

Page 12/The Battalion/Thursday, December 6, 1984

Couple opens hearts to needy

United Press International

ANAHEIM, Calif. — A New Jersey couple who have opened their home to hundreds of troubled youngsters — taking on those "that no one else wants" — enjoyed the sound of laughter Wednesday from three dy-

Carl and Marion Banghart accom-panied their adopted children Billy, 3, John, 6 and Christopher, 6, on a complimentary excursion through Disneyland arranged by the Hous-ton-based A Child's Wish Comes True Foundation.

The Bangharts were forced to leave another adopted and dying child at home because the 5-year-old, named Melissa, "does not adapt to strange places.'

Also accompanying them on the Southern California trip were Heat-her, 11, their only adopted child who is not physically ill, and two mentally retarded adopted adults, area 55 and 25

ages 55 and 25. While raising five natural chil-dren, the Bangharts also gave tem-porary care as foster parents to about 225 troubled teenagers sent them but the invention court corteger them by the juvenile court system.

"We considered at one point — when we moved to Massachusetts be-cause of my husband's work — just relaxing for a while," said Marion, 58. "But every night when Carl came home, he said, 'Gee, it's so quiet around here."

A short time later, the first call came from the New England Medi-cal Floating Hospital in Boston. "They had a state child who had

to be pushed out. There was nothing left to do for him medically," Marion "He was four months old and had four holes in his heart. We went

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO - ABC News White House correspondent Sam Don-

Donaldson, assigned to the White House since 1977, said relations be-

'We've got to do something to put pressure on Ronald Reagan to an-

Aggie

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Thursday, December 6, 7 p.m.

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Stanley H

and got him. "Four months later, they called again with a a 5-pound, 8-month-old with fetal alcoholic syndrome. They were just words to me then, but I was willing to find out what they meant.' The third call was another 8-

month-old. "I told them on the phone that I'd take her," Marion said. "They said, 'But you haven't seen her. You don't know if she has two heads.' But I

don't care, as long as she needs me." When the family was asked to take 2-month-old Billy, an abandoned in-fant not expected to live more than a year because of severe birth defects, the Bangharts ended up in the center of a highly publicized court fight in Boston to keep him connected to a

respirator. Ultimtely, the respirator was re-moved at the court's direction, but Billy beat the odds.

Heather is the only child without medical problems, but she came to the Bangharts a troubled youngster with severe emotional problems. To-

day, she is an "A" student. "I plea bargin with God a lot," Marion said. "I say, 'If'll you just help me out this one more time, I'll try to be a better person. And he lis-tens a lot. We couldn't do it otherwise

"I'm here to tell the joys of being a parent of handicapped and retarded children. Too many people shut too many doors on these little ones. They need so much and have so much to give."

The Bangharts have taken guard-ianship of Melissa, adopted Billy, John and Christopher and are in the process of adopting Heather.



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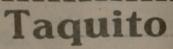
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AUSTIN — The state of Texas

Texans may think all their tax dollars go to pay a bunch of bu-reaucrats in Austin," said state Comptroller Bob Bullock. "But slices of the state's budget pie went to almost 16,000 private consultants last year for their expert advice in specialized fields.'

The report compiled by Bullock's office said more than 60 percent of the state's outside consultant fees went for engineering, medical and architectural services.

The single largest payment, \$1.3 million, went to the Kansas City, Mo., engineering firm of Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff for work done for the state Department of History and Public Transport of Highways and Public Transportation.

The highway agency also paid fees of more than \$1 million to engi-neering firms in Nebraska, Florida and Texas.

ignw about 60 percent of all fees paid in 1984

Ten state agencies, led by the

The highway agency spent \$14.7 million; Texas Department of Corrections, \$4.3 million; the Attorney General's Office, \$4.1 million.

vice cost the state \$15.4 million last year, while medical services cost \$13.2 million and architectural fees

The report said engined

Attorney General Jim Mattox's office paid the Austin law firm of Gray, Allison & Becker \$147,714 for legal advice. The same law firm also collected fees of \$781,905 from the Department of Corrections, \$21,197 from the state Department of Public Safety, and \$1,850 from the Board of Private Investigators-Security Agencies.

The report said payments for pro-fessional services amounted to less than 1 percent of the state's total expenditures in fiscal 1984, with the average consultant contract costing the state \$3,679.

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