

Grain sales to Soviets may continue

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan favors a one-year extension of an existing grain sales pact with the Soviet Union rather than negotiating a new long-term agreement, administration sources say.

"It's my understanding that he has not made a final decision," one official said Monday following a White House meeting. However, he said, Reagan has been leaning toward a one-year extension.

A final decision on the agreement, held in limbo by the sanctions Reagan

imposed over repression in Poland, is expected before the president addresses the National Corn Growers Association in Des Moines, Iowa, on Monday.

Agriculture Secretary John Block and the financially strapped agricultural community have urged the president to begin talks on a new five-year agreement with guaranteed minimum export levels.

However, Reagan's foreign policy advisers have argued against such a move, warning it would undercut the economic leverage the administration

has sought to use to influence Soviet behavior in Poland and elsewhere.

U.S. Trade Representative William Brock and other presidential advisers have said new negotiations on grain sales — at a time when Reagan has restricted Western participation in a Soviet natural gas pipeline — would infuriate the European allies.

Critics of the sanctions have argued there is inconsistency in selling grain to the Soviets while refusing to sell them equipment for the pipeline.

By merely extending the current agreement, political observers on

Capitol Hill said, Reagan could appear to placate farmers without making a major overture to the Soviets.

The current pact, extended to a sixth year last year, expires Sept. 30. It requires the Soviet Union to buy at least 6 million metric tons of U.S. wheat and corn a year.

CBS news reported the agreement will be extended with minimum purchase levels unchanged.

Sources on Capitol Hill said a series of options were considered at a July 15 Cabinet meeting and two were re-

jected — entering into negotiations on a new long-term agreement and allowing the current pact to lapse, which would require the Soviets to buy grain on the same basis as any other foreign buyer.

All that remained to be decided after the meeting, the sources said, was the duration of the desired extension and whether to increase minimum and maximum purchase levels, as Block and some Farm Belt lawmakers have urged.

Most American farmers favor guaranteed minimum sales because

their share of the Soviet market was reduced after President Carter embargoed grain in reaction to the December 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Reagan lifted the embargo last year, but the historical U.S. share of the Soviet market has fallen, from more than 50 percent to 33 percent last year. Other nations, especially Argentina, have picked up the slack.

The Soviet market is especially important this year because the Russians are expected to harvest their fourth poor crop in a row.

Sudan offers PLO refuge

United Press International
ISRAELI gunners kept up a relentless barrage against suspected Palestinian guerrilla positions in the besieged western half of Beirut today after a night of air strikes that destroyed a PLO ammunition dump and damaged an orphanage.

Sudan raised hopes for a breakthrough in the Lebanon peace talks by offering refuge to the 6,000 Palestinian Liberation Organization guerrillas trapped in west Beirut, but there was no immediate indication of whether the PLO would accept the invitation.

Israel awaited the arrival of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib today but gave a chilly reception to a U.S. congressional delegation that won a statement from PLO Chief Yasser Arafat

interpreted as a Palestinian concession.

The shelling continued through most of the night and was resumed early today, covering the same west Beirut and southern suburban areas that have been the targets of similar attacks for the last several weeks.

Dozens of buildings were set ablaze in the suburbs. The Palestinians returned the fire and several artillery shells and rockets crashed in Christian neighborhoods in east Beirut, security sources said.

West Beirut remained without power, cut off Monday by the Israelis from a station in the eastern sector. The power shutoff also stopped water pumping, Beirut municipality officials said.

The Palestine news agency, Wafa, said 79 people were killed or wounded in Monday's two air strikes, which also damaged several buildings including the Al Bar Al Ihsan orphanage in the Fakhani region of the beleaguered capital.

The Israeli military command said the two Monday air strikes were aimed only at the PLO's hidden ammunition centers, one of which was hit by the attacking aircraft and set ablaze in flashing explosions.

The air strikes the Palestinians said lasted 90 minutes, were followed by a massive artillery and naval barrage against a string of Palestinian neighborhoods in the city and the Ouzai coast south of the capital.

The Palestinians had no immediate comment on an offer by Sudan Presi-

dent Jaafar Nimeiry Monday to open his country to the PLO.

"Sudan is ready to receive the Palestinian fighters in Lebanon, who are exposed to the conspiracies of many parties," the official Sudan news agency quoted Nimeiry as saying.

In Washington, the State Department said it had not yet confirmed Nimeiry's offer, and some observers questioned whether the Palestinians would be willing to go to the Sudan, a country far removed from Israel and the center of Middle Eastern affairs.

Israeli authorities said today they had dismissed the mayor and town council of Khalkilya for staging a two-month strike that disrupted municipal services.

