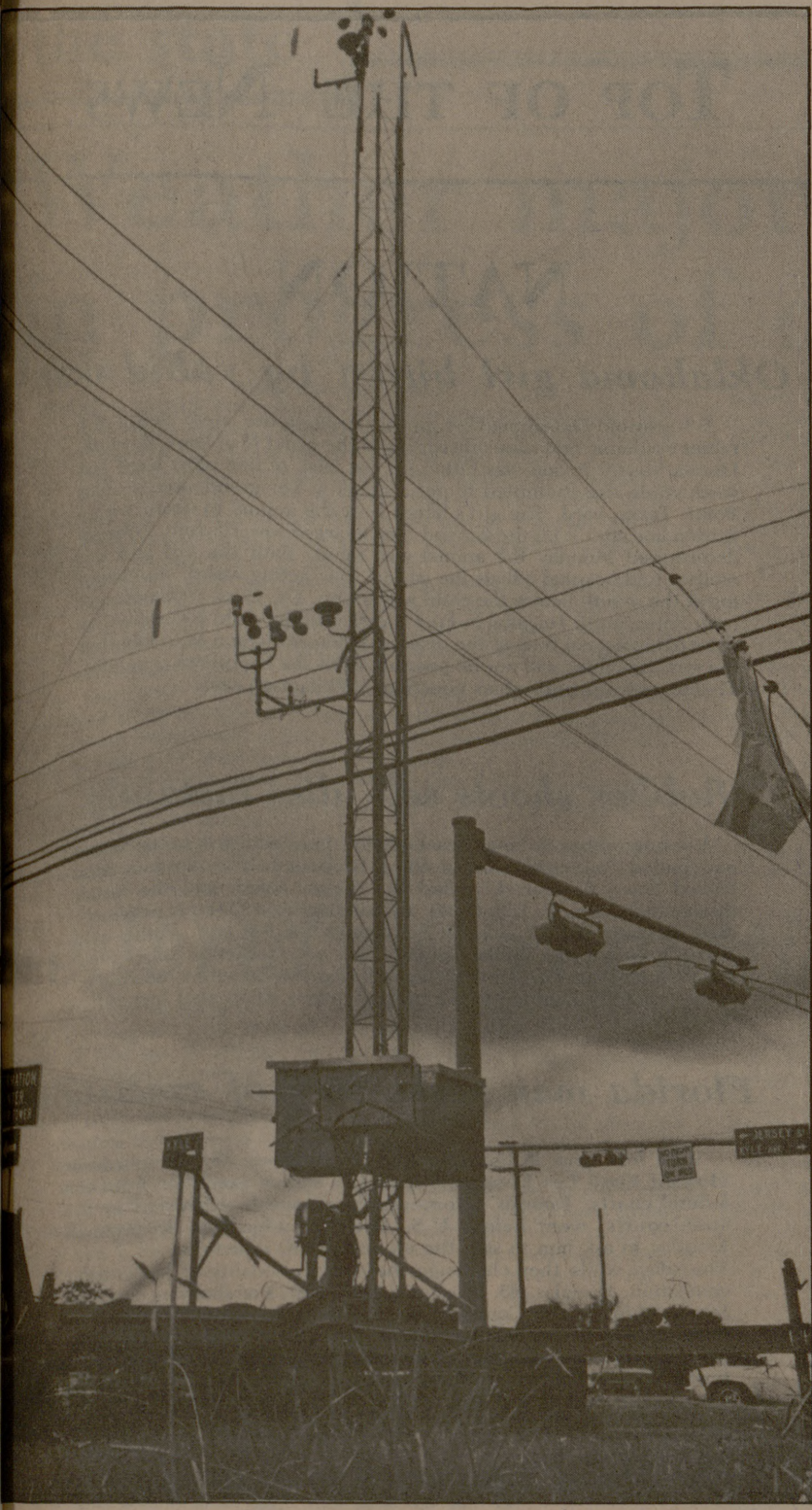


ER
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For more pure air

This tower at the corner of Jersey Street and Texas Avenue is more than a portable weather station — it is part of a pollution monitoring project being undertaken by the Texas Transportation Institute at Texas A&M. The data recorded will ultimately be used to understand how altering traffic signals at busy intersections affects automobile acceleration and thus the level of emissions.

Battalion photo by Clay Cockrill

U.S. recognizes Nicaragua change

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The United States Tuesday formally recognized the new government in Nicaragua.

The coalition government took over from ousted military strongman Anastasio Somoza.

State Department spokesman John Trattner said the foreign ministry of Nicaragua sent word to Washington through the U.S. embassy that it wished to maintain relations with the United States.

The State Department told the embassy to reply that: "The United States also looks forward to continuing relations."

Trattner said such recognition is a formality, since it is customary for the United States to take such a move.

