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The Weather

Today		Tomorrow	
High	88	High	85
Low	73	Low	75
Chance of rain	30%	Chance of rain	20%

Reagan gains in struggle for AWACS

WASHINGTON — President Reagan lost another Capitol Hill battle in his Saudi arms deal, but again actually gained ground in his overall struggle to get the \$8.5 billion package through Congress.

As a result, Senate foes, who just a week ago predicted they would kill the sale, now admit its future is in doubt. They say the number of "hard" votes against it has fallen to 48, three short of a Senate majority.

The latest twist in the shifting Capitol Hill struggle came Thursday when the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on a 9-5 vote, recommended that the full Senate kill the deal.

But perhaps more significantly, one of the initial sponsors of the resolution of opposition, Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., defected to Reagan's growing camp.

Wednesday, the House passed a

similar resolution on a 311-101 vote while four previously uncommitted Republican senators, led by Assistant Senate GOP Leader Ted Stevens, announced support of the package.

Reagan, weighing the defections with the Senate committee and House defeats, seemed increasingly optimistic about the chances of getting his proposed sale of AWACS radar planes and aircraft equipment through Congress.

Reagan maintains the package is vital for Middle East security, but foes fear the sale could actually accelerate the Middle East arms race and ultimately endanger the security of Israel.

Although Reagan said he was confident the full Senate would approve the sale, he again declined to rule out the possibility of sending Saudi Arabia the aircraft under legal emergency powers even if the Senate rejects the sale. He said, however, that option is not now under consideration.

Sudan threatens attack on Libya

CAIRO, Egypt — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiry threatened today to unleash a guerrilla campaign inside Libya that could reach Col. Moammar Kadhafi's home and U.S. AWACS surveillance planes patrolled Egyptian skies to detect Libyan military build-ups.

Libya called the arrival in Egypt of the sophisticated spy planes Thursday a challenge and a provocation and demanded the United States return them to their U.S. base.

Numeiry warned he could mobilize up to 10,000 guerrillas and said he already was training Chad exiles to launch a guerrilla war against Libyan troops occupying their homeland.

Earlier Sudanese foreign minister Mohammed Mirghany Mubarak was quoted as saying his country's patience had run out in the face of repeated Libyan air raids along the border.

In Washington, state department spokesman Dean Fischer said the United States was concerned that "an escalation of tensions and rhetoric could feed on itself and lead to the precise

thing we are trying to avoid, an outbreak of hostilities."

But Libya's equivalent of a foreign ministry bitterly accused Washington of "trying to complete the occupation of Egypt and impose control over it in order to turn it into a center influencing the region."

"America knows more than others," it added, "that there is no danger threatening Sudan and Egypt on the part of Libya and that there are no Libyan military concentrations along the borders of these two countries."

Libya condemned America's "muscle-flexing near the Arab shores in the Mediterranean, the concentration of its rapid deployment force, the massing of its forces in Egypt under the pretext of joint maneuvers and its dispatch of AWACS spy planes to Egypt."

Egyptian Defense Minister Abdel-Halim Abu-Ghazala said the two AWACS planes would observe "our northern, western and southern borders," indicating they will be used to monitor Soviet naval movements as well as Libyan aircraft.

For organization of faculty senate

Vandiver okays steering committee

By DENISE RICHTER
Battalion Staff

The formation of a steering committee to oversee the organization of a faculty senate been authorized by Texas A&M President Dr. Frank E. Vandiver.

The announcement was made Thursday at a meeting called to discuss the creation of a body to increase the faculty's role in decisionmaking on academic affairs at the University.

About 200 faculty members attended the meeting co-chaired by Dr. Thomas J. Kozik, professor of mechanical engineering and Dr. Robert E. Stewart, distinguished professor emeritus of agricultural engineering.

Stewart stressed that there were no "deep grievances" behind the move to increase the faculty's role in University governance.

Dr. John J. McDermott, distinguished professor of philosophy, who also spoke at the meeting, said, "The real issue is that this faculty doesn't function together as a faculty. It is extremely clear and extremely obvious that we want ... to speak, we want to be heard, we want to be taken seriously on those matters that affect our lives, the lives of our students and the future of this great University."

A 21-member ad hoc committee has worked for more than a year to establish such a group. Vandiver said the newly created steering committee will be able to take up where the ad hoc committee left off.

The following four guidelines, set up by the ad hoc committee, will be presented to the steering committee:

— The faculty body that is established should have a broad constituency.

— "We don't want to exclude anyone," Kozik said. "A faculty senate should represent all people who are concerned with programs, with well-being of the students, the faculty and the University."

This would include all tenured and non-tenured faculty members and the staff of the various experiment stations and agencies under the Texas A&M System.

— Members of the senate should be elected by the faculty members.

— The faculty group and the Academic Council will comprise a bicameral senate.

The Academic Council, the major University-wide body dealing with academic matters, is "primarily a business operation," Kozik said.

