

# THE BATTALION

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## The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High . . . . . 56	High . . . . . 68
Low . . . . . 40	Low . . . . . 34
Rain . . . . . 0.00 inches	Humidity . . . . . moderate
	Chance of rain . . . . . 20%

## Boycott delays session

**United Press International**  
LONDON — Hard-line deputies boycotted a crucial parliament session on the fate of the 52 American hostages today, forcing a postponement of the meeting until Sunday.

The official news agency Pars said flatly the meeting was canceled when "several deputies who, four days ago protested the Majlis (parliament) taking up the hostage issue at this time of conflict, boycotted the session."

Another public session was called for Sunday, but a parliament spokesman told UPI the same "full attendance" rule that canceled today's session also would apply on Sunday.

The Pars report referred to the hard-line bloc of 87 Majlis deputies, most of them from the extreme fundamentalist Islamic Republican Party, which tried to crowd out the whole hostage issue when parliament began a secret debate on their fate last Sunday.

Four times since then, parliament has debated in private the recommendations of its seven-man hostage commission, headed by Hajjatoleslam Mousai Khoyeni, 39, a hardliner who was the leader of the 400 Moslem militants

who stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and seized the 52 American hostages 362 days ago.

Not one firm indication of its arguments or recommendations leaked out of the secret debates, although every deputy and every parliamentary official had his own version of what was taking place or was likely to happen.

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini met almost immediately after the parliament session was canceled with Iran's entire political and military leadership, Pars said.

It said "details of the conflict on the southern fronts and the general progress of the Iranian defense were discussed," but noted "the session continues."

During Wednesday's five-hour Majlis session, parliament had resolved to hold a public session today, but stipulated all deputies must be present.

Tehran Radio broadcast a directive saying "it is essential that all the deputies should attend." Iranian television repeated the requirement.

But so many hard-liners boycotted the meeting it was not clear whether even a normal quorum of 179 members was present. Pars and the parliament spokesmen refused to say how many turned up.

Several Moslem fundamentalists in the clergy-

dominated parliament were believed to be insisting that at least some of the hostages should be put on trial as spies.

The U.S. government has said trial for any hostage would bring "grave consequences" to Iran.

State Department spokesman John Trattner also responded to repeated, although unofficial, reports Iran intended to release the hostages in batches. This, Trattner said, would be "unacceptable" to the United States.

"We seek the release of all the hostages," he said. "Holding one would be just as unacceptable as holding 52."

In an interview on Swedish Radio, Ayatollah Sheikh Sadegh Khalkhali, a harsh Islamic judge and a hard-liner in parliament, said Iran would not set tougher conditions for the hostages' release and would like the United States to deliver weapons and military spare parts which Iran has purchased.

In Rochester, N.Y., President Carter refused to discuss the report, saying, "I think it would be better for me not to comment until I see the exact statement. I talked to the State Department early this morning. I think I won't comment now."

## Assistant says Khomeini has cancer

# Moore remarks infuriate officials

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — Administration officials said they believe the hostage crisis is approaching its climax and they're worried a statement by a top presidential assistant suggesting Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has terminal cancer could delay further the release of the 52 Americans.

White House and State Department officials were incredulous and openly furious at remarks by Frank Moore, presidential assistant for congressional relations, in an interview given to the Shreveport (La.) Journal during a campaign stop.

In the interview, Moore is quoted as saying Khomeini has cancer of the colon "and he's not going to last long."

According to the interview, Moore said Khomeini would be replaced by a coalition

of Iranian military men, some of them now in exile.

It was Moore's reported statement about the military successor regime that sent shock waves through the State Department and White House with both preparing to hear the terms for the hostage release at an open session of the Iranian Parliament.

The White House quickly denied Moore's assertions Wednesday.

A statement said, "Mr. Moore is not a spokesman for the administration on matters relating to Iran. The administration has no information suggesting Ayatollah Khomeini is terminally ill. As a matter of policy, the administration does not speculate on the course of internal developments in Iran."

Khomeini, 80, is known to have suffered a serious heart attack, but there has been no information published that suggested he has cancer.

