

Krueger's post meets opposition

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Senate has confirmed Robert Krueger as coordinator for Mexican affairs with the rank of ambassador-at-large over protests that the appointment would set a precedent the United States would eventually regret.

Krueger's nomination to the newly created position was approved Monday on a 48-35 vote.

Dissenting senators argued the United States does not need two ambassadors to Mexico, but those supporting the nomination said Mexico and the United States have a special relationship that warrants the additional diplomat.

There was no criticism of Krueger, the 45-year-old former congressman from Texas. Some opponents even suggested he would make a good choice to succeed Patrick Lucey as ambassador to Mexico.

But there were strongly worded objections to the creation of the new post and to giving its holder the rank of ambassador-at-large.

Sen. Edward Zorinsky, D-Neb., said the action was "empty and cosmetic" and added it was a "cheap, easy answer that will not improve relations with Mexico."

Zorinsky warned the precedent would forever require the United States to provide Mexico with two ambassadors — one stationed in

Washington and one in Mexico City — while other countries put pressure on the United States for equal treatment.

"This is a terrible precedent to set — one that we will live to regret," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska.

He said the situation would be different if President Carter had named Krueger as ambassador-at-large to more than one country and he also expressed concern over the reaction of the Canadian government.

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., said the job was created by Carter to overcome domestic political problems which since have been resolved by Lucey's resignation.

But, Lugar said, the administration was locked into a position which it was "reluctant" to abandon.

Sen. Frank Church, D-Ind., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, defended the nomination and said there was a need "to upgrade relations with Mexico," which he said were "more complex than with other nations."

Complaints against troopers unwarranted, director says

United Press International

AUSTIN — The director of the Texas Department of Public Safety said Tuesday harassment complaints lodged against two state troopers by Atascosa County officials were unwarranted.

Col. Wilson E. Speir said the DPS internal affairs unit issued a report regarding its investigation of complaints, submitted by Atascosa County officials, involving troopers Alberto Rodriguez and Earl Conaway.

"The investigation did not reveal any violations of statutes, or of departmental policies of a serious nature, that would justify our taking disciplinary action against the troopers," Speir said.

The DPS director said every allegation would be reviewed with the troopers.

Atascosa County commissioners removed the DPS troopers from their county-owned office last month, claiming the troopers had been harassing residents unduly and issuing a high number of citations for driving while intoxicated.

The troopers have been operating out of their homes since their ouster from the county building.

Speir said he would not transfer the troopers.



A summer remembrance

John Mullins, senior aerospace engineering major from Houston, gulps down two chocolate ice cream cones at the Creamery as the last days of summer weather approach.

Creamery hours are 8:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Saturdays.

Battalion photo by Mitzi Gehrs

County GOP to hold rally

The Brazos County Republican Party will hold an old-fashioned political rally and barbecue Thursday from 6-9 p.m. in front of its new headquarters at 813A Texas Ave., College Station.

County GOP Chairman Norbert A. McNeil said the rally will give Brazos County Republicans an opportunity to visit the new headquarters and meet members of the county organization. New committee members will be introduced.

The kickoff for the 1980 campaign will feature country and western music as the entertainment. Tickets for the barbecue cost \$5 per person, and may be purchased at county GOP headquarters, Bryan-College Station Greyhound bus stations, local banks and savings institutions. Telephone reservations may be made by calling 696-0682.

Voter registration forms and information about the GOP presidential candidates will be available.



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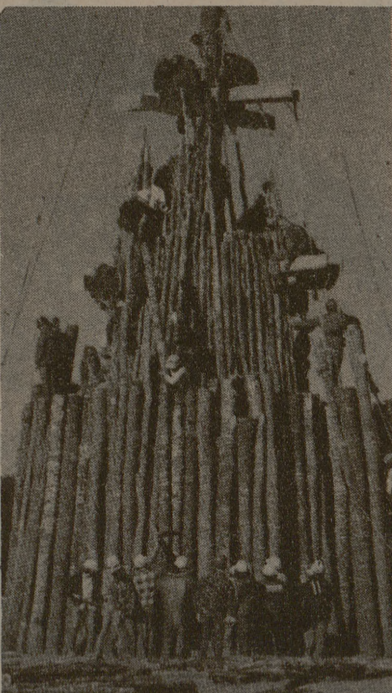
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Well under control in 2 weeks — PEMEX

United Press International

MEXICO CITY — A steel cone designed to catch most of the crude oil emerging from a belching, runaway well will be fully operational by Thursday, and officials hope to bring the gusher under control within two weeks.

"We still have to make a series of tests and adjustments," a spokesman for the state oil monopoly, Petroleos Mexicanos (PEMEX), said Monday. "But the cone will be working at full capacity on Thursday at the latest."

The 310-ton, inverted funnel is designed to trap 80 to 90 percent of the "intermittent burps" gushing from the crippled Ixtoc 1 oil well, which has poured 2.5 million barrels

of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico in less than five months.

PEMEX officials said work on the relief wells was at an advanced stage, "which makes us believe that Ixtoc will be brought under control within two weeks."

They said one of the relief wells, known as Ixtoc 1-B, should reach

See related story page 1.

the 12,000-foot depth of Ixtoc in 12 days — barring unforeseen problems. Once it does, cement and chemicals will be pumped through to rupture the walls of the runaway well and then cap it.

Ten days ago, the well was dump-

ing 10,000 barrels of crude oil into the gulf per day, but due to the injection of steel and lead balls into Ixtoc's mouth, the stream was cut down to "intermittent burps."

The PEMEX spokesman, however, could not estimate by how much the flow had been reduced. He said it was "a significant amount."

"We hope to know for sure sometime this week once the cone goes into full operation," he said.

So far, the project — nicknamed "Operation Sombrero" — has only succeeded in controlling unknown amounts of natural gas.

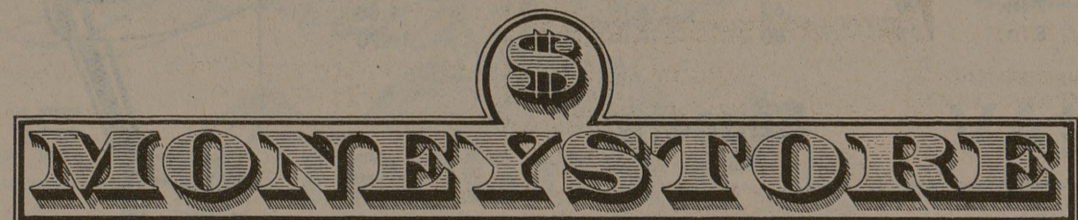
The funnel was built in Houston by Brown & Root, Inc., and has been repaired once.

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