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# Stairwell in Kleberg depicts Old West

By **MICHAEL SHRIRO**  
 Reporter

One of the most vivid images of the Old West is branding time, when ranchers would burn their brand into the sides of their animals — brands such as the XIT, the Lazy J, the Open A Bar and the Circle C.

These and other brands are burned into the oak panels of the O.B. Butler Branded Stairwell in the Kleberg Animal and Food Science Center.

The stairwell, which was named for Dr. O.B. Butler, associate deputy chancellor for agriculture, has a board for each Texas county. Each county's board has the county name, the county brand if it has one, the prominent ranchers' brands and brands from the historical ranches in that county.

Butler says the brands on the stairway were selected through a long process. "We had the brands selected in each county by... building committees through the county extension agent," he says. "The producers in

each county are members of these committees, which are associated with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

"Those people selected eight brands to put on the stairway. Then, if the county had a historical society, we asked the county agent to arrange with that group to select a couple of brands that no longer existed, but had great historical significance. Also, the directors of the Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and the regents of Texas A&M who wanted to put up their brand could do so."

Butler says he got the idea for the stairway when he was head of the animal science department.

"It was not an original idea," Butler says. "In my old office in the Animal Industries Building, which I occupied for 22 years, there are brands on the paneling."

When the building was dedicated in 1934 to the pioneer cattlemen of Texas, the Southwest Cattle Raisers Association came to A&M. D.W. Williams, then head of the animal sci-

ence department, invited the association's directors to bring their branding irons and put their brands on the paneling.

"When animal sciences moved to the Kleberg Center, I first thought about moving the paneling to my new office, but it cost too much," he says. "Then I decided to make students feel at home to put up a board on the stairway for the 254 counties in Texas with the county name and brand on them. Also, I decided to put up a brand book and register these brands."

"Any student studying animal science who came from any county in Texas could go there, see a brand he would recognize, look the brand up

in the book, see who it was, and feel at home."

Butler says he didn't know the stairwell was going to be named for him.

"That was done by Clyde Wells, who was chairman of the Board of Regents at that time," Butler says. "I had been telling people the selection of people to put their brands on the stairway was going to be difficult. The ones rejected would resent it. So I was telling people if they complained that I was not going to put my brand on the wall."

"Then without me knowing about it, they prepared that little plaque and dedicated the stairway in my name."

# Bush's political swing continues across Texas

Associated Press

**WICHITA FALLS** — Vice President George Bush plans to head for Dallas and Fort Worth today to continue five days of self-proclaimed "out and out political activity" in Texas.

In his wake, he was bolstering the campaign treasuries of some Texas GOP congressmen and the state Republican Party as well as laying some groundwork for a possible White House bid in 1988.

On tap today are appearances at the U.S. League of Savings Institutions convention and a pair of fundraisers for U.S. Rep Steve Bartlett, all in Dallas, plus money-raising events in Fort Worth for the Texas GOP.

On Saturday, the vice president held five fundraisers for freshman U.S. Rep. Mac Sweeney before flying to Wichita Falls for three similar affairs for another Republican freshman, Beau Boulter.

The final Boulter fundraiser dinner drew 176 people who paid \$500 per plate — a total of \$88,000 — for a chance to hear Bush speak.

"This is probably the largest, the best — I'm sure — ever held in the city of Wichita Falls," Boulter said.

Bush kept his own political plans under tight rein, saying his top priority is to keep Republicans in control of the Senate next year and battle "a real problem" in the Democrat-controlled House.

"We've got to make the House more like the Senate," he said.

When asked specifically if he planned a run for the presidency,

Bush said at a news conference that he would make a decision after the 1986 elections.

He acknowledged that a political action committee has been set up in his name but said it was to help candidates in elections next year. However, he said because the 1988 delegate selection process was beginning already in early 1986 in Michigan, "We'll have to do something there — not that I'm running, but to protect myself."

Later, when talking about the presidency to Boulter supporters at a rally, he asked them to "save a little politics for the future. Heaven knows what's going to happen."

He also said that every day when he drives through the White House gates, "I still get a kick — a lump in my throat. I feel that way every day I go to work."

Bush told reporters that a new proposal aimed at trimming the nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union does not signal any change in the Star Wars missile defense plan.

In his weekly radio address Saturday, President Reagan said the new proposal builds on elements of an earlier U.S. proposal and the Soviet's counter offer. Reagan did not outline specific details, but accepted a 50 percent reduction in nuclear arsenals proposed by the Soviets.

Bush also provided no specifics, saying only that the new proposal did not mean the United States was retreating from the Star Wars project, also known as the Strategic Defense Initiative.

# U.S. Army stuck with bill for treating Salvadoran

Associated Press

**SAN ANTONIO** — The U.S. Army has been stuck with the cost of treating a colleague of a former Salvadoran presidential candidate who was hurt when a bomb he was building exploded in his face, the San Antonio Light reported Sunday.

The bill is for \$1,610-a-day treatment Fernando Sagrera received during two months he spent for treatment at the Institute for Surgical Research at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.

According to the newspaper, it is not clear who allowed him into the country and why his medical bill remains unpaid after 16 months.

