

122 arrested in military drug bust

United Press International
EL PASO — The biggest drug bust operation ever at Fort Bliss has netted the arrest of 122 people and confiscation of \$111,000 worth of narcotics, and the investigation is still not over, military investigators announced Wednesday.

Officials at the Criminal Investigation Division at Fort Bliss said there have been a steady stream of indictments since the arrests began Jan. 6, and "more

are planned in the weeks ahead as the investigation continues."

"They were picked up for possession, use and sale of narcotics," said Lt. Col. John Hay, CID commander at Fort Bliss, about the 84 lower-ranked military personnel and 38 civilians arrested.

Hay said possession of any amount of narcotic substance is a felony violation under military law.

Specific punishment is the de-

cision of the military commander. Hay said a first offense usually results in a disciplinary measure, a fine of \$200 to \$400 and reduction in rank.

Second offenses or incidents involving persons selling narcotics are dealt with more harshly, Hay said, noting possible maximum sentences call for up to 10 years hard labor in a military prison, with forfeiture of all pay and benefits and reduction in rank.

Hay said civilians charged in the case will be prosecuted in civilian courts, adding that those accused of committing crimes on government property will be tried in the U.S. District Court.

"The perception of some civilians," said Hay, "is that they can come on post and commit crimes, sell drugs or whatever, and when they leave the installation, they're off scot-free."

He said civilians mistakenly look at Fort Bliss as an "easy

target for drug sales." But he said the consequences actually are rougher than people expect.

"Although our jurisdiction does end at the military fence-line, we work very closely with other law enforcement officials," Hay said.

Estimated values of the drugs confiscated in the bust, which began Jan. 6, included \$52,430 worth of marijuana; \$43,000 worth of cocaine; \$15,000 worth of heroin.

Coal pipeline route disputed

United Press International
AUSTIN — Railroad and natural gas interests Wednesday lined up against a proposed 1,800-mile coal slurry pipeline from Wyoming to Louisiana, complaining the route has not been defined in Texas.

A pre-conference hearing before the Texas Railroad Commission touched off a premature debate between the railroads and the pipeline developers over the planning of the \$3 billion project.

The utility regulatory agency must decide whether the pipeline is feasible before Energy Transportation Systems Inc., a Houston-based energy consortium, can acquire right-of-way for a 945-mile stretch of pipeline through 36 Texas counties.

A three-member commission hearing panel tentatively scheduled a series of hearings along the proposed route to begin in April. A final hearing will be held during June in Austin.

Wednesday's hearing was designed to set up a formal public hearing procedure, but Joe Crawford, a lawyer for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, complained that Texas landowners still do not know whether their property would be crossed by the pipeline.

"I was shocked when I learned this morning that property owners don't know where the pipeline is going," he said.

"How can these people defend themselves? How can we validate the engineering well as the costs?"

But ETSI lawyer Stan Ratliff accused the railroads of hiding behind issues of route attack the pipeline.

"I feel like there's an attitude that's being injected into the railroads," he said. "Frankly, they don't care the route is. They don't care (pipeline)."

Hearing examiner Barnes assured the parties, however, that specific route would be known before hearings begin.

In addition to the railroads, other intervenors in the hearing include railroad workers' unions, a charitable organization that owns land along the route, the Office of Public Counsel and the Texas Association of Interstate Pipelines.

Allen King, general counsel for the Texas Public Utility Commission, said his agency may be involved in hearings since a pipeline affects electric rates.

The railroads are opposed to the pipeline because it would divert the revenues they receive for hauling coal from the Powder River Basin in Wyoming to Montana to electric utilities in Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma.

"We believe there are a number of issues that need to be brought up, such as jobs who is going to put up money for the pipeline," Don Robertson of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers said.

Patrick Nugent, director of the Texas pipeline association, said his organization is concerned about the economic impact on the state's natural industry.

The proposed pipeline would transverse Texas northeast of Amarillo to Houston.

Along the way, branches would be extended to existing generating plants in Fort Lamb, Wilbarger, Fawcett, and Fort Bend counties. Line would also be extended to Louisiana.

It would also cross the Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma. Company officials said 90 percent of the right-of-way side Texas has already been secured.

The ETSI application for water for the slurry was obtained from the Oahe Reservoir on the Missouri River in South Dakota.

The coal slurry process involves crushing coal to the consistency of sugar and mixing with water, on a 50-50 ratio, coal preparation plant. It is shipped via the pipeline to a destination where it is used as a power plant fuel.

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BY BOB DODSON

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The BUSINESS

Monthly Newsletter of the students of the College of Business Administration, Texas A&M University

BUSINESS WEEK 1984
 MONDAY, JAN. 30th thru FRI, FEB 3
MONDAY'S EVENTS:

- 10a.m. Blocker Bldg 120 "Venture Capital in the Southwest" Classroom Presentation by Michael Bell, General Partner, Southwest Venture Partners. FIN 460, Dr. Kerry Cooper. Visitors welcome, seating limited.
- 10a.m. Blocker Bldg 151 "SEC Policies and Practices" Classroom Presentation by Dr. Charles Cox, Commissioner, Securities Exchange Commission. FIN 447, Prof. Lyn Fraser. Visitors welcome, seating limited.
- 3p.m. Blocker Bldg 108 "Coping With Stress" Seminar presentation by Dr. O. C. Ferrell. Department of Marketing, TAMU. Visitors welcome, seating limited.
- 3p.m. Blocker Bldg 110 "Career Opportunities in Marketing" Seminar presentation by Dr. O. C. Ferrell. Department of Marketing, TAMU. Visitors welcome, seating limited.
- 3:30p.m. Blocker Bldg 307 "The SEC" Seminar for the CBA Faculty, by Dr. Charles Cox.
- 4p.m. Blocker Bldg 165 "Dealing With Venture Capitalists" Seminar for student ENVE Society by Mr. Michael Bell.
- 4p.m. Blocker Bldg 123 "International Retailing Management" Classroom Presentation by Mr. Steen Kanter, Manager, IKEA MKTG 326, Dr. Len Berry.

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