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Weather

Partly cloudy skies and warm with no sight of rain. High today in the low 90's and a low of 74. Winds will be S.E. at 10-15 m.p.h.

SALT II requires Soviets to scrap several weapons

United Press International
WASHINGTON — In conjunction with SALT II, the Soviet Union Monday for the first time revealed the exact size of its nuclear arsenal with figures that vary slightly from U.S. estimates.

U.S. negotiators consider the divulging of strategic military secrets to be an unprecedented break with the traditional Soviet Union's silence about details of its nuclear destruction weapons.

The figures contained in the strategic arms treaty package show the Soviets have increased the number of their land and sea-based launchers equipped to fire multiple warhead missiles (MIRVs) by a total of 44 since last Nov. 1.

The Soviets state that they have now 398 land-based ICBM launchers, which is two under the 1,400 estimate used by the United States for the number of active, operable Soviet launchers.

The numbers are included in two memos attached to the treaty which give

the starting point — known as "data base" — for the limits placed on both sides in the strategic arms agreement.

In the 1972 SALT I agreement, the Soviets refused to give their own count of their missiles and merely signified, by silence, that the U.S. intelligence estimates were correct.

U.S. negotiators told the Soviets that the Senate would not accept that procedure for the far more complex SALT II treaty.

In one memo, the Soviets confirm that 576 of their land-based missiles were equipped with MIRVs on Nov. 1, 1978. But by the time of Monday's signing, the number, according to a second memo, had grown to 608 land-based missiles with multiple warheads.

Similarly, the number of Soviet submarine-launched missiles with MIRVs grew by 16, from 128 to 144, signifying the deployment of one new submarine with 16 launching tubes since Nov. 1.

The Soviet statement says they have 156 bombers classified as "heavy" under the rules of the treaty (which exempt the so-called "Backfire" bomber because of the Soviet pledge that it will be used as a medium-range weapon). U.S. estimates had put the number of Soviet heavy bombers at 150.

Also excluded from the Soviet total are 120 Soviet tankers, anti-submarine and long-range reconnaissance planes, which use the same air-frame as some bombers, but are fitted out for specialized missions and do not carry bombs.

If the treaty is ratified, the Soviets will have to scrap 254 of their missile launchers or heavy bombers by the beginning of 1982, in order to get under the SALT II limit of 2,250.

The United States would not have to scrap any of its weapons in order to get under the SALT II limits.

Treaty shows weakness, says VFW

United Press International
LAKE CHARLES, La. — A Veterans of Foreign Wars commander has told the Louisiana VFW the proposed SALT II treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States is a symbol of U.S. weakness.

T.C. Selman, VFW national junior vice commander in chief, told the Louisiana unit's annual awards banquet Saturday night that SALT II is "a symbol of phased surrender by the United States."

In the last 20 years, the situation has changed to the point that we are no longer sure we are the strongest military nation in the world today," said Selman, of Freeport, Texas.

He said the first SALT treaty "has not caused the Soviets to alter their spending for defense."

Today, the Russians are capable of and are building military equipment that may not equal our technology in some categories, but it is not far behind," Selman said.

"We in the VFW question how much, if any, the present SALT agreement has deterred the Soviets in their determined drive for military supremacy. A good SALT II agreement would be helpful and desirable but, from the information we have been able to obtain so far about the new SALT agreement, and their adventures around the world, we would have to oppose it."

Selman also criticized the military for declining to renew the draft.

"The all-volunteer armed forces is a failure," Selman said. He said 40 percent of those entering the army are eliminated in basic training.

Carter preparing for Senate; Brezhnev warns of tampering

United Press International
VIENNA, Austria — President Carter and Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev Monday signed a historic treaty aimed at averting nuclear holocaust and the American leader called it "a victory in the battle for peace."

To roars of applause, the two presidents then hugged and kissed and toasted the pact with champagne.

Carter said the signing of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II) meant "a victory is here for all," but he warned, "the threat of nuclear holocaust still hangs over us."

Brezhnev said the agreement defended man's most sacred right — "the right to live."

The world's two most powerful men then headed home after their four-day summit, Brezhnev to secure rubber-stamp approval of the treaty from the Soviet parliament, Carter to face a tough Senate fight for ratification.

Brezhnev already has warned that any Senate tampering with the treaty provisions could destroy it, with "grave and even dangerous consequences for our relations and for the situation in the world as a whole."