Sagrera, a close colleague of Roberto D'Aubisson, the former right-wing Salvadoran presidential candidate, came to the burn center in May 1984 to receive treatment for severe burns, officials said.

The State Department, responsible for screening visa requests, refuses to say why Sagrera was allowed

into a U.S. Army medical facility.

"We'll have to give you an official, 'no comment,'" State Department spokesman Gregory Lagana said.

But a former top Salvadoran official, who asked not to be identified, said the U.S. government agreed not to pursue payment of the bill in exchange for information on death squads operating in El Salvador.

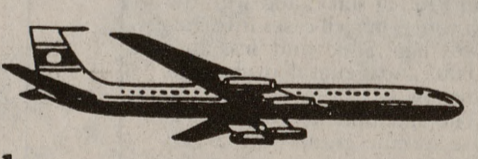
The official said Sagrera was injured when a bomb he was constructing blew up in his face.

He said Sagrera's burns came from sulfuric acid he had been using to construct a time-delay fuse.

State Department officials refused to comment on the specifics of how Sagrera was hurt.

An embassy official said he thought Sagrera was allowed into the United States after D'Aubisson had made a special plea.

Sagrera came to Brooke with burns on 41 percent of his body, medical center spokesman Ray Dery said.

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## What's up

**Monday**  
**AGGIE TOASTERS:** (a student group organized to help students conquer stage fright, improve public speaking skills) will meet at 7 p.m. in 112 Blocker.  
**IEEE-EMBS:** will meet for group photo at 6:30 p.m. in the MSC, casual attire. Bowling after picture.  
**PHI THETA KAPPA:** will have its Initiation Banquet at 7:30 p.m. in 228-229 MSC.  
**ACM-IEEE/COMPUTER SOCIETY:** will take yearbook pictures at 6 p.m. in Zachry lobby. Meeting to follow.  
**LAND DEVELOPMENT CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 206 MSC for a speaker.  
**CLASS OF '88:** will sell T-shirts today through Friday 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Sbis and at the MSC 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**TAU BETA PI:** will have a pledge test at 7 p.m. in 203 Zachry.  
**AGGIE ALLEMANDERS:** will have square dance lessons at 7 p.m. at the Pavilion.  
**STUDENT ACTIVITIES:** Applications for Cotton Bowl representative are now available in 208 Pavilion and are due Nov. 8.  
**MSC CAMERA COMMITTEE:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 302 Rudder.  
**CO-OP STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** will have Don Gardner speak about graduation plans at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder.  
**STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** will have an Issues & Grievances meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 231 MSC.

**Tuesday**  
**CYCLING TEAM:** will meet at 6 p.m. in 607 Rudder.  
**TAMU ONE-WHEELERS:** will meet at 6 p.m. in the Grove.  
**WILDLIFE BIOLOGY SOCIETY:** will meet at 7:30 p.m. for club pictures (MSC) and at 8 p.m. in 100 Harrington for a meeting.  
**HILLEL FOUNDATION:** will meet at 6:45 p.m. at Zachry for Aggeland picture. Meeting at 7:15 on Israel trip.  
**SOCIOLOGY CLUB:** will meet at 6:30 p.m. in T23 Academic Building.  
**TAMU SCUBA CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 504 Rudder.  
**TRAP & SKEET CLUB:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 110 Military Science Bldg.  
**ALPHA ZETA:** will meet at 7:15 p.m. in Zachry lobby for pictures.  
**FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 145 MSC.  
**JUVENILE DIABETES ASSOCIATION:** will have an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. at Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center (2nd floor conference room) 1318 Memorial, Bryan — near St. Joseph Hospital.  
**STUDENT ACTIVITIES:** Applications available for the TAMU Association of Professional Women Conference through November 5. For more information, call 845-1153 or come by 208 Pavilion.  
**CENTER FOR RETAILING STUDIES:** will meet at 8 a.m. in 153 Blocker to hear Stewart Orton, vice president, Federated Department Stores. Anyone interested in a tour of Foley's should meet outside mall entrance at 8 p.m.  
**DEL RIO HOMETOWN CLUB:** will meet at 6:30 p.m. in MSC piano lounge for yearbook pictures.  
**VET CLASS OF '89:** will have "42" Registration 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. today, Nov. 7, 12, and 14 at Kleberg and Vet School Foyer.  
**SAILING TEAM:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 109 Military Science Bldg.  
**DELTA SIGMA PI:** will have a food drive & toilet articles drive for Brazos County Red Cross 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. at Blocker and Rudder Fountain.  
**CAP & GOWN SENIOR HONOR SOCIETY:** will meet at 8:30 p.m. in 402 Rudder. Aggeland picture at 7 p.m. at Zachry.  
**MSC LITERARY ARTS:** will meet at 8 p.m. in MSC Main Lounge for pictures and general meeting.  
**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS:** will meet at 7 p.m. in 342 Zachry.  
**DEPT. OF MODERN LANGUAGES:** Spanish filmseries: "Retrato de Familia" at 7 p.m. in 153 Blocker.  
**ON-CAMPUS CATHOLICS:** will meet at 9:30 p.m. in All Faiths Chapel.

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