

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Textbooks criticized at state hearing

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was a lawbreaker and singer Joan Baez offends "people with traditional values," according to a Mesquite woman who Tuesday complained about textbook references to King and Baez.

Mary Lassiter presented the testimony on the second day of State Textbook Committee hearings. The committee's recommendations will go to the State Board of Education, which next month will pick \$92.9 million worth of books for use next year.

Lassiter testified about a Spanish supplementary reader. She said Baez's views of "peace and freedom" may have stirred emotions but reflects a total lack of intellectual analysis.

"Clearly, you can't have both peace — which in Miss Baez's philosophy is a lack of resistance to oppression — and freedom, or at least the freedom . . . enjoyed by our founding fathers when they escaped from totalitarian tyranny," Lassiter said.

Furthermore, it is offensive to people with traditional values to hold up Joan Baez as a role model as she advocated lawbreaking," she added. "The use of Martin Luther King Jr. as a role model is objectionable on the same grounds."

She called for deletion of the Baez references and editing of the King references "to eliminate the praise for lawbreaking."

Textbook comments about newscaster Connie Chung also sparked criticism. The book quotes Chung as saying, "I would say it definitely helped me to get hired, the fact that I am a woman and from a minority."

The book says "democracy provides opportunity for women and racial minorities to have a higher quality of life and freedom from discrimination."

Lassiter said, "One gets the feeling that the author is rejoicing in the change that our democracy is undergoing whereby the majority is made to be guilty for being the majority, and the minority deserves more just for being the minority."

Tuesday's schedule also included review of art textbooks. In prefilled testimony, Clova Wood of Garland complained about an art book that offered a critic's interpretation of Grant Wood's famous American Gothic painting, which depicts a farmer and his wife.



Photo by GREG BAILEY

## A Different Angle

Five stars superimposed on each other form a sculpture that can be viewed from many angles. The stars hang on Rudder Tower's north wall.

## Warns of 'Strangers and Dangers'

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Three law enforcement officials who know the anguish of child abductions and accidents have now made a game out of it.

But it's for a good cause — children's safety.

Strangers and Dangers is touted by its inventors as the first board game in America to teach children about safety on the streets and hazards around the home.

The game, which should be in stores in some cities this week, is the brainchild of three men who've drawn on 40 years of combined experience to create a new way to teach an old lesson.

"We've all had a lot of work with kids," Jeffrey Chudwin, a former prosecutor, said last week.

So Chudwin and partners Michael Dooley, a former police chief in south suburban University Park, and

Patrick Barry, a former investigator with the Will County sheriff's police, got together to do something about it.

They listed common childhood hazards they've handled and then incorporated them into the game.

The object of Strangers and Dangers — designed for children 4 years of age and older — is to be the first to arrive safely home from school.

The direct route provides a safer

course. Shortcuts pose more obstacles.

The game aims to teach kids to be assertive — to run and scream — if confronted by strangers.

Chudwin said one case he prosecuted was "a young girl who was abducted off the street in broad daylight . . . and she still made no attempt to raise her voice" even when the gunman moved away from her and placed his gun down.

The board portrays the dangerous strangers as both male and female.

It also has "Safe-T-Places," such as libraries and police stations, where children should go when in trouble.

Chudwin said that although the game deals with a serious subject, there's nothing "threatening. None of this is high pressure or scare tactics."

## Game to teach children about safety

## Manhattan Project scientists blast Reagan's 'Star Wars'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On the 40th anniversary of "Trinity," the epic first test of the atomic bomb, scientists who worked on the project condemned President Reagan's "Star Wars" plans on Tuesday as a sign the world still doesn't understand the dangers unleashed in the New Mexico desert.

U.S. emphasis on a policy of strategic bombardment, though terribly effective

against the Japanese at the end of World War II, has weakened rather than strengthened American security by eliminating oceans as realistic barriers against war, said Philip Morrison, who was a member of the Manhattan Project that built and exploded the first atomic bomb.

But the world's most powerful nations continue striving in the same directions, pointing to Reagan's "Star Wars" defense

plan. Morrison said the scientists who knew most about nuclear weapons when they were new in 1945 realized three crucial facts that remain true today: There are no nuclear secrets that can be kept for long; there will be no real defense against nuclear weapons; there must be international agreements against their use.

