

Absentee voting for  
May starts today  
See page 3

Sophomores L-Z must  
pre-register today

Aggie softball pitcher  
pitches perfect game  
See page 9

# The Battalion

Texas A&M

Serving the University community

79 No. 133 USPS 0453110 12 pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, April 17, 1984

## Gunman kills U.S. official

United Press International

SAN SALVADOR — A gunman firing from a taxicab killed the head of security at the U.S. Embassy Monday barely a mile from the mission, authorities said.

Joaquín Alfredo Zapata Romero, 48, died in his car from four bullet wounds to the head, neck and chest, witnesses said. His wife Yolanda was not in the mouth but a daughter speaking with them was unharmed, they said.

Witnesses said the unidentified gunman in the passenger seat of a car pulled up beside Zapata's car, stopped at a major intersection during the morning rush hour in the east of the capital, and opened fire.

They said the gunman and the taxi driver escaped from the scene by heading away to the north.

A group immediately claimed responsibility and police said they had leads.

In Washington, the State Department said it had no information on the identity of the gunman and that it learned of the shooting "with profound regret."

The department of State condemns all such acts of violence and terrorism," said department spokesman John Hughes.

Zapata was an 8-year veteran of embassy security, the highest-ranking Salvadoran on the embassy staff and headed the 200-member security force of Salvadorans, a spokesman at the mission said.

He ranked just below the embassy's Regional Security Officer, an American, the spokesman said.

Among his duties was coordinating security arrangements with the Salvadoran government for the visits of high-ranking American officials, such as Cabinet members and the president, the spokesman said.

Zapata previously had been chief of the Salvadoran national police criminal investigations division, authorities said.