The signing ceremony, in the huge ballroom of the ornate Hofburg Palace, climaxed a weekend summit which brought Carter and the ailing, 72-year-old Brezhnev together for the first time.

Despite outspoken differences, the summit was characterized by American officials as friendly and substantive.

The Hofburg ballroom, where five emperors met in the Congress of Vienna in 1814 and where Lud-

wig Von Beethoven premiered his 7th symphony, was packed with diplomats, government officials and the press.

In a ceremony that lasted 35 minutes including speeches, the leaders put their signatures 16 times to the four documents that make up the treaty. Carter grinned broadly and the Kremlin leader smiled. Aides on both sides beamed.

The two men then rose, embraced and kissed each other warmly on both cheeks in the European manner.

Assembled military leaders, diplomats and government officials burst into roars of applause.

Carter said "Each of us has only one nation. We both share the same world. Not one nation on this earth, not one people, not one human being is harmed, threatened or deprived by this victory in the battle for peace. A victory is here for all."

"In setting our hands to this treaty, we set our nations on a safer course."

But Carter reminded his listeners that the Soviet Union and the

United States had weapons that could cause unimaginable devastation. He said, "Today, the threat of nuclear holocaust still hangs over us as it has for more than 30 years."

Brezhnev said, "In signing this treaty we are helping to defend the most sacred right of every man — the right to live."

"By concluding the SALT II treaty we are taking a major step forward along the road of overall improvement of Soviet-American relations and consequently of the entire international climate."

Treaty limits missile numbers; imposes ceilings on warheads

United Press International
VIENNA, Austria — The major provisions of the SALT II treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union are:

- A ceiling of 2,250 strategic missiles or bombers for both sides by the end of 1981. Both sides must be down to 2,400 within six months of the treaty going into effect.

- Within the ceiling, no more than 1,320 missiles and bombers may be equipped with multiple warheads or cruise missiles. Within that subceiling, there will be no more than 1,200 land-based, sea-based or air-to-surface ballistic missiles. Within that subceiling, no more than 820 land-based ICBMs with multiple warheads will be permitted.

- Soviets to dismantle 270 strategic missiles to get down to the initial 2,400 ceiling.

- Soviets to stop production and deployment of the SS-16 strategic missile.

- Both sides may construct and deploy a single new type of strategic missile.

- Both sides accept limits on the number of warheads they can place on their new missile — no more than 10 on a land-based strategic missile, no more than 14 on a sea-based missile.

- Cruise missiles carried on heavy bombers would not be limited in range, but other cruise missiles (launched from the ground or ships or tactical fighters) are limited to a range of 366 miles.

- A treaty banning antiballistic missile systems, signed in 1972, remains in effect.

- A protocol to the main agreement restricts both sides from deploying land-based mobile ICBMs, sea-launched and ground-launched strategic cruise missiles and ICBMs carried aloft in aircraft until after Dec. 31, 1981.

- The agreement will be monitored by U.S. and Soviet spy satellites and other intelligence means.

- A "Backfire" letter in which the Soviets agree not to deploy the swing-wing Backfire bomber against the United States at Arctic bases, nor increase its current production beyond the present rate, judged by the United States to be 30 per year.

Laetrile forbidden in interstate commerce

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Supporters of Laetrile as a cancer treatment lost a major round at the Supreme Court Monday in the battle to halt government interference with its distribution.

The justices ruled unanimously that terminally ill patients have no special right to obtain Laetrile through interstate commerce. This reversed an appeals court in Denver which decided the substance did not fall under the safety and effectiveness requirements of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

However, the high court's decision apparently leaves intact — at least temporarily — a court injunction permitting persons "certified" by a physician as terminally ill to receive Laetrile by injection.

And, since it deals with interstate distribution, the ruling does not affect 20 states which have approved Laetrile for

sale and use within their borders.

Glen Rutherford of Conway Springs, Kan., who brought the suit, expressed "utter disbelief" at the decision in the matter of the bitterly controversial drug made from a substance in the pits of apricots.

"They have decided that the greed for the dollar is greater than the value of the human life, that 75,000 North Americans are consigned to a long, lingering, suffering death," he said.

Rutherford, 62, was diagnosed in 1971 as having intestinal cancer and claims Laetrile treatments have kept him alive.

