

# VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY  
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## Bombs or bread?

Human rights should include a full stomach as well as freedom from a dictator's whims. Long before President Carter began lecturing tyrants, this country was freeing millions from hunger.

We hope the President prevents a lamentable lapse in a humanitarian tradition by vetoing a move in Congress to cut off "Food for Peace" aid to South Korea. Morality aside, the cutoff would be an unfortunate blow to this nation's human rights image.

The House voted 273-125 to cancel \$56 million in food aid in retaliation for the Seoul government's refusal to let Ethics Committee investigators question a former Korean ambassador about influence buying. Similar action is expected in the Senate.

It's bad enough that many congressmen want to punish a corrupt government by taking food from its people's mouth. But the problem is compounded by Congress' intention to leave intact the much larger aid budget for military hardware. Together, these positions indicate that Americans are interested in Koreans as allies but not as human beings. That hardly benefits the President's human rights campaign.

There may be corruption in the food program, as some have said, but hardly more than in Korea's military procurement programs. If any aid is to be cut as a way of slapping the wrist of the Seoul government, weapons should be more expendable than food.

The Miami Herald



## Paying for side effects of The Pill

By JULIAN ISHERWOOD

United Press International  
COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Eight women who claim they became seriously ill after taking birth control pills are fighting a legal battle to determine who, if anyone, is legally responsible.

Eight drug manufacturers and the patients' doctors disclaim responsibility. Health authorities have refused to let the women see their own medical records.

The women, aged between 18 and 40, suffered cerebral thromboses — blood clotting in the brain — and their lawyer Jorgen Jakobsen said the pill was to blame.

The drug companies insist Jakobsen prove whether doctors advised the women about possible side effects, whether the pill was prescribed as a pregnancy preventive measure and whether the pill was responsible for causing the thromboses.

The women claim their doctors never warned them of possible consequences. Jakobsen went to court when doctors re-

fused to give him the necessary medical records. Preliminaries in the case already have taken 18 months.

Jakobsen said legal action against the drug companies probably won't start for another year.

island of Bornholm.

"In 1969 I went to my doctor and asked for preventive pills because I didn't want any more children," she said. "The pill had just come on the market, and through various publications one had heard there were no ill side effects."

"My doctor, who had known me since I was a child, gave me the pills without any further ado. Everything was bliss until 1973 when I began suffering from dizziness and severe headaches. I also began bleeding out of my normal menstrual period and I went straight to a doctor."

"After an examination I was taken off my original pills and given a six-month supply of another pill. After a couple of months things got better. Then one day I was on my way home and I began to feel my heart working strangely and I was paralyzed on my left side," she said.

She was treated at a state hospital in Copenhagen and then she contacted Jakobsen.

"It's not a question of money," she said, "but more a question of principle. I feel

that I should have been told of the possibilities of side effects, in which case I would never have dreamed of taking the pill."

Jakobsen said the Juhlin case was similar to the other seven he is preparing. "In none of the cases were the patients warned there could be side effects if they took the pill," he said.

In the United States, the pills are accompanied by a warning that oral contraceptives are associated with a higher risk of blood clots.

American manufacturers of oral contraceptives say claims and law suits have been filed over the years by users of the pills, but one company official said claims related to thromboses have been infrequent lately because of the warnings.

A spokesman for another company said legal action generally results in the company's favor because of a lack of evidence linking specific problems to the pill.

"If we win," Jakobsen said, "I expect there will be a wealth of women who will want to sue in similar cases."

### Science

"I must admit that the old-fashioned attitude of the Danish medical profession on the question of medical records is baffling," Jakobsen said in an interview. "Surely it must be in their interest to release the information so we can discover the real reason for the women's blood stoppage."

The first test case involves Jane Juhlin, a nurse's helper from Ronne on the Baltic

## Rights for all kids

By PATRICIA McCORMACK  
UPI Education Editor

A "bill of rights" for handicapped children takes effect the first of September.