The Department spokesman said it has not yet received a request for the extradition of Anastasio Somoza, but that if one was received, "We would consider it."

Trattner said that Somoza had tried to get immunity from extradition before he took political asylum in Miami Beach.

But "we made no commitments."

Firemen's Training School back at A&M for 50th year

KEITH TAYLOR
Battalion Staff

Summertime at Texas A&M University brings hot, humid weather, freshmen orientation and the firemen.

For the next three weeks the 50th annual Texas Firemen's Training School sponsored by the Texas Engineering Extension Service will hold classes for municipal, industrial and Latin American fire departments.

This week 760 municipal fire departments are participating in the school, said Chief Henry D. Smith, director of the Fire Protection Training Division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service. He said 730 Texas departments, 23 out-of-state departments and seven foreign departments are represented at the school this year. There are about 2,400 firemen participat-

ing in the training, with the majority coming from small volunteer departments, he said.

The school, which is completely self-supporting, has classes ranging from basic fire-fighting techniques to advanced chemical fire control.

"The main thing we try to teach is to be safe. We train the men to get in and make rescues and get out safely. Life comes first, even at the risk of our own," Smith said.

The school also emphasizes quick control, containment and extin-

(Please refer to related feature, p. 6)

guishing of fires along with courses on fire prevention.

"Prevention is strongly emphasized. The economic loss to a town is 4.3 times greater than the actual property loss caused by a major fire in a town," he said.

By sending its firemen to the school, a town can receive up to a 5 percent reduction in the key rate on insurance, Smith said. The key rate is the average insurance rate for a home or business in a given community.

"Everyone learns new techniques and new ideas. This includes the instructors as well as the students," he said.

Manufacturers of fire-fighting equipment let the school use new equipment so the firemen can see what is on the market and to give

Texas truckers advise additional deregulation

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — Warning of serious problems in moving the nation's food supply, farmers and stockmen Tuesday urged a federal task force to further deregulate the trucking industry and to knock bottlenecking weight regulations imposed by seven states along the Mississippi River.

"Farmers are becoming more aware every year of a growing inability of the transportation system to meet the expanding needs of agriculture," said C. H. Fields, assistant director of international affairs for the National Farm Bureau Federation in Washington. "The recent protest shutdown by the independent truckers apply demonstrated the vulnerability of agriculture to the providers of transportation service."

Fields said the Farm Bureau, the nation's largest farmer organization with three million member families, was joining independent truckers in urging Congress to deregulate the industry and apply pressure to states for a uniform 80,000 pound weight limit. He said Farm Bureau representatives would meet with independent truckers Wednesday to discuss the legislation.

"It makes good sense to increase the number of exempt products from rate and route regulation by the ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission)," added Clifford R. Boucher. Boucher is the associate manager of the Livestock Marketing Association of Kansas City, Mo., made up of more than 1,400 marketers, dealers and stockyard businesses.

Nixon tapes checked

United Press International

WASHINGTON — A federal judge ruled Tuesday archivists may screen Richard Nixon's taped "diaries" to determine whether his thoughts were private reflections or whether they involved government business and should be made public.

U.S. District Judge Aubrey Robinson issued the brief opinion in a 5½-year court battle over public release of the ex-president's White House papers and tapes.

Nixon says the "diaries," personally taped recollections at the end of each day, are private property. Robinson said they may be examined by government archivists to determine if they will be made public.

Robinson Tuesday also upheld a General Services Administration regulation providing that the Watergate tapes can be made available at listening centers across the country. The diaries are not part of those tapes of conversations with Nixon had with his top aides during the scandal that drove him from office.

Lawyers for Nixon, the government and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press already have reached a tentative agreement for release of most of Nixon's 42 million White House papers.

That agreement must be approved by Congress, which first seized Nixon's materials by passing the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974 and then ordered the GSA to establish regulations covering their release to the public.

But Nixon's lawyers objected strongly to allowing even archivists to listen to the "diaries," he recorded on voice-activated dictabelts at the end of each day — including his final days in office.

"We recommend that the present agriculture exemption be retained and additional products added, such as meat and agriculture production material such as fertilizers and machinery," Boucher said.

Agriculture representatives testified at the fifth in a series of 12 hearings being conducted throughout the nation by the 14-member Rural Transportation Task Force.

The task force is looking into problems that have led to shortages of railcars and trucks for moving meat, wheat and other grains, fruit, vegetables and cotton this year, and on needed improvements in rural road and bridge systems.

The task force is scheduled to deliver its recommendations to Congress by Jan. 1, 1980, for development into the first national rural transportation policy.

"The current petroleum shortage and the feeble attempts of government to

manage this shortage raise another vital question as we look into the future," Fields told the panel. "We hope those in decision-making positions in government now realize that it is not sufficient to promise adequate fuel for getting crops planted."

