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Relaxed cotton dust rules moved

WASHINGTON WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration has proposed cotton dust standards be relaxed for so-called nontextile industries while strict engineering controls be retained

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gineering controls be retained for textile manufacturers, offi-cials said Wednesday. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration will pub-lish its new proposals Friday in the Federal Register, said spokesman Akio Konoshima. Public hearings on the proposed Public hearings on the proposed changes are scheduled for September and October in Washington, Columbia, S.C. and Dallas before the proposals

can become regulations. OSHA Admin Administrator

Thorne G. Auchter said the of a permissible worker expo-sure standard of 200 micrograms per cubic meter of air for yarn manufacturing.

Textile firms will have to meet the standard through en-gineering controls, which the industry has called too expensive. The industry contended worker respirators were preferable to ventilation controls. Slashing and weaving would have a standard of 750 micro-grams of dust per cubic foot of

However, standards would be relaxed for knitting, classing, warehousing, cottonseed processing and waste processing.

"OSHA has found no eviproposals call for the retention dence of significant risk in the industries proposed for exemption, a finding we must make for any permanent standard," said Auchter.

A standard of 1,000 micrograms per cubic meter would be retained for waste recycling, blending, cleaning and sorting, garnetting and mattress assem-bly, he said.

The proposed revisions are expected to save the industry an estimated \$94.4 million in capit-al costs and \$30.7 million in annual operating costs, agency studies indicate. An estimated 76,000 workers are employed in the exempted nontextile industries, leaving about 95,400 work-

ers still covered by the strictest standards. "We believe the proposed changes will not only resolve pending legal uncertain-ties and overcome existing technical difficulties in enforcing the current standard, but will benefit both the overall cotton industry and the workers in-volved," said Auchter.

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Other proposed changes in-

•Adding action levels of one- quirements on mo half the permissible exposure tilation, area sam lated matters to levels for the textile industry. Training, monitoring, medical clearer and more con surveillance and other require-ments will be reduced or elimin-Auchter said, which ated for exposure below the ac- tion level, industria tion levels.

Fugitive surrenders to FBI following six year search

United Press International MIAMI — A long-sought fugitive accused of seriously wounding two FBI agents last week surrendered voluntarily although he had vowed never to be taken alive — to protect his girlfriend and her baby, the FBI

Clarence Eugene Robinson, wanted for murder for nearly six years, got out of a car in front of the FBI's Miami office Tuesday night and surrendered to agent-in-charge Joseph V. Cor-less. He was to appear before a U.S. magistrate Wednesday.

Robinson, 38, is charged with two counts of assaulting a feder-al officer. The state of Florida wants him for the 1977 murder of a deputy sheriff.

The surrender was set up by a telephone call Tuesday after-noon to the Jacksonville FBI We did not expect him to sur-render," Corless said. He said the call came from a

Miami lawyer, who arranged the surrender at the request of Robinson's woman companion. Corless declined to identify the

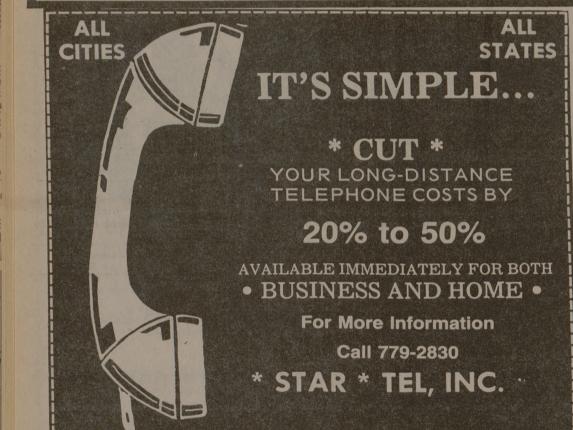
Robinson had been the sub-ject of an intense five-day agents Dennis Wicklein search, with dozens of heavily armed FBI agents, state and local police officers swarming over

and descended on a remote woodland spot where officers finally discovered his getaway car earlier Tuesday.

The manhunt began early Friday at Orange City, a small ized and reported in set west Volusia County town about stable condition.

Thomas Sobolewski, 40, investigating a bank m thought they recognized son coming out of a rear central and northern Florida. They rousted guests from a De-Land motel where the fugitive had been reported, from a campground where he had hid, When the agents appropriate the second secon

carried. Wicklein was h stomach and staggered restaurant. Sobolewski in the back and leg.



O'Neill expects Congress' favor for his \$700 tax-cap proposal

United Press International WASHINGTON — House Speaker Thomas O'Neill says he expects Congress will support his proposal to limit the July 1 tax cut to \$700, even though President Reagan opposes it.

House Democrats agreed Tuesday something must done about the 10 percent tax cut scheduled for July 1, but Demo-

cratic Leader Jim Wright of Texas said they postponed the decision of whether to limit or repeal it until the leadership could tabulate the results of a questionaire distributed to the members.

Following the closed meet-

Under O'Neill's plan, every taxpayer would get a 10 percent cut in tax rates, but no taxes would be reduced by more than would be reduced by more than \$700. O'Neill said the limit, which would affect mainly those But a

who earn more than \$50,000, Committee said single would save \$6 billion in 1984 with incomes of \$29.80 who earn more than \$50,000, and almost \$7 billion in 1985. O'Neill's assertion that his the limit, as would \$700 tax cap would affect main-ly taxpayers with incomes over and no deductions.

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FHA-insured mortgage interest rate went up from 11.5 percent and therefore showed to 12 percent Wednesdsy, the ound in the economy first increase in the rate in more than a year

Housing and Urban De-velopment Secretary Samuel — one that had been s Pierce Jr. said Tuesday that the Mortgate Bankers increase is necessary to keep mortgage money flowing for middle-income home buyers. The Federal Housing Administration interest rate is the rate

allowed on federally insured mortgages for single family homes

"Under the present rate, many potential home buyers are denied the more favorable FHA-insured loans they need to achieve home ownership,' Pierce said.

But the increase, in some respects, is at least a temporary blow to the administration's insistence housing would be one of the leaders in the nation's economic recovery.

In the past year, as conventional interest rates have fallen not necessarily the best followed very shortly by HUDannounced declines in the FHA

interest rates." A spokesman for the Association of Home which had tried to change, agreed the inc a long trend back up

gage rates.

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