It gives crippled, blind, deaf, slow to learn, wheelchair-bound and otherwise handicapped boys and girls the right to enter the mainstream of education, going to the same school as other kids in their communities instead of going to a special school.

They have a right to be put in the regular education program, not sent to a handicapped children's school within a system. And within a public school the law requires that the new students must be assigned to classes for the nonhandicapped.

THE "MAINSTREAMING BILL" officially is The Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975, Public Law 94-142.

Its passage, a victory for parents of the handicapped who challenged laws that denied their children a public education, made parents of the nonhandicapped wonder if their children will get less attention — since the handicapped will need more.

### Education

Time will answer that one. There are an estimated 8 to 9 million handicapped young Americans, and more than half of them have not been receiving adequate educational services. This is the way the law works: federal funds will go to the states, the amount based on the number of handicapped children, ages 3 to 21, who are receiving special education and related services.

The law calls for the federal portion of funds to states to increase in steps up to 40 percent of the average expenditure per pupil by the 1982.

The first step, however, calls for a payment of only 5 percent. Nationally that comes to only \$70 per pupil, according to a report in "PTA Today," a publication of the National PTA.

The rest of the money needed to get the mainstreaming program moving will need to come out of state and local education budgets already strained by inflation, salaries with cost of living increases and the high cost of fuel.

The PTA says the Education for All Handicapped Children Act offers the possibility of realizing a wonderful dream: to educate all the children.

"But to convert this dream to reality will require much greater federal support, as well as a bountiful measure of parental action within local communities, if these new programs are to succeed," the "PTA Today" report says.

SOME OF THE KEY rights cited in P.L. 94-142:

—Right to education. All states that choose to participate must provide, by Sept. 1, 1978, free and appropriate public education for all handicapped children, ages 6 to 17.

—Unless in conflict with court order or state law, the same provisions apply to all handicapped children ages 3 to 5. By September 1981 the provisions also will apply to handicapped youths 18 to 21.

—Children defined by the Act as handicapped include those who are mentally retarded; hard of hearing or deaf; visually handicapped; deafblind; speech-impaired, emotionally disturbed; orthopedically or otherwise health impaired; and those with specific learning disabilities.

—If a handicapped child requires a tuition-based program to receive an appropriate education, the program must be provided at no cost to the parents, but instead must be paid for out of public funds.

—Right to non-discriminatory evaluation: All tests and methods of evaluation must be free of any racial or cultural discrimination and must be administered in the primary language of the child.

—Right to an appropriate education: An individualized education program for each handicapped child must be developed jointly by a school official, the classroom teacher, a special education teacher, the child's parents or guardian, and, if possible, the child. This is a kind of educational prescription, custom-designed. The educational plan is to include long-term and short-term educational goals. Also to be spelled out all the specific services that will be provided.

—Right to be educated in the least restrictive environment: The new law seeks to ensure "to the maximum extent possible that handicapped children will be educated with children who are not handicapped."

—Right to due process: If parents or children 18 or over do not feel that the identification, evaluation, or placement decisions made by school officials are appropriate — or if no appropriate program has been provided, they may request a due process hearing at public expense.

If parents are not satisfied by an impartial hearing officer, they may appeal the decision through the state education agency to state or federal courts.

THE SCHOOLS HAVE been getting ready and the states, too. Seminars, workshops, conferences and special training has gone on for administrators and teachers, but no one knows if mainstreaming will get off to a smooth or bumpy start in September.

For the handicapped youngsters participating, it will be a new feeling — going to school with all the other kids.

And that is the idea: get the handicapped children into the mainstream of American life — and eventually into the work-a-day world, too, when they reach adulthood.

# TOP OF THE NEWS STATE

## Holiday deaths counted

Nineteen drownings and a record number of motorcycle accidents during the more than four-day Fourth of July holiday contributed to the deaths of 69 persons in Texas, final figures showed Wednesday. The Texas traffic death total — 49 — was second in the nation. California's 87, as was the overall Texas holiday fatality count, drownings, plane crashes and traffic. The Texas list also includes Fourth of July rodeo rider, Belio Fuentes, 33, who fell from his horse and was killed fatally by the animal at Crystal City.