Angry administration officials said the Moore interview gave the impression the United States was "in cahoots" with the emigre Iranian military officers. "That is simply not true," an official said.

"If Moore really said that, he should be fired on the spot," one State Department official said.

In the printed interview, Moore was asked whether the United States planned to take any action that would ensure a pro-Western government after Khomeini. No, said Moore, the administration was not encouraging anyone.

He said an assurance the United States would not meddle in Iran's internal affairs was a major condition for securing the release of the 52 Americans held hostage since Nov. 4, 1979.

Moore said the highly publicized Iranian parliament hostage debate was "hurting Jimmy Carter" because it was taking place so near the election.

He said the Iranians might want to release the hostages to free Iranian assets now blocked in the United States.

"The Iranians, I think, have finally come around to the conclusion it is not in their self-interest to have the hostages any longer," Moore said.

## Candidates go for the vote-rich states

**United Press International**  
On Election Day minus five, President Carter is spending the day in Philadelphia — and could cross paths with opponent Ronald Reagan, who also had a stop in the City of Brotherly Love on today's schedule.

Pennsylvania is one of the key vote-rich states currently deemed too close to call, and neither candidate is willing to concede it without a strong last-ditch effort.

In the first 24 hours following the Cleveland debate, both men appeared buoyed by the debate results and both were greeted by big and friendly crowds at their campaign stops.

Carter campaigned across Ohio, Pennsylvania, upstate New York and New Jersey before going on to Philadelphia for the night.

Reagan began the day in Cleveland, then flew to Texas for appearances in Houston, Fort Worth and Dallas. To-

day he was stopping in Memphis, Tenn.; London, Ky.; Newark, N.J.; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Carter was greeted at a black Baptist church in Newark, N.J., an enthusiastic audience, and was in a jubilant mood. At a downtown rally earlier in Rochester, N.Y., a huge crowd that may have been the largest of his campaign swamped the rally area and filled surrounding sidewalks for blocks.

Reagan and his entourage also were upbeat in the aftermath of the debate. Reagan, clearly in a good mood, told reporters he is confident of having been able to refute "the falsehoods that have been told numerous times by the whole Carter campaign."

He spoke to an estimated 10,000 people at an outdoor rally in Houston, and accepted the gift from a local rancher of a 2,300-pound Longhorn steer in Fort Worth.

Both men may have spent the early hours of Wednes-

day thinking of points they had failed to make under the pressure of the debate format. Later Wednesday the speeches of both candidates were peppered with lines aimed at their opponent's stands on issues that arose during the confrontation.

Carter did not challenge on Tuesday night Reagan's denial of ever having said nuclear proliferation is "none of our business," but on Wednesday he said: "The New York Times on Feb. 1 reported Reagan as indicating he believes the United States should not stand in the way of countries developing their own nuclear weapons and quoted him as saying, 'I just don't think it's any of our business.'"

"Every American ought to stop and think what will happen to this world if we take the position it's none of our business if terrorist nations have atomic weapons," Carter said.

## Montgomery cleared

**United Press International**  
MCKINNEY — Citizens were shocked, surprised and indignant in this northeast Texas community because of a jury's ruling that Candace Montgomery was defending herself in killing her former lover's wife with 41 ax blows.

A nine-woman, three-man jury declared Wednesday the 30-year-old housewife and mother of two young children was innocent of murder in the bizarre hacking death of friend and fellow church member Betty Gore.

"As far as I'm concerned, justice will be

served," said Bob Pomeroy of Norwich, Kan., the victim's father.

Pomeroy discounted Montgomery's testimony that she was defending herself after Gore confronted her about an affair with Gore's husband, Alan, and produced an ax.

Montgomery showed no emotion when the verdict was read by District Judge Tom Ryan. She fought back tears, however, as she and her husband, Pat, were whisked out of the Collin County courthouse under heavy guard after Ryan had received a letter threatening Montgomery's life.

## Infamous mansion used as haunted house



An unidentified masked man gets the Halloween spirit.