"Because of their very tight schedule, the Academic Council rarely has time to debate (general) issues," he said.

But, he said, a faculty senate would be able to debate these general issues that deal with academic programs at Texas A&M. Kozik said issues the faculty senate would consider are the curriculum, faculty welfare, the implications of growth on academic standards, admission standards and the size of an instructor's teaching load.

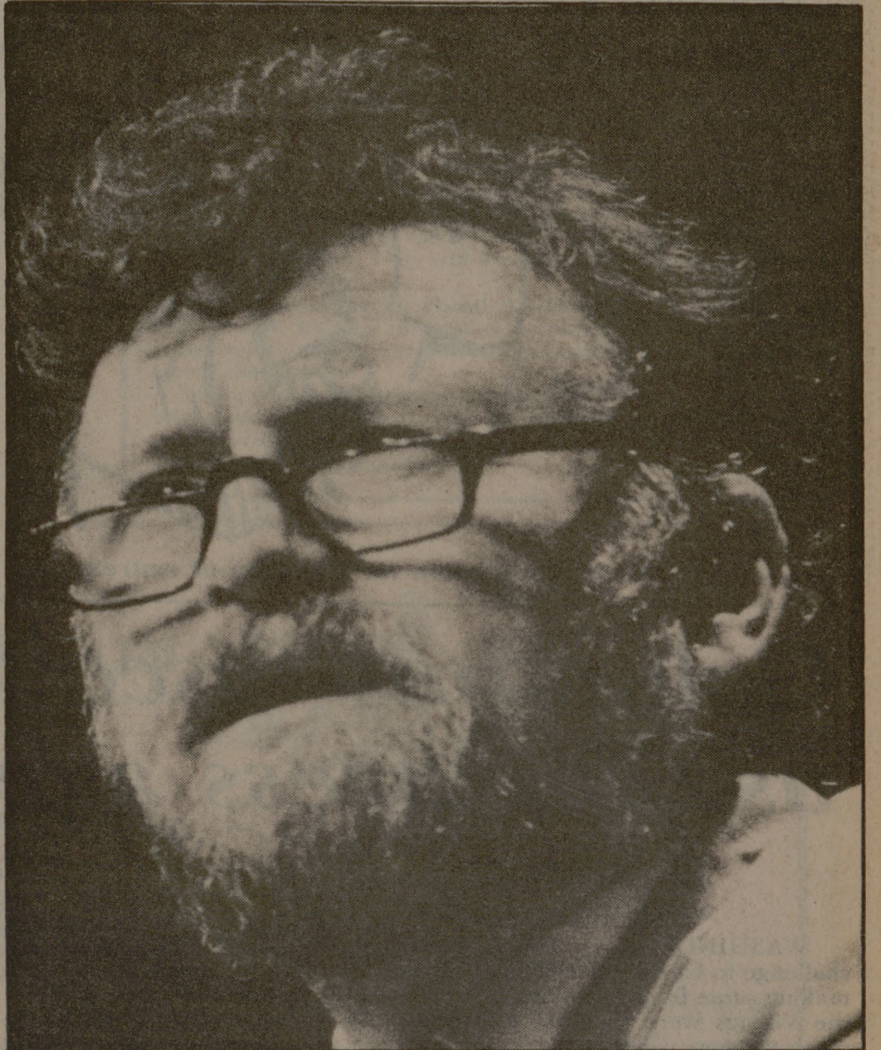
Kozik emphasized that the faculty senate would work with the Academic Council and would not be an adversary group.

— The organization, structure, form and constitution of the group will be handled by the steering committee.

Members of the steering committee will be appointed by Vandiver.

"We're going to recommend faculty members from the ad hoc committee because these are the people who are interested," Kozik said. "We're trying to get people from all of the colleges."

"We hope that the University-appointed committee, working in conjunction with the various colleges ... will be able to come up with an organization that is compatible with the University and compatible with the goals and desires of the faculty of the University."



Staff photo by Greg Gammon
Dr. John J. McDermott, distinguished professor of philosophy, addresses faculty members at Thursday's faculty senate meeting.

Student Academic Council established

By PHYLLIS HENDERSON
Battalion Staff

Student Government has organized a Student Academic Council, which it hopes will generate a flow of communication from students to the administrative Academic Council.

The Academic Council is presently the primary University-wide body which deals with academic affairs. Of the more than 160 University administrators, deans, department heads and faculty members on the council, Stu-

dent Body President Ken Johnson is the only student representative.

"They (other members of the council) never see him or talk to him before the meetings," Nancy Nelson, coordinator of the Student Academic Council, said. "They don't really have any idea what the students want."

Consequently, Nelson said, the council was created to develop a good relationship with members of the administrative Academic Council and to provide these members with some idea of

student preferences on policy issues.

"We're not trying to put pressure on them," Kathy Bartholomew, student vice president for academic affairs, said. "We just want them to know how we feel."

