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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	88	High	88
Low	65	Low	68
Chance of rain	10%	Chance of rain	20%

Former ambassador to Poland

Speaker explains Polish unrest

By LISA DICKSON

Battalion Reporter

Loyalty to the Catholic Church, Communist Party efforts to collectivize privately owned agricultural lands and the outspoken nature of the Poles, have contributed to Poland's present state of political unrest, William Schaefe Jr., former Ambassador to the nation, said Tuesday.

Schaefe, sponsored by MSC Political Forum, addressed the topic of "Moscow, We Have A Problem: Can Poland Emerge From The Soviet Union?"

He cited three circumstances as factors contributing to the Poles' desire to break away from Soviet Union influence. The first, Schaefe said, is the Catholic Church which historically has prompted Polish nationalism.

Ninety-five percent of the Poles belong to the Catholic Church and it is estimated that 80 percent actively practice Catholicism, he said.

Schaefe said that in recent years the Church has once again become the object of the Polish people's loyalty, respect and affection. It has displayed the role of mediator, actively engaging in negotiation, as a bridge between the Communist Party and Solidarity (a Polish labor party).

Evoking further dissatisfaction in Poland is the Communist Party's efforts to collectivize agricultural land which is primarily privately owned, Schaefe said.

"Efforts have been made to collectivize Polish agriculture, but they have all failed," he said. "The Polish peasant, who has been the backbone of agriculture in the past, objects to government's intervention in his affairs. When the government reaches out its hand to the peasant, he almost automatically withdraws, because he figures the government is up to something that will not be very good for him in the long run."

"Government has given up attempts to collectivize, only in the hope that in the long run that they will be able to get the private land," Schaefe said.

Also fueling unrest is the Poles determination to exercise uninhibited freedom of expression, the former ambassador said. "They have always been outspoken. Everyone knows in Warsaw what happens in (Communist) Party meetings. Even the worst period of Stalinism was preceded by several years with increasingly bold forays by intellectuals in their writings and their speeches against Communism."

Given these three circumstances and an economic and political crisis which arose during a 10-year period leading up to 1980, Solidarity was able to gain strength in Poland, Schaefe said.

And efforts by the Communist Party to meet the nation's pressing needs failed, he said, citing its attempts to raise wages, provide more consumer goods, stabilize prices and modernize economy.

Efforts to stabilize prices were also unsuccessful and

ultimately they became a "millstone around the government's neck," the former ambassador said.

"(Communist leaders) never said it was a temporary measure and as a result they had to subsidize the prices from the budget until one third of the budget was used to subsidize prices," Schaefe said.

And at the same time, he said, the government knew that any intent to raise prices would be politically unacceptable to the population.

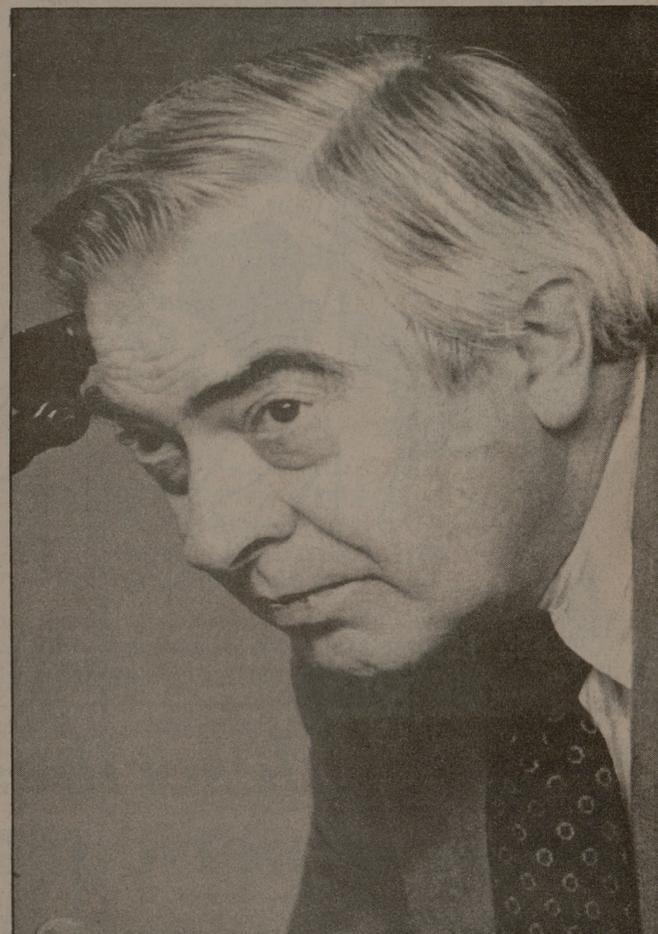
Schaefe said, "Modernization was financed by the West where the Polish reach exceeded its grasp. They had terrible problems with mismanagement, inability to meet deadlines and inability to organize."

