

Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

76 No. 128 USPS 045360 16 Pages

College Station, Texas

Wednesday, April 6, 1983

'Spy operation' discovered: France ousts Soviet citizens

United Press International
MOSCOW — The Soviet Union quietly received Tuesday to 47 citizens who were expelled from the country for allegedly taking part in the spy operation smashed by a Western nation in more than a de-

Among those expelled were five employees of Soviet commercial firms, the chief of the Soviet news agency Tass in Paris and a Tass reporter. French news reports said the number of KGB operations for France

also was on the list.

There was speculation that Vladimir Kuzichin, a KGB secret police major who defected in October, exposed his former comrades as spies. British government sources said he helped oust three Soviet officials from Britain last week.

The French expulsion was the largest involving Soviet citizens in a Western nation since 1971 when 105 Soviets were ordered out of Britain on espionage charges.

The 47 Soviets and about 100 fami-

ly members flew into Moscow's top-security Vnukovo 2 Airport, reserved for official delegations and visitors.

The only official Soviet response came from Moscow's embassy in Paris, which in a statement denounced the French action against the mission's 86-person staff as "unjustified and arbitrary."

The embassy accused France of acting for domestic political reasons, saying, "all responsibility for the adverse consequences on the development of relations between

France and the U.S.S.R. rests therefore on the French side."

But the French government said the people expelled had been engaged in scientific and military espionage.

"The frequency and gravity of the acts on behalf of a foreign power through these agents, usually profiting from their diplomatic status, justified the departure of the persons concerned," the French Interior Ministry said.

Shuttle mission going smoothly

United Press International
CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The radio relay satellite they carried is safe in space, the pilots of the shuttle Challenger today looked forward to their next big job — Thursday's spacewalk in the freighter's cargo bay.

The four spacemen were given a good night at 11:24 p.m. Tuesday though they were not scheduled to sleep in for the night for another day when Challenger was circling Earth for the 25th time.

They had had another busy day, running a series of experiments with a space medicine-making machine and rehearsing space rendezvous maneuvers needed for an extraordinary attempt to repair a crippled sun-watching satellite next year.

Before going to bed, astronaut Story Musgrave reported the crew was engaged in some housecleaning chores.

"We have Col. Peterson dutifully cleaning the WCS," he said, referring to the ship's toilet, otherwise known as

the waste collection system. "I'm moral support from a distance."

Musgrave, who is a surgeon, was downstairs in Challenger's cabin to fiddle with the \$2 million space suits he and Peterson will wear when they leave Challenger's airlock and enter the open cargo bay Thursday afternoon.

He reported replacing four dead batteries in the space-suit's life-support apparatus and said he would have to figure out a way to fix a strap that holds a check list to one of the

spacesuit cuffs.

Musgrave and Peterson were scheduled to put on the pressure suits tonight to make sure everything works.

The spacewalk will be the first from a shuttle and it is the last major objective of this five-day, 2 million-mile mission set to end Saturday with a landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

The primary mission goal was the launch of the tracking satellite Monday night.

Three races to be run Tuesday during campus run-off elections

By Robert McGlohon
Battalion Staff
Because the names of three candidates running in last week's student elections initially were left off the ballot, those three races will be re-run. Elections for junior yell leaders, engineering senator at-large and sophomore engineering senator will be held in conjunction with run-off elections Tuesday.

The three candidates whose names were omitted are James C. Becker Jr., candidate for junior yell leader; Chip Smith, candidate for engineering senator-at-large; and Jim Collins, candidate for sophomore engineering senator.

Election Commissioner Les Asel said during the election that the decision to re-run the three elections could be among the candidates in the three races and himself.

"The way I see it, it's the candidates who are in jeopardy one way or another; therefore, their opinion is the most important to my decision," Asel said. "I will make my decision based on their input. Candidates involved in (other) races have absolutely no input into what happens."

Asel said Tuesday that he has decided to repeat the elections although no one has appealed them, and said he decided to re-run the elections without consulting the candidates. His decision is final unless it is appealed to the Judicial Board and overruled.

Candidates have until tonight to appeal Asel's decision.

The temporary omission of the names of the three candidates from the ballot was not the only problem with the election, Asel said.

"Up until the point at which the campaign started, everything was going very smoothly," he said. "Then, at the last minute, everything fell apart on me."

Asel said the problems were not due to a lack of organization.

"It's just some things have come up that unfortunately interfered with the functioning of the election," he said.

One of the problems with the election was the unfair and illegal campaign tactics of some of the candidates, Asel said.

"First of all," he said, "many of the candidates were continually overstep-

ping the boundaries of the rules and regs. They're college students and they have to use a little common sense. Yet many of the candidates have not done so."

So far most of the violations have been minor, Asel said.

Some candidates, however, repeatedly committed minor violations, he said. The types of violations include stealing signs, erecting signs that were too large, placing campaign flyers on the windshields of cars in student parking lots and distributing flyers that were too big.

He said he has not considered disqualifying any of the candidates, which is the ultimate punitive power Asel has at his disposal. He said he did consider placing candidates on probation and telling them not to campaign for short periods of time, but never did.

Another problem with the election was a lack of people to staff the polls during the election, he said.

Asel said he runs the elections for four student organizations: Student Government, the Residence Hall Association, the Graduate Student Council and Off-Campus Aggies. In

return, he said, they are required to supply the needed pollsters.

But both the graduate student council and OCA failed to supply a sufficient number of man-hours, Asel said. He added, however, that he couldn't place all the blame on those two organizations because he couldn't come up with the extra pollsters either.

Asel said that many of the problems in the election were due to a lack of a permanent system of holding elections.

