the upgrading of blacks.

Union sources said the job security provision — a key point in the strike — called for the carriers to set up a fund to protect union members from "shortfalls" in the number of manhours available for

work or decreases in tonnage handled, depending on how the individual ports tally workloads.

The major issue in the strike was protection for the Guaranteed Annual Income for dockworkers, who have lost jobs because of containerization and the automation of cargo handling.

The settlements called for an 80-cent an hour wage increase in each of the three years of the master contracts.

The U.S. Department of Commerce Monday blamed the strike, which sharply reduced exports, for the nation's record \$3.1 billion foreign trade deficit in the month of October.

Three injured seriously

Plane crashes into mountain southwest of Aspen

United Press International
ASPEN, Colo. — Six persons were hospitalized today, three of them in serious condition, as the result of a light plane crash in which an Oklahoma insurance company executive was killed.

The six, all from Oklahoma City, were plucked off snow-covered Haystack Mountain southwest of Aspen before dark Tuesday and were flown to Sardy Field for transfer via ambulance to Aspen Valley Hospital.

The C.B. Cameron family and three other persons were returning to Oklahoma City from a Thanksgiving ski vacation in the Colorado Rockies when the plane crashed Sunday. Cameron, president of American Fidelity Insurance Co., was killed when the plane went down on the

mountain near Capital Creek, southwest of Aspen.

Cameron's wife, Jo Carol, the couple's son and the pilot, Terry DePlois, were hospitalized in serious condition. Mrs. Cameron was suffering from exposure, shock and possible paralysis of the legs; Bill Cameron Jr., 18, had a head injury and a broken leg, and DePlois had a back injury.

A hospital spokesman said the three seriously injured persons were placed aboard a Rocky Mountain Airways plane late Tuesday and were flown to St. Joseph's Hospital in Denver where more specialized medical treatment is available.

Karen Mills, 15, Charles Randolph, 17, and Linda Cameron, 15, were in fair condition. Miss Mills had a back injury and frostbite, Randolph was being treated for

frostbite, and the nature of Miss Cameron's injuries is undetermined, although she was being treated for frostbite.

Randolph, son of retired Maj. Gen. James Mills, left to find help Monday morning and was spotted Tuesday afternoon by a search helicopter. On the way back up the mountain, rescuers found Miss Mills and carried her down on a board because of her back injury.

A CAP spokesman said the plane apparently lost one of its landing gear Sunday when it hit a fence at the end of the runway during takeoff from Sardy Field. DePlois, apparently unaware the plane was damaged, radioed he would proceed to Pueblo before going on to Oklahoma City.

Nine aircraft, including two Air Force helicopters from New Mexico and Wyoming and two private choppers, took part in

Tuesday's search. Snow began to fall during the afternoon and officials feared it would cut short the search as it had earlier.

Meanwhile, severe winds and high turbulence hampered the search for another light plane missing with a Rifle couple aboard. A CAP spokesman said searchers flew only four hours Tuesday morning looking for a plane carrying Robert O'Dell and his wife.

O'Dell's plane has been missing since Friday on a flight from the Jefferson County Airport at Broomfield to Rifle. The CAP official said searchers checked out a lead that a low-flying plane was seen in the vicinity of Pagosa Pass about the time O'Dell's plane would have been in the area.

Microwave ovens may cause burns

By SARAH E. WHITE

Hunger pains gnawing and snarling in his stomach, the man stops into a nearby convenience store. He buys a cold roast beef sandwich and is told by the clerk that he can warm his lunch in the store's microwave oven. The man gingerly opens the door, lying the sandwich on the rack inside. He closes the door, pushes a button and waits seconds until a timer goes off. He opens the door, reaches in, and...

In most instances the man will take the sandwich out of the oven, and walk out of the store sinking his teeth into a semi-juicy lunch.

However, sometimes he may suffer burns from exposure to microwave radiation emitted from malfunctioning ovens.

As many as 40 cases of alleged microwave radiation burns have been reported in the United States since 1970, said Robert Eccleston, special assistant for liaison in the Bureau of Radiological Health in the Food and Drug Administration.

Eccleston said one case of microwave radiation burns has been reported in Texas this year. He declined to reveal the victim's name or many details of the incident.

