

Texas A&M The Battalion

Serving the University community

Vol. 83 No. 157 USPS 075360 12 pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, June 10, 1986

Train fire may burn 'for days'

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A chemical-fueled blaze from a train derailment that forced the evacuation of 2,000 people could burn for days, authorities said Monday.

But most of the evacuees said they were not in harm's way. The smoke from a burning tank car was not toxic. Six people were treated and released from area hospitals, including a man who suffered second degree burns, authorities said.

Still in question was the cause of Sunday's derailment of 32 cars of an 80-car Missouri Pacific freight train, which was initially linked to the bridge that could have been weakened by flood waters earlier in the week.

Officials with Union Pacific, the parent company of Missouri Pacific, said videotapes taken by helicopters flying over the scene might provide clues.

The fire and smoke from the burning tank car containing the flammable gas butadiene initially prevented investigators from determining how the accident occurred. Butadiene is used to make synthetic rubber and plastics.

Four other cars containing formaldehyde, butadiene and unknown contents, also caught fire when the accident occurred Sunday.

Acting City Manager Lou Fox said the bridge had been weakened by high waters from heavy rains that flooded San Antonio last week. But two witnesses, Victor and Judy Blackburn of Ingram, told the *San Antonio Light* they were sure the bridge did not collapse.

"The boxcar was tearing up the trackbed," Blackburn said. "It was not the bridge. It was the train that caused the trouble."

Residents within a two-mile radius of the Salado Creek bridge in northeast San Antonio were evacuated, but most had returned to their homes by Monday. Emergency officials said only 46 were in emergency shelters, but they did not know how many others might be staying at other locations.

Joe Candelario, the city's emergency management coordinator, said the area still off-limits was reduced to a 2,500-foot radius Monday.

Authorities decided Sunday to let the fire burn itself out and built dams on the muddy creekbed to contain spills. They said there was no threat to the city's water supply.

"They are just going to let it die out because they don't want to put water on it," said a spokesman at the city emergency management office who declined to be identified. "It has died down quite a bit, though. I guess it is in the final stages."

The derailment occurred about 500 yards from a runway at the San Antonio International Airport, but did not interrupt flights, airport officials said.



Photo by Tom Ownbey

A Room With A View

Tom Sudell cuts a pre-fabricated window that will be placed in a room in Moore Hall. The dorm's windows are being replaced with tinted, energy-efficient windows as part of the renovation of several north campus dorms.

Report calls for NASA return to 'safety first'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Rogers Commission said Monday a breached booster rocket joint, whose weaknesses were known but ignored, destroyed the space shuttle Challenger, and that NASA must return to the safety-first policy of the Apollo moonflight days.

James C. Fletcher, a former head of NASA only five weeks into his second stint at the helm, promised to respond to the conclusions "with an open mind and without reservations."

The commission called the Jan. 28 Challenger tragedy, which claimed seven lives, "an accident rooted in history."

William P. Rogers, chairman of the presidential investigative panel, said, "We know exactly how this accident occurred. I certainly hope there will be no nagging questions."

The commission was not asked to assess blame "and we have not assessed blame," Rogers told a news conference. "Obviously, there was a serious failure. We are not going to go beyond that."

President Reagan, formally

accepting the report, said that because of the commission's work "our shuttle program will be safer and better prepared for the challenges that lie ahead."

Because Americans "don't hide our mistakes, we are not condemned to repeat them," Reagan told members of the commission and others gathered in the Rose Garden.

NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher promised that the space agency is prepared to study the Rogers Commission conclusions "with an open mind and without reservations."

"There's enough blame to go around," he said. "The fault was not with any single person or group. It was NASA's fault. I don't think we should be assigning blame. We should be assigning people to fix what went wrong, and make sure it doesn't happen again."

Fletcher told a late afternoon news conference that the space agency regards July 1987 as a realistic goal — "not an optimistic one" — for resumption of shuttle flights, based on

all the recommendations made by the commission.

One of the commission's recommendations, the appointment of an independent committee of experts to review any new booster designs, came into fruition Monday, when the National Research Council announced formation of a panel of experts in the fields of propulsion, materials, reliability and aerospace engineering.

"The unrelenting pressure to meet the demands of an accelerating flight schedule might have been adequately handled by NASA if it had insisted upon the exactly thorough procedures that were its hallmark during the Apollo program," the report said in a chapter titled "The Silent Safety Program."

The commission said the rocket joints' problems came to be regarded as "unavoidable and an acceptable flight risk," showing that safety had taken a back seat at NASA — tational Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Five men and two women perished

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Ban on cigarette ads proposed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Arguing that cigarette advertising is not protected by the First Amendment, seven congressmen on Monday introduced legislation to ban all forms of tobacco promotion, including newspaper and magazine ads, athletic sponsorships, billboards, posters and even matchbook covers.

