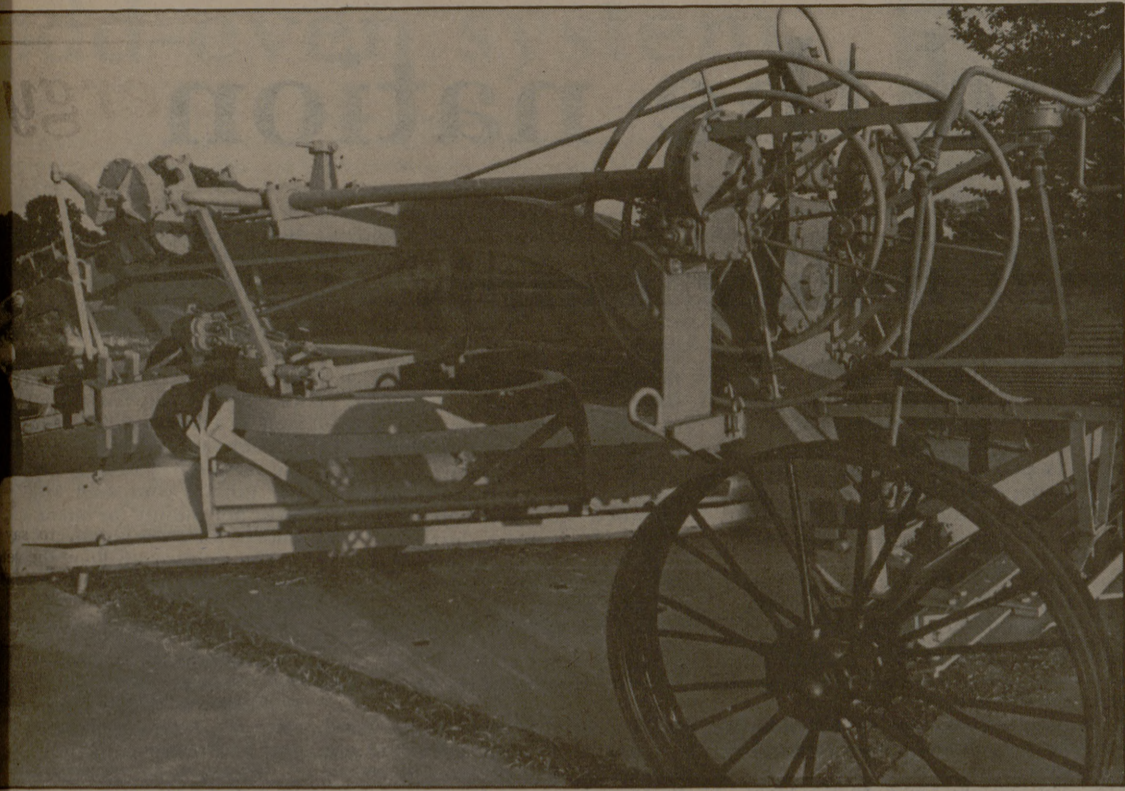


the world



What do you think it is?

This contraption parked in front of the Construction Equipment School at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center is a vintage road grader built in 1943. Now obso-

lete, the machine required two operators: one to operate the diesel tractor which pulled the grader, and one to operate the grader itself.

Battalion photo by Clay Cockrill

Officials disagree on oilspill damage

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — Mexico's Fishing Department contradicted repeated assurances by the state oil monopoly and said a 640-square-mile oil slick in the Gulf of Mexico has caused "significant" environmental damage.

The Ixtoc I well, crippled since a drilling accident June 3, has been gushing 30,000 barrels of oil a day into the Bay of Campeche, 42 miles north of Ciudad del Carmen.

The government news agency Notimex reported late Tuesday that a Fishing Department spokesman said the environmental contamination caused by the spill was "very significant and delicate," although it had not damaged shrimp breeding grounds.

The spokesman reportedly said the degree of environmental damage could only be determined after the well is sealed.