"The population as we approached 1980 was grumbling and did not have much respect for the government, but I think it was largely apathetic," he said.

The explosion occurred, however, because there was no psychological or propaganda campaign to prepare the population for price increases, Schaefe said.

"When the strike broke out in July 1980, strikers set demands unprecedented in Poland or anywhere in Eastern Europe. These were the right to strike, the right to form independent trade unions, the end of censorship, the access of the Church to the media and the release of political prisoners."

"I think that was a waiting game in hopes that Solidarity, after its initial success, would lose some of its militancy," he said.



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

William Schaefe, Jr.
Former ambassador to Poland

A&M research funding best in state

Research funding at Texas A&M University during fiscal year 1981 totaled a record \$84.4 million, for an increase of more than \$12 million over the previous year, Dr. Frank E. Vandiver, Texas A&M president, has announced.

Texas A&M's total of \$71.8 million for research in 1980 ranked first among universities in Texas and the Southwest, according to tabulations compiled by the National Science Foundation. The annual NSF survey also has shown Texas A&M ranked among the nation's

top 20 research and development institutions for the past decade.

Vandiver said he is pleased with the University's volume and growth of research, but he said he is even more gratified by the underlying confidence expressed in the University and by the quality and potential of many of the individual projects.

"You have to be pleased when you are among the leaders nationally, and the growth rate for research here is certainly healthy," Vandiver said, "but I take

even greater pride in the fact that officials and representatives of so many different agencies and organizations — public and private — have expressed such confidence in the ability of our faculty members and other researchers."

"That confidence, of course, seems to me to be well founded. I continue to be impressed with the quality and breadth of research here and the potential for solving some of the pressing problems of today and enhancing man's basic knowledge," he said.

At \$38.4 million, the federal government continued to account for the largest share of support for research, up from \$31.9 million last year. The largest percentage increase, however, was in funding from private organizations, which increased almost 50 percent — from \$8.3 million to \$12.3 million.

"With the Reagan administration calling for business and industry to assume more responsibility in supporting scientific study, this is a very encouraging indicator," Vandiver said.

President's wife discovering A&M

By DENISE RICHTER

Battalion Staff

What might the wife of the Texas A&M president want to talk about in her home on a Wednesday afternoon?

As it turned out, she talked about fried chicken, furniture, baseball and buffets. Asking questions as well as responding to them, Renee Vandiver quickly revealed her eagerness to learn about her new neighborhood — Texas A&M University.

"Just what exactly are Aggie traditions?" Mrs. Vandiver asked. "I've heard a lot about them, but I don't really know what they are. I do know something about A&M because a lot of my cousins ... and a lot of my friends from Louisiana came here."

"I've been to yell practice here and really enjoyed it. And several years ago, we came to the bonfire. It must have been your coldest one — I nearly froze to death."

University life is nothing new to Mrs. Vandiver, although Aggieland is. Here for only a month, she said she is still trying to learn her way around.

"I haven't had a chance to go through all the buildings yet," she said, "and when I do go on campus, I carry a map with me so I won't get lost."

"At North Texas, I used to walk a lot on campus. Dr. Vandiver would go with me and we would walk at night when it was cool. That way, we would get a chance to see what was going on."

Dr. and Mrs. Vandiver came to College Station from Denton where Vandiver was serving as the president of North Texas State University until resigning to accept the Texas A&M presidency.

"I also used to visit different departments at North Texas," she said. "That way, I would get to see the professors and the students. You can learn a lot about faculty-student relations by doing that — I hope to be able to do that here."

Although Texas A&M is much larger than NTSU, Mrs. Vandiver said she doesn't feel the two schools are all that different.

