

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## American death toll set at nine in crash

POMOCA, Mexico (AP) — Emergency workers hampered by rugged terrain struggled Tuesday to recover the remains of all 166 people aboard a jetliner that slammed into a mountainside. Nine U.S. citizens were reported among the dead.

Witnesses said the Mexicana Airlines Boeing 727, which was en route from Mexico City to Los Angeles with stops in the Pacific resorts of Puerto Vallarta and Mazatlan, exploded "like thunder" and burst into flames before it hit the 7,792-foot peak, known locally as El Carbon, shortly after takeoff Monday morning.

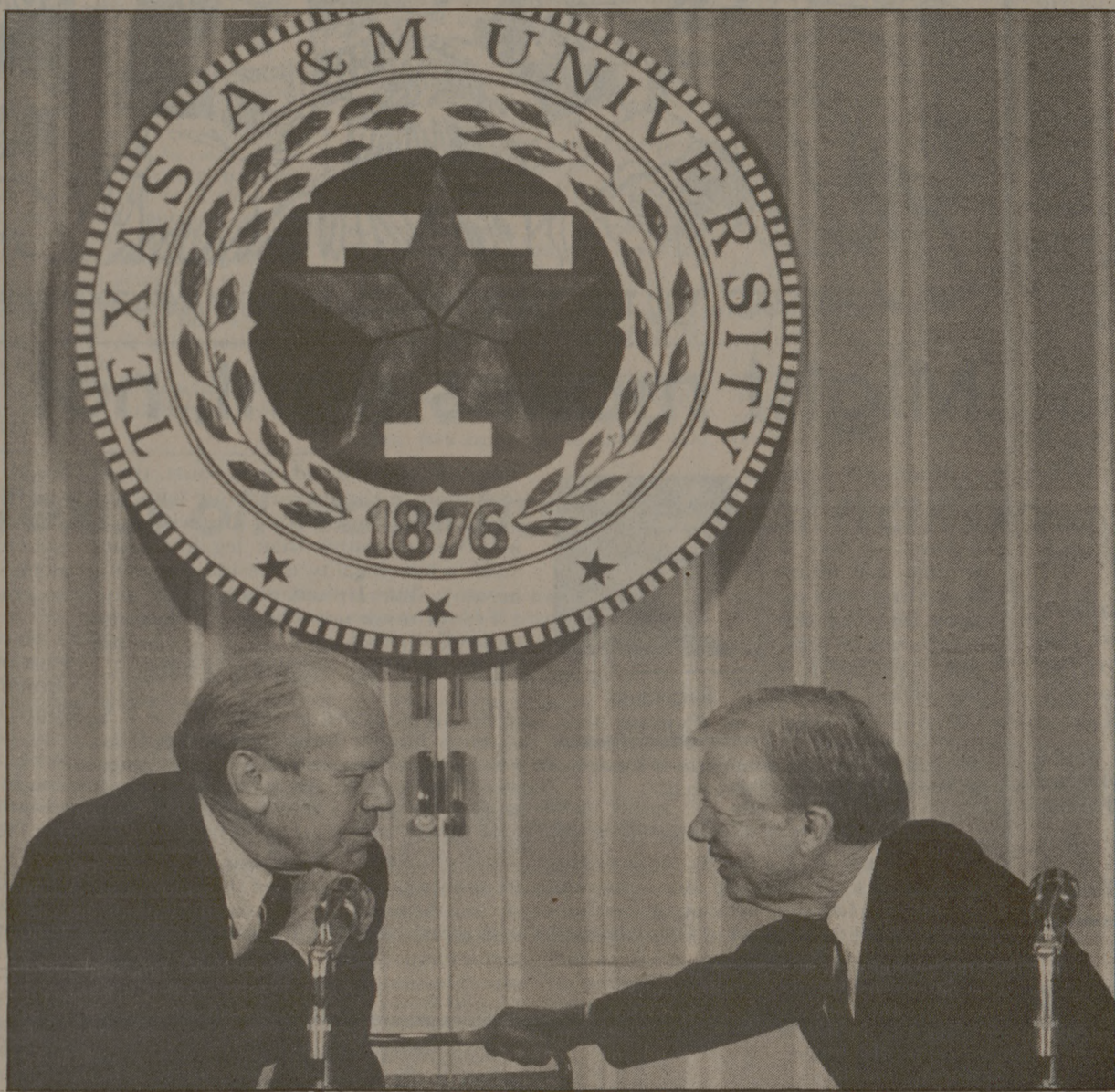
In Mexico City, U.S. Embassy spokesman Vincent Hovanec said, "We can confirm that nine Americans were on the plane."

