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## State/Nation

### Vaught acquitted

By STARR MOORE  
Battalion Reporter  
An 11-woman and one-man jury found Connie Vaught innocent by reason of insanity Thursday in the 272nd District Court before Judge Bradley Smith.  
Vaught, 35, was charged with aggravated assault for the damage done to the Department of Human Resources building in Bryan during her shooting spree on April 28.  
Of the four psychiatrists and psychologists who testified, two said she was insane and two said she was not.  
Assistant District Attorney Jim James III said three witnesses who knew Vaught well testified for the defense saying she was unbalanced.

Vaught, herself, testified she lost control when she found she could not regain the custody of her daughter whom she voluntarily gave up for adoption.

Brenda Rumfield and Pat Arbuckle, both DHR workers, testified they saw Vaught come in the office with a gun and fire shots.

Rumfield said Vaught locked herself in one of the rooms until the police arrived and evacuated the building.

Rumfield said Vaught had threatened Arbuckle before April 28.

James said Vaught wrote a letter to her grandfather saying she wished she had killed Arbuckle.

However, Judge Bradley Smith would not admit the letter into court as evidence.

Some members of the jury wept as Vaught, the mother of five, testified of her difficult life — of her many illnesses, of her father's death and the loss of her husbands.

James said Vaught's daughter, who is her fifth child, has been legally adopted. He said two of the children are with relatives and two are with their father.

James said Vaught will now be transferred to the county court for civil commitment proceedings. He said she may be committed to one of the state hospitals.



**Vote Aggie Elect**  
**John B. Patrick**  
Democrat  
**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE**  
**14th Court of Civil Appeals**  
Position 1

Candidate in 14 Counties: Austin, Brazos, Brazoria, Burleson, Chambers, Colorado, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Trinity, Walker, Waller and Washington.

- ★ 15 Years Trial & Appellate Experience before local, state, federal and United States Supreme Courts
- ★ Former City Attorney, Pasadena, Texas
- ★ Native Houstonian
- ★ Southern Baptist
- ★ Texas A&M "58"
- ★ Honor Graduate-South Texas Law School

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Paid for by Campaign to Elect John B. Patrick, 108 Main, Houston, Tx. 77002 Ken Lindsey, Treasurer

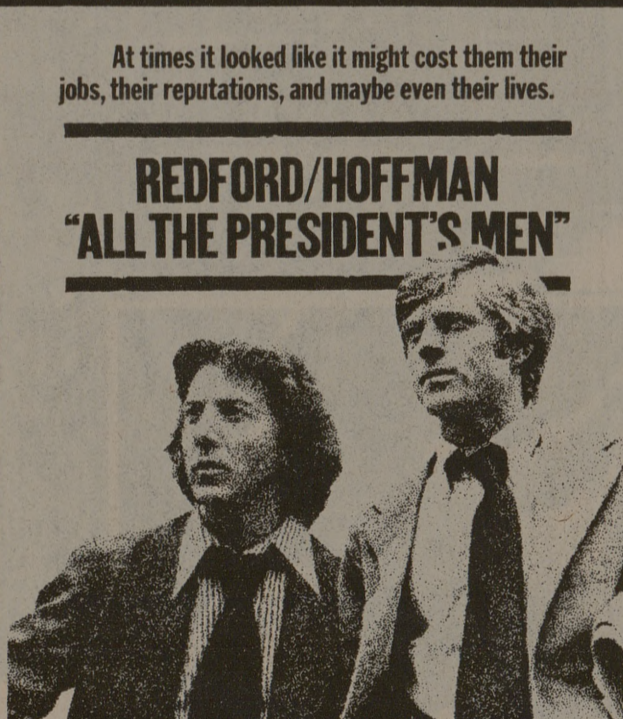
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MIDNIGHT  
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NOV. 2  
SUNDAY  
7:30 P.M.  
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## Only one of three safety controls worked in silo