By RITCHIE PRIDDY  
Battalion Staff

The movies may have their scary scenes, but the Bryan-College Station Jaycees have their own version, and that is only the beginning of the happenings in the area this week in celebration of Halloween.

The eighth annual B-CS Jaycees haunted house got under way last Friday in what may be described as the "ideal" location — the Howell mansion in Bryan.

The mansion, built by an ambassador from South America in the 1930s, has a long history of speculation about its possibly being haunted.

Local rumors say that hidden somewhere deep inside the mansion is over \$1 million. Others speculate that the mansion was once used by devil worshippers for use in their demonic practices. Still, others believe the late ambassador may still be "around," in one form or another.

After the ambassador's death, the building was donated to Allen Academy for use as a dorm. A few years later Allen sold it to Young Brothers Construction firm. The building has been vacant for some time and recently was declared uninhabitable by the city.

Joe Holliman, Jaycee project chairman, described the building as "the ideal location" since most of the original furnishings are still in place.

Many who visited the house said it was one of the best haunted houses they had ever gone to.

"It was great. The best I've ever seen," said one person Saturday night.

"I was crying and went over by this nice policeman and he told me to sit by this lady. And I was scared," said one young visitor, sobbing.

The Jaycees have been working most of October to get the building in shape as this year's haunted house. They have spent over \$2,500 on the project and expect to draw a total of 3,000-5,000 people. Admission is \$1 for students under 18, and \$2.50 for adults. Halloween night there will be a special "Midnight Madness" for all students. Admission is \$1 and is well worth the trip as nothing will be held back, Holliman said.

The house is located at the corner of Booneville Road and Ursuline in Bryan.

Proceeds from the house go to the Christmas Toy Drive the Jaycees annually sponsor.

Other ghostly happenings in the area include:

— The third annual Alpha Gamma Rho Haunted House will be held Thursday and Friday nights from 8-12 p.m. It is located at 418 College Main. Admission is \$1.

— The Residence Hall Association is sponsoring a pair of costume judging contests Thursday in front of Sbsia and the Commons dining halls. The contests get under way at 5:45 p.m. and are followed by yell practice at 7 p.m. From 8-9 p.m., the men's dorms will visit the women's dorms on a trick-or-treating escapade. From 9-10 p.m., the women will go trick-or-treating in the men's dorms. Street dances will be held from 9-12 at Sbsia and the Commons.

— The Methodist Student Movement will hold a costume dance Thursday night beginning at 8 p.m. in 201 MSC. Prizes will be awarded for costumes entered. There is no admission charge.

— The MSC Cepheid Variable will present a Halloween Film Festival Thursday beginning at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium with "The Legend of Hell House." At 10 p.m. "The Fog" will be shown in Rudder Theater, to be followed by "The Haunting" at midnight. Admission to all three movies is \$2.50.

— The Peppertree Apartment Council, a sub-division of Off-Campus Aggies will be holding its first annual Halloween party at Peppertree Apartments Thursday night. A costume judging contest and door-to-door Trick-or-Liquor will be featured. Trick-or-Liquor is similar to trick-or-treat, but the treat will be a mixed drink. All apartments participating in Trick-or-Liquor are required to display a pumpkin on their doorstep. All students are invited to attend. Each is encouraged to bring his/her own glass. The women will visit the men's apartments from 7-8 p.m., and the men will visit the women from 8-9 p.m. A party will follow in Peppertree Apt. #3 from 9-12 p.m.

— Friday night the MSC Aggie Cinema will show "Amityville Horror" at 7:30 in Rudder Theater. At midnight "Halloween" will be shown. Admission to each movie is \$1.25.

## More than 100 Aggies suffer from virus

By CINDY GEE  
Battalion Reporter

While hundreds of Aggies were out dancing and socializing Wednesday night, at least a hundred others could be found in their dorm rooms, suffering from a virus that began to affect them that afternoon.

A nurse from the A.P. Beutel Health Center at Texas A&M University said she wasn't sure what the mysterious malady was.

The nurse said all she knew was: "A lot of kids, mostly Corps people, have been sick with vomiting and they all seem to have one thing in common — they all ate at Duncan."