Although the bodies had not yet been identified, reports from the airline, family and friends were that nine Americans held tickets for the flight and "were indeed on the plane," he said. Earlier reports said only five Americans were among the dead in Mexico's worst air disaster.

Although the passenger list did not include nationalities, information available Tuesday indicated that at least nine French citizens, four Swedes and two Canadians were aboard the plane, which carried 158 passengers and eight crew members.

Officials at a base camp improvised here, 3 1/2 miles southwest of the crash site, said the remains of 89

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Former presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter meet Tuesday afternoon in the Memorial Student Center.

Later they debated "U.S. Interventionism: Resolving International Conflict."

Photo by Dean Saito

## Ford, Carter analyze U.S. foreign policy

By Frank Smith  
Staff Writer

Former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford told a capacity crowd of 2,500 in Rudder Auditorium Tuesday night that decisions on U.S. interventionism must be made on a case-by-case basis.

Carter and Ford shared the stage with historian Dr. Stephen Ambrose and journalist George Will in the main program of the Memorial Student Center's Wiley Lecture Series. Will moderated the discussion.

Although Ford said the United States must not retreat to isolationism, he recognized that interventionist policy has not always been successful.

He classified the United States' post World War II interventions as "a mixed bag." He cited success in Korea, failure in Vietnam and mixed results with Cuba.

Ford praised the U.S. reaction to the shipment of Soviet missiles to Cuba in the early '60s while deploring the sloppy handling of the Bay of Pigs incident.

Carter said the only circumstance under which the United States should intervene in foreign matters is if the United States' security is directly at stake. He specifically addressed the issue of terrorism, offering an outline of how to combat it.

"The essence of it is (that) whenever possible, act in secret," Carter said. "Second, to have a concert of

nations to act together . . . And the third is to try to delineate the desire of terrorists and not let them succeed in their efforts by our giving high publicity and elevating them in stature among nations who don't like us at all anyway."

Carter said this approach had worked in past incidents with both Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Libya's Moammar Khadafy.

When Khomeini threatened to put American hostages on trial, Carter said, a secret message was sent to Khomeini from the White House acting in concert with the leaders of Great Britain, West Germany, Italy, France and Japan.

In the message Khomeini was told that if any Americans were put on trial, the nations would interrupt all trade between Iran and the rest of the world, Carter said. The message also warned that harm to any hostage would result in an American military response, he said, consequently no hostages were put on trial.

Carter also said that during his administration he sent Khadafy a secret message in concert with American allies after discovering a Khadafy-backed plan to have a U.S. ambassador murdered. After Khadafy denied any knowledge of the plot, Carter said he sent him another message identifying the names of

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## Oil prices rally; U.S. to press for aid in stabilizing market

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil prices swung wildly Tuesday, plunging into the single-digit range for the first time since the mid-1970s before rebounding on news that the United States will press Saudi Arabia to help stabilize the market.

Prices for May delivery of West Texas Intermediate, the main U.S. crude and an important market indicator, dropped as low as \$9.75 per 42-gallon barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, compared with Monday's price of \$10.42. Prices for that grade have not been that low since 1977.

Later the New York futures market rallied strongly, sending prices up to \$11.27, after Vice President George Bush said he would tell the Saudi government on his upcoming Middle East trip that the price slide is hurting the domestic U.S. oil industry. Saudi Arabia is widely

blamed for the current supply glut and depends heavily on Washington's strategic support.

"This is a major change for the Reagan administration," said William Randol, an analyst for First Boston Corp., a New York investment firm. "The policy has been that lower is better, period. Now they're starting to realize that the euphoria of lower oil prices is like a party followed by a hangover."

The Reagan administration has credited falling oil prices with helping invigorate the economy by restraining inflation.

Peter Beutel, assistant manager of Rudolf Wolff Energy Inc., a New York commodities futures firm, said buyers rushed in toward the close of trading Tuesday in the belief that Bush's trip will sway the Saudis into changing their policy.

## Run-off election to be held for 1 seat

# A&M faculty elects 32 of 33 senators

By Sondra Pickard  
Staff Writer

Faculty Senate elections were held Tuesday with 32 of the 33 available seats being decided.

The remaining seat — Place 4 in the College of Education — will be decided in a run-off election held Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eligible faculty in the education college can vote in the first floor lounge of Harrington Education Center and 158 Read Building.

