

the state & nation

Anti-Iran demonstrators jeer pro-demonstrators at UTEP

United Press International
EL PASO — Ten pro-Iran demonstrators at the University of Texas at El Paso Friday drew a counter-demonstration from about 600 jeering Americans, but there were no arrests and only one minor injury, police said.

As the pro-Iran demonstrators — five Iranians and five members of two local groups, the Revolutionary Communist Party and the Committee to Support the Revolution in Iran — assembled in the patio at the student union, a larger group gathered above on a balcony.

The pro-Iranian group shouted inaudible slogans through a bullhorn, and the counter-demonstrators yelled "Iranians go home!" and "America — love it or leave it!"

Cans, popcorn, garbage and ice were dropped occasionally on the smaller group, said witness Margo Hernandez.

One young woman, hit with a cup of ice, received a bump on the head during the two-hour faceoff, said Chief Ralph Coulter of the university's police department.

The pro-Iranian group, given a permit by the university to stage a demonstration in the patio and in a campus parade, was ringed by police attempting to keep the larger group away.

The smaller group, carrying placards that read "the shah must face the wrath of the Iranian people" and "long live the revolutionary struggle in Iran," was met moments later at a street intersection by the hostile crowd.

Coulter said some skirmishes between the counter-demonstrators and police resulted. Coulter said the counter-demonstrators were notified their actions would not be tolerated.

The pro-Iranians eventually retreated to the safety of the student union basement, Hernandez said.



Battalion photo by Suzanne Janney

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El Paso man on TSTI board

United Press International
AUSTIN, Texas — Ralph A. Lowenfield of El Paso has been appointed to a six-year term on the board of regents of Texas State Technical Institute.

Gov. Bill Clements appointed Lowenfield on Friday to replace Tom Patterson of Amarillo, whose term expired.

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Vance to visit Europe Carter considering embargo

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter is considering seeking a world trade embargo against Iran — including food — and has told Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to discuss the matter with European leaders, it was learned Saturday.

The president thinks Iran already is suffering from a shortage of imported goods in general.

While Carter would not single out food from other goods, he is considering imposition of a general trade embargo against Iran to resolve the 35-day-old crisis and free 50 Americans being held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

Carter's detailed views were learned under White House ground rules forbidding attribution to the source.

Carter has spoken on the phone about the Iranian crisis with major U.S. allies, including British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark and Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira. He feels the allies have done what he has asked of them.

The president believes that by freezing Iranian assets in the United States, he has made it all but impossible for Iran to import American food or other goods. At the same time, Carter thinks shipments of food to Iran from the Soviet Union have been reduced due to Russia's own poor harvest and enormous grain import requirements.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is

making stops in London, Paris, Bonn, Rome and Brussels next week and he will discuss the possibility of a general embargo with America's allies. As Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher put it, Vance will discuss "collective action ... of an economic nature."

The president welcomes the fact that Europe and Japan have at least passively supported the American decision to freeze billions of dollars in Iranian assets, it was learned. He feels foreign banks as well as governments have done nothing to circumvent America's economic pressure on Iran and thinks this amounts to cooperation.

As for the future of the shah, Carter is aware of Iranian calls for a special world commission to conduct an inquiry into his years as a ruler, but the president feels any such hearing would be more appropriately done in an established forum, such as the United Nations or the World Court — after the hostages are released.

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