The man who was burned reported "redness of hand and a warm sensation," Eccleston said. He added that these are typical symptoms of the reported burns.

The oven, manufactured by Welbitt corporation was checked, he said, and found to be in compliance with federal regulations.

The New York Times reported earlier this year that two waitresses and one man in Kentucky were burned by microwave radiation from an oven. The waitresses complained of swelling and discoloration of the area burned, and pain their attorney said.

The man, David Powell, who was severely burned by a microwave oven in a Burger King restaurant in Louisville, filed suit in 1976 asking for \$100,000 in damages in Jefferson Circuit Court.

Powell said he is now regaining the use of his hand and is "just getting some feeling back into it," the Times reported.

Spokesmen for the company manufacturing the ovens said the ovens were in compliance with regulations.

Federal regulations set the allowed radiation leakage of the ovens while on the assembly line in the factory at one milliwatt per square centimeter and at five milliwatts per square centimeter after the oven is in commercial use.

The federal regulations, however, do not apply to inspection or repair of microwave ovens. These rules are only applicable to manufacturers of the microwave ovens.

Until Nov. 18, the state of Texas had never required regular inspection of microwave ovens in commercial use.

Two or three years ago, Texas A&M University Radiological Safety Officer R.D. Neff surveyed 37 microwave ovens in use on campus. He found one oven malfunctioning in the kitchen of Rudder Tower, he said, and put it out of service immediately. He said that it did not malfunc-

tion all of the time. Neff jerked the door open very quickly and the oven did not shut off. No one was injured.

He has been inspecting campus microwave ovens for three to four years, he said, and inspects them every six months.

The regulations which went into effect on Nov. 18 were adopted because microwave ovens have been found operating with the doors open, said Joe Thiel, supervisor of field and technical services in the Texas Department of Health Resources.

He said that historically in commercial microwave ovens, 10 percent of the ovens manufactured before Oct. 6, 1977 leaked excessively. Thiel said that excess leaking is leaking of radiation of more than five milliwatts per square centimeter.

The regulations indicated that all microwave ovens in commercial use must be inspected every six months.

No provisions are made in the regulations about inspection of microwaves in private use.

The new rules regulate repair of the ovens for the first time.

Microwave ovens used commercially must be repaired by persons who will certify that the repaired microwave oven is in compliance with regulations.

Also, a complete Repair Certification Label must appear upon all repaired microwave ovens. This label identifies the repairman, is signed by an authorized agent and is dated.

Neff said the main problem with service of the ovens is that repairmen have many

times put the doors back on the ovens incorrectly. This, he said, could cause radiation to leak through the door because it is not sealed, thus exposing those nearby to the radiation.

Persons repairing microwave ovens do not have to be licensed or trained.

Interlocking systems are required in microwave ovens since the rules were adopted. These systems work so that when the door is open and the light is on inside the oven, radiation is not emitted.

Operators could bypass the system in order to use the oven with the door open.

Neff said that this cannot happen anymore because the new regulation requires that one access to the system be inaccessible to the operator.

It is up to the manufacturers to comply with the regulations, however, and some are reportedly lax.

Neff said that a good test for radiation leakage is simply reaching into the oven to remove a cooked item after operation. If the inside of the oven feels hot to your hand, the oven is leaking, he said.

Microwave ovens could malfunction indefinitely until the operator happens to check inside for heat, and in the meantime, persons are exposed to the radiation.

Microwave ovens until recently could interfere with any cardiac pacemaker within about 20 feet of the oven. During that time signs were posted in the windows of convenience stores. These indicated a microwave oven was in operation inside.

Of 11 convenience stores in the Bryan-

College Station area, all had microwave ovens but none displayed the signs in the windows.

Neff said the signs are no longer required because the microwaves will not interfere with new cardiac pacemakers, under good conditions.

Pacemakers have been improved so that the new model is shielded from the harmful radiation which could rapidly increase the person's heart rate, he said.

If a person wearing an old pacemaker, which is not shielded from the radiation, goes near an operating microwave oven, he can be injured. Most of the old pacemakers have been replaced; no one can definitely say all have.

