## Wanted: coal exports

## Task force created to promote resource

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Carter
administration Tuesday launched an inter-agency task force to report to the president in six months on ways to expand U.S. coal exports, said De-

puty Energy Secretary John Sawhill. Sawhill told reporters the task force, which will examine trade barriers to coal exports, is one of five new administration programs promoting coal, the country's most abun-

bill, enforcement of a law on coal conversions in industrial boilers, a \$1 billion research and development program and \$10 billion in proposed subsidies for utility coal conversions.

Sawhill said his agency estimates coal exports could grow from the current 5-million-ton level to 80 million or 100 million tons by the end of the

He said such a 20-fold increase in exports could create 38,000 new al Energy Agency meeting and the

There can be no argument that we must export more coal to improve the balance of trade, take pressure off the dollar and dampen inflation, as well as lift the burden of oil from the backs of our allies, who are far more dependent on imports than we said Sawhill.

Last year, the 20 industrialized na-

The others are the synthetic fuels mining jobs and 190,000 related seven attending the Tokyo economic summit agreed to find ways to in-

> The United States recently has also discussed expansion of its coal export trade with France and Spain.

Next week, Sawhill said, a delegation of senior U.S. coal industry offi-cials will meet in Paris to help the International Energy Agency members find ways to boost their use of

#### Gas prices force change

United Press International WASHINGTON — The rising price of gasoline has forced a change in driving habits for about three out of every four motorists, and some have altogether abandoned plans to use their car on vacations, according to a recent Gallup poll.

The poll, conducted for the Highway Users Federation, a non-profit pro-highway group, found that 7 out of 10 motorists contacted said they were driving less this year than they did one year ago.

The survey, which included 1,572 adults, was taken during February

It found that 63 percent had cut down on weekend or social trips, 49 percent had reduced shopping by car and 18 percent said they were taking shorter vacation trips by car. Another 12 percent said they had stopped using cars for vacations en-

The poll also found that 64 percent were opposed to the idea of an additional 50-cent per gallon gas tax to further discourage driving.



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# No illegalities in silver crash

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Although the
Commodities Futures Trading Commission continues to pursue reasons for last month's scary silver market crash, one commissioner told a con-gressional panel Tuesday so far there has been no evidence of illegal market manipulation.

In an obvious reference to billionaire brothers W. Herbert and Nelson Bunker Hunt of Texas, Com-missioner David Gartner told a House Government Operations subcommittee the agency has found no evidence of a corner, squeeze or

ORLANDO, Fla. — Bill Mur-

phy's friends are trying to collect enough money to finance stomach-stapling surgery for the 600-pound

"I just don't know how to come up with \$5,000," Murphy said Monday. "I just don't know. Maybe my friends

will think of something."

He says he will die without surgery because of the strain his

heart bears. Just talking on the tele-phone takes his breath away. A walk

to the mailbox to collect his monthly

\$239 disability payment leaves Murphy huffing for 10 minutes.

But even the indignity of bathing in the backyard with a garden hose

because he can't fit into the tub has

not motivated Murphy to keep from gaining weight. He has abandoned

one diet after another. "I just don't have no will power," he said. "The whole thing in a nutshell is I don't have no activity. I don't have

nothing to turn to because no one will hire me. I say to myself, why not enjoy food while I still can?" he said.

wouldn't be very long before it

Murphy, a bachelor, said. "In other words, I'm like a walking time bomb.

He says the only solution is an peration to close off his stomach so

it holds no more than 2 ounces of

My heart could go any time.

The way the doctor talked, it

ounce in late March — down from a high of \$50 in January, and much of the blame was attributed to the Hunts, who after acquiring massive amounts of silver, were unable to meet their contract payments known

as margin calls.

The Hunts' action sparked a panic selling spree, and a subsequent spree in stocks of corporations known to have connections with the wealthy Texans.

The subcommittee invited the Hunts to testify, but by Tuesday they had not responded. "They'll testify, one way or the other," declared submanipulation of the market.

Silver prices plummeted to \$10 an Rosenthal, D-N.Y.

pounds in three months after the sto-

mach stapling surgery and 30 per-cent more of his weight in the next year and a half. A team of surgeons

have offered their services for free.

Now Murphy is trying to finance a

\$6,000, two-week stay at Shands

Teaching Hospital in Gainesville by

Because he has no job and no medical insurance, the hospital requires the money be paid before

admission. "Without any insurance,

we need to have the money up

front," said Lisa Stewart, a spokes-woman for Shands.

Lipstick alibi

United Press International DALLAS — An attorney for an appliance repairman, charged with the "lipstick" slaying of a woman, 28,

says he has verified portions of the

Monday refused to reveal the alibi of Donald Hemphill, 30, who was

charged with first degree murder for

the March 31 strangulation of Debra

Hemphill remains jailed in lieu of \$500,000 bond.

suspect's alibi.

kept secret

the end of July.

panel was expected to vote in the next day or two on whether to subpoena the brothers. The Commodity Futures Trading

Commission has nothing to apologize for with respect to its role in connection with recent reverberations in the silver futures market,' Gartner said.

The silver phenomenon was free enterprise at its finest hour," he said. "It demonstrated the system works."

Because of the large margin requirements at the time of the crash, Gartner told the panel, "No one other than large speculators and un-

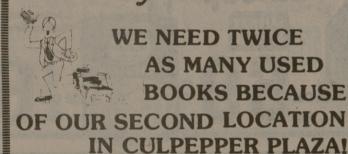
wary brokers got hurt."
"The market cured itself," he said.

Comissioner Read Dunn said he doesn't think there is a need for additional regulation, and indicated much of the problem was due to hoarding by foreign investors.

Commissioner Robert Martin agreed further government regulation to ensure customer protection is unnecessary. He said investors should be protected against fraud, deceit and improper diversion of their funds, but regulation "should not offer any shelter from the consequences of their own judgement.

Chairman James Stone was in the minority. "I think the financial fabric of the United States was endangered," he said.

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