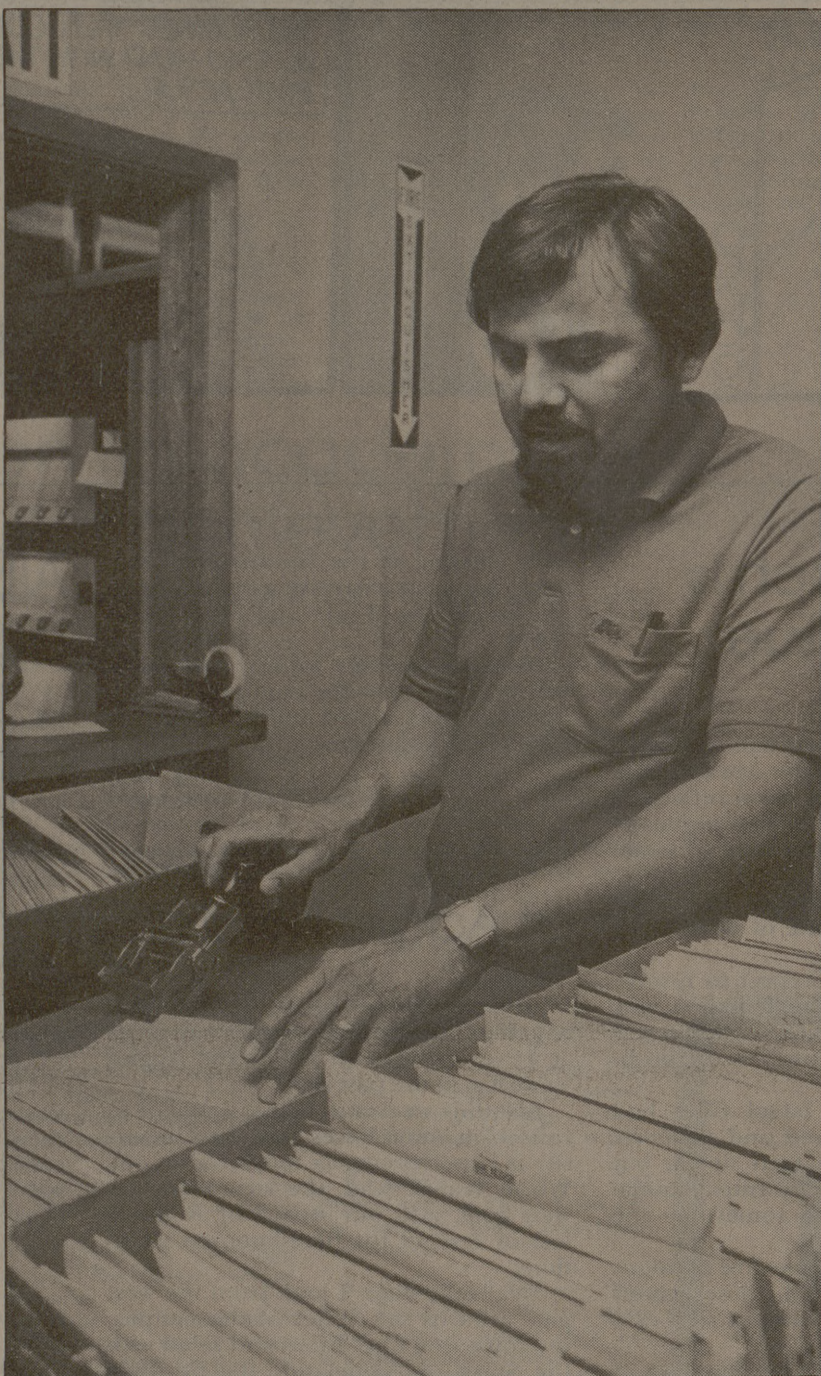


Photo by JOHN MAKELY

### Too late now

More than 40,000 tax returns were processed at the Bryan Post Office Monday night. Charles Ray, manager of mail processing in Bryan, postmarks and sorts through a few of the returns. The mail trucks left for the Austin post offices at 1 a.m. Tuesday morning.

## Campus construction in full swing

# University trying to solve building shortage

By ANNE HEDGCOXE  
Reporter

Texas A&M University just wouldn't be the same without construction fences, renovation signs, banging drills and banging hammers.

Despite the leveling off of student enrollment in the past few semesters, the University is building in full gear.

Texas A&M has the most severe building shortage of any other state university, says retired Major General Wesley E. Peel, vice chancellor of facilities planning and construction.

The University has the physical facilities to accommodate comfortably

25,000 students, he says, but the problem is there are 36,000.

According to the coordinating board's standard of 130 square feet per one full-time student, Peel says the University is probably about one million square feet short of ENG, general education space.

About ten years ago, Texas A&M was just trying to keep up with the rapid increase in student enrollment. Now that enrollment has slackened off, the University can "catch its breath," says Peel.

"If the enrollment remains at about 36,000, we will probably catch up, based upon our current program, in about five years," he says.

"At that time, we will be transitioning into a full-time renovation."

Considering the sudden increased enrollment experienced in the last decade, Peel says the University has responded with efficiency.

While some universities may assign classrooms on a departmental basis, Texas A&M uses computers to assure that laboratories and classrooms are fully utilized instead of sitting dormant.

A majority of the classrooms on campus are used approximately six hours a day.

Texas A&M also has the space and funds to create the state of the art

changes needed for research and instruction.

Currently there is \$50 million under contract for building and renovation, says Peel.

"If you look at the projects in progress now, there is more renovation under way than in the past," he says.

In the next few years, Peel says there will be \$50 million to \$60 million under construction at one given time.

All this money comes from the Available Fund, income from the Permanent University Fund, a land endowment totaling \$1.5 billion, and bonds sold by the University.

"Some complain about all the brick

and mortar. What they forget is that without brick and mortar, there are no offices, laboratories or classrooms," Peel says. "It is a requirement for construction."

Expansion also is a requirement for upgrading facilities and technological research if Texas A&M is going to advance educationally.

Texas A&M, like most universities, is experiencing a change in educational scope. Instead of a classroom-based education, more emphasis now is being placed on highly technological research.

This is why buildings currently under construction are mainly office space and research laboratories.

Daniel T. Whitt, assistant director of facilities planning and construction, says that "in the past decade the rapid growth in enrollment and in research as been such that we have devoted most of our available dollars to new buildings."

"We are approaching a point now, however, where we can spend some of those dollars on some very needed renovations. If you have a building that is structurally sound, it is more efficient to renovate than to start over with new construction."

Renovation upgrades and modernizes existing facilities while maintaining the flavor and character of the University.

## Parking permits to be sold by the year

By ERIN PYLE  
Reporter

Students pre-registering for the spring semester have been surprised when signing up for parking stickers they are no longer sold by the semester. Beginning next fall, all student parking stickers will be sold on a one-semester basis. Stickers previously have been available on a semester basis.

A University Police representative said the selling of the longer permits cut out the amount of paperwork involved.

Fees for parking also will go up in the fall. The increased fees will provide more money for improved parking facilities.

Students who plan to graduate in December must purchase a sticker for the entire academic year, but at the end of the fall semester they can get a refund for the spring semester if they remove the sticker and return it to the University Police. The sticker does not have to be in one piece to get a refund, but students are required to return all the pieces to the University Police. Graduating students must pay all outstanding tickets before receiving their refund.

The new change has caused confusion among students and the University Police. Because the pre-registration forms have an option for one-semester stickers, some students believe they can purchase a one-semester sticker. The University Police say they are sorry for the confusion, but all students signing up for parking stickers will be billed for two semesters.

Students who are planning to attend school both semesters say they are not affected as much as those who are graduating in December.

Lee Holmes, a junior political science major from Clear Lake, said he

is not opposed to buying the sticker on a yearly basis as long as it is cost-effective.

Cynthia Richardson, a sophomore elementary education major from Houston, said the sticker policy is unfair to graduating seniors.

