

THE BATTALION

No Focus section
this week

The "Focus" entertainment-features tabloid that regularly appears in The Battalion weekly will resume publication starting next Thursday, Jan. 25.

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Renewed violence hits after Shah leaves

United Press International
TEHRAN, Iran — Troops and police fired today on revelers celebrating the departure of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi in two key towns, hours after demonstrators hugged and kissed each other.

Witnesses said today's shooting in Arak followed anti-shah demonstrations Tuesday in which mobs pulled down a statue of the shah and were met with secret police men, who opened fire at the demonstrators.

The sudden outburst of military-led violence followed strong rumors that revelers who marched into the streets celebrating what they said was the end of the shah's 38-year rule could face a violent reaction from the military and police.

There were strong rumors, however, that Premier Shahpour Bakhtiar's 11-day civilian government could feel threatened

by the new burst of violence.

The capital's military authorities, in a communique, said the military was being provoked by some elements within the demonstrators, who raced through the city Tuesday night.

Tehran began street celebrations soon after the state radio announced Tuesday afternoon the shah and his empress had left for Egypt to start an indefinite vacation.

Troops, who opened fire on anti-shah demonstrators 11 days ago were picked up, hugged and kissed by mobs and carried on shoulders with Ayatollah Sayed Sadegh Rouhani, a prominent religious leader of Qom who was released this week, and several thousand followers today began a "triumphal march" to the religious university town south of Tehran.

Iranian state radio announced another 240 political prisoners tried by military tribunals would be freed today.

There was no immediate reaction from oil industry workers, who shut off Iran's \$22 billion a year oil exports Dec. 27 and have refused to produce even enough to meet domestic consumption.

Premier Shahpour Bakhtiar, appointed by the shah Jan. 6, won a vote of confidence in Iran's Parliament Tuesday that cleared the way for the shah to leave.

But his opponents, including the National Front which expelled him before he became premier, have announced they will continue efforts to bring him down.

three northeastern villages within minutes of the shah's departure Tuesday, the death toll grew.

Iranian newspapers said the quake has killed more than 1,000 persons and injured at least 1,000 others.

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Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

'Now you're gonna get it'

Instructor Sean Riley (left) and Charles Gerland, senior in Health and physical education, demonstrated techniques used in the art of self-defense Tuesday night in Room 266 of G. Rollie White Coliseum. Classes in Karate will be offered Monday — Friday at 6-6:30 p.m. for beginners, and Wednesday 5-7 p.m. for advanced. The fee is \$35 per person.

No hitch in ceremonies

Sun shines for Clements

United Press International
AUSTIN — At 11:32 a.m. Tuesday, the sun shined through the overcast skies, within a few minutes the bright rays beamed again behind the curtain of clouds, casting the inauguration of Bill Clements into washed out colors of gray.

As Clements completed his inaugural speech, the sun finally broke out in much to the delight of state's first republican governor in 105 years.

"Thank you very much," Clements concluded his address, "now we have sunshine."

Two elderly ladies arrived one and a half hours before the noon ceremony and promptly hauled a Capitol grounds bench as close to the draped platform as they could.

"I've waited too long for this, so I'm gonna make sure I have a good seat," one of the ladies said as she positioned the bench under a huge red, white and blue banner claiming "Welcome."

But the spectator drawing the most attention was Christy Batton of Kilgore. The 10-year-old fifth grader stood on the

Capitol steps before the ceremonies drawing attention from photographers. She was wearing a red T-shirt emblazoned with "Clements Number One." Her red-headed, freckled friend, Camille Elder, stood by holding Christy's coat.

The crowd was anxious when the cannon replicas of the Twin Sisters of the Battle of San Jacinto exploded their first of 18 blasts. Most in a crowd directly behind the special guests' section were frightened at first and turned around to inspect the cannons.

That gave a woman in leather boots and a full-length fur coat the opportunity she was waiting for. She ducked and made her way to front of the line.

"If I can get just one or two good glimpses, that's all I care about," she beamed.

After the ceremony the crowd retreated to the west end of the capitol for barbecue. Tables and stairways were filled with diners, prompting one man to be amused.

"If you want to see something funny, you ought to see all those dressed up women out there clubbing each other to get a plate of greasy barbecue."

Deliberation begins on Davis case

United Press International
HOUSTON — Opposing lawyers in the marathon murder-for-hire trial of Fort Worth millionaire T. Cullen Davis bejoked jurors persuasively toward their viewpoints with exhaustive, emotional arguments that left both sides nervous but confident.

The jury received the case Tuesday night, elected an unemployed medical secretary as foreman and was instructed to begin deliberations in earnest today.

Joe H. Eidson, 60, identified in testimony as the first target of a plot to kill 15 persons, sat 10 feet from the jury box listening as prosecutors repeatedly reminded jurors it was their duty to convict Davis if they believed he conspired or solicited the death of his divorcee.

"I've been apprehensive a long time," Eidson said at the completion of final arguments Tuesday night. "Unless he's (Davis) broke or dead, I'll be apprehensive. It doesn't matter if he's (found) guilty or innocent."

