

# The Battalion

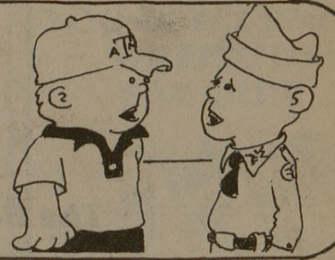
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## Carter detours to mend peace

**United Press International**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia—President Carter today in a crucial detour of his tour to try to patch up differences with Egyptian Anwar Sadat on the Palestinian issue.  
Carter flew to Aswan, Egypt from talks in Saudi Arabia, Egypt's backer and bankroller in the Middle East, in which the president brought King Khaled closer to the position of a Palestinian homeland and to Jordan.  
The president, taking time out on his tour to Paris and the fifth scheduled stop on his world tour, left Saudi Arabia early to spend more time with Sadat.  
Egyptian officials said Sadat will urge Carter to recognize the right of Palestinians to self-determination, thus opening the door for the possible establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank of Jordan and Gaza Strip.  
The Palestinian issue is the main stumbling block to a Middle East peace settlement. The difference is whether the Palestinians should have simple self-autonomy, as Israel has proposed, or full self-determination, as Egypt has insisted.  
At the Christmas day summit between Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Ismailia, Egypt, Israel offered self-autonomy for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Sadat, however, insisted on self-determination for the Palestinians in an independent state in the same

occupied areas.  
In the past, Carter has called for a Palestinian homeland as part of a Middle East settlement. However, on the eve of his departure, Carter said he supported the Israel proposals and said publicly he did not agree to creation of an independent Palestinian state.  
Sadat said Carter's remarks "surprised...embarrassed...disappointed" him.  
Carter's stop in Aswan was aimed at healing the rift with Sadat and reporting on his talks in Tehran, Iran with Jordan's King Hussein and with the Saudis.  
The Egyptians hope they can persuade Carter to put pressure on the Israelis to make more concessions on the issue.  
"The United States can bridge the gap between the various viewpoints," Foreign Minister Ibrahim Kamel said. "Egypt wants the United States to play a positive role, particularly in regard to acknowledgment of the right of Palestinians to self-determination."  
The visit to Riyadh, Carter's fourth stop on a seven-nation trip that ends Friday, began on the hopeful report that the Saudis may be shifting their views on the Palestinian question.  
"It would appear that they are now moving to our approach to the Palestinian issue," a U.S. official traveling with Carter, said - a major switch, since the moderate Saudis have strongly backed a separate homeland for Palestinian refugees.

## Armed miners invade Tennessee

**United Press International**  
Some 600 striking United Mine Workers armed with axes, hunting knives and guns, invaded eastern Tennessee today, vowing to block post-holiday reopening of production at non-union soft mines. Others burned equipment in Indiana, and two strikers were hit by a car in Pennsylvania picket line.  
Miners entering Tennessee from neighboring states traveled in a caravan of about 200 cars, heavily outnumbering area law enforcement officers. Two UMW strikers were run down in Pennsylvania when a state superintendent tried to drive his car through a picket line blocking a mine entrance.  
The two pickets were treated for minor injuries and a warrant was issued for the arrest of the superintendent.  
In Washington, negotiations to settle the 10-week strike by 188,000 UMW miners named recessed with no date set for resumption of talks. Each side blamed the other for the collapse of negotiations.  
Anderson County, Tenn., Sheriff Den-

nis Trotter said the out-of-state pickets moved in convoys around the New River and Windrock areas of eastern Tennessee.  
Most mines in eastern Tennessee either are non-union or have miners affiliated with the Southern Labor Union. They have been shut down for about three weeks by roving pickets who moved into the area before the holidays.  
In Indiana, a caravan of about 75 cars swooped down Tuesday on two non-union mines in the southern part of the state. Windows were broken and a bulldozer set afire at the Heritage Hills mine near Holland, Ind., and three pieces of equipment were set ablaze at another mine near Santa Claus, Ind.  
Somerset County, Pa., Sheriff Donald May said a warrant was issued for mine superintendent Ronald Corl following the picket line incident at a Lunar Mining Co. mine in Quemahoning Township. May said one of his deputies also was hit by the superintendent's car but did not require treatment.



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

### Giving it his all

Freshman quarterback Mike Mosley's 180 yards on Dec. 31 did little to help the Aggies attain a victory in the Bluebonnet Bowl. The Trojans of the University of Southern California outscored the Aggies 47-28. See related story, page 5.

