Wednesday, February 20, 1985/The Battalion/Page 11

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Texas leaders sell state as Navy port

Associated Press

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AUSTIN - Gov. Mark White, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby and House Speaker Gib Lewis will join Sen. Phil Gramm of College Station in Washington to-day to sell the Texas Gulf Coast as he best place for a new Navy home-

Several Texas cities, including Houston-Galveston and Brownsville, are competing with locations in Ala-bama, Florida, Mississippi and Loui-siana for the battleship port that will bring millions of dollars in business and jobs.

Also pushing Texas at the meet-ing with Navy Secretary John Leh-man will be the state's other senator, s econome Lloyd Bentsen, House Majority Leader Jim Wright of Fort Worth and former U.S. Sen. John Tower of Texas.

Two Texas House members on Tuesday filed a bill they said would give the state leaders some "concrete proposals" to show Lehman. The proposed National Defense Impacted Region Assistance Act lays out a program that could mean \$300 million over five years if a Texas city

gets the port. Rep. Ed Emmett, R-Kingwood, said White and the other state leaders needed a solid plan to bring to

the Pentagon on Wednesday. The facility could bring a \$60 mil-lion annual payroll and 3,500 civilian jobs.



Associated Press

AUSTIN - Bonds allegedly threatened with disapproval by At-torney General Jim Mattox were being sought for schools, jails, flood control and other public projects, a string of officials testified Tuesday at Mattox's commercial bribery trial. However, none of the 17 officials said approval of their bonds was withheld.

withheld. Two said their lawyers advised them of a possible "problem" in gaining the attorney general's needed approval, and a third said he was told the bonds might not be is-sued by a June 30, 1983 deadline.

Mattox is charged with threatening the bond business of the Houston law firm Fulbright & Jaworski, which owns another firm that does bond work — Dumas, Huguenin, Boothman & Morrow of Dallas. Under state law, the attorney gen-

eral must clear such bond issues.

Prosecutors called officials from Texas cities, counties, school districts and flood control districts to explain why they needed the millions of dollars from bond sales being handled for them by Fulbright & Jaworski or Dumas, its Dallas firm.

The officials also said changes in federal law meant that after June 30, 1983, the bonds would be more difficult to sell and more expensive to issue

Fulbright & Jaworski lawyer Wiley Caldwell earlier testified that Mattox telephoned him on June 15, 1983, threatening to "go to war" unless one of its attorneys stopped trying to question his sister, Dallas lawyer Janice Mattox, in a case involving Mobil Oil, South Texas rancher Clinton Manges and the state.

At the time, Fulbright & Jaworski had 17 bond issues pending before Mattox, with a total value of about \$1 billion.

On Tuesday, former Lavaca County flood control official Robert Gindler of Hallettsville testified that the district's bond lawyers told him in June 1983 of possible difficulty in getting approval from Mattox.

He was told "there was another lawsuit pending involving Mobil Oil, the state and Clinton Manges There had been some conflict between Mr. Mattox and the law firm that actually owned his firm," Gindler said, referring to Fulbright & Jaworski.

Gindler said the district wanted to issue \$550,000 in bonds to pay for flood control work. If they failed to meet the June 30 deadline, he said, "Our bonds would be much more difficult to sell."

Also testifying was Jesse Logan of Austin, finance director for the Lower Colorado River Authority, which was seeking to restructure its debt by issuing \$329 million in new bonds.

Asked if he knew about a conflict between Mattox and the Fulbright & Jaworski firm, Logan replied, "Yes On the 21st (of June), we learned of that type of problem."

In cross examining the officials, Mattox's lawyers made it a point to note that in each case, the bonds were approved and sold before the June 30 deadline. Jim Walker, city manager of Bed-ford, was asked if the city had en-

countered any trouble in issuing the bonds 'Not to my knowledge," he re-

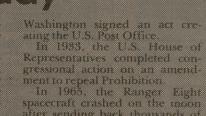
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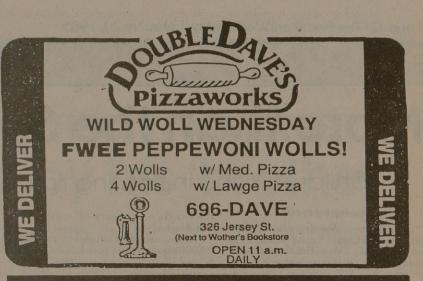
Today is Ash Wednesday. To-day is also the start of the Chinese Year of the Ox.

On February 20th, 1962, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth after blasting off aboard the Friendship Seven Mercury cap-

In 1792, President George



after sending back thousands of pictures of the lunar surface.



INFORMATION SESSION for SPRING ELECTIONS **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21** 7:00 p.m. 501 RUDDER

All students interested in running for: Student Government Student Body President

Vice Presidents - Senators **RHA-OCA - Yell Leaders** Class of '86, '87, '88 Officers **Graduate Student Council**

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