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Soviets to let 117 emigrate

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the biggest exodus of its kind in three decades, the Soviet Union pledged to open the gates to 117 of its citizens yearning to join their families in the United States, the State Department announced Tuesday.

The Reagan administration praised the decision as a "significant step" and said the move would settle 36 of 126 divided-family cases the United States has been pressing Kremlin leaders to resolve.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said that word of the decision was given to the United States Monday in the closing hours of an otherwise unproductive human rights conference in Bern, Switzerland.

He said the Soviets provided a list of names of people to be allowed to emigrate and who are expected to leave the country after completing paperwork that often takes several weeks.

Redman did not disclose the names on the list, but he said the State Department was in the process of trying to notify their families in the United States.

In addition to those on the list, the Soviets have promised to settle two other cases, one involving the spouse of a U.S. citizen and one involving a person with dual nationality.

These names have not been given to U.S. authorities, he said.

"The U.S. government and the American people welcome this de-

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Photo by Tom Ownbey

A Draining Experience

Pipes are used to drain the Texas Instruments lake near the East Bypass. The lake, which was used by the Texas A&M Water Ski Team, is being filled in and the area around it developed into housing.

Reagan orders subs destroyed

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan ordered the destruction of two nuclear submarines Tuesday, keeping the United States within the limits of the SALT II arms agreement, but served notice he will not be bound by the treaty in future military decisions.

He coupled his announcement with a request for Congress to approve full funding of the "Star Wars" missile defense program and authorization for 50 additional MX missiles, which would increase the arsenal of the 10-warhead weapons to 100.

Reagan's statement marked the first time the United States asserted a readiness to break out from the ceilings imposed by the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, signed by former President Carter and the late Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezh-

nev but never ratified by the Senate.

However, Reagan suggested he might stay within the SALT limits if the Soviets take "constructive steps" to correct alleged arms violations and negotiate seriously on a new arms treaty.

Reagan's announcement was immediately criticized by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas, a potential contender for the GOP presidential nomination. "I am concerned that the decision sends the wrong signal to the Kremlin," Dole said.

"We cannot continue to abide by an agreement — an unratified agreement, at that — which the Soviets are so blatantly violating," Dole said in a statement.

However, Senate Minority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., said, "Despite the rhetoric in the announce-

ment regarding future SALT II compliance, the important thing is that the U.S. today remains in compliance."

Sen. Albert Gore, D-Tenn., said, "I congratulate the president," but said the decision is "both good news and bad news."

It is good news, Gore told a news conference, because "the treaty is in our best interests" but it is bad news "because it leaves arms control hanging by a thread."

Reagan's decision means that two Poseidon submarines, each armed with 16 multiple-warhead missiles, will be retired this summer as a new Trident submarine, the USS Nevada, joins the U.S. nuclear fleet.

If the two Poseidons remained in action, the United States would exceed by 22 missiles a 1,200 limit on

long-range nuclear missiles with multiple warheads.

Reagan said he was retiring the aging Poseidons because it would be uneconomical to keep them in action, and not because of the SALT treaty.

While saying the United States "will remain technically in observance" of the SALT treaty, Reagan accused the Soviets of numerous violations of the agreement and declared:

"Given this situation, I have determined that, in the future, the United States must base decisions regarding its strategic force structure on the nature and magnitude of the threat posed by Soviet strategic forces, and not on standards contained in the

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Witness admits lying in Texas rancher's trial

KERRVILLE (AP) — A former cook at a Hill Country ranch admitted Tuesday he lied during his testimony about the circumstances surrounding his return to the 3,500-acre spread in 1984.

Under cross examination by defense attorney Richard "Racehorse" Haynes, Pete Johnson said he called the Ellebracht ranch and asked for a ride back.

Johnson testified last week he had left the ranch, where he had been a worker, and traveled to Tucson, Ariz. Then he decided to ride his bicycle to Florida, but he had a flat tire in Fort Stockton, Texas.

Johnson said he managed to hitch a ride to Segovia, Texas, and then Walter Wesley Ellebracht Jr. and another ranchhand picked him up there.

Last week, Johnson testified he did not call the Ellebracht ranch and ask for a ride back. But Tuesday, he changed his testimony.

"You deliberately lied to the jury didn't you?" Haynes asked.

"Yes," Johnson said.

Johnson's testimony came in the

state's organized crime case against Ellebracht; his father, Walter Wesley Ellebracht Sr.; and former ranch worker Carlton Robert Caldwell.

The defendants are accused of conspiracy to commit aggravated kidnapping and to kill Alabama drifter Anthony Warren Bates.

The prosecution contends Bates, like other hitchhikers, was lured to the Ellebrachts' ranch with the promise of work and then forced to stay. The state also claims Bates was tortured to death with a cattle prod before his body was drenched in gasoline and burned.

In other testimony, Johnson said he left the ranch "because I didn't like the place. I'm glad I got off it, too. I was afraid of everything that went on at the ranch."

But under cross examination, Johnson admitted he was never afraid of the elder Ellebracht.

"The two of you were friends, weren't you?" Haynes asked.

Johnson said, "Off and on, yes."