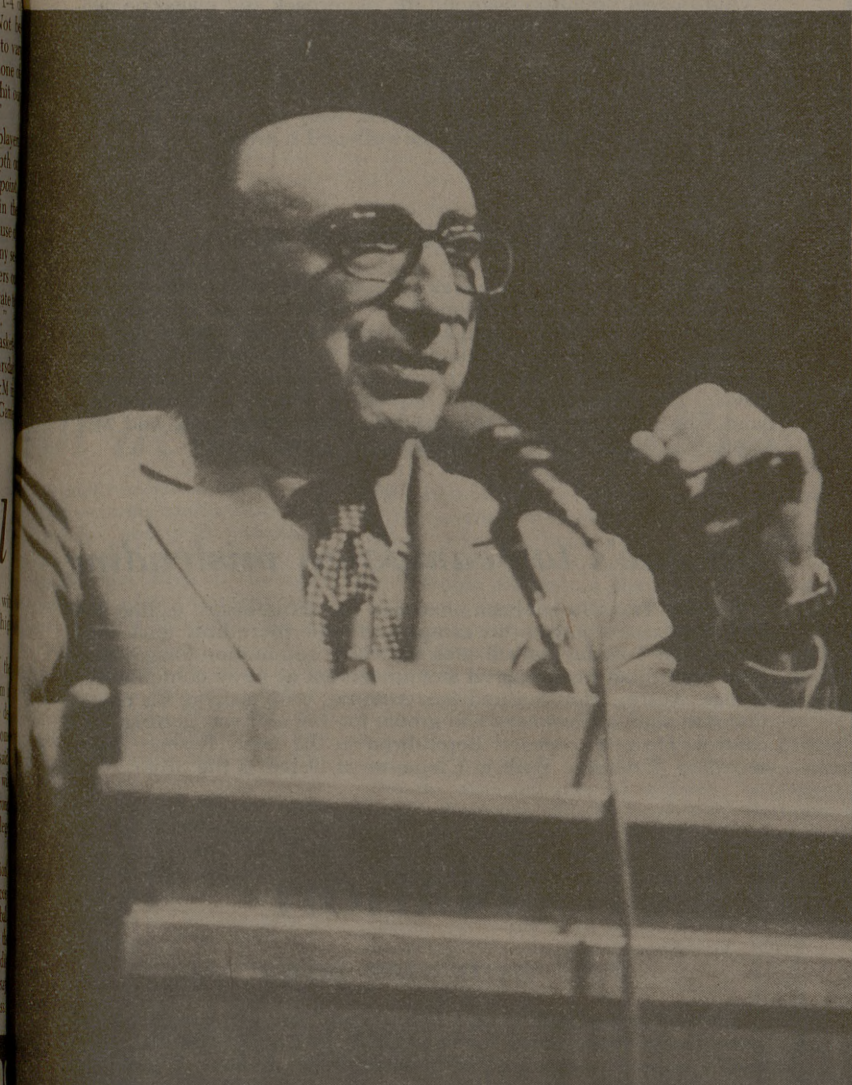
Neff added that if a microwave oven is leaking radiation, a person wearing a new pacemaker can be harmed if he gets close enough to read the small tag placed on some of the ovens.

Local convenience store managers seem ignorant or indifferent to the potential hazard.

The assistant manager of a store located on College Drive said he had not noticed the absence of the sign in his store window. He added that he did not know why it is not up anymore.

The manager of a store on Nagle street said she could not recall ever having the sign in the window during the two years she has been manager of the store.

Radiological Safety Officer Neff said that the chances of serious injury as in the cardiac pacemakers is very rare, but still could occur.



Dr. Michael DeBakey

Death rate declining, Dr. DeBakey says

By JEANNE GRAHAM
The death rate in the United States is declining due to the advancement of heart disease research and treatment.

Dr. Michael DeBakey, world famous for heart transplants and open heart surgery, spoke Tuesday night in Rudder Tower on cardiovascular disease and his techniques of treatment.

DeBakey's talk was sponsored by Great Texas.

One of the most important research developments was learning that 85 percent of heart disease is arterial," DeBakey said. "This means the disease rests in the arteries, not the heart."