## Family denied damages

The Texas Supreme Court Wednesday in Austin reversed a court decision and ruled the wife and child of a man killed in an accident at a tire-testing track in West Texas cannot collect damages from the tire manufacturer. Lower courts had ordered Arma Rubber Company to pay \$75,000 to the wife of Clemente Uruga and \$12,000 to his son. Urugide was employed by Automotive Engineering Grounds, Inc., near Pecos and was killed when a front tire tractor-trailer rig he was driving blew out, causing the truck to turn.

## Couple drowns

A woman and a man who tried to rescue her both drowned Tuesday in Galveston Bay within sight of her two daughters who were in a speedboat to the couple. The bodies of Caroline Hall, 31, and William Ammonette, 31, were found about 150 yards off Point by the U.S. Coast Guard shortly after the accident. Investigators said Mrs. Hall, a nonswimmer, was being towed in a preserver behind the speedboat. The life preserver broke and Ammonette jumped into the water to try to save her. He could swim but had no life jacket.

## Man soaked with gas, burned

An elderly man soaked with gasoline burned to death in the yard of his suburban Dallas home Wednesday. The victim's wife had been working on a garden tiller found near his body. The spokesman for the Dallas County Medical Examiner said Willie 76, became engulfed in flames but it was not known how he became soaked with gasoline or what set off the fire. A partially full gas can also was found near his body.

## Houston has bad air

Houston was the only Texas city listed Wednesday among 20 cities suffering the nation's worst air quality as surveyed by the National Wildlife Federation in Washington. Houston ranked seventh, but Los Angeles, Denver, Albuquerque, Philadelphia, New York, Jersey metropolitan area and Boston. Houston was determined to have had 141 days of bad air pollution in 1975, the year upon which the study was based.

# NATION

## Many Texas motorists speed

The U.S. Department of Transportation says 41 percent of Colorado motorists regularly drive over the speed limit. Although out of every five Colorado motorists regularly exceed the 55 mph speed limit, the DOT said Wednesday the state's drivers still are among the most law-abiding in the nation. Wyoming is the worst offender in the nation with 77 percent of all motorists regularly exceeding the limit, the DOT said, while Texas showed 71 percent of drivers being a bit heavy-footed on the gas pedal.

## 200 lbs. meat imported

President Carter has signed a proclamation implementing his 8 decision to allow an additional 200 million pounds of meat to be imported over the remainder of this year, the White House announced Wednesday.

## Company forbids smoking

Quint Corp. officials looked at the statistics and gasped. Now a part of the company's employees, executives included, are under a gun to quit smoking on the job. The company, located in Tilton, N.C., makes asbestos-based electrical insulation. The smoking ban at the plant becomes effective July 24, and the company says it will not hire new workers who smoke. Statistics show asbestos workers who smoke have a 92 times greater chance of getting cancer than asbestos workers who don't smoke, he said.

# WORLD

## Cosmonauts return

The Polish and Russian cosmonauts aboard the Soyuz 30 spacecraft returned safely to earth Wednesday, ending their eight-day mission in space. Cosmonauts Pyotr Klimuk of the Soviet Union and Miroslaw Hermaszewski of Poland made a soft landing in their Soyuz capsule 186 miles west of Tselinograd in Soviet Kazakhstan, the Polish news agency reported. The Soviet agency said Klimuk and Hermaszewski were in good condition after their return.

# WEATHER

Partly cloudy and hot today and Friday with warm nights. High today near 100, low tonight mid-70s. High tomorrow near 100. Winds from the southeast at 10-15 mph decreasing to less than 5 mph tonight.

