

Congress blames Reagan for enforcing school funds

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Congress and House Majority Leader Jim Wright Wednesday accused Reagan of "straining at gnat while swallowing camels" by impounding education funds while ignoring multimillion-dollar military waste.

In a speech on the floor of the House, Wright added fire to the Texas congressional delegation's efforts to force the government to free up \$30 million in funding to lessen the impact on school districts forced by a Supreme Court decision to provide free schooling to illegal immigrants' children.

"In this case, the Office of Management and Budget action is a flagrant violation of the 1976 Voucher Anti-Impoundment Act," Wright said.

"In spite of written assurances given to me on Jan. 5 by the Secretary of Education T.H. Bell that the program would be implemented without delay,"

the administration has countermanded Secretary Bell and simply marked the program down for administrative death in a budget line-item labeled "unobligated balance lapsing," he said.

Administration officials say that because the funding was passed in November as an attachment to a continuing resolution — a vehicle to allow the government to keep running until Congress finishes approving budgets for major departments — they did not consider it an authorization.

Wright and Texas Democratic Reps. Solomon Ortiz and Kika de la Garza earlier in the day fired off a letter to the General Accounting Office to find out why the funds are being withheld. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, on Tuesday asked President Reagan to overrule

the Education Department's decision.

Wright said the OMB decision comes at the same time an investigation of military spending revealed inattention by Pentagon auditors to subcontractor prices, including one military manufacturer "unjustly enriched by more than \$40 million at the taxpayers' expense because the Army did not insist

that reduced prices by subcontractors be passed on to the American taxpayers."

"These two disclosures demonstrate the administration's priorities," he said. "Straining at gnat while swallowing camels, the administration impounds funds needed for children and blithely ignores millions of dollars in waste on military windfalls and cost overruns."

Famous educator to lecture here on teacher education

Maxine Greene will speak on teacher education at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder Tower as part of the Aikin-Stinnett Lecture Series.

The lecture series, sponsored by the College of Education and the Dean's Grant Project, is in honor of two great men in the history of education: A.M. Aikin and

Tim M. Stinnett. The purpose of the series is to discuss teacher education and educational policy.

Greene's speech, "Perspectives and Visions: Rationale for 'Foundations' in Teacher Education," is the second of two lectures presented in the series.

Aikin and Stinnett are be-

ing honored for their outstanding contributions to education in Texas. Among many other accomplishments, Aikin is responsible for setting up the current structure of education in Texas and was officially named the Father of Modern Texas Education by the Third Legislature of Texas.

Texas top state in oil production despite decline

United Press International

DALLAS — Even though petroleum activity slowed during 1983, Texas still was the nation's top drilling and production state for the year, the Petroleum Information Corporation said Wednesday.

A presentation by PI, a Denver-based subsidiary of A.C. Nielsen Co., showed exploration in the Permian Basin of West Texas and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico were among the bright spots in the national petroleum scene last year.

There were 24,297 well completions in Texas in 1983, more than twice as many wells as were completed in Oklahoma, the second-ranked state. Of that to-

tal in Texas, 13,082 were oil wells and 3,560 were gas wells.

The 1983 total was 9.7 percent lower than in 1982, when 26,897 well completions were reported in Texas, PI said.

There were 2,148 new field wildcats, or purely exploratory wells, completed in Texas in 1983, of which 189 found new oil fields and 247 made gas discoveries. The success rate for new field wildcat discoveries in Texas in 1983 was 20.3 percent, well above the 16.9 percent national average.

Onshore oil production in Texas dropped about 69,000 barrels a day compared with 1982 production. Onshore natural gas production fell about 1.34 billion cubic feet per day in Texas last year, PI reported.

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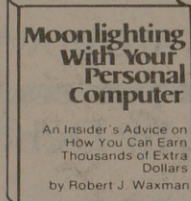
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