## Drought continues despite rain, snow

**United Press International**  
SAN FRANCISCO—It's raining. It's snowing. So the great California drought is over, Right?  
Wrong.  
Despite a rash of December storms and predictions of more early in the new year,

drought officials say that, at best, they are just the beginning of the end.  
To the 5 million Northern Californians still under water rationing, Bill Clark of the State Drought Information Center said Tuesday:  
"It will be at least three years before we can say we have turned the drought around."  
That means the drought, already in its third year, will make more permanent new life styles imposed on residents, such as:  
Shorter showers, less flushing of toilets and decreased use of dishwashers, which are big water consumers that use nearly a whole day's allotment for some persons on rationing.

An irony of the drought is that residents, who have cooperated remarkably in the rationing, are paying more for being good citizens. By using less water, they cut down incomes of water companies, which complete a vicious circle by raising water rates to the good Samaritan consumers. Water bills of \$100 for households are not uncommon.  
The key word to the drought is "groundwater." It's the water that seeps into underground storage from rainfall and runoff from the Sierra snowpack. And it accounts for 40 percent of the water supply.  
The other 60 percent comes from reservoirs, which have filled up to nearly half of normal but can't signal the end of the drought even when full.  
"We're taking more water out of our underground resources than is going in," said Richard Polson of the Fresno Farm Bureau in the San Joaquin Valley, the heart of the nation's fruit and vegetable production.  
"We're about 1 1/2-million-acre-feet short of the normal underground table. It's going to take several years of normal or excessive rain to build it back up."  
An acre foot is one acre of water a foot deep.  
He added that shoppers across the nation can expect continued higher prices because of farm losses estimated at \$700 million as a result of the drought.  
As the producers of 25 percent of America's food, California farmers use about 85 percent of the state's water.  
January and February - the top rainfall months of the year - look promising, says the National Weather Service. And those months are the immediate key.  
"But we can't actually count on luck until spring when the snowpack melts and runs into storage and we know how much we've got," said Clark.  
In cold figures, what California needs is about 130 percent of normal rainfall this season followed by two years of normal precipitation, he said.



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

### Gigged

USC runningback Charles White gives Texas A&M defensive back Mike Williams the thumbs-down on the way to helping the Trojans to a 47-28 victory in

the Bluebonnet Bowl Saturday. See related story, page 5.

## Russia blames China for war

**United Press International**  
HONG KONG — The Soviet Union is blaming China for provoking the border war between Vietnam and Cambodia which has killed thousands on both sides.  
A Radio Moscow report monitored in Hong Kong Tuesday said, "The worsening relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Kampuchea, Cambodia has obviously been provoked by Peking."  
It was the first time the Soviets openly have blamed their Communist rival by name, although Moscow previously has hinted that Chinese advisers were helping Cambodia.  
Vietnam has received most of its war material support from Moscow; Cambodia leans toward Peking.  
Reports from Cambodia and Vietnam indicate division-size operations involving thousands of troops, armor, artillery and air power are involved in the fighting in Cambodia's Svay Reng province, known as the Parrot's Beak to U.S. soldiers who fought there during the Vietnam war.  
Refugees from the area have said the fighting has caused more than 2,500 casualties on both sides.  
The Cambodians, historic enemies of the Vietnamese, have accused Hanoi of trying to take over Cambodia and force it to join a Vietnam-dominated "Indochinese Federation."  
The Soviet commentary said, "The Chinese authorities cannot reconcile themselves with the existence of United Socialist Vietnam..."  
Cambodian President Khieu Samphan has charged "some foreign nationals have acted as advisers, company commanders and experts in artillery units and armored units" in internal fighting by anti-government guerrillas.  
Samphan did not identify the foreigners, but U.S. officials said it was clear he was referring to Soviet military advisers. The New China News Agency said from Peking the Soviets are helping the Vietnamese.  
U.S. officials say they have no independent confirmation of the Soviet and Chinese involvement in the actual fighting, but there is ample evidence China is supporting Cambodia and the Soviet Union has lined up with Vietnam.  
The Cambodian government has also said the immediate reason for the fighting is Vietnam's food shortage, which has caused the Hanoi government to "rob and pillage" thousands of acres of rice.

Cambodia has also been involved in border clashes with Thailand and Laos, though reports from Bangkok Tuesday said that border was quiet.

