

Centennial

Joint session honors Truman

United Press International

Harry S. Truman is 12 years gone, but his peppery spirit, public courage and private compassion were recalled Tuesday as the town where he came from and the city where he made history celebrated the 100th anniversary of his birth.

In ceremonies both in Washington, where Truman served 10 years as a senator and nearly eight years as president, and in Independence, Mo., where he lived and died, the former haberdasher who vaulted from county politics to leadership of the free world was praised.

Early in the day at the hill-top Truman Library in Independence, about 150 people participated with Missouri Gov. Christopher Bond in a brief graveside service and military wreath-laying honoring the former president, who served as a combat artillery officer in World War I.

Later, there was a White House luncheon with President Reagan as host and a gala community party in Independence, as well as other events in Washington.

The most formal tribute was in the form of a Joint Session of Congress in honor of the Truman centennial. The highlight of the 90-minute gathering in the cavernous House chamber was the recollections of Margaret Truman Daniel, the former president's only child.

"When as a child you walk beside a good man, a warm-hearted man, and find comfort, love and protection in his embrace, you never think of him as a great man. He's just your dad, and you love him," she told the lawmakers, diplomats, government officials, family members and former Truman associates seated in the chamber.

"My father was a great man," she said, "and his greatness grows with time." Mrs. Daniel, whose husband and four sons were seated in the audience, recalled her own days as a schoolgirl exploring the Capitol and her father's love for congressional service. Her brief talk was given a standing ovation.

She said her father jokingly called the White House "the great white jail" during nearly eight years in the presidency, but, "He felt a sense of liberation, a sense of expansiveness in the halls of Congress," she said. "He loved the work and reveled in the comradeship he found here."

Clark Clifford, Truman's White House counsel, said one of Truman's toughest decisions was to recognize Israel over the objections of many advisers. He said Israeli Prime Minister David Ben Gurion brought tears to Truman's eyes at a meeting "because (Ben Gurion) had fought ... for a deep prin-

ciple" and that Truman came to think of creation of Israel as "a question of basic human policy."

Rep. Alan Wheat, D-Mo., a black Democrat who represents Independence, praised Truman's order desegregating the armed forces. "This courageous act nearly cost him the (1948) election," Wheat said.

Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., said Truman had "left a legacy of reconciliation" and recalled that as president Truman invited Herbert Hoover to the White House, the first visit the Depression-era president had made since 1933. The two men, Hatfield said, became close friends.

Much of the program in the House chamber was musical, which Mrs. Daniel said her father, a piano player, would have enjoyed. The Army band and chorus, resplendent in dress whites, blared out a series of tunes, including "The Harry Truman March." Pianist Daniel Pollack played two Chopin selections on a huge grand piano that occupied much of the House.

Truman is only the second president to be honored with a centennial Joint Session of Congress. Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose 100th anniversary was similarly observed in 1982, also was so honored.

House approves conservation bill

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The House approved a major soil conservation bill Tuesday that would pay farmers to take fragile land out of production and deny farm program benefits to those who plow up fragile grasslands.

The measure, approved by voice vote, would deny government price supports and other farm program benefits for farmers who plow up grasslands for crops. The so-called sodbuster provision was approved in response to the plowing of millions of acres of grasslands in the West for wheat production.

Rep. Ed Jones, D-Tenn., key sponsor of the bill, said the measure is the "most significant step we have taken in this generation to improve our conservation programs."

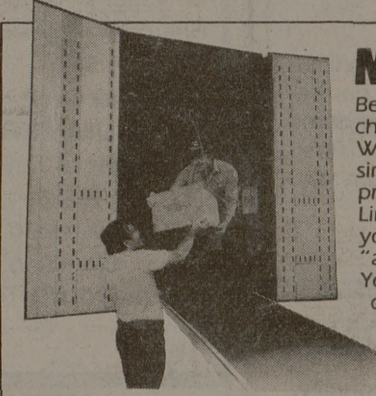
The administration, operating an experimental conservation reserve program this year, has asked Congress to delay approval of another reserve and to consider longer-term acreage idling as part of 1985 farm bill consideration.

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Another provision, which has not been passed by the Senate, also would authorize \$225 million over three years to pay farmers to take highly erodible land out of production under contract with the government for seven years or 15 years.

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It also would require a study of how farmers who use crop rotation as a conservation technique could designate the rotated land as cropland so they are not discriminated against in crop acreage reduction programs.



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The Senate last year approved a less stringent sodbuster provision that would deny farm benefits for the actual fragile land that was plowed up, not a farmer's entire farm as stipulated by the House bill.

The House and Senate are expected to work out differences between the two measures to come up with final legislation.

House Agriculture Chairman Kika de la Garza, D-Texas, said

Gunman kills three in Quebec

United Press International

QUEBEC — A gunman shouting "Where are the politicians? I want to kill them" shot his way with a machine gun into the Quebec legislature Tuesday, killing three people, wounding 14 others and holding a hostage for more than four hours before surrendering to police.

The 4 1/2 hour siege ended when the gunman released his hostage, put down his weapon and was arrested, Quebec Police Force Sgt. Pierre Bourgeault said.

Police said they freed Sergeant-at-Arms Rene Jalbert, a retired major with the Royal 22nd Canadian Regiment, held hostage near his office in the basement of the provincial legislature.

Unconfirmed reports said the gunman had identified himself as a member of the Royal 22nd, Canada's famed "VanDoos," an elite paratroop unit that distinguished itself in combat during World War II. Neither police nor military authorities would confirm the identification.

Before the siege, the gunmen

left a tape cassette with a Quebec radio station that said in French, "I have weapons and I will use them. I don't like the government."

"They do bad things. Politics is a real circus. I will destroy them before they do more bad things," he said on the tape. "They have done a lot wrong to the French people in Quebec."

In the morning, the gunman dressed in combat fatigues, with bandoliers of ammunition strapped across his chest and a 9mm machine gun slung over his arm, drove up to the buildings in a beige car bearing Ontario license plates.

He sprayed the outside of the building with bullets, then ran into the ornate, powder blue main chamber of the legislature shouting in French, "Where are the politicians? I want to kill them."

Once inside the main chamber of the Quebec National Assembly, where a legislative committee was in session, the man "simply opened fire," police said.

He told one of the wounded, "I'm sorry I had to shoot you — but that's life."

Police said one man was pro-

nounced dead at L'Enfant Jesus Hospital and a man and a woman died at Hotel Dieu, where two of the five most seriously injured underwent emergency surgery. At least 14 people were wounded in the shooting.

Neither Premier Rene Levesque nor any of his Cabinet ministers were in the room at the time of the shooting. Levesque was en route to Quebec City from Montreal when the incident began.

The building was evacuated and hundreds of provincial, municipal and military police surrounded and sealed off the area. Sharpshooters were stationed around the entire legislative complex and military helicopters hovered overhead.

Quebec Justice Minister Pierre-Marc Johnson negotiated with the gunman, who held off police for several hours while he took Jalbert, to the basement of the provincial parliament.

About 30 minutes before he rushed into the legislature, a man believed to be the gunman fired a burst at Quebec's Citadel, the ceremonial home of the VanDoos paratroopers.

It was the second violent incident at the Assembly in recent years. On Sept. 24, 1981, a man and woman entered then speaker Claude Vaillancourt's office and held him at the point of guns and knives for five hours.



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