# THE BATTALION

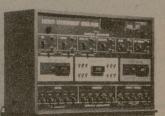
Friday, February 17, 1978 College Station, Texas

Business Dept. 845-2611

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# Conflicting facts whinder policy

Congressman Morris Udall said the American people have to unlearn some of

The Arizona representative spoke Thursday to the economy.

The Arizona representative spoke Thursday to the members and delegates of the Student Conference on National Affairs.

Udall is the chairman of the House Committee on Energy and the Environ-

The 56-year-old Democrat began his speech with some humor about Washingon, Billy Carter beer and his own try for a presidential nomination in 1976. "I've een trying to forget it," he said.

"Four years ago in February we had a crisis," said Udall in reference to the 1974 hab oil embargo. "We were all going to change." Yet Congress and the President still haven't been able to come up with an energy policy that they can agree on. According to Udall, the problem is that there are two conflicting sets of "facts" n how much oil there is in the world, and different groups believe different facts. One group, whose members include Udall and President Carter, believes that he supply of oil and gas is limited and that the remaining reserves should come nder government regulation. Under this set of facts, said Udall, the energy olicy should be one of conservation and switching to other energy sources such as

"I've seen the wind here in Texas. It could light up the Midwest for the next decade."

oal, solar, nuclear and wind power.

The opposing camp boasts such members as Sen. Russell Long, D-La., the oil companies and "Bob Hope for Texaco every night," said Udall. This group maintains that there is still an abundance of oil. Their energy policy, according to Udall, would be to drill deeper and in more places.

Udall said he was doing some research on his genealogy when he realized that nost of the major changes in the life style of man have occurred since the 1930s. Just as my generation was going into high school, there was an explosion.

The magic word was growth.

"We're coming to the end of that kind of exponential growth."

Udall said the fantastic growth of those days was based on cheap oil and gas. ecause of this, a theory developed that there must be an increase in energy usage nd production for there to be economic growth.

But, said Udall, that theory would have to pass into oblivion along with "those d dogmas that say you can't have both inflation and unemployment."

Udell classified this as "the era of high energy costs." He said oil production in the United States peaked in 1970 and has been declining ever since.

However, Udall said, the United States is the only major industrial country ing more oil now than it did four years ago, when the Organization of Petroleum porting Countries (OPEC) nations imposed the oil embargo

Udall said new laws and thought patterns need to be developed to encourage onservation and a switch to new types of energy. He said that many people never onservation and a switch to new types of energy. He said that many people never hink about recycling products like paper, tin cans and bottles. "I wish the presient would really take some leadership on this recycling issue."
"Nuclear power is foundering," said Udall. The expense of the plants and transium makes muclear power economically unsound. In fact, said Udall, nuclear

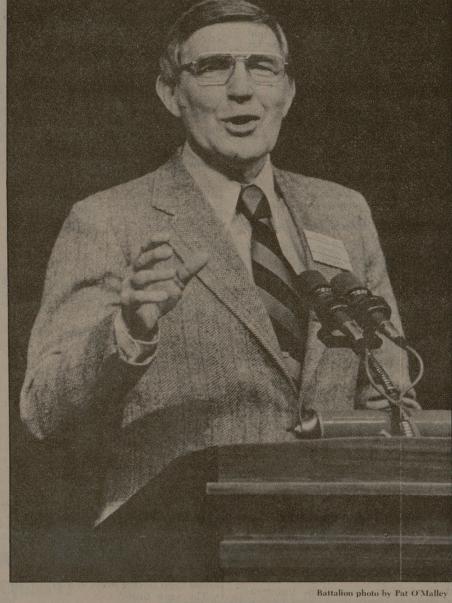
wer may be more expensive than coal.

Udall emphasized wind power. "I've seen the wind here in Texas. It could light p the Midwest for the next decade.