Campus-wide voter turnout was 35 percent, with 665 of the 1,900 eligible faculty members making it to the polls.

Election results are listed below:

### College of Agriculture

#### Place 4

- David Zuberer, soil and crop sciences

#### Place 6

- James B. Woolley, entomology
- Edward A. Funkhouser, biochemistry

### College of Architecture & Environmental Design

#### Place 3

- John B. Evans, environmental design

#### Place 4

- Walter V. Wendler, architecture

### College of Business Administration

#### Place 6

- Samuel M. Gillespie, marketing

### College of Education

#### Place 4 (Run-off Thursday)

- Jon J. Denton, educational curriculum and instruction
- James R. Woosley, educational psychology

#### Place 5

- Jerome T. Kapes, industrial, vocational and technical education

### College of Engineering

#### Place 2

- Thomas J. Kozik, mechanical engineering

#### Place 4

- Tibor Rozgonyi, petroleum engineering

#### Place 6

- C. F. Kettleborough, mechanical engineering

#### Place 13

- James T. Rollins, petroleum engineering

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## Texas officials to continue fighting federal cuts

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas officials, worried by the loss of their first court fight against federal cutbacks and facing still-plunging oil prices, moved Tuesday to keep up the fight against Gramm-Rudman reductions and appealed to President Reagan for help.

Larry Neal, spokesman for Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, said Gramm-Rudman isn't the culprit for the deep cuts and blamed them instead on the affected programs' funding formulas.

He said Gramm has introduced legislation to correct the formulas' inequities.

Gov. Mark White said the Tuesday drop in oil prices below \$10 a barrel, which could dramatically hurt the state's collections of oil taxes, underscores the importance of import tariffs.

"I would hope that he (President Reagan) will respond," White told reporters. "The state and the nation obviously are in jeopardy because of the dumping of oil on the world marketplace."

## Gramm says deficit-reduction law saves taxpayers money

By Kirsten Dietz  
Assistant City Editor

The Gramm-Rudman law doesn't mean money lost, it means more money returned to the American family, U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm told a Bryan audience of about 150 people Tuesday.

Gramm and 6th District Rep. Joe Barton held a region-wide town meeting to listen to residents' concerns on issues facing Congress.

Gramm said he's read thou-

sands of headlines saying the law "hurts" or "slashes."

"I have never seen a headline that says Gramm-Rudman saves taxpayers money," he said.

Gramm said the amount of money saved by the law will enable government spending to grow about \$10-20 billion for the next year without a tax increase.

"I don't think it is cruel to limit the growth of the government to 2 percent in the next five years when it's been growing 10 to 12 percent for a decade and a half," he said.

Texas already faces a \$1.3 billion deficit in its current two-year budget because of the slide in oil prices since the first of the year, Comptroller Bob Bullock said.

The state will have to borrow among state funds just to keep itself going until the Legislature meets in

January, he said. The 181 legislators will have to decide what to do about the \$1.3 billion deficit, including possible tax increases, before the end of the fiscal period Aug. 31, 1987.

Bullock spokesman Tony Profit said, "It's not a good sign. But at the

moment we are not planning to revise our expected revenue figures. Our budget forecasts were made on posted market prices of oil and the posted market remains within 50 cents of our forecast of an annual average of \$15 a barrel for this fiscal year."

comes to vote again. The House recently voted 222-210 against giving support.

Gramm also said he approves of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative or "Star Wars" plan, which would use satellites to knock out missiles before they strike their targets. He said he never will match the number of arms the Soviet Union has, so we must substitute American knowledge.

"I don't see how the ability to defend ourselves menaces the Soviet Union," Gramm said.

Attorney General Jim Mattox's office said Tuesday it would continue its challenge of the Gramm-Rudman budget cuts.

U.S. District Judge James Nowlin on Monday denied Mattox's request for a preliminary injunction against federal cuts of \$6 million in a pro-

gram that furnishes assistance to the needy in Texas to pay utility bills and \$2.5 million for a state program that provides alcohol and drug abuse services.

Elna Christopher, press secretary to Mattox, said Tuesday the attorney general would wait to see what action the U.S. Supreme Court takes on a suit challenging the constitutionality of the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction measure.

Nowlin ruled the state had not proven it was a victim of discrimination when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services sliced funding for the programs in Texas but not in other states. The judge also said the issue of funding formulas should be debated by Congress.

Assistant Attorney General Jose Garza argued Monday that the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction measure required 4.3 percent across-the-board cuts in the programs, but that the Texas programs were being pared almost 12 percent under federal formulas.