

State

Truckers moved out of Arkansas

United Press International
TEXARKANA, Ark. — The Arkansas 73,280-pound truck weight limit has been blamed for a Texas trucking company's decision to move its long distance drivers out of the state.

East Texas Motor Freight terminal manager Mile L. Lovil of Texarkana said 17 Teamster Union truck drivers would be transferred from Arkansas. At an estimated annual salary of \$30,000, Lovil said, the move of the truckers would cost Texarkana \$520,000 in annual payrolls.

The announcement came through a release from the Forward Arkansas Committee, a group of trucking and industry interests attempting to raise the state's truck weight limit to 80,000 pounds. Only Arkansas and Illinois have weight limits below 80,000 pounds, the release said.

Texarkana resident Earl Jones, a member of the state Truck Weight Study Commission, said he had been contacted by another firm that planned to leave the state because of the truck weight limit.

The state legislature approved a law in the 1981 legislative session which allows trucks loaded with Arkansas agriculture products to carry weight limits of 80,000 pounds. But other trucks aren't allowed to carry the heavier weights.

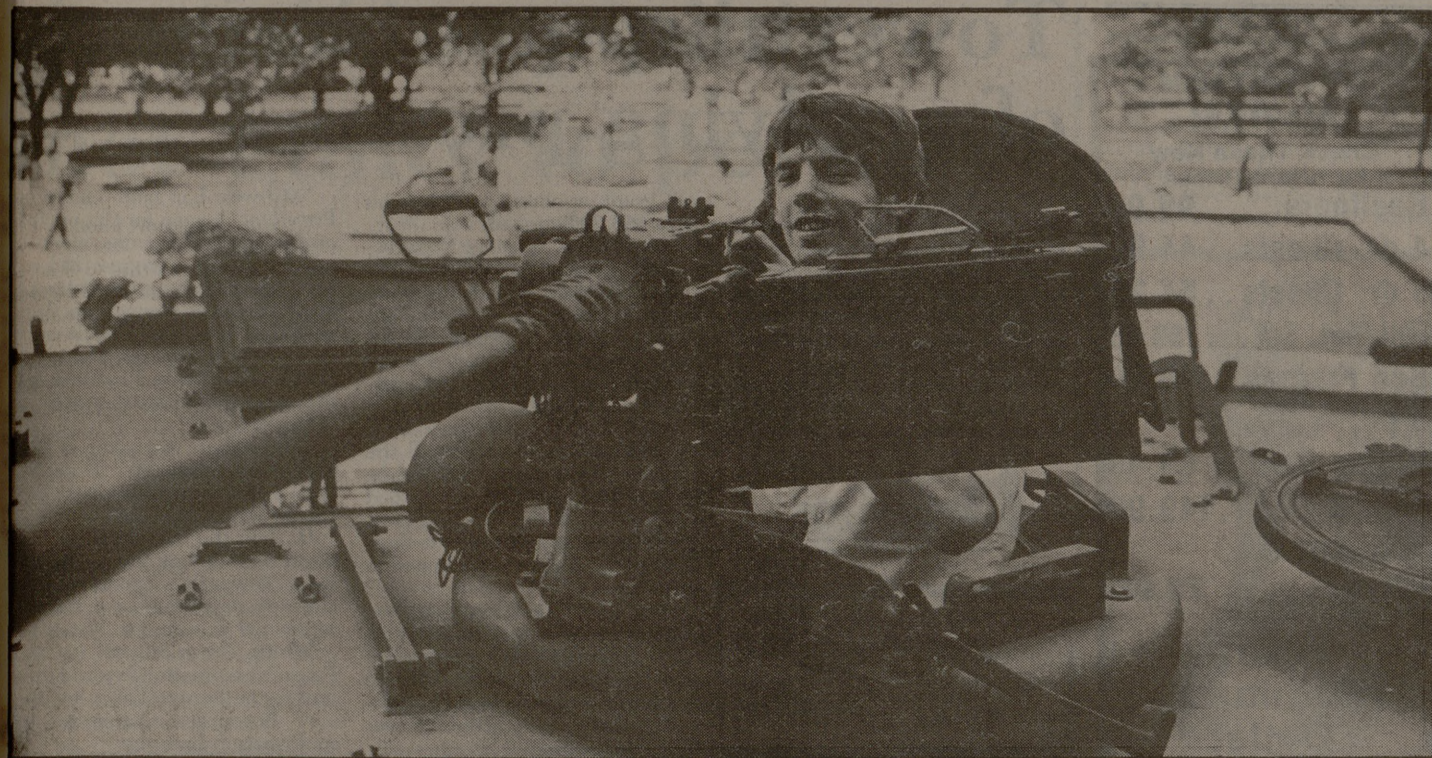
A lawsuit also has been filed in federal court challenging the state law limiting truck weights.