Udall said he would prefer for the free market to regulate oil production and prices. "I like the free market. It's the best regulator we have." However, Udall said, he thinks the free market is on the decline in this country tue to company mergers and giant corporations which limit the number of compe-

Udall said he would like to see some of these big corporations, especially the oil companies, broken up into several smaller businesses. He used the Exxon company as an example and said he would like te see that corporation broken up into our separate companies. Each would have a distinct job: producing, refining,

nsporting or marketing oil. People demand government regulation when companies get so much power, aid Udall. "It's part of the price you pay for a complicated society that gives us so



Morris Udall..."The magic word was growth"

## Krueger wants oil deregulation

Battalion Staff
Congressman Bob Krueger (D.-New Braunfels) spoke for deregulation of petroleum prices and said the United States has a large reserve of natural gas in a talk Thursday night

He reasoned that production would increase if prices were allowed to rise.

Krueger appeared with Congressman Toby Moffett (D-Conn.) at Rudder Thea-ter in a SCONA panel discussion entitled,

"The role of Congress in Energy Policy." Moffett said deregulation would not buy much more gas because the present lack of production is due to a lack of drilling

Krueger cited a study by a research committee which predicted another 1,000 years of gas reserves in the United States. He also said that Saudi Arabia burns 13 trillion cubic feet of natural gas each year, about two-thirds of what the United States uses annually.

Moffett scoffed at this prediction in a reception after the talk.

"I don't agree with a thousand years at "he said. He mentioned other studies

which gave figures of 50 to 100 years. Moffett said a \$50-60 billion "shock-wave" would hit the American economy if

deregulation were allowed.

Disagreeing with this sum, Krueger said that the entire production of American natural gas in 1975 amounted to about \$5

Krueger said the problem was that of deciding whether to allow petroleum prices to be ruled by supply and demand or to "choose a small number of wise people in Washington who know what the price should be." price should be.

Debating Krueger's reasoning, Moffett said he was "not convinced" that oil producers were in a free market because of high prices from the Arab oil cartel and a lack of competition among American com-

"There is something wrong with a system that says, 'Please conserve,'" Moffett said in criticizing present governmental programs to save fuel. He advocated rewards in the form of tax cuts for certain

## Commission approves rezoning

By FLAVIA KRONE

The College Station Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday approved the rezoning of several tracts of land bounded by Southwest Parkway, Welsh Boulevard, F.M. 2818 and Wellborn Road. The major result of the action is to lower

the zoning density in the areas involved.

Three tracts of land north of Southwest Parkway and between Wellborn Road and Welsh Boulevard were rezoned from R-6,

high density apartment and A-O, agricultural open land to R-4, R-5 and R-2 zones. An R-4 designation means a maximum of 16 units per acre may be built and that the land is classified as a low-density apartment zone. R-5 is a high-density apartment zone which can contain as many as 24 units per acre. R-2 is considered a low-density zone suitable for duplexes and

may contain up to 10 units per acre.

Another large tract bordering F.M.
2818 south of Southwest Parkway was also rezoned from high density apartments to family units and low density apartments.

Commissioner Chris Mathewson questioned dividing the tract into both apartments.

tioned dividing the tract into both apartment and single family zones.

The apartment area has only one connection to the outside world without going through the single family area," he said. 'Do we want that many apartments dependent on one road?"

Other commissioners said the city could avoid the problem by properly designing roads for the area.

The Commission's rezoning recommendations must be approved by City Council before they become final.

The Commission also voted to table consideration of a final plat for Tinsley Square, located east of Texas, south of the intersection of Texas Avenue and Harvey Road.

Tinsley said he wants the property subdivided in order to build a restaurant

Commissioner Vergil Stover said, "I have reservations about subdividing frontage on a main street like Texas Avenue." Other commissioners also expressed concern about traffic having to slow down on Texas Avenue to turn into the restaurant.

## Coal talks under pressure, tentative deadline set

**United Press International** 

The Carter administration is stepping up the pressure to end the 74-day-old nationwide miners' strike as dwindling soft coal supplies threaten Americans with more layoffs and less heat, light and elec-

Labor Secretary Ray Marshall kicked off an intensive round of talks in Washington Thursday by setting a tentative two-day deadline for settlement of the longest continuous coal strike in the nation's history.

sides Wednesday, kept up the heat by telling a dozen governors of strike-affected states the tradition of collective bargaining "would be severely damaged" by prolonging the walkout. But Carter indicated he was still reluc-

President Carter, who met with both

tant to invoke the Taft-Hartly Act for an 80-day cooling-off period. The strike by 160,000 members of the United Mine Workers began Dec. 6. With power producers warning the pub-

lic to voluntarily reduce electricity use or face mandatory cutbacks, the country scratched its head to find new ways of combating the latest wrinkle in the winter Gasoline generators and flashlights did a

brisk business, movie matinees in downtown Pitssburgh were suspended; restaurant-goers in Indianapolis dined by candlelight, and Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., suggested his state's utilities burn

Stores shortened shopping hours, colleges and universities curtailed classes, some local government employees were put on a four-day work week, offices were to be closed on Saturdays and some towns snuffed out street lights.