# THE BATTALION

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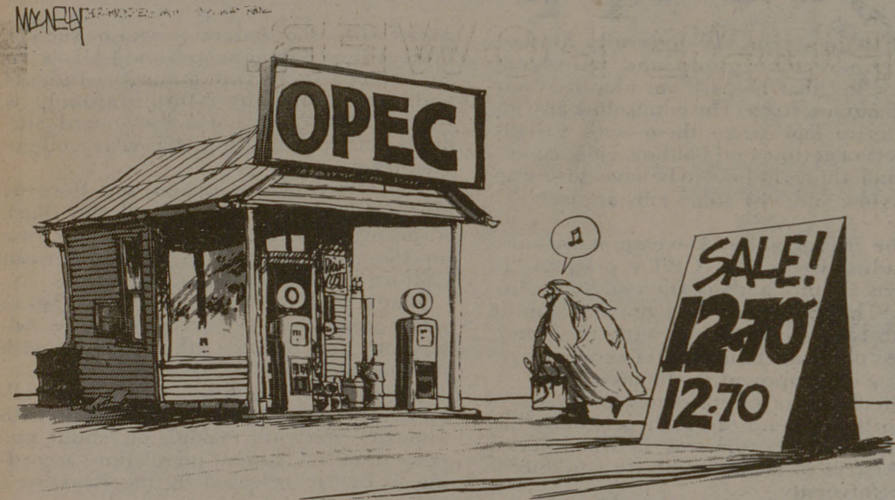
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## The good used car

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Federal Trade Commission is proposing some full-disclosure regulations to take a lot of the guesswork out of buying a used car.

The proposed rules would require window stickers to disclose such information as the approximate mileage on a used car and repairs made by the dealer that cost more than \$100, including reconditioning.

Dealers also would be required to disclose, if known, whether the car was subjected to governmental or commercial use as rental, lease, driver education, taxi, police vehicles or the like. And they would have to state the extent of any warranty or if the car is sold "as is."

"Disclosures relating to appearance reconditioning, odometer readings and the prior history of a vehicle will materially assist consumers in making a general assessment of used vehicles in determining the nature and extent of prior use and care as well as potential mechanical performance and reliability of vehicles," said

James Greenan, the FTC official who presided over public hearings on the proposed regulations.

He said such disclosures would not provide prospective buyers with full information about used vehicles, but are material facts that would "constitute a significant gain in information."

Greenan said evidence from recent FTC proceedings on the matter "leaves no room for doubt that consumers, with few exceptions, come to the used motor vehicle market with virtually no mechanical knowledge or competence sufficient to enable them to determine the actual mechanical condition of vehicles offered for sale."

As a result, he said, buyers are forced to rely almost entirely on the dealers for information on the mechanical attributes or deficiencies of the used cars.

The FTC's final decision on the recommendations is not expected for several months and will be based upon Greenan's report, a staff report and public comments on both.

## His dollar's worth

United Press International  
FORT WORTH — A former Vietnam POW has sent a \$1 check to the Louisville (Ky.) Courier Journal to establish what he called an "educational fund" for Muhammad Ali.

Air Force Col. Robert B. Purcell, a former Louisville resident who spent 7½ years as a prisoner of the North Vietnamese, said the fund was in response to Ali's 35-minute meeting last month with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

During the meeting Brezhnev made the former world heavyweight boxing champion his "unofficial ambassador for peace with the United States." Later Ali said that on being presented to Brezhnev, "I gave him a hug and a kiss on both cheeks and he returned it."

Purcell, now stationed at Carswell Air Force Base, said Ali's conduct "makes a mockery of the yet to be erected headstone for the 2 million Cambodians reportedly eliminated by the newest communist government there."

The former POW said he hoped the fund "could be used to purchase the May 29 edition of 'U.S. News and World Report' that documented Yuri Orlov's fate at the hands of Ali's new friend, Leonid Brezhnev."

According to the article, the Soviet dissident was sentenced May 17 to seven years hard labor and five years internal exile.

Purcell said he did not have a "personal vendetta" against Ali. However, he said Ali was "a visible citizen and people pay attention to what he says, so he should be careful about what he says."