

Farmers won't pay way out of jail

United Press International
EDINBURG, Texas — The Attorney General of Texas met Thursday with Hidalgo County officials in the hope of resolving a tense dispute between them and 200 jailed farmers who have refused to bond out, demanding that charges against

them concerning an incident at the International Bridge be dropped. Attorney General John Hill met with District Attorney Oscar McInnis and Sheriff Brig Marmolejo for about one hour and then returned to the jail to meet with the farmers. Hill said he had recommended the

farmers be released on personal recognizance bonds. As the meeting took place, several hundred more farmers arrived in the city to protest alleged police brutality used to move them from the bridge Wednesday. Prior to the meeting with Hill,

McInnis refused farmers' demands to drop the misdemeanor charges of obstructing a roadway and said if they didn't bond out he would begin trying them. "If they stay very long I imagine we'd set up some hasty trials. Maybe try several groups at a time," he said. "We're not trying to break their backs. It would probably only be a minor fine. But we haven't considered, and I don't imagine we will consider, dropping the charges."

By noon Thursday more than 300 more farmers had arrived and were milling around the jail. National farm strike organizers said they expected many more to arrive from across the nation.

During the night most of the jailed farmers slept in an interior courtyard for lack of space in the small South Texas jail. They were allowed to bring an American flag into the courtyard in the morning and conduct a brief patriotic ceremony with a prayer session. Later in the day they were packed into cells.

Farmers' wives and children hoping to visit them were turned away from the jail by deputies who instructed them visiting day was not until Saturday.

Wednesday about 200 to 300 farmers assembled at the International Bridge linking the United States and Mexico to protest the importing of fruits and vegetables into the U.S. The farmers had been allowed to block the bridge briefly but when their time ran out the police moved in.



Members of the Baroque Ensemble perform before a crowd of more than 200 during Thursday's concert in Rudder Theater. The 12-piece ensemble was directed by Penelope Kosztolnyik, and its performance was part of

the conference of the South Central Society for Eighteenth Century Studies held at Texas A&M University. The concert was sponsored by the Texas A&M Modern Language Department.

Battalion photo by David Keahey

Five Aggies given \$500 scholarships

Five Texas A&M University agricultural majors have been awarded \$500 scholarships from the Moorman Manufacturing Co.

Recipients are Rebecca Ann Leake of Sherman, Stephen Seidel of Rosanky, Kenneth Von Conten of Rockdale, Marcia Wagner of Temple and David Wernli of Kenedy.

O.W. Randolph, secretary of the Moorman Company Fund, presented the awards. The feed company, headquartered in Quincy, Ill., sponsors scholarships in 25 land-grant universities throughout the nation.

Sleep sickness killing babies; cause unknown

WASHINGTON — A silent killer, striking suddenly and without warning, kills 6,000 to 7,000 seemingly healthy babies every year.

Research can tell when the so-called crib death is most likely to strike, and who is most likely to be its victim, but nobody has identified the killer other than to call it Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Now the newest research indicates the victims may not be healthy infants after all, said Dr. Julius Richmond, the government's top doctor, in an unusual session of a Senate subcommittee Wednesday evening.

Richmond, assistant secretary for health in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and a former pediatrician, said he has seldom encountered a more harrowing tragedy for parents.

"In my years as a practicing pediatrician, I don't think I have observed any other experience which is as shattering a personal tragedy for those families, who without

warning lose their seemingly healthy babies," he testified.

An estimated 6,000 to 7,000 infants die suddenly, quietly and unexpectedly in their cribs or baby carriages every year, during what has been considered normal sleep.

The mysterious disease is the leading cause of death between the ages of one month to a year, peaking between the second and fourth month.

"We know that the risk is higher in males than in females, in black babies than in white babies, in twins as compared to single-born babies, in low birth-weight infants and in babies who have had recent upper respiratory infections," he said.

He said the highest rate of SIDS is: — Among mothers less than 20 years old.

— Among infants of mothers who smoke.

— Greatest during cold weather months and between mid-night and 8 a.m.

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