

the state

# Governors call on nations to help with refugee problem

United Press International  
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Saying the United States cannot solve this problem alone, a committee of the National Governors' Association called upon other nations Monday to help the "boat people" of southeast Asia.

"We call upon all countries in the world to join in a collective effort to alleviate this tragic plight of these refugees," the committee said in a resolution adopted by voice vote. The full association, which is holding its annual meeting in Louisville, will be asked to endorse the resolution Tuesday.

Texas Gov. William P. Clements complained during the session about the problem of illegal aliens from Mexico, saying Texas had at

least three million illegal aliens and California had three million to 10 million.

"We're talking about an enormous problem," Clements said. "We now have a problem with multi-millions of illegal aliens in the United States from Mexico."

Clements at first asked his fellow governors to expand Ray's draft report on refugees to address the illegal alien issue but relented when told by Ray of an existing NGA policy calling for federal action on illegal aliens.

Iowa Gov. Robert Ray, whose state has been active in helping resettle Vietnam refugees, also called upon nations in southeast Asia to provide temporary shelter to such refugees until they can be resettled

elsewhere.

"Iowa," Ray said, "has accepted 3,000 southeast Asian refugees and plans to provide settlement help to 1,500 others."

Michigan Gov. William Milliken said Iowa's leadership role has been "so inspirational" and represented a "very humanitarian cause."

The policy endorsed by the governors praised President Carter for increasing the number of refugees that will be offered asylum in the United States during the next two years.

The governors also asked the Congress to delete a proposed two-year deadline for federal reimbursement to states of the cost of helping resettle southeast Asian refugees.

# Dallas rate hearings open

United Press International  
AUSTIN — The Public Utility Commission opened hearings Monday on Dallas Power & Light Co.'s proposal to raise electricity rates \$57 million — 14.7 percent increase — for residents in Dallas, Highland Park, University Park, Rockwell Hill and nearby unincorporated areas.

Although the PUC has authority to set rates only for about 400 of DP&L's 275,000 customers, the hearings are expected to last several

days and could affect possible appeals by the company from city council decisions on rate increases for local residents.

Dallas municipal authorities conducted hearings on the proposed rate increases last month, but have yet to act on any raises.

The PUC staff Monday challenged DP&L plans for converting from natural gas to nuclear power and lignite to fuel generators — conversion the company cites as part of the reason a multimillion dollar rate increase is needed.

Chuck Wood, an attorney on the PUC staff, questioned the justification for DP&L plans to develop more nuclear power at a cost of \$740 per kilowatt hour when lignite generating operations produce power for \$275 per kilowatt hour.

Wood also questioned DP&L plans for continued use of natural gas as a fuel for some generators.

Max H. Tanner Jr., DP&L's vice

president, said the utility company had expected to convert from natural gas to fuel oil but now doubts fuel oil will be available for electricity generating because of President Carter's decision to limit imports of foreign oil.

The DP&L vice president said the costs of converting to alternative fuel sources and spiraling inflation are the reason the utility needs a rate increase.

Wood questioned whether the utility company will have more down time with lignite powered plants than in natural gas powered generation of electricity and won an acknowledgement from Tanner that there are more forced outages with coal than natural gas.

The PUC staff attorney also questioned DP&L officials about plans for more of the controversial transactions with affiliated utilities involving ownership of generating facilities and fuel supplies.

# U.T. student settles suit out of court

United Press International  
AUSTIN — A \$1.1 million civil suit filed against three fraternity members by a University of Texas freshman who contended he was beaten, humiliated and sexually abused by the three has been settled out of court.

But the three Alpha Tau Omega members named in the suit — Ron Alan Wilson, James Patrick Hinson and Robert Taylor Herrin — are scheduled to go on trial Monday on criminal charges of aggravated assault.

The victim of the attack, Mike Froelich of New Braunfels, said part of the settlement was that its terms not be revealed.

Froelich contended in the suit he was dragged from the sidewalk into the fraternity house, then was urinated on, stripped, kicked and beaten, and resisted demands that he engage in unnatural sex acts.

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