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Battalion/Page 6
November 18, 1982

Rehire oil workers or else, letter says

United Press International
HOUSTON — A group demanding that Amoco Oil Co. rehire former employees has sent a letter to a Houston newspaper threatening potential damage of "billions" of dollars to the company's largest refinery.

It was the second letter demanding the company return former workers to their jobs.

The group calls itself "The People's Worker Revolutinary Committee for Worker Justice" (sic). A letter received by the Houston Chronicle Tuesday

said that unless former employees are rehired "we are prepared to move against any Amoco facility, office, well, refinery unit or their property."

The letter continued: "It is up to you gentleman (sic) either you pay out a few thousand dollars and bring these people back to work or risk losing millions or even billions in repair or replacement costs."

Amoco Oil Co. of Indiana's security director, Robert A. Huerta, said the second letter

was from the same group who wrote the first letter.

"There is no question that the real McCoy, that it came from the same source," he said.

The first letter, which was received Nov. 4, demanded that employees terminated since the last contract was signed in January 1982 be rehired or some specified action would be taken. Huerta said the facilities had been checked for explosives by the FBI, and none were found.

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Border merchants may raise peso rate

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — Downtown merchants who agreed to a unified exchange rate for pesos said they may have to increase the price of dollars because of high demand.

Brownsville merchants voted a week ago to set prices at a standardized rate. They agreed then to exchange 120 pesos for \$1, and have since been reducing it one peso each day. By Tuesday the rate had dropped to its scheduled 113 pesos for \$1, but businessman Leon Weisberg said the rate may be too low.

"It looks like we'll have to go up in price," said Weisberg, who owns two general merchandise stores in Brownsville. "There is too much competition now on

the sale of the peso. It is making it very difficult now for merchants to sell the peso at the agreed-upon price."

McAllen merchants are following the same basic strategy but have fixed their rate at 118 pesos per \$1.

"The philosophy behind this is that merchants ought to be competing with one another to sell merchandise, but not competing with one another to sell pesos," said Alden L. Schiller, executive vice president of the McAllen Chamber of Commerce.

He said merchants from downtown McAllen plan to meet each Saturday to adjust the price if necessary.

Much of the business done in

border communities from Mexican residents, merchants must accept peso fluctuations in the value of the peso, they often lose substantial amounts of money when they attempt to exchange the peso for dollars.

"The competition to sell peso was getting out of hand," said Weisberg. "One week two weeks ago we started on day at 110. In one day it went from 110 to 124."

"The way it was going, we were expecting to see the peso going at 200 to \$1 or 250 to \$1 Christmas. Business is very slow as it is — sales are off at least percent down here," he said.

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Nov. 24 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

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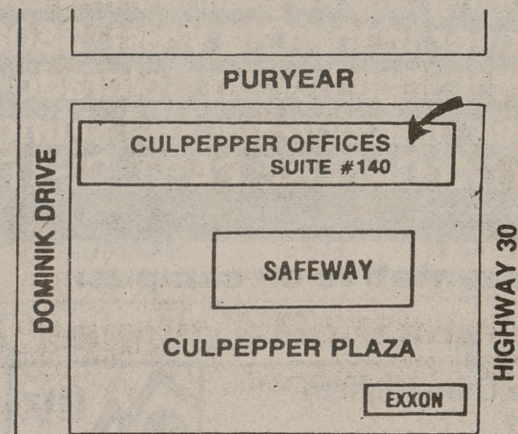
WHAT: present Student ID

(if you have pre-paid; check your fee slip)

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