But Donald Kennedy, commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, called the high court's decision "an important victory for consumers."

Kennedy said it "upholds an absolutely fundamental element of our drug regulatory system which requires that drugs be shown safe and effective before marketing

and that all patients, including the terminally ill, are entitled to equal protection."

Justice Thurgood Marshall wrote for the court: "For the terminally ill, as for anyone else, a drug is unsafe if its potential for inflicting death or physical injury is not offset by the possibility of therapeutic benefit."

There is "no special provision" in the law "for drugs used to treat terminally ill patients," he said, and nothing which "suggests that Congress intended protection only for persons suffering curable diseases."

In fact, Marshall said, during its debate on the legislation "Congress expressed concern that individuals with fatal illness, such as cancer, should be shielded from fraudulent cures."

The ruling does not appear to affect plans by the National Cancer Institute to test Laetrile on cancer patients at several

medical centers.

The Supreme Court declined to rule on two aspects of the case: whether the constitutional protection of privacy allows Laetrile use, and whether 1962 food and drug law amendments "grandfathered" Laetrile into the marketplace without meeting the safety and effectiveness tests required for new drugs.

Although Oklahoma federal Judge Luther Bohanon ruled in favor of Laetrile

proponents on these two points, the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sidestepped the issue and allowed Laetrile use on different grounds.

According to FDA lawyers, the high court's opinion signaled the appeals court to resolve those questions in the government's favor, allowing the FDA to continue regulating sale and distribution across state lines.

Bryan gas rates to increase 11 percent

By LOUIE ARTHUR
Battalion Staff

The Bryan City Council unanimously passed the first reading of a two-step plan to increase gas rates 11 percent in an emergency council meeting Monday afternoon.

The ordinance will be read a second time at the regular council session June 25 and if passed, the new rates could go into effect July 25 pending approval of the rate increase by Lone Star Gas Company.

Lone Star Gas local manager Al Bartley said he would recommend acceptance of the rate hike to his company.

"I'm pleased that the council chose the same (rate) schedule as College Station," Bartley said, "but I am disappointed that they only gave us 64 percent of what we requested."

Under the new plan, customers would pay a \$2 base rate per month and \$1.9979 per 1000 cubic feet. Bartley said the company's customer analysis studies show that the average customer uses 8000 cubic feet a month, making the new aver-

age monthly bill \$17.98. This is an increase of \$1.04 over the current average monthly bill of \$16.94.

The impact of the new rate increase would be felt most by commercial users. The base rate for commercial users would be \$4, with the same consumption schedule of \$1.9979 per 1000 cubic feet.

The plan chosen, Schedule B, was one of three presented to the council and was recommended by the city staff and Bartley. The others were one- and five-step plans and would have cost Lone Star Gas customers more than the proposed schedule.

"I personally recommend Schedule B," Bartley told council members. "It takes the burden off the low consumer. These customers are my friends and I have to live with them."

The new rate hike means an added \$458,240 in revenues for Lone Star Gas, 36 percent less than the original \$716,000 originally proposed. "You're taking very good care of your constituents," Bartley told the council.

Crews work to repair crack in Alaskan pipeline

United Press International
ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Emergency pipeline crews worked Monday to fit a metal sleeve over a thin crack in the southern section of the \$9 billion Trans-Alaska pipeline high in the Chugach Mountains north of Valdez.

The metal sleeve was forged in Anchorage and flown to the site of the crack late Sunday night, said John Ratterman, manager of public affairs for Alyeska Pipeline Co.

Workers Saturday placed a temporary clamp over the 3-inch-long, hairline crack to squelch the thin stream of crude oil that

was spraying out at a rate of about 10 gallons a minute.

The leak, the second such break found in the 800-mile pipeline in less than a week, was discovered during a routine surveillance flight by an Alyeska helicopter, the company said.

By Saturday evening, a pool of more than 1,600 gallons of black crude had collected in a hollow between the pipeline, buried five feet underground.

The leak in Isabel Pass was discovered about 2 a.m. Saturday and by 4:30 a.m., workers had excavated around the pipe and discovered the line had also buckled. However, the pipeline was not shut down.



Somebody please help me outta here

Pepper, a fox terrier puppy, decides to think twice next time before accepting owner Steve Tetschi's invitation to swim.

Getting wet is not his thing.

Battalion photo by Mary Anne Snowden.