

THE BATTALION

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The Weather

Today	Tomorrow
High 97	High 97
Low 77	Low 77
Chance of rain 10%	Chance of rain 10%

Company hasn't lost a man in 40 years

Adair: Teamwork major factor in firefighting

By JANE G. BRUST

Battalion Staff
Of the four men seated on the Rudder Auditorium stage Friday morning, it was easy to identify the world famous firefighter Paul "Red" Adair: he was the one wearing the red coat and tie. Addressing 2,100 firemen and training instructors attending the 52nd annual Texas Fireman's Training School, Adair stressed the dire need for teamwork and safety in fighting fires. He boasted the 40-year safety record of his own company, Red Adair Co. c.: "We've never killed a man — at's about the best safety record of any company in the world."
Adair said not only firefighters, but so petroleum plant workers must be well-trained.
"Once we had 18 men (firefighters)

down at one time, overcome by gas. That gas hits you quick and you'll never know it." Adair himself at one time was overcome by a gas explosion in Libya.

He said his firefighters utilize the buddy system whereby pairs of workers are responsible for looking after each other. He said that's an important system for oilmen as well. "Safety is the most important part — that's what we preach."

"There were a lot of men (oil rig workers) lost last year — there's always room for improvement (in safety)."

The firefighter said that although each petroleum fire presents a similar goal, the strategy is different each time and each fire must be handled individually. Firefighting teams have to work with Mother Nature, he said, battling such elements as heavy, changing

winds and rough seas.

Adair said security against petroleum sabotage is an increasing problem for oil companies around the world. "This is the type of thing we need to worry about in the future: saboteurs. It can happen to your refinery or any place you live in."

"The name of the game is saving the well — that's where our work comes in." Adair's company saved over \$300 million in drilling rigs in the last few years.

The Houston multi-millionaire told the audience not to believe all the tales about the millions of dollars he makes with each fire he battles. "There's a minimum fee of \$4,500 a day and up. It's the oil you lose that's really expensive."

Adair's presentation included three short movies of separate oil rig fires he has taken on in his 43 years of firefight-

ing. In such places as Iraq and Libya, the fireman, clad in red overalls and red cap, showed a human, and sometimes humorous, side to his heroic career.

If one tactic doesn't work well, the narrator said, Adair takes his time to sit and think about what to do next. Adair was shown scratching his head in one scene, and he offered the camera crew a sandwich in another.

The narrator told how Adair was not satisfied with the available firefighting equipment at one site in Libya in 1965, and so he flew in his own equipment from Houston. "If the equipment's not good enough," Adair said, "it's not worth risking men's lives."

While his company continues to make its own firefighting equipment and to run training programs, Adair says he's not a desk man. "I'm still out in the field."

Following the program in Rudder Auditorium, Adair lauded the local Firemen's Training School. "It's the best and the biggest in the world, and they put 'em through a rough school. People from all parts of the world come here to Texas to improve their training."

Approximately 1,865 students and 269 instructors representing 29 nations and 43 states attended last week's training session.

The third of three one-week sessions is under way this week with 500 Spanish-speaking firemen and instructors from South and Central America, Mexico, the United States and Spain.

The Firemen's Training School is sponsored by the Texas Engineering Extension Service, a branch of the Texas A&M University System.