Engineer succeeds Eaton

McDonald is new provost

University News Service

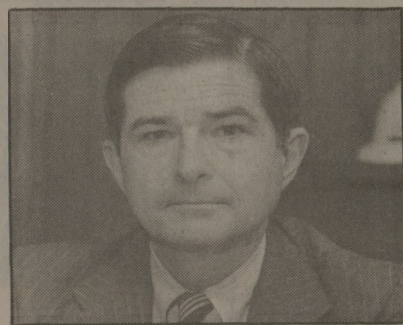
Dr. Donald McDonald, head of the Civil Engineering Department at Texas A&M University, will be the university's new provost and vice president for academic affairs, announced President Frank E. Vandiver.

McDonald succeeds Dr. Gordon Eaton, who is leaving Texas A&M June 30 to assume the presidency at Iowa State University.

"Dr. McDonald has all the credentials for this very important appointment, and he has the administrative experience," Vandiver said. "The position is a crucial one at this university, and we are very fortunate to have him accept the challenge. I look forward to working with him."

Eaton joined in commending his successor.

"Dr. McDonald is an excellent choice, an engineer of broad government, industrial and university experience who holds high academic standards," Eaton said. "Given the obvious importance of engineering



Donald McDonald

to the future of the economy of Texas and with the retirement of Chancellor Hansen, McDonald's appointment assures the presence of an engineer in the university's upper level decision-making process."

McDonald said he was "highly pleased to be nominated by a group of people I greatly admire," referring to the search committee that submitted recommendations to President Vandiver, to whom he also expressed gratitude "for the confidence that he has shown by selecting me."

1986-87 budget down \$4 million from this year

University News Service

For the first time in at least two decades, The Texas A&M University System will be operating on combined budgets lower than the previous year.

The 1986-87 budgets approved Tuesday by the Board of Regents for the 12 parts of the statewide teaching, research and public service institution total \$684,993,922, nearly \$4 million less than the current year's level of expenditures.

Additionally, the new budgets, which go into effect Sept. 1, are subject to further reductions. Gov. Mark White recently called for cost-cutting measures in light of the state's fiscal plight resulting from depressed oil prices. The regents agreed to strive for savings totaling \$37 million, or about 7 percent of the amount appropriated for the two-year period that began last fall.

White had requested 13 percent cuts for state agencies, but the board — much like the governing boards for other institutions of higher education — said reductions of only about half that amount could be made without adversely affecting its basic mission of providing high-quality education, research and extension services.

Regents Chairman David G. Eller and Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen, in a March letter to the governor, noted, "These savings are proffered in the knowledge that implementation of this plan inevitably will transfer an additional financial burden to the next biennium, which will require substantially higher appropriations for fiscal year 1988 and fiscal year 1989 that would have otherwise been required."

State appropriations comprise a major portion of the funds that make up the system parts' operating budgets, Hansen said in explaining the fiscal proposals presented Tuesday. Other sources include funds generated locally through a variety of means and research grants and contracts.

"Even taking into consideration all of our sources, this is definitely a lean budget — one that leaves no area unscrutinized for fat," Hansen said.

He pointed out the cuts would have been even deeper except for the legislatively mandated 3 percent salary increases for non-teaching personnel and the regents' concurrence in providing merit increases averaging 3 percent for faculty members.

While six of the system parts will

by experiencing reduced funding levels, a like number — primarily the agricultural agencies — will have modest increases, with the mandated salary increases accounting for the gains in most cases.

The largest decreases were sustained by Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M. A&M will have an operating budget of \$403,256,863, a drop of approximately \$3.8 million. Prairie View A&M will have an operating budget of \$49,006,454, a decrease of about \$5.5 million — but system officials emphasized that Prairie View's budget last year included special one-time funding for several specific campus projects. Texas A&M University at Galveston will receive \$8,163,525, down about \$25,000.

Tarleton State University will receive \$20,192,674, up more than \$300,000.

Budgets for other parts of the System include:

- Texas Agricultural Experiment Station — \$80,092,987
- Texas Agricultural Extension Service — \$51,173,136
- Texas Engineering Experiment Station — \$22,749,584
- Texas Transportation Institute — \$10,240,176
- Texas Engineering Extension Service — \$16,728,289
- Texas Forest Service — \$11,505,341
- Rodent and Predatory Animal Control — \$2,266,590
- TAMUS offices and departments — \$9,618,246

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Four in ten may leave teaching

AUSTIN (AP) — Two researchers checking on teachers' morale and possible financial problems say they can only echo what they have been saying for the past six years — "there is a crisis in education."

Professor David Henderson of Sam Houston State University and Karen Henderson, mathematics coordinator for the Huntsville Independent School District, conducted the survey among 525 teachers.

A total of 329 teachers, or 65 percent, returned the mail questionnaire.

Four in 10 teachers — 41.7 percent — are considering leaving the profession. Working conditions, not money, was listed as the main reason.

Working conditions include stress, burnout, paperwork and hassles, and 68 percent of the teachers said that was why they were thinking of quitting. This is up from 27 percent six years ago.

Only 17 percent listed money as the reason for leaving, down from 46 percent in 1980. The average teacher salary rose from \$14,113 in 1980 to \$24,601 this year but almost one-fourth — 22.6 percent — "moonlight" to make extra money.

The report quoted the Educational Research Service as saying that three-fourths of the 1,346 teachers it surveyed would balk at recommending teaching as a career.

"The researchers can only echo the findings of the past six years. Since 1980 the investigators have stated that there is a crisis in education in Texas," the report said.

"The one bright spot in the study is the increase in teacher salaries," the report added. "The trend upward in salaries must be supplemented by reduction in stress and support for teachers from parents."