On Monday, Houston oil firefighter John "Red" Adair, who is trying to cap the crippled well, said the accident was "one of the world's worst oil spills, but I believe it will be under control shortly, in less than a week."

"The pollution will not reach the beaches," he said.

Adair, a 63-year-old short and pudgy daredevil, and his specially trained frogmen have been hampered by strong underwater currents and bad weather.

Pemex General Director Jorge Diaz Serrano, has said the environmental damage caused by the spill would be minimal and there would be no damage to the Gulf's \$110 million-a-year shrimp-

ing industry. But one marine biologist warned that shrimp from the Gulf might taste of oil.

Pemex officials have said if Adair fails, it could take three months to build two drills to divert the escaping crude into tankers.

Government troops attack rebel post

United Press International
MANAGUA, Nicaragua — President Anastasio Somoza's elite troops fought Sandinista guerrillas in eastern Managua Wednesday trying to drive the rebels from their command post next to a school jammed with refugees.

Fighting was reported in a score of hamlets in the north and east of Nicaragua.

In the south, national guard T-33 jet aircraft dropped several 500-pound bombs on the Sandinistas' main defense line north of Sapoá, 3 miles north of the Costa Rican border.

Government planes also attacked guerrilla-held Leon Wednesday.

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Death of Pope's bodyguard plotted

United Press International
ROME — Anti-terrorist police believe the Red Brigades planned to assassinate the American-born president of the Vatican Bank who also serves as personal bodyguard of Pope John Paul II, investigation sources said.

The sources said a slip of paper with the name and address of the priest, Paul Marcinkus, born in Cicely, Ill., was found in a raid on an apartment that also turned up the anonymous weapon used to murder former premier Aldo Moro.

The weapon, a Czech-made submachine gun, "is ideal for terrorists and for urban guerrilla warfare," said police ballistics expert Maurizio Coronato. "It's managable, easily concealed, low-cost, with a notable rate of fire and can be easily silenced."

The apartment belonged to Adriana Faranda, 29, and Valerio Borucci, 30, who were arrested on May 30 when police burst into their apartment and surprised them in bed.

The two were among nine Red Brigades members formally accused of killing Moro by a Rome tribunal last December. In all, 21 persons have been charged in the case.

Ballistics experts said the submachine gun also was the weapon used to kill Genoa Prosecutor Francesco Coco three years ago. Investigation sources said the terrorists were contemplating an attempt on Marcinkus' life and police immediately ordered extra patrols around the U.S. Roman Catholic center where the priest lives in Rome.

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PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

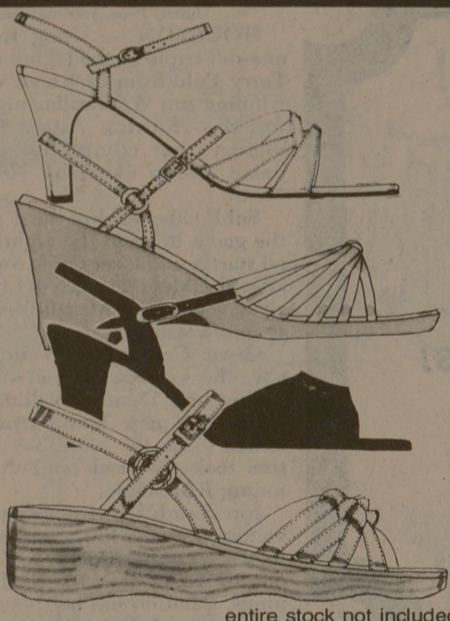
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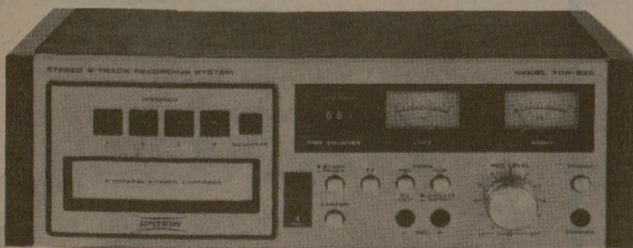
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