Tve got everything electric that they make, but I'm ready to give it all up and go back to the good old days," said Nan Gump, innkeeper of a Holiday Inn in Zanesville, Ohio.

"I mean it. I could go back to cooking over our fireplace," she said. "If our ancestors could do it, so can we.

Ohio Edison urged customers to cut back on watching television, but Norwalk resident Tim McIntyre said that would be no sacrifice. "I can't stand many of the programs anyway," he said.

Several power companies announced service cutbacks and the specter of rotating blackouts loomed if the situation worsens. Even when the strike is settled, it will take up to another two weeks most estimates - for the flow of coal to return to normal.

The layoffs of thousands of workers were announced in affected businesses across the country.

#### The Tennessee Valley Authority, with only a 25-day coal supply on hand at its 10 key plants, Thursday outlined a plan that could put as many as 100,000 people out of work by the first of the month.

The Norana aluminum plant in Marston, Mo., laid off 356 of its 850 employees, but the men had no hard feelings against the coal miners.

"We support their right to bargain," said crane operator James Winn. "They're

in the same boat we are. All they have is their labor to sell."

In the coal fields, the miners showed no

signs of relenting. Some 3,000 striking UMW members rallied at an armory in Fairmont, W.Va. to stir up support for remaining on strike and expelling UMW leader Arnold Miller.

Hundreds of UMW members in roving pickets frightened two non-union mines in eastern Ohio into shutting down, but no violence was reported.

## Check-cashing service may end because of monetary losses

Hot check writing at Texas A&M University has increased 32 percent in the

Bad checks total \$24,088 as compared to \$18,087 at this time last spring. More than 2,000 hot checks were written to the University last semester alone

The largest amount of bad checks, both in number and monetary value, are re-ceived at the beginning of each semester for payment of tuition and fees. Fiscal department records show that during January of this year \$65,000 in checks was returned to A&M due to lack of funds in checking accounts.

A \$5 fine is charged to the bad check writer for every check returned to the University for insufficient funds.

J. Robert Smith, assistant controller of accounts for the fiscal department, termed A&M's check cashing policy as "very libperiod to make cash payment for the check and fine. After this period the fine is raised

Texas A&M suspends check-cashing privileges of students who write more than two hot checks. Suspension lasts for the rest of the student's stay at Texas A&M.
When a bad check is returned to the

fiscal department a series of three notices is sent to the responsible party. If there is no response the fiscal department asks the student's college dean to tell the student about the returned check and fine.

If the student does not answer the notices the fiscal department may have the student dropped from University rolls or file formal charges against him with the county attorney

Seven students were dropped from the rolls last semester. The majority of the returned checks are collected on during the

Smith said the only way a student's check record can be cleared is for the University to receive a letter from the student's bank indicating that the check bounced due to a banking error and not from lack of funds.

How does A&M compare to other universities in receiving hot checks?
"Higher than most," Smith said. "Not

very many schools have check cashing facilities. It was begun at A&M as a necessary student service because there weren't any banks in College Station.

Because this service is no longer necessary, it may soon be a thing of the past.

If there is a 30 percent increase in the spring as there was in the fall, action will have to be taken," Smith said.

This action may be increasing the \$5 penalty or stopping the unlimited check cashing policy altogether.

### A&M's got class

"Fans" of Battalion sports editor Paul Arnett respond to his Feb. 15 commentary on the Aggie Band, dancing girls, basketball halftimes and A&M traditions. In "Letters to the editor," page 2.



Don Pasquale, go to bed

Norina (Sheila Barnes) tells Don Pasquale (Joseph Warner) where he can go as an amused maid looks on. The opera, "Don Pasquale," was presented by the Texas A&M Opera and Performing Arts Society Thursday night. See related story on page 4.