

# Income and spending up from September

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — Americans' income and spending grew more strongly in September than they had since May, setting the stage for an unexpectedly vigorous finish for the 1983 economy, the government said Wednesday.

Personal income rose a healthy 0.9 percent last month, while spending jumped 1.5 percent, the most growth for both pillars of the recovery in five months, the Commerce Department said.

The report, which also revised upward consumer spending for both July and August, provided one of the last remaining ingredients necessary for the most important economic indicator, Thursday's quarterly measurement of U.S. gross national product.

After second-quarter growth that set a five-year GNP record at a 9.7 percent annual rate, the third quarter to be measured Thursday may not be far behind, analysts said.

The result is a stubborn momentum for the recovery that could make the current fourth quarter a happy surprise for economists, who had predicted the recovery's strength would be waning by now.

"We've got a good head start on the fourth quarter because we've finished the third quarter in most respects on a very strong upbeat," Commerce Department chief economist Robert Ortner said.

"It begins to look like the consensus 4.5 percent to 5 percent GNP forecast for the (fourth quarter) economy may have been too low."

## Despite Soyuz shuttle failure

# Cosmonauts are not 'stranded'

**United Press International**  
MOSCOW — The long flight of two Russian space station cosmonauts is continuing normally despite last month's launch failure of a fresh Soyuz spaceship to bring them home, an official said Wednesday.

A Western expert said another Soyuz was expected to be sent up soon.

Evgenii Tabakaev, an Academy of Sciences space specialist, said reports that cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov were stranded in space aboard Salyut 7 were "absolutely untrue."

Their transport ship Soyuz can bring them back to Earth. There is no leakage in the transport ship," Tabakaev said, referring to Western reports that the cosmonauts were in trouble.

"The cosmonauts are alive and living normally."

Jim Oberg, a U.S. authority on the Soviet space program, said in Huntington Beach, Calif., that two other cosmonauts were to have been launched in the new Soyuz last month to relieve Lyakhov and Alexandrov and thus keep the space station continuously occupied.

Lyakhov and Alexandrov were to have come home in their old Soyuz, Oberg said. Western experts said Soviet officials limit the time a Soyuz remains in orbit to about 115 days for fear that longer exposure to the space environment might degrade some systems.

## Convicted Chinatown killer sentenced to die

**United Press International**  
SEATTLE — Convicted mass murderer Kwan Fai "Willie" Mak was sentenced to die Wednesday for the shooting deaths of 13 people inside a Chinatown gambling club.

Mak, 22, a Hong Kong immigrant, showed no emotion and indicated he had nothing to say before King County Superior Court Judge Frank Howard imposed the death penalty.

The judge also denied a motion by Mak's attorneys for a new trial and approved documents containing an automatic appeal of Mak's sentence that will be sent to the State Supreme Court within 10 days.

Mak was convicted Oct. 5 of 13 counts of aggravated first-degree murder for the deaths of 12 men and one woman participating in secret, high-stakes games of Pai Kew inside the Wah Mee Club in the early morning hours of Feb. 19.

The victims were tied and shot at close range in the back of the head.

## AGRI officials guilty of theft

**United Press International**  
DES MOINES — AGRI Industries and three of its top officials were convicted of conspiracy Wednesday in the theft of \$500,000 worth of government wheat from a Texas warehouse last spring.

U.S. Attorney Richard Turner, chief prosecutor in the two-week trial, said the giant West Des Moines-based grain cooperative must either "clean house" or lose its federal license.

Victor set sentencing for Nov. 18.

Executive vice president Pat Keivin, 51, transportation vice president Tom Williamson, 38, and grain division Chief Jack Ward, 43, each face five-year prison sentences and \$10,000 fines. AGRI could be fined \$10,000.

Two other AGRI executives were found innocent — Texas Operations Chief Michael O'Dowd, son of company president B.J. O'Dowd, and Fort Worth warehouse superintendent R.F. Nelson.

B.J. O'Dowd and several other executives were not indicted but were named as co-conspirators.

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**BY BOB DODSON**

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