

the nation

# Irritation and indifference

## Carter's thermostat setting rule receives mixed reactions

United Press International  
America's office workers rolled up their shirtsleeves and turned up their thermostats in line with President Carter's energy conservation mandate this week. Their reactions varied from irritation in the hot Southlands to indifference in the unseasonably cool North.

"We're just in this little area where there's no air. It's terrible. It's a sweatshop," groused Hollie Mann, a secretary for the Small Business Administration who said the temperature in her building reached 87 degrees.

That was in Lubbock, Texas, where the afternoon high neared 100 degrees.

In Chicago, where it never got above a pleasant 78, most office workers scarcely noticed whether thermostats had been turned up to the required 78 degrees (Carter's

mandate calls for 65 degrees in the winter).

A telephone survey of several restaurants found the managers were not even aware of the president's order to conserve energy. Steve Greer, manager of P.S. Chicago, a nightclub-restaurant, said his place is hot enough as it is.

"It's usually 98 degrees in here, even if we would turn it down to 65," Greer said. "It would be getting outrageous to keep it hotter. People pay for an atmosphere of comfort when they go out."

In Fort Worth, Texas, where the temperature also approached 100, at least one restaurant was unconcerned about Carter's order.

"All we have here are fans," said an employee at Angelo's, a restaurant noted for its Texas barbecue. "It's about 85 in here now and no one has ever complained about the heat. Folks just come in and drink beer.

They stay cool that way."

Stewart Mauer, manager of the downtown Hilton Hotel in Indianapolis, said it's all in the attitude, anyway.

"If everyone thinks they're going to be hot and uncomfortable, then they'll probably be hot and uncomfortable," he said. "The idea is to think cool."

Secretaries in the White House, already steamy for weeks because it was the first place Carter ordered mandatory thermostat settings, took to wearing sun dresses and cooling themselves with brightly colored fans. Reporters in the press room likened it to a sauna. Workmen installed screens in many of the West Wing offices so windows could be propped open.

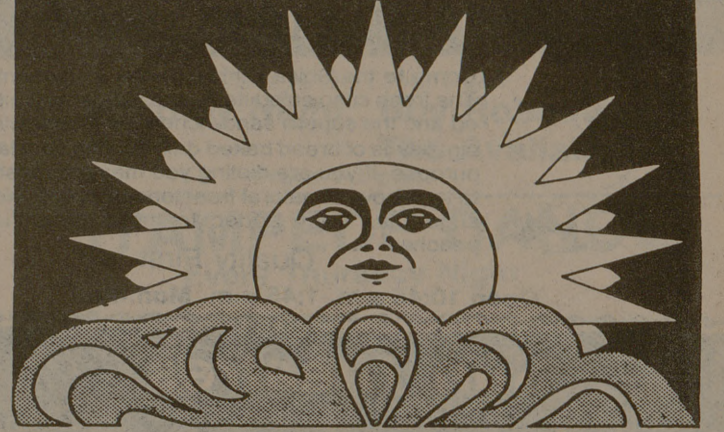
State workers in Miami shed three-piece suits for cooler cotton guayaberas — a shortsleeved cotton shirt of Latin origin — and armed

themselves with sling psychometers, devices one swings in a circle to measure the dewpoint. When it reaches a level of 65 percent, thermostats may be turned down to compensate for the overbearing humidity, Dade County General Services Administration Director Joe Fletcher said.

In San Antonio's Landmark Building, the management saw the con-

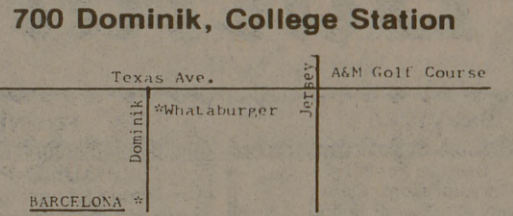
servation order coming and began letting the temperature creep up to 78 days ago.

"We just kicked it up one degree at a time so we got everybody used to it," building manager Vernon Simons said. "I haven't heard anybody complaining. We just told the tenants they could set their own dress code."



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# Foreign investments could benefit U.S. urban areas

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Growing foreign investment in the United States could become a major tool for aiding distressed cities and urban areas, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Patricia Harris said Tuesday.

"This source of capital holds the potential for major impacts on the health of both the national economy and that of individual communities," Mrs. Harris said. "It is particularly important to those localities that show such symptoms of distress as loss of jobs and declining tax bases."

Mrs. Harris made her remarks as HUD released a study on the impact

of foreign direct investment on U.S. cities.

The issue of foreign investment, particularly in real estate, has become an increasingly controversial one.

According to the HUD study, investors from the Netherlands, Great Britain and Canada have the largest investments in the United States and it noted the OPEC nations, the source of much of the controversy over foreign investments, "are not responsible for much direct investment, preferring to place their funds in more liquid assets."

The HUD study showed, however, that overall direct foreign investment in the United States is relatively small — \$34.1 billion in 1977 — but said it has grown more rapidly than U.S. investments abroad in the 1970s.

Among the study's major findings is that while much foreign investment in manufacturing in the United States is in cities with lagging economies, a significant amount of

the investment is for acquisitions of healthy companies thus creating less new employment for distressed areas than elsewhere.

Foreign affiliates employed over one million full-time employees, or about 2 percent of the U.S. workforce in 1974, the study said.

The study recommended a number of ways in which foreign investments might be used to aid distressed urban areas, including the creation of a "national broker service" to bring together places seeking new investors with foreign corporations, "since the present private broker system is not adequately attuned to the needs of distressed cities."

It also recommended the possibility of putting together a package of investment incentives to make investment in distressed cities more attractive to foreign investors, but HUD officials stressed they had put together any legislative or policy packages as yet in response to the study.

# Shuttle key to space future, director says

United Press International  
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Kennedy Space Center Director Lee Scherer says the space shuttle will finish what the Apollo 11 moon mission started 10 years ago.

"Apollo 11 was a prologue of a glorious future, during which the space shuttle is going to open up the possibilities of doing things we have only dreamed of before," Scherer said Monday at a ceremony commemorating the 10th anniversary of the moon mission.

President Carter referred to the moon mission Sunday night in his energy speech as proof of American accomplishment. When Neil Armstrong set foot on the stark lunar landscape 10 years ago, he and his country were heralded for the staggering human endeavor.

No longer is the nation so sure of its space explorations.



## El Chico RESTAURANT

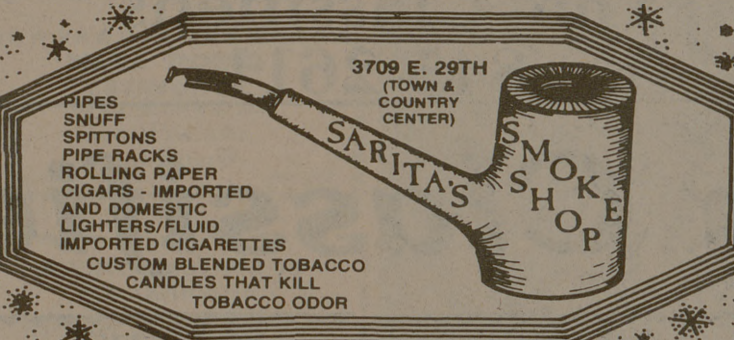
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