United Press International  
LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Only one of three major safety features designed to control fuel leaks in Titan II missile silos was workable at the Damascus, Ark., site that exploded Sept. 19, it was reported Thursday.  
The Arkansas Gazette reported that two other safety devices designed to deal with fuel leaks — massive fuel-storage tanks and an exhaust system — were rendered useless because they were potentially as hazardous as the dangers they were supposed to prevent.  
The explosion killed one Air Force crewman and injured 21 others.  
Fuel began leaking from the Titan II missile late Sept. 18 after a crewman performing routine maintenance dropped a wrench socket that punctured the missile's fuel tank. The crew returned to the control center and discovered silo fire indicators had been triggered.  
They activated the only available safety system, which dumped about 100,000 gallons of water into the silo — only a fifth of what was needed to avert an explosion, the report said. They then evacuated the silo.  
Tanks to which the highly volatile fuel was to be transferred in the event of a leak were abandoned in 1967, the report said, when the missiles were rede-

signed and switched to a less-volatile fuel. Also, in the tanks were found to be corroding with substances that could have ignited the fuel. They were sealed years later.  
The exhaust system, designed to flush fumes from the silo, was de-activated in 1978 after an accident at the II site at Rock, Kan., the report said. The exhaust there activated and blew toxic fumes into a group of crewmen, killing two and injuring 22 others.  
With no one in the Damascus silo, the Air Force did not measure the buildup of fuel vapor, the report said. The missile's manufacturer recommended it be alone because nothing would dilute the vapor recently.  
But two two-man crews were sent into the silo to control center to measure the vapor buildup. The crew was leaving the silo when the blast hurled them in different directions and fatally injured Sgt. Livingston, 22, of Heath, Ohio.  
At one point, the report said, the Air Force considered opening the 700-ton blast doors at the top of the silo and venting the highly toxic fumes. But slow-motion of the area would have endangered the base residents, so the option was scrapped.

### Their security losing appeal

United Press International  
Grandparents probably will tuck savings bonds into children's birthday cards forever, but many Americans consider U.S. bonds a bad business deal. And they say one percent higher interest, starting Saturday, won't make much difference.

## Bonds' interest boosted

"You can get more interest at the bank," said Mabel Hill, a semi-retired sales clerk from Caseyville, Ill.  
"Government bonds are one of the worst things you can put your money in," says Ken Elliot, 56, of Providence, R.I., who saves gold and silver.  
"It's a rip-off," said a 36-year-old New York author. "Once again the little guy gets the worst of the deal. The government has raised the rate on savings bonds, but it is still far below what they pay banks and corporations. Why can't they give the small saver the same amount of interest?"  
The one percent interest hike on government bonds and notes — now yielding seven percent maximum — and another one percent increase that could come as early as May 1981, has been touted as help for the small saver and a way to increase bond sales. But the government mainly wants to persuade people not to sell the bonds they already own. Due to high market interest rates, Americans cashed in \$7.7 billion worth of bonds last year.  
The tactic may succeed in stemming redemptions, but some of the people who bought bonds in the past for patriotic reasons say they wouldn't do it today.  
Retired machine repairman Andrew Gonzales, 68, of Albuquerque, N.M., bought 100 savings bonds during the past 20 years. He plans to keep the ones he has about five years ago he quit buying them, and not because of the rates.  
"I had bought them as an investment in the country and I have lost faith in the government," he said. "I won't buy any more matter what the interest is."  
"I bought them during World War II," said C.B. Johnson, a San Francisco sculptor. "Everybody says the rates have been too low since then. He said raising the rates would be more bonds, but only if they were enough to compete with interest rates from other sources or two percent isn't going to do it. I'm not going to buy them."  
Some Americans, however, buy bonds regardless.  
In Campiti, La., Gus Brummett, 27 years the manager of City and Trust Co., says higher interest rates will not affect bond sales in town of 1,100.  
"Most people I sell bonds to are middle income and have been buying bonds for years," he said. "They buy for their grandchildren for a birthday."  
And for another large group of Americans, even if the interest rate doubled, they don't have any left over to put aside.  
"Savings bonds? Are you kidding?" asked Dan Martino, a 37-year-old driving instructor from Warren, R.I. "I have three daughters and I tell you it's hard, very hard to save a penny. Savings bonds are the last thing on my mind."

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**ANNOUNCING**  
**AN**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**AT**  
Memorial Student Center, Room 212  
**Sunday, Nov. 2 4:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, Nov. 3 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.**

DIVISIONS TO BE REPRESENTED:  
**DIGITAL SYSTEMS GROUP** **GEOPHYSICAL SERVICES, INC.**  
**EQUIPMENT GROUP** **SEMICONDUCTOR GROUP**

**GUEST SPEAKER**  
**Memorial Student Center, Room 212**  
**Sunday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m.**  
Dr. John R. Hanne, Asst. Vice-President and Manager of Advanced Technology R&D, Digital Systems Group, Texas Instruments, Inc. will speak on:  
**"SEMICONDUCTOR TECHNOLOGY: FOUNDATION FOR DISTRIBUTED DATA PROCESSING"**  
Refreshments — Displays — Door Prizes  
Interviews to be held Nov. 4 & 5, TAMU Placement Center  
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