"It makes no sense for producers to invest in the production phase of the food system unless crops can be cultivated and harvested, processed and transported to market, and made available for consumer acceptance. This, the consideration of energy availability must be a part of transportation planning and problem solving."

"Prior to the current fuel crisis seven states in the Mississippi Valley served as an effective barrier for trucks moving through the Midwest carrying 80,000 pounds gross weight," Boucher said. "In order to comply with weight limitations in the seven states, the trucks could load only to 73,250 pounds."

In their recent shutdown, independent

truckers termed the seven states with the lower weight limitations, "the Berlin Wall."

Because of differing regulations which Fields called "ridiculous," he said "there is no way a trucker can cross the country legally today."

Stoney M. Stubbs, a frozen food trucker from Roanoke, Texas, who chairs the task force, said a national plan needs to be developed to solve transportation shortages at peak harvest that have left wheat rotting on the ground at Perryton, Texas, this summer.

"You can't write a law or order that says, 'cars, show up at Perryton,'" Stubbs said. "We've had rail car shortages for moving grain since the 1880s and I'm not sure that it's going to change."

But Stubbs said more coordination and storage facilities are needed and other modes of transportation need to be explored.

Weather

A flash flood watch has been issued until midnight tonight. Otherwise it will be cloudy to partly cloudy with a 50% chance of rain today and 40% tonight. High today low 90's, low tonight mid 70's. Winds will be East-northeast at 10-15 m.p.h.

THE BATTALION

Vol. 72 No. 175
12 Pages

Wednesday, July 25, 1979
College Station, Texas

UPSP 045 360
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Claudette disintegrates after hitting Texas coast

United Press International

Fickle Claudette, a storm that changed intensity and direction several times before plowing inland, today slowly disintegrated along the Texas-Louisiana border, raking Beaumont and Port Arthur with high winds and heavy rains that snarled traffic, flooded low-lying homes and closed offices.

Beaumont police found a man dead in a car trapped in a flooded underpass. An autopsy was planned to determine whether the man, who was not immediately identified, drowned.

As the storm moved inland, the National Weather Service posted flash flood warnings in far southeast Texas and flash flood watches for several parts of Texas including Brazos and surrounding counties and parts of northeast Texas and northwest Louisiana.

"It's so disorganized you can't find a center," a National Weather Service spokesman said. "But there's all kinds of weather behind it."

Damage appeared to be mostly wind-raked roofs, downed trees, broken power and telephone lines and flooding.

Four tornadoes, but little resulting

damage, were reported around Beaumont, where streets were flooded and the Jefferson County Courthouse and Lamar University summer classes were closed for the day.

At Port Arthur, 15 inches of rain and wind gusts of 60 mph were measured unofficially. Tides were 2 to 3 feet above normal along the coast, where marine advisories kept offshore oil service and fishing vessels close to shore.

Winds ripped the roof from a service station at Sabine Pass in far southeast Texas, the storm's first landfall about 2 p.m. Tuesday.

"It took the top off the Gulf station across the street from me. I'm sitting here looking at it flying around," said Albert Westerman of Sportsman's Supply in Sabine Pass.

Sea Rim State Park, on the coast west of Sabine Pass, was closed Tuesday and campers evacuated. Acting superintendent Bob Fish stayed in the park in his home built on stilts and said wind and rains were heavy but damage slight.

The storms fringe dumped 3.5 inches of rain on Lake Charles, La., to the east, and about an inch on Galveston, to the west.

At Cameron, La., where Hurricane Audrey killed several hundred in 1957, officials said residents left shelters and took the flooding and high winds calmly.

Amendment to ban busing defeated

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The majority of the Texas congressional delegation was on the losing side in Tuesday's House vote defeating a constitutional amendment to ban racial busing.

Sixteen of the delegation's members voted in favor of the amendment to forbid forced busing to achieve integration of the schools, but the measure fell 74 votes of the necessary two-thirds majority.

All four GOP congressmen voted in favor of the amendment, as did the majority of Texas democrats, during the roll call vote.

Those voting to defeat the proposal were Democratic Reps. Jack Brooks, Bob Eckhardt, Marvin Frost, Henry B. Gonzalez, Mickey Leland, Jim Mattox, Charles Wilson, and House Majority Leader Jim Wright.



Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr

Soaked with water and smeared with oil smoke, this team of firemen takes a break after dousing one of

the numerous fires they will fight this week during the Fireman's Training School.

Smoke sends man to hospital

A participant in the Texas A&M University Firemen's Training School was admitted Tuesday afternoon to St. Joseph's Hospital for smoke inhalation. Lee E. Mayfield, fire chief of the Plano Fire Department, is listed in satisfactory condition in the intensive care unit of the hospital.