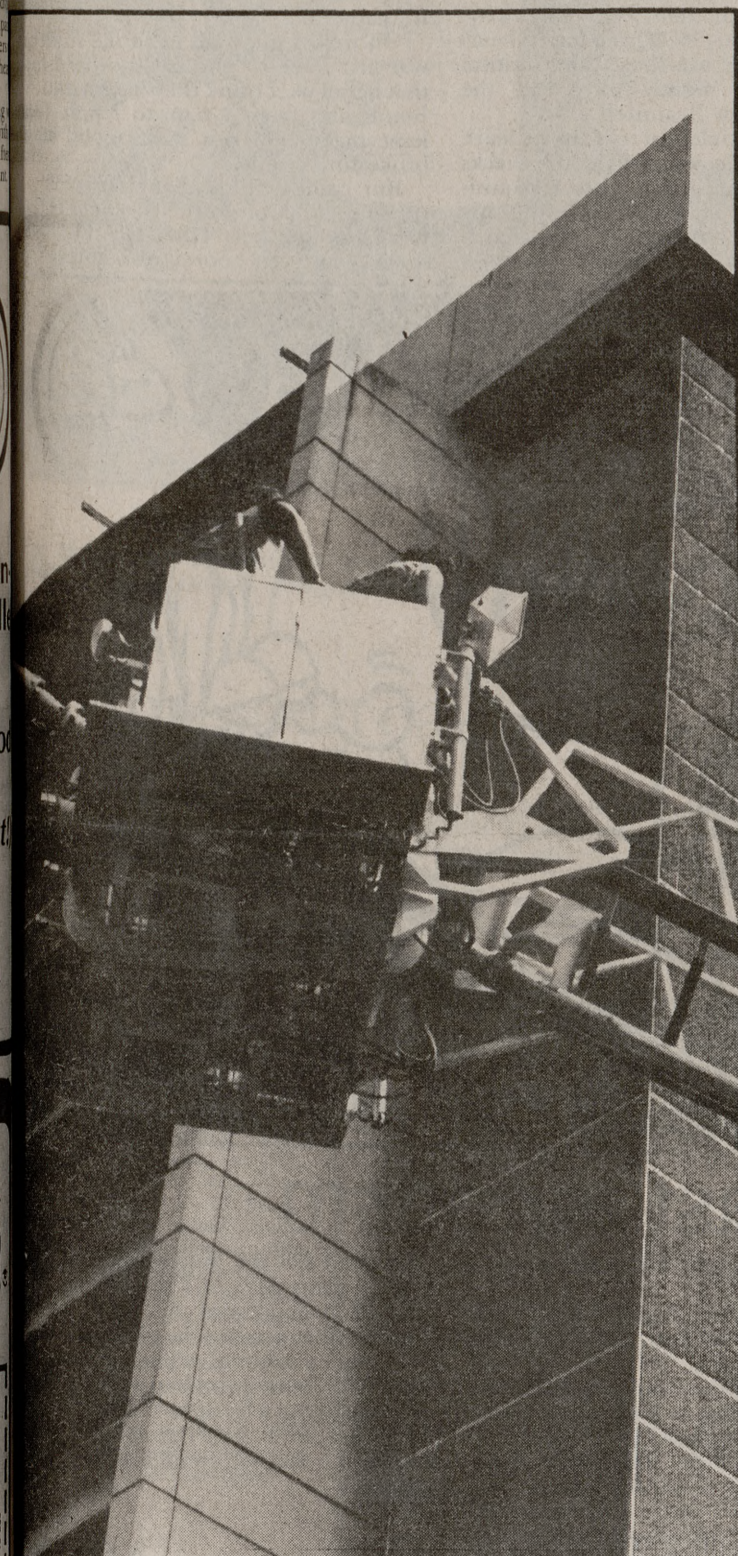


photo by Joyce Hallbauer

We don't do windows

Firefighters get a ride in this aerial platform which was on display by Rudder Tower Sunday. Private companies were showing and, in this case, demonstrating new equipment as part of the kick-off of this year's firefighters' school.

Architect selection process debated

Regents hear Cisneros, Zachry

by Terry Duran
Battalion Staff

A bid by San Antonians for a research center and controversy over architect selection procedures highlighted Monday's day-long meeting of the Texas A&M Board of Regents.

The second day of the Regents' July meeting saw San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros and Aggie construction magnate H.B. "Pat" Zachry head a 45-minute presentation asking the Board to establish an agricultural research and extension center in San Antonio.

The group — which included spokesmen from city and county governments, the business community and research facilities — pledged support for the center if the Board approves it. Their support would include making land available and assistance with legislative and other funding efforts.

Regents John R. Blocker and H.C. "Doolie" Bell expressed approval for the plan.

Regents Chairman H.R. "Bum" Bright told Cisneros:

"We are not in a position to give you a quick answer, but we are in a position to be impressed. We will certainly give earnest consideration to this matter."

Several bids for construction project designs within the System were accepted by the board's planning and building committee. Discussion during Sunday's committee meeting about selection procedures for design firms prompted a Monday morning briefing to the board on the established selection process.

Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning and Construction Wesley E. Peel said his technical staff would decide

on three firms. Preference would be given based on standardized criteria including technical competence, prior work for the System and others and proven support to the Texas A&M University System.

Regent William A. McKenzie complained when recommendations for design firms presented later Monday morning listed only the top choices for each project, not the top three.

When Regent Royce E. Wisenbaker moved to substitute another firm for the one recommended to design the engineering and physics building, more controversy arose. The \$21.5 million structure is scheduled for completion in the spring of 1986.

Planning and Building Committee Chairman Bell charged Wisenbaker with favoritism.

"The greatest opportunity for malfeasance is where big bucks are concerned in constructing something for this University," Bell said.

Wisenbaker said his suggested firm should be given extra consideration because of prior work they've done for the System and because of the fact that the head of the firm was once Aggie Club president.

Board Chairman Bright warned against too much extra consideration, but told System Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen to use his own judgment in giving "some extra consideration" to proven supporters of Texas A&M.

The committee eventually approved the planning staff's recommended design firm, 7-2; \$140,000 was set aside for preliminary design.

In other action Sunday and Monday, committees of the board:

- Withdrew a recommendation for a new student parking lot on the west campus to compensate for spaces



staff photo by Diana Sultenfuss

Regent H.C. Bell of Austin reviews the agenda for the Planning and Building Committee of the Board of Regents.

- lost to the engineering and physics building to be built where Lot 7 is now. The board decided to wait until a study analyzing the parking situation is completed.
- Approved a \$315,000 appropriation for a detailed two-story design for a medical sciences library.
- Approved \$20,000 for preliminary plans for an exterior renovation of the Academic Building.
- Accepted a \$10.1 million bid for construction of a horticulture and forest science building.
- Approved a proposal for establishment of a master of science degree in journalism. The proposal must now come before the state Coordinating Board.
- Approved \$32,000 for preliminary designs for a chapel and a central receiving warehouse at Prairie View A&M University, and \$95,000 for library expansion plans at Tarleton State University.

Engineer says CSISD plans meet fire codes

by Hope E. Paasch
Battalion Staff

A&M Consolidated High School will meet city fire codes by the time classes start in the fall, a local engineer told the CSISD school board Monday night.

Bill Purcell, of Ned Walton & Associates in Bryan, said he met with the College Station city manager on Monday to determine what other revisions were necessary to bring the high school up to city fire safety standards. During the meeting, they determined the planned revisions would be sufficient.

Those planned revisions of the high school addition should be complete or close enough to complete by the end of August to satisfy city codes, Purcell said. The sprinkler system, the most extensive job, will not be totally finished in time for school, he said, but will be installed in occupied areas.

The task of extending walls on exit corridors and removing some unrated wooden construction will be finished by the end of the summer.

Other modifications include replacing some glass panels next to corridor doors, installing door closers and possibly putting a water curtain sprinkler system in some windows in the gymnasium, library and office area.

Still in question, however, is whether or not to replace damaged ceiling tiles when the sprinkler system is installed. The College Station school board was told last week by a Houston architecture firm that the tiles would need to be replaced. The firm put a \$92,000 price tag on the job.

The board will wait until they can discuss the recommendation in more detail before making any decision.

Mothers' attitude important

United Press International
A mother's attitude about her job outside the home has a major impact on how her children view it, says a family life education specialist.

"When mothers feel good about their work outside the home, the effect on their children is more likely to be positive," said Diane Welch, who conducted a study of working mothers for the home economics program at Texas A&M's Agriculture Extension Service.

For the first time in history, statistics show a majority of American women are in the work force, Ms. Welch said this week. More than half of all Texas mothers of school-age children are employed, and 40 percent of the mothers with children under 6 work outside the home.

Because researchers and the general public alike are asking what

effect that has on children, studies have been conducted to document what children think about their mothers not being home all the time.

Ms. Welch suggests some guidelines for concerned working mothers, including sharing your work and reassuring the children.

Children who understand what their mothers do at their jobs are more likely to accept the situation, Ms. Welch said. Mothers should talk about their work, in general and specifically each day, and if possible take the children to their places of work and introduce them around.

She also suggests mothers concentrate on communicating when such familiar refrains as "we miss all the fun" or "we have to do too much around the house" are heard. If children can be made to realize at an early age that they must bear re-

sponsibilities, they will accept them and eventually take pride in their contributions.

Women also must make certain their children are reassured that they still play an important role in their mothers' lives. Her advice, which is equally applicable to working fathers, is to make time to listen to children's stories about their day's activities.

Ms. Welch said there can be a cyclical nature to mothers' and children's attitudes about work.

"The better a mom views her work, the better her children will feel about how that work personally affects them — and the more likely they are to think of mom's job itself in favorable terms," she said.

"The more favorable children are toward the mother's work, the more likely her own attitude will stay positive."

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forecast

Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain this afternoon. Highs near 100; low tonight in the 70s.