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PURCHASES

Inmate strike still on; fight reports confirmed

nates at the maximum security is Unit still are refusing to work protest of prison conditions, but gs could return to normal in the ates prisons by early next week, ys W.J. Estelle Jr., director of the eas Department of Corrections. Estelle, ending a week-old news ckout of the inmate strike in xas prisons, told a news conferce Wednesday that the remaining riking prisoners are refusing to ork and have been locked in their

He also confirmed reports of a ht between between inmates and TUNITIES pards at a TDC unit at Palestine st week.

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c/o P.O.

"The situation today is that some inmates continue to refuse to work. It is a diminishing number and we are at an approximate 98 percent level of normal operations," Estelle handles then barricaded themselves United Press International

"The situation today is that some doubtron—An estimated 470 inmates continue to refuse to work. said. "Assuming a continued trend of improvement, the department could well achieve 100 percent normal operations by the first of

than 15 corrections officers were injured by scalding water or flying debris in the three-hour altercation at tute cruel and unusual punishment. the Coffield Unit near Palestine

in a prison facility.

Convicts have staged work stop-pages in support of a civil suit filed by eight inmates to have prison conditions improved

"It was necessary to use tear gas and riot batons to control the hostile inmates and return them to their cells," he said.

Estelle said 28 inmates suffered scalp and head wounds and more than 15 corrections officers were in them 15 corrections of the developing situation in the prison units. Justice is hearing the interest of the developing situation in the prison units. Justice is hearing the interest of the developing situation in the prison units. inmates' class action lawsuit alleging

Estelle said he clamped a news blackout on word of TDC activities

to protect the rights of the convicts and the 3,000 system employees.

"I am sensitive to the public's right to know what is going on in their prisons and I'm aware that the only way this happens is they go only way this happens is through your work," he told reporters at a news conference in a Goodwill In-dustries chapel. "At that particular time, my judgment was that the safety of people and protection of state property was an obligation best met by temporary silence.

"I don't expect everyone to agree what I did was right, but I hope they understand my motives," he said.

Now you know

The full title of Pope John Paul II, sovereign of the Vatican City state,

Carter seen set OK n-bomb

WASHINGTON — State Department officials said Wednesday that President Carter has decided to move ahead with a new nuclear

weapons design that keeps open the possiblity of developing a so-alled "neutron weapon."

The officials said the United States is modernizing some nuclear weapons with a design that can easily be turned into an enhanced-adiation weapon.

The weapon shiefly useful as a defence against a massed tank

The weapon, chiefly useful as a defense against a massed tank atack, has a relatively small blast but an intense level of radiation which can kill without doing large amounts of damage to buildings or

The officials said the president's decision, essentially a go-ahead to obligate funds in the new defense budget, "preserves the option to produce a neutron weapon, but does not prejudice a final decision." In a brief statement, the Energy Department, which is responsible for designing and building nuclear weapons, said it "has received direction from President Content to begin to obligate fiscal year 1979. ction from President Carter to begin to obligate fiscal year 1979

inds for the production" of the two warheads.

"This obligation of funds will implement President Carter's decision of April 7, 1978, to proceed with modernization of these two heater nuclear weapons," it said.

The new components, the officials said, would be incorporated in a new version of the Lance surface-to-surface missile and the 8-inch

The Lance is a medium-range battlefield weapon with a guidance stem that gives extremely high accuracy. It is now deployed in

United Press International

The full title of Pope John Paul II, according to Roman Catholic tradition, is John Paul II, bishop of Rome, vicar of Jesus Christ, successor of the prince of the Apostles, supreme pontiff of the Universal Church, patriarch of the West, primate of Italy, archbishop and metropolitan of the Roman Province, sowerigm of the Vatican City state

Speedy Trial Act upheld or cases pending July 1,'78

law went into effect.

That ruling will mean all felony ass not brought to trial, or delayed the request of the defendant, within 120 days of July 1, will be abject to dismissal under terms of

There are cases all over the state here offenders - by the mere fact at 120 days has past- will be barfrom prosecution," said Bill ied hite, assistant district attorney for County, in arguing the law ld apply only to criminal cases

ut the Criminal Appeals Court, g on a felony drunken driving gainst Linzy Wade of Austin, he act applies to all cases pend-ly 1, but the 120-day period in ses must be brought to trial

ot begin before that date le had contended the 120 day d in his case, began at the time s arrest in February, and that viction and three-year probsentence should have been

United Press International

AUSTIN— The Court of Criminal peals, in a decision prosecutors will result in dismissal of huneds of pending criminal cases courts were neither required to take notice of nor to take any action edy Trial Act applies to all cases adding on July 1, 1978, the date state was not required to take notice of its provisions or to take any action under the act prior to July 1, the time which elapsed prior to that date cannot be considered when de-

termining motions to dismiss. "It defies reason to suggest that the state should have anticipated and followed the terms of a statute

not in existence at the time such cases commenced.'

ments concerning the Wade case that the Speedy Trial Act is an unconstitutional infringement upon the judicial branch of government. The appellate court did not mention that issue in its appeal, leaving the provisions of the law in effect.

The law, passed by the 1977 legis-

lature, requires courts to dismiss charges against defendants in cases where the state is not ready to go to trial within 120 days on a felony offense, 90 days on Class A mis-demeanors, 60 days on Class B mis-demeanors or 30 days on minor violations such as speeding.

and followed the terms of a statute not in existence at the time such cases commenced."

At least three murder suspects have been released without trials because prosecutors failed to meet the 120-day deadline.

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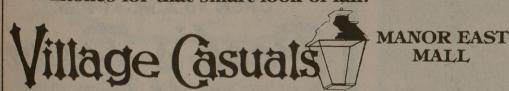
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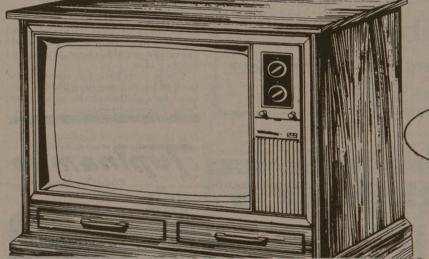
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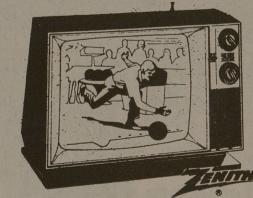
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