Paul "Red" Adair

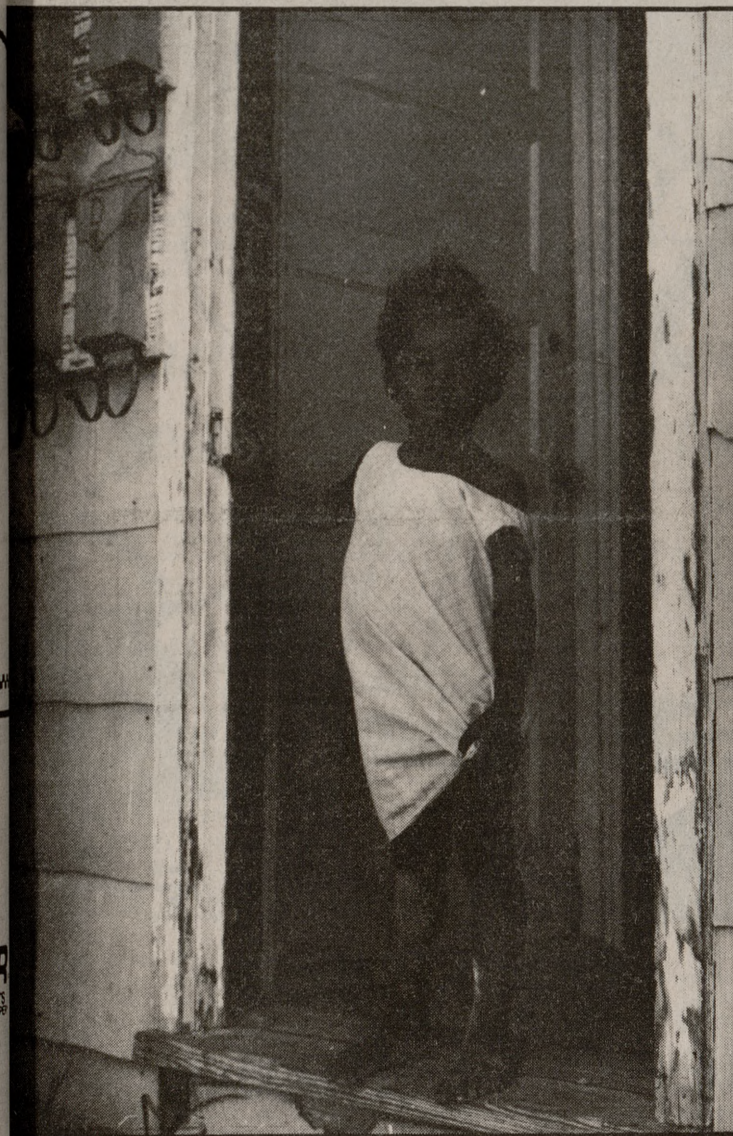


Photo by Tracey Buchanan

Dismal view

Tutu Akingbala, age 3, watches a bulldozer tear down College View Apartments. Tutu, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Olusola Akingbala, lives in College View C19D, which is slated to be destroyed in August. The Akingbalas will move to other Married Student Housing.

The Avenue C College View barracks-style apartments used for married student housing are being razed because they are a hazard to health and safety, said Ken Nicolas, manager of the married student housing complex.

Nicolas said University officials decided in 1976 to raze the buildings. All demolition should be completed by December, he said.

Twelve to 14 families were permitted to stay in the apartments until August because one or two parents in each family will be graduating, Nicolas said. It wouldn't be feasible to ask these families to find housing for one month, he said.

The apartments were built after World War II.

Consulate overrun by students

United Press International
BERLIN — Demonstrators invaded the Iranian Consulate in West Berlin early today and took a number of hostages, a police spokesman said.

A phone call to the West German news agency DPA said the Iranian consul was among those held.

About 30 people, described as Iranian students, invaded the consulate in the American sector in the district of Dahlem, the spokesman said.

They threw furniture out of windows while other demonstrators stoned the building.

"A number of hostages were taken," the police spokesman said.

About 140 police rushed to the building and the spokesman said they were preparing to storm it.

The Berlin protest demonstration against the Iranian regime followed a similar action in Bonn Monday in the Iranian Embassy.

Bonn police using batons and tear gas arrested 110 demonstrators in battles in which four policemen, four demonstrators and two Iranian diplomats were injured.

Congressman explains new tax legislation

By BERNIE FETTE

Battalion Staff
U.S. Representative Phil Gramm Monday told members of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce that the current budget and tax cut legislation in Washington is designed to put more money in the pockets of those who earn it.

Gramm explained that one intention of the plan is to equalize government tax revenue and inflation rates.

"When inflation rises 10 percent, government revenue should rise only 10 percent," he said. "But now when inflation rises 10 percent, government revenue rises 13 percent. The new legislation should remedy that problem."

Speaking at a Chamber of Commerce breakfast at the Aggie Inn, Gramm said the legislation would lower taxes 25 percent across the board and lower interest rates, providing increased incentive for investments. The plan, which will save some \$142 billion, is the largest tax cut in United States history.

"I'm very proud to have played even a small part in one of the most important acts of legislation in history," he said. "Now comes the hard part of making the program work."

Gramm also fielded questions from the audience concerning such subjects as the Internal Revenue Service, redistricting, defense spending and interest rates.

Looking at the coming year, Gramm said that developing an effective defense spending program would be a major goal.

Asked about the pending air traffic controllers' strike, Gramm said he thought it was important not to allow public employees to strike.

"If they strike, they're breaking the law and I think they ought to go to jail," he said.

Gramm also told the group that he was not in favor of judges being elected to their positions. Instead, he favors a six-year term for federal judges without eligibility for reappointment.