cash in with a classified ad...

Stick 'em up!

Jonathan Mapes, a sophomore agricultural economics major from Corpus Christi, checks out the machine gun on an armored troop carrier on display by Rudder fountain. The display was set up by L Troop of the 163rd Texas Armored National Guard for information and recruiting purposes.

Staff photo by Dave Einsel



Neiman-Marcus markets robot

United Press International
DALLAS — For the couple who has everything, Neiman-Marcus this year is suggesting a third hand to serve the guests, take out trash, water the plants, caddy at the putting green, walk the dog and so on.

The third hand is a robot known as "ComRo I" and the exclusive store is offering a basic version for \$15,000, batteries included.

"You can choose from two models to suit your lifestyle," the Dallas-based store suggests in its Christmas catalogue released Wednesday. "The standard ComRo I includes spotlight and running lights, wireless telephone, smoke alarm, vacuum, carpet sweeper, cigarette lighter, tote pocket, tray rack, utility wagon, scooper, squeegee" and so on and so forth.

The \$17,500 deluxe model adds color television, AM-FM stereo radio-cassette player and a tool set.

The robot is the most exotic entry in this year's Christmas catalogue — a book that caters to the wealthy and the eccentric — and lists it under "his and her gifts."

In previous years the store has offered, along with more standard merchandise, ostriches, African safaris and even hot air balloons — all with price tags as exotic as the items.

Neiman-Marcus this year is

adding another accessory to its "his and her gifts" — a robot pet named "Wires" to keep ComRo I from being lonely.

"By radio control, it shakes its head, wags its tail, lights up and blinks, squeaks and generates amusement," the store says of the \$650 "pet" complete with carry case.

For those who tire quickly of electronic playthings, the catalogue offers some unusual alternatives.

Under the catalogue's "things they didn't know they needed" category, there is a steel and aluminum Iglu-Maker for use when weather permits to make an igloo for \$200, a coat hanger covered with mink and adorned by a satin bow for \$125 and a \$275 wood and acrylic black sheep "in case your family doesn't have one."

There's also a wooden rocking horse marketed at a dashing \$6,500 and an "Angel Window" made of Steuben Glass for a glimmering \$20,000.

The catalogue continues with antelope-head bookends (\$350 a pair) and gems cut in golden Longhorn steer-heads, a Texas specialty (\$1,000, no bull).

Men can give the women in their lives a week at the specialty store's reducing and rejuvenating spa "The Greenhouse" — for a mere \$2,200.

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Today's Almanac

United Press International
Today is Friday, Sept. 25, the 268th day of 1980 with 97 to follow.

The moon is approaching its new phase.

The morning star is Mars.

The evening stars are Venus and Jupiter.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Libra.

American author William Faulkner was born on Sept. 25, 1897.

On this date in history:

In 1513, Spanish explorer Balboa became the first known European to see the Pacific Ocean when he crossed the Isthmus of Panama.

In 1789, the first U. S. Congress

adopted 12 amendments to the original Constitution, 10 of which were ratified and became known as "The Bill of Rights."

In 1926, the Ford Motor Co., put its workers on an eight-hour day, five-day week schedule for the first time.

In 1973, the American Skylab 2 crew ended a record 59-day stay in space and returned safely to earth.

In 1978, a Pacific Southwest airliner crashed into a residential neighborhood of San Diego, Calif., after colliding in flight with a light plane. One-hundred forty-four people were killed.

A thought for the day: American author William Faulkner said, "I decline to accept the end of man."

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