

nation

Candidates key up for Texas primaries

Reagan plans three stops during Texas campaign

United Press International

AUSTIN — Campaign officials Monday announced a partial itinerary for Ronald Reagan's final campaign swing through Texas before the Republican presidential primary Saturday.

Ernest Angelo Jr., Midland mayor and Reagan's Texas chairman, said the former California governor will make appearances in El Paso, Midland and Fort Worth Wednesday.

Reagan is expected to campaign in Dallas Thurs-

day, and possibly spend some additional time in the state Friday, but aides said details have not been completed.

The candidate is scheduled to arrive in El Paso from Los Angeles on Wednesday for an airport rally and then proceed to Midland for a \$500-per-person fund raiser and political rally.

The schedule calls for Reagan to arrive at the Dallas-Fort Worth airport Wednesday evening and go to a Fort Worth hotel for the night.

Says Carter best for the job

Krueger supports president

United Press International
LUBBOCK — Most Americans appreciate President Carter's plans to rescue the American hostages in Tehran despite the mission's tragic outcome, Ambassador-at-Large to Mexico Robert Krueger said Monday.

Krueger, a Democrat campaigning in his home state for Carter, said he has not always agreed with the president, but nonetheless rates him the best candidate available for the job in the next four years.

He said the nation must select its president on the basis of overall qualities.

Texas holds its non-binding Democratic presidential primary on Saturday.

"We've got to have someone who doesn't read somebody else's lines, and somebody who knows where he stands. Someone who's willing to say, 'The buck stops here.'"

"We've had a setback in the last few days. We wish those three helicopters had not gone out. All of us wish that we had not lost those lives.

I think most of us, certainly I, am grateful that an attempt was made to get those hostages out," Krueger said.

"What we need to do, though, and what we can be proud of, is that we have a leader who has said, 'I take responsibility for the decision.' He is not reading somebody else's lines. He's prepared to make those decisions," Krueger said.

The diplomat predicted neither the failed mission in Iran nor the resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who opposed the rescue effort, will have a pivotal effect on Carter's re-election bid.

Krueger compared Carter to front-running GOP candidate Ronald Reagan, saying the California governor appeared confused at times.

"I haven't agreed with every position Jimmy Carter ever took. I may not have agreed with every one he ever took on agriculture. But I guarantee you, you're not going to ask Jimmy Carter about parity and have him say, 'Well, yes, no, actually I don't know as much about parity as

I ought to,' as one leading candidate in the other party for president.

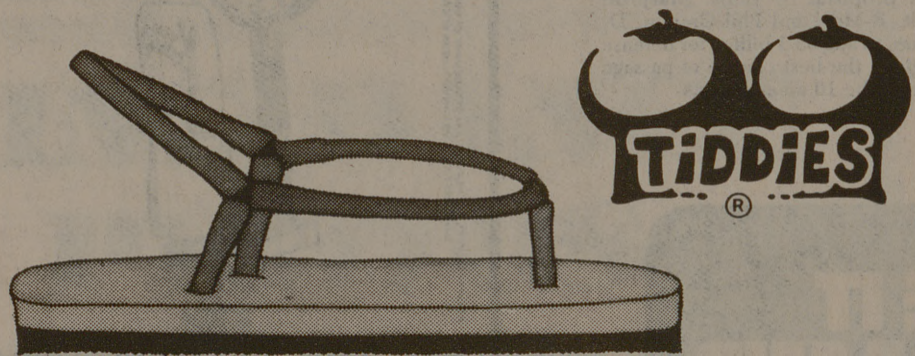
Krueger said during the campaign, Reagan has "confused the Chinese with Indonesia and Pakistan with Pakistan."

"When asked what he would do about the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, (Reagan) said that he would put a blockade around Cuba," Krueger said. "Now what that would do for our relations with Latin America and many other nations is just what it would destroy them."

The New Braunfels diplomat also chastised Texas Gov. William P. Hobby Jr. for statements he has made in Mexico criticizing the president. He compared them to statements from Iran by the mother of one of the hostages. In either case, said Krueger, there was a lack of "good riotism."

"The truth of the matter is, I think the Mexican government is all that seriously what is said there. I've never had any Mexican official raise to me the statements that were made by Gov. Hobby," he said.

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Hightower to begin whistle stop tour

United Press International
AUSTIN — Scrambling for media attention to combat a television advertising campaign by the incumbent officeholder, challenger Jim Hightower will stage a whistle stop tour of Texas today.

Hightower will board a restored 1948 Pullman railroad car in Dallas and make stops in Fort Worth, Cleburne, McGregor, Temple, Taylor, Austin, San Marcos, New Braunfels and San Antonio to publicize his charge that the current Railroad Commission is "railroading consumers."

"It's our railroad commissioners who are the chief engineers of the railroading," Hightower said in a

prepared statement. "I say it to throw the rascals out."

Hightower said Jim Nugent, man he is challenging, has done nothing to help rail travelers, shippers or receivers since he was appointed to the three-man commission.

Hightower said he favors a billion proposal to upgrade the along a triangular corridor between Dallas-Fort Worth with San Antonio and Houston to accommodate speed trains.

Hightower has not been able to raise funds for television advertising and is trying to counter Nugent's intensive media campaign with spots.

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