The scientists distributed a broadsheet

appealing for support of a series of steps to fend off destruction by the world's 50,000 nuclear weapons.

Both superpowers should "move rapidly, persistently and in concert towards dramatically smaller nuclear arsenals composed of weapons that are invulnerable and which do not threaten the wholesale destruction of an opponent's deterrent forces."

The United States should work to improve its ability to monitor compliance with arms agreements rather than spend so much money on new weapons.

This nation must remain committed to the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty, pursue negotiations against anti-satellite weapons and work to stop or at least slow the weapons spread by banning all underground nuclear weapons tests.

## Prof: Agricultural ability of U.S. envied

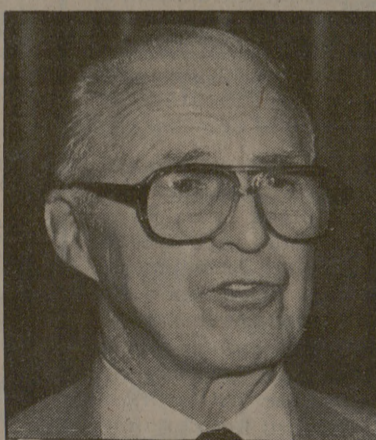
By JERRY OSLIN

Staff Writer

Most Americans today take the abundance of food in their country for granted because they are not aware of the long processes it takes to improve agricultural technology and production, Texas A&M's distinguished professor for international agriculture said Tuesday.

Dr. Norman Borlaug, a Nobel Prize winning agronomist, said, "The agricultural ability of the United States is something the rest of the world envies, but this ability didn't develop over night. Americans take this ability for granted because they have lost touch with the land."

Borlaug's comments came during a speech at a conference of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service employees being held at Texas A&M.



Dr. Norman Borlaug

Borlaug told a group of about 1,500 people that today, less than 2 percent of the country's workforce is employed in the agricultural indus-

try while at the time of the American Revolution, 85 percent of the country's population lived on subsistence farming.

"The large part of our population today lives in large metropolitan areas," Borlaug said. "They aren't familiar with the flooding, the drought, the slumping markets and the other problems farmers face."

Borlaug also said the agriculturally underdeveloped countries of today will have to go through a long developing process before they will be able to feed all their people but they can do it.

"People wrote off India and Pakistan 25 years ago," he said. "They said they would never be able to feed their people, but today they are producing enough food."

Borlaug said the United States was agriculturally underdeveloped as recently as 100 years ago.

"In the late 1800's, the United States was the underdeveloped nation," he said. "We didn't know how to revitalize the soil. We got our technology and improvements from Europe."

But between 1938 and 1978, the agricultural technology of the United States increased tremendously, Borlaug said.

"During those 40 years, we increased our cultivated acreage by only 4 percent," he said. "If we used 1940 technology to get 1980 production, we would have had to increase the cultivated acreage by an area equal to all the land east of the Mississippi River excluding Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan."

The TAES conference, which ends Friday, is being held to improve employees' knowledge in livestock, crops, natural resources, home economics, community development and horticulture.

## 2 TDC officials indicted for abusing 2 inmates

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two Texas prison system officials and four guards were indicted Monday on charges of physically mistreating a pair of prisoners, the Justice Department announced.

A federal grand jury in Houston returned the four-count indictment, which alleges that the defendants mistreated two prisoners who had been returned following their escape, the department said.

The report said Robert Minor Lawson II, assistant warden of the Wynne Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections in Walker County, and Donald L. Shiver, cap-

tain of the unit, were named as defendants.

The guards named in the indictment were: Leonel Leal Jr., Morris Ray Bigham, Nathan Bryant White and Henry E. Farris, Assistant Attorney General William Bradford Reynolds said. Reynolds heads the department's civil rights division.

All six defendants were charged with conspiring "to injure and intimidate" Scott E. Licklider and Mark A. Griffith "in violation of their constitutional rights not to be deprived of liberty without due process of law, not to be subjected to summary punishment, and to be kept free from harm while in official custody," the department said.