"My experience as election commissioner has been trial and error 100 percent," he said.

Asel said he has learned from his mistakes and would like to use that knowledge in setting up a permanent system.

"I'm going to try and be election commissioner again," he said. "I'm hoping we can work out all the problems in the election within the next year, to where we can get it down to a working system and pass it down from election commissioner to election commissioner with no problems."



staff photo by Irene Mees

The claustrophobia cube

Eight second-floor residents of Keathley Hall totter in a two-foot cube during a one-second crush contest. The contestants cannot touch the ground outside the lines. This event, which was held in the grass area beside Keathley Saturday, was a part of the Keathley Olympics.

RHA, OCA election results announced

Election results for Residence Hall Association officers and Off-Campus Aggie officers are:

RHA

president
Kelli Kiesling
junior, accounting, Vernon
vice president
Christopher Stanley
sophomore, psychology, Houston
treasurer
Kathy Terry
junior, Houston, industrial engineering
secretary
runoff between:
Doug Houston
junior, mechanical engineering, Richardson
Mike Hunt

sophomore, IDIS, Taft OCA

president
runoff between:
Kevin Goodwin
sophomore, mechanical engineering, San Antonio
John Robert Survil
junior, mechanical engineering, Duncanville
vice president
Stacey Roberts
sophomore, finance, Houston
treasurer
Michelle Davis
freshman, computing science, Houston
secretary
Lisbeth Lowe
freshman, psychology, Houston



staff photo by Bill Schulz

Touche', Old Girl

Friday afternoon outside Spence Hall, freshman Jerri Leppert, a mechanical engineering major from Auburn, Ala., shows Carrie McElroy that she (Leppert) has the fastest ice cream cone in Aggieland. Their messy battle started at the creamery and lasted about thirty minutes. McElroy is a sophomore from Spring majoring in wildlife and fisheries.

Suspect in snake stealing critical after being bitten by deadly viper

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Doctors were closely monitoring the progress of a teenager today who was bitten by a deadly African viper he is suspected of stealing from the National Zoo.

Louis Morton, 16, was still in critical condition, but was responding to antivenin serum shipped from the emergency stocks of five East Coast zoos, a Children's Hospital spokesman said.

Morton, who neighbors said loved snakes and kept several in his home, boarded a District of Columbia bus near the zoo Monday night, carrying two 5-foot-long Gaboon vipers in a brown plastic bag. The exotic black, blue and yellow African reptile is one of the most dangerous snakes in the world.

He stepped off the bus in the heart

of downtown with the bag slung over his shoulder, but quickly turned around and, slumping over almost immediately, called to the bus driver.

"He grabbed his shoulder and came running back toward the bus," driver Jane White said. "He leaned on the door and said, 'I've been bitten by a snake.'"

Morton was immediately rushed to Children's Hospital and was given the life-saving antivenin kept at the zoo after the snakes were identified. A policeman, who once caught and milked rattlesnakes for money and is adept at snake handling, recovered the vipers.

Thick glass cages at the Reptile House at the National Zoo were smashed and the two vipers stolen sometime Monday evening, zoo police said. The cage of a poisonous

water moccasin also was broken, but the snake was left behind.

Zoo police Sgt. Thomas McFarland said the youth is a suspect in the theft and D.C. police said Morton faces charges as a result of the break-in.

The viper is "one of the two or three most poisonous snakes in the world," Dr. Murray Pollack said.

Five zoos along the Eastern Seaboard responded to an emergency call for vials of the antivenin serum. New York police mobilized an Illinois Civil Air Patrol aircraft in the area to fly the serum to National Airport.

Dr. Muriel Wolf, a doctor who treated the boy, said he was "bleeding quite severely and had problems with his blood pressure when he arrived" at the hospital.

Dr. Dale Marcellini, the zoo's director of herpetology, said the person

or persons who took the snakes "were not snake professionals, just someone who got a crazy idea."

He said the thief apparently "stayed on after 7:30 p.m., broke the windows, then broke into the cages."

The Gaboon vipers, he said, are very placid snakes. "They are quite beautiful," he said.

McFarland said the zoo did not discover the theft until they were asked to identify the snakes.

"You got to put two and two together. The guy from snake house met the D.C. police at gate and identified them as to the kind they were," the zoo policeman said. "He realized they were ours. You don't have those things running around the street. I'm waiting for somebody to come up and steal a polar bear tonight."

Publications editors named

Hope E. Paasch was elected 1983 summer and fall editor of The Battalion and Dena Brown was elected editor of the 1984 Aggieland by the Student Publications Board Tuesday evening.

Paasch is a junior journalism major from Burleson. She is city editor of The Battalion and was previously a reporter for the newspaper.

Brown, a junior journalism major from Lake Jackson, is one of the classes section editors for the 1983 Aggieland.

The editorships are subject to the approval of Dr. Gordon P. Eaton, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The Battalion summer editorship term lasts from May 18 to Aug. 29. The fall term lasts from May 2 through May 11 and from Aug. 30 to Dec. 9.

The Aggieland editor serves until the final pages of the 1984 book have been completed.

Faculty members of the Student Publications Board are: Gary Halter, associate professor of political sci-

ence, Davis A. Fahlquist, professor of geophysics, Carolyn Adair, director of student activities, and R. William Barzak, associate professor of English.

Dale Collins, Mark Stromberg and Jeff Anthony are the student members of the board. Joe Jordan serves as alternate.

Applications may be picked up beginning next week for positions on the summer and fall Battalion staffs.

Applications will open soon for positions on the staff of the Aggieland.

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forecast

Mostly cloudy today with a 40 percent chance of showers and a high of 64. Cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain tonight with a low near 50.