

# State / National

## Ma Bell objects to wiretap bill

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Responding to the telephone company's request that the new Texas wiretap law be considered for revision in a special session of the Legislature, some lawmakers contend the entire law could be jeopardized.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. objects to a provision requiring that telephone company employees involved in wiretaps prove they were acting in accordance with a valid court order. It has asked Gov. Bill Clements to allow the special session convening Monday to revise the statute.

The telephone company wants the law changed to provide that prosecutors in criminal cases involving telephone company employees would have to prove the employees were not acting under court orders when they installed the wiretaps.

The wiretap bill was passed during the regular session which ended June 1. It takes effect Sept. 1.

Some legislators contend that if Clements opens the special session for consideration of the change requested by Bell, he may be jeopardizing the wiretap law because it would then be subject to other amendments or repeal.

"I think when you open up that subject matter, you open the whole thing up," said Rep. Lynn Nabers, D-Brownwood, chairman of the House committee that handled the wiretap bill.

"I don't think the governor wants another bite at that apple," he said Tuesday.

Sen. Bob Glasgow, D-Stephenville, who authored the provision, said he will oppose

efforts by the telephone company to revise it.

"The important thing about the wiretap bill that everybody has overlooked is that it makes it illegal for anyone except the Texas Department of Public Safety to possess wiretap equipment," Glasgow said. "It gets all that stuff out of the hands of private people."

But Southwestern Bell officials are quietly lobbying legislative leaders for revision of the wiretap bill, and Nabers said a Bell lobbyist has made an appointment to meet with him Wednesday.

Clements, who is vacationing in Virginia this week, has given no indication he will submit the issue to the session and risk further changes in the bill that legalizes the use of court approved wiretaps in drug investigations.

## Dallas ball player, 2 mo face charges for swindling

United Press International  
HOUSTON — A former Dallas Cowboys football player and two other men charged in an alleged \$8 million swindle using non-existent government-backed student loans were the victims of a dead man, a defense attorney claimed.

Lawyer James C. Moore said Tuesday he will show the three men are not guilty. He said they were victims of Arbab Kahn, whose body was found in the Brazos River west of Houston one week before he was to testify before the grand jury that eventually indicted the three defendants. He was shot in the chest.

Kahn was a metals broker and Houston jetsetter who had extensive dealings with the now-bankrupt First Financial Group of Texas Inc. set up by the

defendants in 1977.

Facing fraud charges are former Cowboys H. Howton, 50, his business partner Vinny Reynolds Jr., 39, both of Houston, and Larry 50, a Memphis, Tenn., securities salesman.

The defendants are accused of selling non-government-insured student loans through Financial Group, victimizing the University of South Florida and banks and finance firms in several states.

Investigators said Kahn and Howton made frequent trips to Grand Cayman Island, leading some to believe some of the money reaped from the scheme may be hidden in bank accounts protected by strict bank secrecy laws.

## Carter criticizes Reagan's administration

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Jimmy Carter has sharply criticized the Reagan administration for pursuing "misguided and radical" environmental policies.

The former president also faulted Reagan for being unwilling to open arms control talks with the Soviet Union — a stand he said gives the Kremlin a propaganda weapon.

Carter said he was not as concerned about the administration's budget battles although the cuts will hurt students, farmers, the aged and the marginally employed and raise the possibility of new, highly regressive property and sales taxes.

In his most outspoken criticism yet of his successor, Carter spelled out his views in a letter to his former Cabinet and senior staff members this week. United Press International

obtained a copy.

Carter said:

"I have to admit the budget battles have not concerned me quite so much as the subjects which were outlined in my 'farewell' address — the environment, human rights and nuclear arms control — but many cuts are 'ill-advised.'"

"The misguided and radical new policies of the Department of Interior are a serious threat to the future of our nation, condemned almost unanimously — in the East and the West — by those who are dedicated to the proper stewardship of our nation's natural resources."

—Recent attacks on Jacobo Timmerman, a former political prisoner in Argentina, within America's U.N. delegation "were almost unbelievable. I am afraid they reflect a widespread and general attitude in

the new administration."

"We will surely weaken the Atlantic alliance and severely damage our own reputation as a peace-loving people if we let the Soviet leaders retain the unwarranted but important propaganda advantage they have derived from our unwillingness, for the first time since Harry Truman, to seek nuclear arms controls through negotiation."

Carter said he and wife Rosalynn are planning a trip to China and Japan in late August and early September and expect to be in Atlanta more often in the months ahead as they finish writing their books.


Summing up his views on other matters, Carter said: "I certainly hope the recent hard-won respite from oil-price increases will not become an excuse to depart from our conservation policies, that our formerly

expanding influence and friendship, ca and among other developing nations, not be lost, and that the momentous Middle East peace initiative be gained."

Carter said some of his former colleagues, as well as members of Congress, had urged him to speak out about his concerns. "But he said he had been reluctant to do so because he knew how

sary it was for a president to have a develop policies and plans with comment from his predecessor."

"Rosalynn and I still agree," he said, "that almost everything about our country has been better than we had expected 'withdrawal pains' at all. However, the developing events and policies in Washington are cause for grave concern to me."



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## Catholics raffle house for \$10 a chance

United Press International  
NORTH AURORA, ILL. — Would you buy a used three bedroom house with two-car garage for \$10 — that's right, 1,000 pennies — from a man of the cloth who calls himself "Father Right?"

It's no shady deal. If this Roman Catholic priest tells you the faucets don't leak and the floors don't creak, you can believe him. He'll swear to it on a stack of Bibles and his "boss" doesn't go for even the smallest of white lies.

The Rev. Edward S. Wright, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, has outgrown the comfortable brick home. Instead of putting it on the

real estate market, he wants to give the \$85,000 house away in a raffle.

Wright and his 300-family parish are hoping to attract potential home buyers to the raffle, offering them a shot at the \$10 a ticket.

Wright and his pastoral coordinator, Sister Rose Marie, between 1981 giveaway is different from similar house raffles because the present increase in prices can afford the asking price.

"People asked us why we didn't set it at \$100 a ticket," she said. "We wanted the average person to have a chance at owning a home, especially young people starting out. That's why we kept the raffle prices so small."

In addition to the house, raffle ticket holders also have a chance at a second prize of \$1,500 in cash and third prize of \$500 in cash. The Oriskany, N.Y., parish is offering a separate raffle for a 1982 car, which will be limited to 2,000 tickets.


As might be expected, skeptics want to confirm the give-away secretary real and Wright is not just a fly-by-night entrepreneur. To dispel doubts, doubling Thomases, the parish is offering tours of the home on the weekend.

Last week, a Chicago rabbi bought \$200 in tickets after a tour through the home.

"I've really enjoyed living here," Wright said, showing the sectored through bedroom closets and full finished basement to a guest. "It's not a rectory. We were just popping out of it because of the lack of space."

Wright moved to the Chicago suburb 11 years ago to start Blessed Sacrament parish.

"We call this the 'House of New Beginnings,' because this is all of the major decisions of the parish were made up to this point," he said, pointing out the central air conditioning system and adding a tight house and it's warm in the winter.



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