Mintarso Salim, an industrial engineering graduate student from Indonesia, said he doesn't mind paying for an extra semester as long as he can get a refund when he graduates.

"I guess we don't have a choice," Salim said.

## Fighting continues in Beirut and Tripoli

United Press International

BEIRUT — Fighting closed the only crossing between the Christian and Moslem sectors of the divided capital Monday and rival Moslem gunmen clashed in Tripoli, killing at least four people and wounding 20 others.

In Damascus, Syrian Vice President Abdel Halim Khaddam met with Druze Moslem rebel leader Walid Jumblatt and top aides in Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party in a bid "to consolidate a cease-fire," Druze radio said.

Other rebel leaders opposed to the government of Christian President Amin Gemayel met in Damascus as fighting flared again in Beirut and Tripoli, a port city 42 miles north of the capital.

At least six people were reported killed Sunday in Tripoli when the first fighting in the city in months

erupted between the Tawheed, a fundamentalist Sunni militia, and the "Pink Knights," gunmen of the pro-Syrian Alawite sect of Islam that bitterly opposes the Sunnis.

Fighting closed the Museum crossing Monday, halting traffic through the Green Line, a no man's land separating the Christian east from Moslem west Beirut.

Minutes after police in Beirut opened the crossing for the day, mortar shelling and bursts of heavy machine-gun fire forced them to close it.

"There were dozens of cars at the time of the shooting but none was hit," one witness said. "Drivers left their cars and escaped into nearby buildings when the first shells fell in an empty lot."

A Christian delegate at a cease-fire committee meeting to reopen the

crossing blamed Moslem gunners for the violence.

The Museum crossing, normally open 12 hours a day, remained shut in what appeared to be its first all-day closing since February.

Safely away from the bloodshed aboard a U.S. warship off the Lebanese coast, American professor Frank Regier received medical tests less than 24 hours after he was released from two months in captivity.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman said Regier, 56, head of the electrical engineering department at the American University of Beirut, was flown by helicopter to the USS Nassau.

Regier, of Montgomery, W.Va., was reported "in psychologically good condition but physically weak."

Regier and French architect Christian Joubert, both kidnapped in west Beirut in February, were rescued Sunday by Shiite Moslem militiamen.

## Haig, Kissinger to have extra security while here

By ROBIN BLACK  
Staff Writer

Former Secretaries of State Alexander Haig and Henry Kissinger will be the Big Men on Campus Thursday, and with the security measures that are being taken it shouldn't be too difficult to pick them out of the crowd.

Bob Wiatt, director of Security and Traffic of the University Police, said the department is preparing for the worst and stepping up security for the event Thursday.

There will be a "very visible show of support" by the University Police while the two men are here, Wiatt said, because there is no way of knowing who else might show up as a welcoming committee.

"There will be a tremendous amount of security from the moment they land at the airport," he said.

Wiatt said University Police will check out in advance every place Haig and Kissinger will be while on campus.

The University Police have issued a parade permit to LaRouche, an or-

ganization that is a right-wing branch of the Democratic party. Wiatt said the group will be allowed to demonstrate only within the constraints of the Rudder Fountain area.

LaRouche has distributed propaganda pamphlets accusing Kissinger of being behind the plot to murder former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

Kissinger will bring two bodyguards with him but Haig will arrive alone, Wiatt said.

"We're not treating this thing lightly," he said. "This is a heck of a lot more than 'ho-hum, there's another speaker on campus.' This could end up with several people screaming and hollering."

Keri Hairston, public relations director of the Endowed Lecture Series which is sponsoring the Haig-Kissinger event, said she's not anticipating much trouble at Texas A&M because of the strong conservatism in the student body.

"The only thing any kind of demonstration can do is help us in the future," Hairston said. "It would help because more of the media would be attracted next year."

Kissinger encountered a considerable amount of protest last month when he spoke at the University of Texas.

More than 200 people held a peaceful demonstration around UT's LBJ library in protest of Kissinger's El Salvador involvement, and about 50 were arrested.

"You never know who else might show up," he said. "The people from UT might show up about the El Salvador thing. After all, Austin is only about 90 miles from here."

Capt. M. Newton of the College Station Police Department said city police will not be involved with the security, but will be on call if the University police need assistance.

Wiatt said that University Police might have a paddy wagon nearby in case any trouble starts with demonstrators.

"We might even have a school bus depending on the numbers," he said.

Tickets for the Endowed Lecture Series sold out last week, so the committee has arranged for a video simulcast in Rudder Theater. Tickets for the simulcast are on sale in the Rudder box office.

## In Today's Battalion

### Local

• Participants in Wednesday's Political Awareness Day include members from MADD, the KKK and the Communist Party. See story page 3.

• Believe it or not, student bookstores enjoy buying and selling used books. See story page 4.

• For a complete list of winners of the Buck Weirus Spirit Awards and the Gathright Awards see page 3.