"The first weekend I was here, one of the men in Frank's office told me Texas A&M was a 'different' type of school," she said. "But, I don't agree. It's a larger school but not that much different. As far as I'm concerned, when you talk about enrollment numbers, it's just a matter of moving a decimal. Size doesn't have to matter that much. In fact, I think (Texas A&M) is probably a closer school because of all the traditions."

As "first lady" of Texas A&M, much of Mrs. Vandiver's time is devoted to attending University functions.

"My schedule is geared to Dr. Vandiver's," she said. "I get a weekly calendar of different things going on so I know where we're supposed to be."

"My time goes to the school. I keep a fluid time schedule so I can help Frank any way I can. No matter what else is going on, I'm always free if he needs me."

"I used to play a lot of tennis," she said, "but I had to quit because in tennis, you have to pin yourself down to a certain time when you'll be available and a lot of times I couldn't make it. By the time you go to all the things at school, there's just not much time left over for other things."

But, one of the "other things" Mrs. Vandiver said she always makes time for is guests.

"We do a lot of entertaining," she said. "We like including faculty, deans, alumni and members of the Board (of Regents). It's worked out really well."

Mrs. Vandiver said she favors an "open-door policy" in regard to students.

"We want people to feel like they can drop by and see us," she said. "At North Texas, a lot of the students used to come by just to visit. We've had a student ask

if he could come by and when we said 'yes,' he was so surprised. I don't know why he was surprised — we like having company."

"The other night, a platoon from the Corps came running by. I thought they would stop but they didn't — they just ran right on by."

With 11 children in the family, Dr. and Mrs. Vandiver are accustomed to a house full of people.

"The children have always known they can have friends over," she said. "They've always known that if there's an extra piece of chicken, their friends are welcome to it."

Vandiver has three children by his first wife who died in 1979. They are Nita, 24; Nancy, 22, a senior history major at Texas A&M; and Frank Alexander, 17.

He married Renee Carmody in 1980. She has eight children: Helen, 28; Renee, 26; Arthur, 23; Patrick, 21; Timothy, 18; Mary, 16; Virginia, 14 and Joseph, 11.

President's house has family character

By DENISE RICHTER

Battalion Staff

The cabinet of hand-painted Wedgewood china and the Waterford crystal chandelier signal visitors that this home is no ordinary bungalow. However, the jar of peanut M&Ms on the family coffee table and the pile of leafed-through newspapers behind the couch are a tell-tale sign that this is no ordinary show-place, either.

The two-story house, located on Throckmorton Street, is the official residence of the president of Texas A&M University and now serves as the home of Dr. Frank E. Vandiver, his wife, Renee, and four of their children — Nancy, Mary, Virginia and Joseph.

"We want this house to be a family home," Mrs. Vandiver said. "We want it to be comfortable so if people feel like coming by, they will feel like they can."

Until the Vandivers' arrival, the five-bedroom, four-bath house had been without occupants for a year. During his one-year term as acting president of Texas A&M, Dr. Charles H. Samson and his family remained in their own home in Bryan.

The president's house is staffed by a full-time housekeeper provided by the University. The grounds and gardens are maintained by University workers.

Visitors enter through the front door into a white-marbled hallway. The formal living room, to the left of the entranceway, is dominated by a large fire-

place, a china cabinet containing the Wedgewood china and a grand piano.

The formal dining room, to the right of the main hallway, contains a 10-place mahogany dining table. The dining table is one of the pieces rescued from the fire that destroyed the original president's home in 1963.

A family room is located at the end of the hallway. The room is dominated by shelves filled with books dealing with the Civil War and copies of the Aggieland (the Texas A&M yearbook).

The first floor of the house also contains a kitchen, a guest bedroom and Dr. Vandiver's study.

Upstairs are four bedrooms, including the master bedroom, and three baths.

Mrs. Vandiver said few renovations are planned for the house. "Some repainting is being done outside but nothing out of the ordinary," she said. "The only things I want to change are the wallpaper and curtains in the master bedroom."

The master bedroom is decorated with navy blue and gold curtains and wallpaper. This, coupled with a dark blue carpet, "is just too dark," Mrs. Vandiver said. "I like bright rooms — I always want to have the curtains and shades open."

The president's mansion was built in 1965 at a cost of \$105,000. According to University officials, the current value of the house is about \$260,000.



Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Renee Vandiver, wife of Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver, shows off the inside of her

new home, the Texas A&M president's house on Throckmorton Street.