## Privileges unfair, say prisoners

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—Prisoners contend Christmas furloughs given former Nixon administration officials show that the Federal Bureau of Prisons provides unfair privileges to the "mighty and rich."  
The prisoners were angered by a medical furlough granted former Attorney General John Mitchell and Christmas furloughs given H.R. Haldeman and John Erlichman, former President Richard Nixon's two top aides.  
In a letter to Attorney General Griffin Bell, a group of inmates at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners said the furloughs went against the policy of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.  
The group, the Committee for Prisoners Equal Rights, said they do not oppose the furloughs but simply want to point out that the privilege is not afforded other prisoners.  
"Obviously, this is unequal justice and unequal treatment, and this is the reason for a great deal of bitterness here. The men fully realize that in this country there are two kinds of justice, one for the ordinary and rich and another for the ordinary and poor," the letter said.  
Among those signing the letter was Nick Civella, reputed crime boss of Kansas City, who is serving 36 months for interstate and foreign travel and transportation in aid of racketeering.

## Local farmers rally, more support sought

Farmers are expected to rally in Bryan today to seek public support for the continuing nationwide farm strike.  
The gathering at Townshire Shopping Center is in protest of low returns for crop production.  
More than 100 tractors and other vehicles have been anticipated for the local demonstration.

Meanwhile, the leader of the South Texas farm strike effort Tuesday said a concerted effort is beginning this week to recruit cotton and grain growers in the Coastal Bend and Rio Grande Valley for the American Agriculture movement.

George Kowalik, a local implement dealer who led a large caravan of tractors to the federal building in San Antonio last month, said meetings were scheduled this week at Karnes City, Robstown, Odem, Sinton, Taft and Mathis to encourage the farmers to join the movement.

The first Lower Rio Grande Valley meeting will be next Monday at Mercedes, Kowalik said, and American Agriculture members from Kansas, Idaho, Nebraska and other states might come to South Texas next week to help with the organizing.

Kowalik added the strikers were inviting Gov. Dolph Briscoe and Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-Texas, to a barbecue Saturday in Pearsall, and that two South Texans would be among a group of 10 Texans attending a meeting with Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland Saturday in Omaha, Neb.

Kowalik said vegetable farmers in the Winter Garden Area (Crystal City-Carrizo Springs) and in the Lower Valley so far had ignored the strike effort, which primarily has been centered in Frio County, 60 miles southwest of San Antonio, where farmers have threatened to park their tractors until they get 100 percent parity for their crops.

Kowalik quoted from a Dec. 15 Texas A&M University report on projected costs of production of crops in Texas this year.

He said the report projected it would cost \$4.47 to produce a hundred pounds of milo, \$3.82 a bushel for wheat, \$3.01 a bushel for corn, 44.5 cents a pound for cotton and 19 cents a pound for peanuts. Kowalik said market prices for those crops last year were \$3.20 for milo, \$2.25 for wheat, \$2 for corn, 38 to 44 cents for West Texas cotton and 21 cents a pound for peanuts.  
"There's no way anybody could break even," he said.

## Attorney claims new evidence in quest for appeal

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON—The attorney for the family of the late Dr. John Hill says new evidence gathered by police and the district attorney's office is enough to warrant a new trial on a wrongful death suit against millionaire oilman Ash Robinson.

Robinson was exonerated by a jury in state District Judge Arthur Leshler's court Oct. 21 in a \$7.6 million wrongful death suit filed by Hill's survivors. The suit claimed Robinson had killed to avenge the mysterious death of Joan Robinson Hill, the doctor's first wife and the oilman's only child.

Leshler said Tuesday attorneys in the case had to submit written arguments before he would decide whether to grant a new trial.

Hill was shot to death Sept. 24, 1972, in the foyer of his colonial mansion. At the time, he was awaiting trial on murder-by-neglect charges in the 1969 death of Joan Robinson Hill from a mysterious infection.

Ray Bass, attorney for the Hill family, Tuesday told Leshler a North Carolina convict was present in 1972 when a murder contract on Hill's life was offered.

In arguing his motion for a new trial, Bass said Houston police and the district attorney's office had obtained statements from convict William H. Martin Jr. at the peak of their murder investigation.

The record of the criminal investigation was never made part of the civil trial because the district attorney's office considered the five-year-old murder case an open investigation.

Bob Bennett, a former assistant district attorney who sought Martin's testimony in murder trials against two other principals in the Hill case, said the inmate refused to come forward voluntarily but there was some knowledge among lawyers of the interview in April 1973.

"He (Martin) said money was available to kill a doctor in Houston and the money was available from the doctor's father-in-law," Bennett said.

Only one other witness, Marcia McKittrick, who drove the getaway car at the time of the killing, has voluntarily linked Robinson to the murder conspiracy.

Bass argued there was grounds for a new trial because there was a witness who had knowledge of a crime but refused to testify.