

Reagan asked by group to abandon Great Britain

by Bill Robinson
Battalion Staff

Supporters of the Monroe Doctrine have made more than 20,000 telephone calls to the White House to urge President Ronald Reagan to refuse help for Great Britain in the current struggle between that country and Argentina, said Brian Wilson, local president of the National Democratic Policy Committee.

The group is a political action committee within the Democratic Party and has about 50 members in College Station and between 50,000 and 100,000 nationwide.

Members of the College Station branch of the committee are organizing the local campaign of calls and telegrams to urge the president to support the Rio

Treaty of 1947 and abandon Great Britain, Wilson said.

"The Rio Treaty is more or less the basis of the Organization of American States," Wilson said. "It is similar to the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) treaty, only it involves the Western Hemisphere."

Wilson said the group is calling for the Monroe Doctrine to be invoked against the British fleet.

"The president is being told that to break the Rio Treaty and the Monroe Doctrine would cause irreparable harm to the nation," Wilson said.

"Violation of the treaty would totally destroy our foreign policy respectability. And it could be crucial as far as thermo-nuclear war is concerned. The Russians would be likely to put warheads

in Cuba and Nicaragua, instigating another missile crisis.

"This time the Russians would not back down, though. Once we show we are not going to enforce the Monroe Doctrine, we couldn't make them leave."

Action by the local committee follows an announcement made Sunday by the committee's state headquarters that urged support of the Doctrine and the Rio Treaty.

Wilson said the NDPC has staged demonstrations nationwide, including the burning of a Union Jack (the flag of the United Kingdom) in front of the British Embassy in Houston.

"In addition, state headquarters said that any U.S. senator or congressman who calls for support of Britain is committing something tantamount to

treason," he said.

"The Organization of American States will vote to abide by the Rio Treaty and our support of the British will destroy it. Breaking the treaty would be similar to breaking the North Atlantic Treaty Organization."

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Century Singers end concert year tonight

The Texas A&M Century Singers will present their 1982 spring concert tonight at 7:30 in Rudder Auditorium.

The two-hour concert will be divided into two parts, Director Nancy Theeman said.

The first half of the concert will feature spiritual and sacred music.

Then, the group's performance will focus on popular music, including songs from va-

rious movies and plays.

The 60-member choir was formed in 1971 and was the first co-ed choir organization at Texas A&M University.

Auditions, held at the beginning of each semester for all interested students, involve a 10-minute composition performance and sight-reading. Any student interested in trying out for the volunteer group may leave

his name in the Student Programs Office, 216 Memorial Student Center.

"Try-outs are very competitive," Theeman said. "We turn away more than five times as many as we take. This semester, we took nine people out of the 60 who auditioned."

Student tickets for the concert will cost \$2, and general admission tickets will be \$2.50.

Environment causing oak deaths, prof says

by David Calvert
Battalion Reporter

Although they may appear healthy, a Texas A&M professor says many oak trees on campus are suffering from diseases and damage caused by street and sidewalk construction over the years.

Dr. David Appel, assistant professor of plant science, said live oaks on campus are suffering from classic urban dieback.

"We're seeing several examples of trees succumbing to diseases after they have been placed under stress," Appel said. "The urban environment places the trees under stress, which makes them more susceptible to other organisms which cause tree diseases like oak decline."

"Any time construction takes place around a tree, its environment is disturbed."

Appel said the problem being

encountered on campus isn't nearly as serious as the situation occurring in other areas of Texas.

Live oaks are dying in large numbers because of oak wilt, a more serious tree disease that is caused by a fungus. The fungus invades the root system of a stand of live oaks. Since the roots of these trees often join together and form a graft, the fungus can spread throughout an entire stand of live oaks and quickly wipe it out.

Appel said trees at Texas A&M are relatively safe from prolonged disease because they receive good care.

"Live oaks need to be cared for to keep them healthy," he said. "They need to be watered, especially in the summer. They need to be fertilized, and they need to be pruned periodically."

Appel said pruning is especially important. This needs to

be done to keep the top of the tree from getting ahead of the root system in growth.

Appel said it will take work and time to find the solutions to tree diseases.

Eugene Ray, director of the Department of Grounds Maintenance, said every tree reacts to disease and damage in a different way.

"Some trees will show effects right away," Ray said, "while others won't start to die for three or four years. Different varieties of trees react in different ways."

Ray said trees are worth more than their aesthetic and shade value, something most people don't realize.

"A mature tree can be worth several thousand dollars, depending on many variables," he said. "An expert can determine how much a tree is worth by judging it on several characteristics."

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4. Have your Photograph taken in the outfit
5. Personnel from Lester's will then select the Five (5) best Models from the pictures.
6. Those five (5) semi-finalist pictures will be submitted to That's Me - who will select the winner.
7. Winner will be notified by Lesters and given the details of the Dallas trip.

The winner will be escorted by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lester, Jr. to Dallas on a future Friday afternoon, where she will check into the Anatole Hotel. Friday evening will entail a sumptuous dinner at the Anatole's French Restaurant, La Entrecoco. Saturday morning entails fittings, professional make-up with pictures taken along with the winner from another area of Texas. The winner will be given her outfit by That's Me. Then she will return home Saturday evening.

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