Prosecutors told jurors they favored the solicitation charge among four initially listed in an indictment returned after Davis' Aug. 20 arrest in Fort Worth, his hometown and base for a family controlled industrial empire with annual sales in excess of \$1 billion.

If convicted, Davis could receive sentences ranging from five years probation to life imprisonment.

During the eight hours of arguments Tuesday that pushed the 13-week trial toward completion, jurors heard attorneys berate the testimony and personalities of Davis and his chief accuser and former employee, David McCrory.

McCrory's allegations to the FBI that Davis threatened him and his family with death unless McCrory could arrange the slaying of Davis' enemies resulted in a three-day federal investigation and Davis' arrest.

But defense lawyer Richard "Racehorse" Haynes argued Davis was pursued by McCrory for months —

perhaps at the urging of Priscilla Davis, the defendant's estranged wife — to complete a scheme of entrapment tied to Davis' divorce case.

Haynes said McCrory was an opportunist who lured Davis toward a frame-up by suggesting he would share information that could be damaging to Mrs. Davis in the divorce case.

"McCrory was the key to unlocking her activities in the divorce," Haynes said. "McCrory had information that he was the only link to."

Haynes contended Davis discussed contract killers, payoffs and a hit list because he was "emotionally debilitated" by the trauma of his divorce, pressures resulting from his wealth, death threats, extortion attempts and "by the fact that the people on the other side were noxious and repugnant."

Prosecutors ridiculed Haynes' explanations, blamed the defense lawyer for the length of the trial and said Davis' arrest was an "outgrowth of arrogance and power

enjoyed by virtue of his wealth."

Lead prosecutor Tolly Wilson said testimony should have been completed in three weeks and said the length was orchestrated by Haynes in the hope jurors would become sick or angry with one another, causing a mistrial.

Prosecutor Jack Strickland said audio and videotapes of meetings and conversations between Davis and McCrory allowed jurors to become eyewitnesses to the events leading to the trial.

He said the tapes stripped away the artificiality and superficiality of defense arguments and allowed jurors to see the "measure of the man," judge his conduct and conclude for themselves whether, as Davis contended, "kill doesn't really mean kill" and "dead doesn't really mean dead."

"Don't you know it must have galled the Texas industrialist millionaire to have to get up there and tell that foolish story," Strickland said, "to have to tell a story so patently ridiculous to get out of this thing."

Nominations committee OKs regents

United Press International
AUSTIN — Happenings in the Texas Legislature Tuesday:

— The Senate Nominations Committee unanimously recommended confirmation of outgoing Gov. Dolph Briscoe's three appointees to the Texas A&M University Board of Regents.

The appointees interviewed by the committee were Clyde Wells, a Granbury rancher and businessman; Norman Moser of DeKalb, a bank president; and Royce Wisenbaker of Tyler, an independent oil driller.

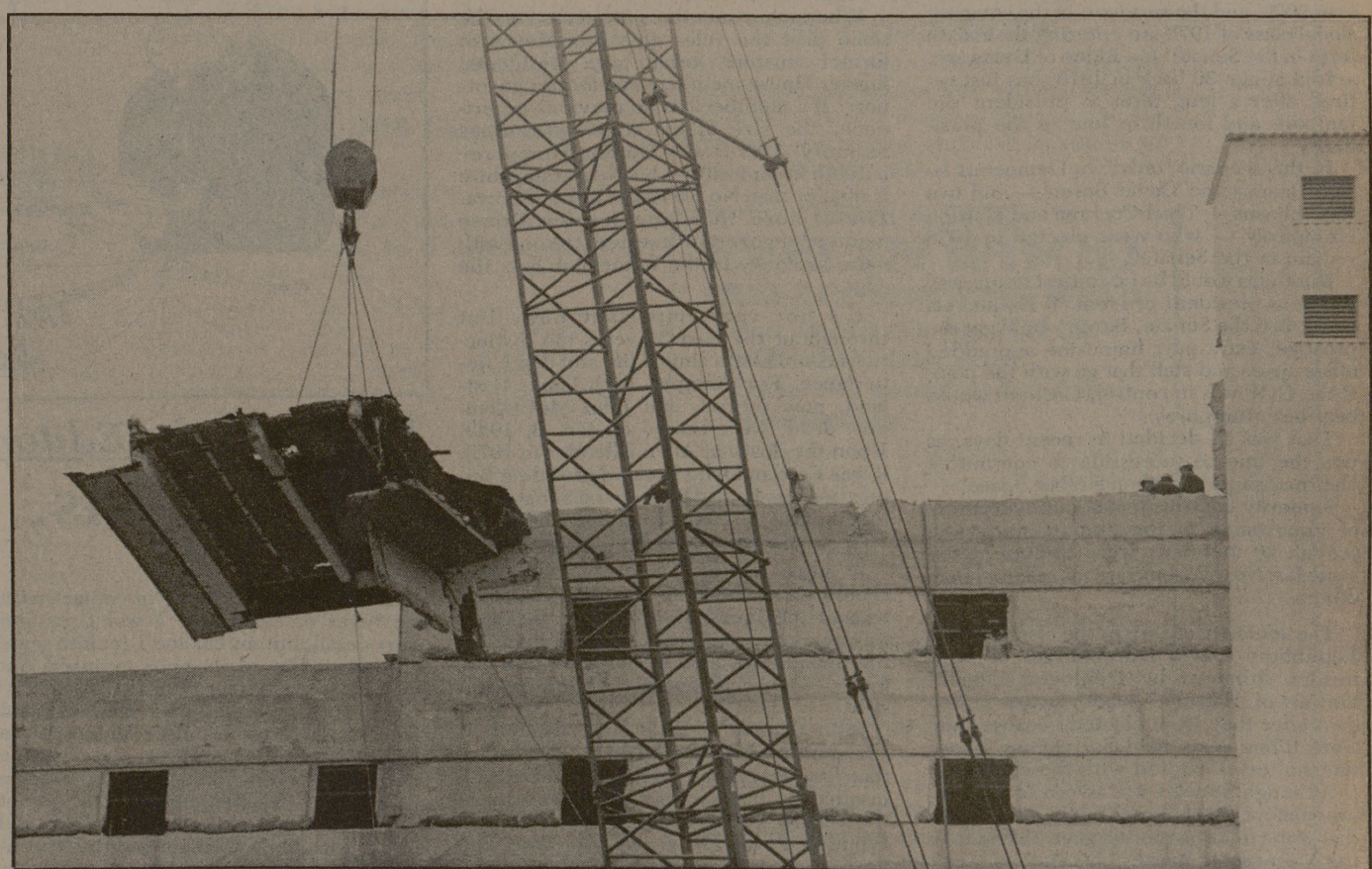
The Senate is scheduled to vote Thursday on confirmation of the three.

— Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus has informed Texas officials a portion of the northern end of Matagorda Island will be made available to the state for recreational and wildlife management use.

Briscoe said the federal action will make some of the most beautiful beaches in the world open to Texas for recreational purposes.

— In one of his last official acts, outgoing Gov. Dolph Briscoe appointed two members of his staff and other persons to places on the Texas Film Commission.

Aides Andrew Keever and David Weeks were among the appointees, which also included Dean Cobb of Austin, Rep. Gibson Lewis, D-Fort Worth, Shannon Ratliff of Austin, D. Frank Cook of Houston, Michael L. Cooper of Palestine, Linda Gale White of Austin, Charles Purnell of Dallas, Frank Calhoun of Houston, Mrs. Earl Rudder of Bryan and Bob Slagle of Sherman.



Battalion photo by Steve Lee

Construction: a way of life at A&M

Construction on the Kyle Field stadium is progressing as scheduled despite poor weather conditions, said project director Bill Hall. Bad weather has presented some problems, said Hall, of the H.B. Zachry Construction Company. "But we've kept up a six-day work week anyway." Demolition on the

east side of the stadium is 95 percent complete, and workers are pouring foundation piers. On the west side, demolition is 85 percent complete. Hill said in the next stage they will be "starting up with the superstructure" by pouring columns. Construction is slated for completion by Oct. 13.

Delayed utility bills come during break

By ROY BRAGG
Battalion Staff

The College Station utility company mailed residents as many as three months worth of utility bills in a month's time in an attempt to get their billing system back on schedule.

Many residents, including Texas A&M University students, received bills for October, November and December in the last month.

One student returning from vacation found three utility bills in her mailbox.

The original billing schedule was delayed for two months because of a computer breakdown during the summer, said Sherry Albrecht, an administrative assistant to College Station City Manager North Bardell.

Another cause for the delay was the large number of new utility hook-ups — over 24,000 — occurring just before last fall semester. Albrecht said that the additional clerical work involved in transferring information from the meter book to the computer furthered the delay.

One student said the only bill she received during the fall was for the August-September billing period.

The city wants to catch up at this time, Albrecht said, because the October through December bills are the lowest of the year. They would be easier for customers to pay than bills during warmer months when air conditioning boosts the use of electricity.

The city also wanted to catch up before summer so that the bills would be paid before the students leave.

The city hired temporary personnel to help catch up with the billing, Albrecht said.

"The majority of the permanent citizens and the students want the bills on time every month," Albrecht said. "The only thing to do was to send three bills now or later."

The October bill was subject to the late penalty, Albrecht said.

But some students, out of town during the Christmas break, were unable to avoid the late charge. The payment fell due before they returned to school.

There is no late charge on the November and December bills if they are paid by Jan. 28. Albrecht said that customers not paying their bills by soon after the late date might have their utility service cut off.

No letter explaining the temporary change in billing was sent to customers

because it would have cost too much. But Albrecht said that the move was well publicized in the local media and was featured for several days on local television news.

Albrecht expects the billing system to be back on schedule by the middle of February. She added that utility bills will always be a month behind due to usual billing procedures.

Albrecht said that once the system is on schedule, a meter will be read and the bill showing the reading will arrive a month later.

The due date on the bills is usually 10 days after the bill is received, she said.

Once the billing system is straightened out, Albrecht said, it will stay that way.