Nelson said: "For about three years, Student Government has been working to try to implement this program."

The final organizational meeting of the council was held Tuesday and it will begin its work in two weeks.

Its first goal is to get the program established as a viable force at Texas A&M University, Johnson said.

Johnson said several issues, such as the Q-drop policy, night exams and changing curricula, would be important priorities for the council.

"It's high time we finally firm up decisions on these perennial tug-of-war issues," he said. "There can be some big changes made. It's going to help the administration do its job."

Bartholomew said she doesn't expect problems in getting the faculty to accept the council.

The council is made up of members

of Lambda Sigma — the sophomore honor society — and the junior honor society. Two members will form a contact pair, and each contact pair will be responsible for meeting with the Academic Council member from their department once a month to discuss policy issues.

Lambda Sigma and the junior honor society were chosen as council representatives because they are good students and because they are eager to become involved in the program, Nelson said.

Student senators were not considered for positions on the Student Academic Council.

"The senators' responsibilities are to their constituents," Bartholomew said. "We're (Student Government) already demanding a lot of their time. We need people that are really excited (about the project)."

Student senators will have input into the council, but primarily through their efforts on the Student Government campus canvass.

May run for second senate term

Caperton prizes local support



Texas Senator Kent Caperton spoke to a crowd of more than 300 supporters last night at a \$50-per-

couple fund-raising reception held at the College Station Ramada Inn.

By NANCY WEATHERLEY
Battalion Staff

State Senator Kent Caperton of Bryan thanked his supporters Thursday night at a reception held in his honor and said he "might try to run for a second term."

Caperton said he has tried to live up to promises he made when he started out two years ago and has always invited public scrutiny in his duties as 5th District senator serving Brazos County.

"I am convinced the founding fathers wanted us to work up front, looking out for the public's interests," Caperton said before some 300 people at the drop-in affair held at College Station Ramada Inn.

Caperton said he has worked hard to be open to the public and has tried to understand all issues before the Senate so he can best serve his district.

"I consider my job to be (a) service for the public who has a stake in politics," he said.

Brazos County Judge Dick Holmgren, who introduced Caperton, said that even though he did not campaign in support of Caperton for the Senate seat, he has gained respect for the man because of his performance in the Legislature.

"Caperton has fulfilled his promise to bring the wishes of Brazos County to Austin and has helped maintain and enhance Brazos County's interest there," Holmgren said.

Calvin R. Guest, who served as chairman for the event, said the turnout was extremely good and will help retire Caperton's campaign debt.

"We wanted to hold this event to congratulate Kent on the outstanding job he did during his first session in the Legislature," Guest said.

Tickets for the event cost \$50 a couple. Any money left over after paying off the campaign debt will go towards a new campaign fund for his re-election, Guest said.

Degree plan, check procedures modified

By ELI JONES
Battalion Reporter

While Texas A&M seniors have begun preparations for graduation, many have discovered that the degree plan and degree check system has been changed.

Students now are told to consult with their advisers who will initiate the degree plan which is then sent to the college's dean's office for approval. One copy of the plan is given to the student, one to the adviser and the dean's office keeps a copy.

But to ensure that the degree plan does not become out-dated, no copy is sent to the registrar's office until one or two semesters before the student plans to graduate.

In the past, students have been disappointed with the way the registrar's office handles degree checks, Assistant Registrar Don Gardner said. At times, it would take a semester for a degree check to be completed. Unnecessary paperwork was involved, and occasionally, degree plans were outdated.

"Students would raise Cain when their degree checks weren't ready," Gardner said. "That's not good because we are supposed to provide a timely service."

Originally, the appropriate dean made four copies of a student's degree plan: one copy was kept in the departmental file, one was given to the student, one was sent to the registrar's office in Heaton Hall and the original

copy was kept in the dean's office.

Students who had completed 60 to 90 credit hours went to the registrar's office and applied for a degree check. Registrars then checked whether requirements were fulfilled according to their copy of the degree plan. But, sometimes their copy was out-dated.

"Because some students would come to the dean's office to petition out of courses, we would change their degree plan, but the registrar's office still kept the original ... the now out-dated one," said Mary Robertson, an undergraduate adviser in the College of Liberal Arts. "This led to a lot of confusion."

Overwhelming amounts of paper were involved in one degree check, Dr. Candida Lutes, associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts, said. "Our newer system is faster, more economical, and more efficient," she said.

The semester before a student graduates, a copy of the degree plan now is sent to the registrar's office, and it automatically means a student is applying for a degree check.

"That is when we warn students to go by Heaton Hall and pick up their degree check," Robertson said.

Lutes said, "We also ask students when they register if they are graduating that particular semester."

"This enables us to catch graduating seniors to update their degree plans. It's a little more work for advisers and secretaries, but if it makes it easier for students, it's worth the extra work."