Approximately 650,000 persons die each year of coronary heart disease, specifically from arteriosclerosis and arteriosclerosis, DeBakey explained. The major part of his research and treatment is this area.

When a patient has arteriosclerosis, the wall of the artery weakens, causing aneurisms. In arteriosclerosis, the artery wall thickens, causing stoppage of blood.

"We don't know why some people develop one, and some the other," DeBakey said. Arteriosclerosis, with blood stoppage that commonly leads to strokes, is the much more common of the two, he said.

It wasn't until the development of artery transplants in 1951 that aneurisms and blood clots could be treated.

"The first artificial artery consisted of two sheets of dacron sewn together. When I first did this myself in animal research," DeBakey said, "I bought the dacron at Foley's department store and sewed it together on my wife's sewing machine. It proved to be effective."

DeBakey showed a series of slides on the different techniques of transplanting artificial arteries after the removal of aneurisms and of using artificial arteries to bypass artery blocks.

"The artificial bypass artery was first used in 1964," DeBakey said. "As many bypasses can be used as are needed."

In addition, a bypass pump can be attached to the major chamber of the heart to support it temporarily. And further research is being done on pumps that could be more effective than heart transplants.

In a short film clip, DeBakey showed an actual artery transplant operation, explaining the techniques used.

"We have no precise knowledge of the cause of arterio and arteriosclerosis," DeBakey said. High cholesterol, smoking and high blood pressure, though detrimental to one's health, are not known causes, he added.

"We still have a long way to go in research. There is much knowledge to be obtained, particularly in prevention."

"And not until a cause for heart disease is established can a preventive medicine be developed."

When a patient has arteriosclerosis, the wall of the artery weakens, causing aneurisms. In arteriosclerosis, the artery wall thickens, causing stoppage of blood.

"We don't know why some people develop one, and some the other," DeBakey said. Arteriosclerosis, with blood stoppage that commonly leads to strokes, is the much more common of the two, he said.

It wasn't until the development of artery transplants in 1951 that aneurisms and blood clots could be treated.

'Strangler' kills college student

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — The "Los Angeles Strangler" may be two stranglers, working together to rape and kill young women.

The number of slayings being investigated as the possible work of the "strangler" rose to 12 Tuesday with the discovery of the body of Lauren Raye Wagner, 18, a petite, red-haired business college student.

Witnesses told police she was dragged from her car and carried away the previous night by two men in another auto.

She was the fifth killing added to the strangler list in 10 days.

Detectives on a multidirectional strangler Task Force are not sure the same killer, or killers, committed all the slayings, but have said there are enough similarities to form the task force and investigate them jointly.

"This case bears a number of similarities with the others and will be part of the task force investigation," a police spokesman said. "We have a whole series of homicides which seem to be somewhat related."

The victims, all female, were mostly attractive women in their late teens or early 20s. They ranged up to age 28, but included a 7-year-old girl and two schoolmates, 12 and 14, who disappeared together.

All were found nude. Most had been sexually molested.

Most of the bodies were found within a

five-mile area around Glendale in the northeastern Los Angeles region, usually in bushes beside streets and freeway ramps or in sprawling Griffith Park.

All were strangled within the past six weeks. Police said they were not revealing the method of strangulation because it may provide a key to identifying the killer.

J. G. "Joe" Wagner, Miss Wagner's father, said she left the house Monday night to see a boyfriend.

She apparently was returning home about 10 p.m., neighbors told police, when a large black car forced her auto to the curb only two doors from her house.

"Two large men" jumped out, dragged her from her auto and sped away, the witnesses told police.

Her nude body was found shortly after dawn, sprawled face up on a narrow street on Mount Washington, which is within the five-mile radius where seven other bodies have been found. It was found two miles from where the bodies of the two schoolgirls, 12 and 14, were found, and three miles from where the 11th body was found.

Police are looking for a man seen sitting in the car of one of the victims before she disappeared. A composite drawing pictured him as a Latin or swarthy skinned Anglo with a mustache, acne scars, receding hairline, a mole on his left cheek, about 27, 6-foot-2 and weighing about 160 pounds.



Sandy Carkin, a senior psychology major, removes her shrimp dinner from a microwave oven in the

Commons cafeteria.

Battalion photo by Jim Crawley