The students were treated for their symptoms of diarrhea, nausea, fever and cold chills. Only 14 of the students were to remain overnight at the health center.

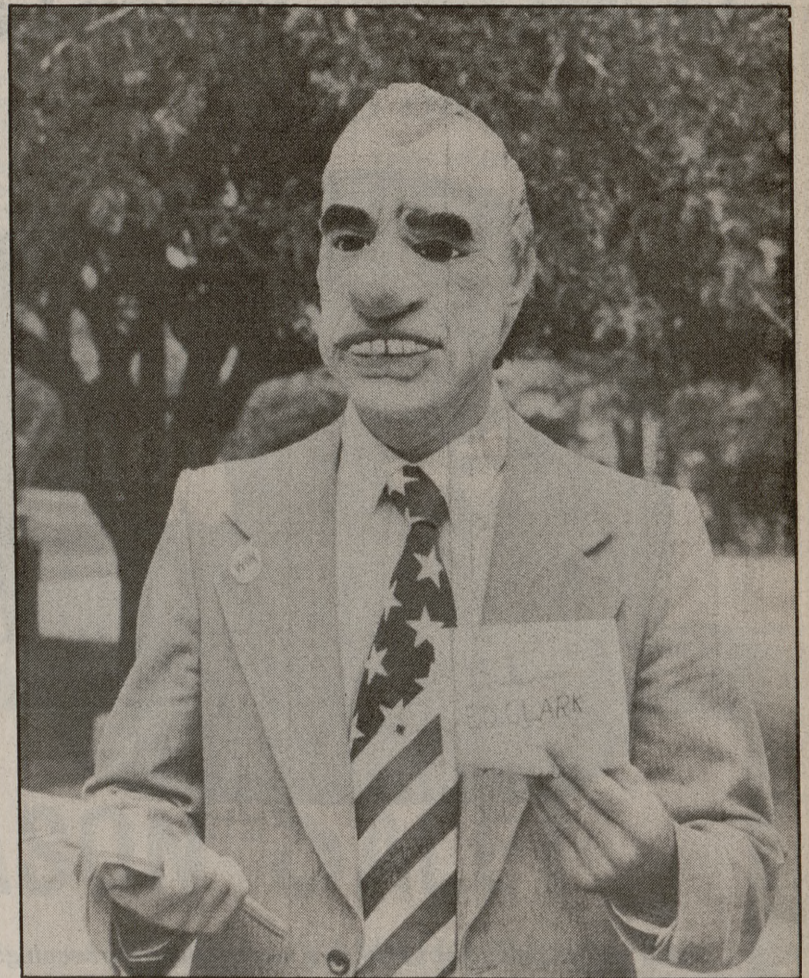
The nurse said she came in at 4 p.m. and had seen at least 50 students in the 7 hours she had been on duty. However, one cadet who was at the health center said many of the sick cadets weren't going to the health center.

"There will be a lot of people out of class tomorrow," he said, "and there probably won't be too many people doing push-ups and runs tomorrow."

The planned Corps trip to SMU this weekend probably won't be affected because the symptoms don't usually last over 24 hours, a doctor from the health center said. He added he has seen many people in town who have not eaten at Duncan Dining Hall and who do not attend Texas A&M who are suffering from the same symptoms.

"We know there is a virus going around in this area," a health center doctor said, "but we won't know exactly what it is until we get the diagnosis back from Atlanta. (The national Center for Disease Control is in Atlanta, Ga.) I don't think it's food poisoning."

There is no apparent link between the cases treated at the health center except that all those afflicted ate at Duncan. Some of those who are sick ate breakfast at Duncan and didn't eat lunch there; others who are sick ate lunch, but not breakfast in Duncan.



Staff photo by Jeff Kerber

## Reincarnation

Asking not to have his true identity revealed, Richard Nixon distributed leaflets to promote the appearance of Libertarian candidate for President, Ed Clark. Clark will speak tonight at 7:30 in the Rudder Theater, sponsored by the MSC Political Forum.