Striking controllers face legal reprimands

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The government today turned the screws on 13,000 air traffic controllers conducting an illegal strike, while the nation's busiest airports permitted only half the normal number of commercial flights.

The strikers felt the pressure from all sides as the administration systematically followed through on President Reagan's pledge to bring the "full force" of the law down on them. Unprecedented criminal charges were filed in 11 cities.

Reagan, likening the strike to "desertion in the line of duty," vowed to fire strikers who failed to return to work by 11 a.m. EDT Wednesday, and transportation Secretary Drew Lewis

said he was going through 9,000 job applications.

The strike disrupted vacations and honeymoons and caused long lines at bus and train stations as hundreds of flights were canceled or delayed. A blood shortage in Texas went unrelieved and thousands of Boy Scouts were stuck in Virginia after a national jamboree.

Supervisory personnel took over air traffic control duties as picket lines formed outside airports and Federal Aviation Administration facilities from New York to San Francisco.

There were no reports of violence. But pickets were heckled in Miami, where one woman yelled, "I hope you all lose your jobs!"

Two jet airliners that took off from LaGuardia Airport nearly collided over New Jersey Monday, but federal officials blamed the "near miss" on pilot error. Union officials claimed at least two other "near misses" over the United States, and blamed a lack of experience among those running the show.

The embattled Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was under a federal court order to end its walkout by 8 p.m. EDT tonight, or face \$4.75 million in fines by the weekend. Union President Robert Poli said, "We can't pay."

One federal judge held Poli in contempt of court and another put a hold on the union's \$3.5 million strike fund. The FAA moved to decertify the union as

the bargaining agency for the nation's 17,000 controllers so that in eyes of the government it would cease to exist.

Across the country, judges issued temporary restraining orders against the work stoppage and FBI agents compiled list of strikers for possible prosecution.

In Houston, KTRH news director Garvin Berry said U.S. Marshal George Graham arrived at the station while Jim McDonald of the union local in Houston was on The Jim Tate Show. "The federal marshal came in and served him the papers right on the air," Berry said.

U.S. attorneys late Monday began filing criminal complaints in federal courts in 11 cities charging 22 union leaders with violating a federal law

against strikes by federal employees. The Justice Department threatened to arrest those who failed to appear at court hearings.

This is the first time in 26 years that criminal prosecutions have been brought against federal workers for striking. Penalties are up to a year and day in prison and \$1,000 in fines.

"I believe that they are trying to break the union," said Poli. "I think they are trying to use every intimidation factor they can to get the controllers to go back to work."

"We don't want to be lawbreakers," Poli told ABC's Nightline. "We just want a realistic livelihood for the contributions that we make to the American economy and the flying public."

Economist says tax cuts will benefit poor

The largest tax cuts in the nation's history won't keep the government from eventually collecting more money per individual income taxes, says a Texas A&M economist.

"Certainly we will be taking home more money after taxes," said Dr. Mordecai Reynolds, "and as the economic situation improves, Americans can expect real increases in their salaries." Reynolds said higher after-tax salaries will spur higher productivity, which will also have a positive effect on the economy. As salaries increase, so will government revenues, he said.

"Even the poor will benefit from these cuts and reforms because they will be existing in a more prosperous society," he added.

Wednesday the House agreed to reduce personal income taxes by 25 percent over a 33-month period beginning Oct. 1. It will be the biggest tax cut ever for the United States. Such a cut, for example, would reduce a 30 percent marginal income tax rate to 22.5 percent, Reynolds said.

"The cuts are steps in the right direction for promoting economic growth," he said, "and one of the most exciting

aspects of the bill are the tax adjustments for inflation." The House bill includes a provision to index personal taxes beginning in 1985. This means individuals will have to pay additional taxes on higher incomes only after the effects of inflation have been discounted.

Reynolds said the administration's control over federal spending and its ability to create policies that would generate growth are major ingredients for keeping inflation down and government revenues up.

The budget is supposed to balance in 1984, but if the government doesn't generate the kind of revenue it expects through the new economic program, then problems will arise, the economist said.

"I'm optimistic this won't happen," Reynolds said. "Americans will respond favorably to the president's tax cuts by increasing savings and investments in the market."

Reynolds explained that a shortfall in government revenue would either cause higher inflation or higher interest

rates, depending on action by the Federal Reserve.

"If the reserve keeps the money growth small, then inflation will continue to come down," he said, "but interest rates will be higher because the government will be providing competition for loans in the market, crowding out some private borrowing."

If government deficits increase and the Federal Reserve prints more money, then higher inflation will result, he said.