Rep. Mike Synar, D-Okla., the principal sponsor, said, "The right to commercial free speech is not absolute. Congress has the authority to limit commercial speech when a substantial government interest is involved."

"One could hardly imagine an issue of greater government concern than the loss of 350,000 lives annually from a single product."

But the bill was immediately attacked by the Tobacco Institute, the trade association for cigarette manufacturers.

Spokesman Scott Stapf called the proposal "blatantly unconstitutional," a position shared by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Synar was joined in sponsoring the bill by Reps. Mike Lowry, D-Wash.; Al Swift, D-Wash.; Jim Hansen, R-Utah; Samuel Stratton, D-N.Y.; Gerry Studds, D-Mass.; and Chester Atkins, D-Mass.

The measure would cover cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco. Promotional activities would be prohibited from the manufacturer down to the retailer.

Synar said smoking is the chief cause of preventable illness in the United States and led to the deaths of some 350,000 people last year. Treating those illnesses cost Americans \$22 billion last year, including \$4 billion from the federal Treasury, he said.

The country lost \$43 billion of productivity because of smoking, he said.

"These statistics are mind-boggling, but we have grown numb to them — largely as a result of the advertising techniques of tobacco manufacturers," who spend about \$2 billion a year on ads, Synar added.

Synar said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce health subcommittee, has promised to hold hearings on the bill. But he said under questioning that chances for passage this year are slim, due to opposition both by powerful tobacco-state politicians and by media concerned about losing advertising revenues.

"We don't look at this as an easy battle," Synar acknowledged.

Fort Worth high school vigilantes sentenced

FORT WORTH (AP) — Seven members of a high school vigilante group known as the Legion of Doom were sentenced Monday to a variety of probation and jail terms that a judge said were designed to show their acts were "never justifiable."

Five of the youths will spend some time in jail — four of them for 30 days — in addition to their probation terms, State District Judge Don Leonard said.

Legion of Doom members, including honor students, said they sought to eliminate petty crime and drug abuse at the 2,100-student Paschal

High School by intimidating people they perceived as wrongdoers.

The swastika-toting group's methods drew fire after they pipe-bombed a car and killed a cat that was left in a student's car as a threat in early 1985.

Leonard's sentences were based on 10 incidents that involved 17 felonies and 16 misdemeanors by nine students and recent Paschal graduates. Besides the seven sentenced Monday, an eighth was a juvenile and the ninth had no felony violation, the judge said. Those last two cases are still pending.

"My main concern was there had been a lot of talk that they were some way indirectly justified in what they did," Leonard said. "But I wanted to quash that. Violence is never justifiable unless you're under attack."

Leonard said the two who received no jail time embarked only on one or two of the group's escapades that included the firing of shots at a house and the passing of notes signed with swastikas. He saved the jail terms for the ringleaders.

"If you're going to put them on probation — and that's what everybody recommended, from the grand

jury to the victims and the probation office — I at least wanted to give those four the maximum jail time possible," he said.

"Those boys got some jail time to see what violence begets," he added. Although surprised at the jail terms, Leonard described the youth's reactions as "stoic."

"Within the law, I thought this was the best thing for everybody," Leonard said. "They still have the opportunity to do whatever profession they want, and they have lots of capabilities."

The seven must repay the esti-

mated \$8,000 in damages, he said.

The defendants were indicted on graduation day last May on 33 charges stemming from a series of crimes between Jan. 9 and March 24, 1985.

All seven received unadjudicated probation terms on their felony charges, which means they can be imprisoned for the full term if they return to court for any reason, said Carol Christ, Leonard's administrative clerk.

The seven pleaded guilty to the charges in February.

Tenure

Faculty Senate discusses broader criteria for promotion

Sondra Pickard Senior Staff Writer

At its first meeting Monday, the newly elected 1986-87 Faculty Senate discussed a report suggesting that faculty members be considered for tenure and promotion under much broader criteria than those now in use.

The three traditional promotion and tenure evaluation areas are teaching, research and service. Two proposed areas in the report are dissemination of knowledge/creative work and consulting/practice.

After researching the subject for a year, the senate Committee on Tenure and Promotion drafted the report and first presented it to the senate at its April meeting.

According to the committee's re-

port, the dissemination of knowledge and creative work is not only generating books, journals or paintings, but also is the "transmittal of knowledge or content from one individual to another."

The committee recommends the University recognize other non-traditional types of publications when evaluating faculty for promotion and tenure including the "dissemination of knowledge" and creative works such as computer output and programs, architectural designs, audiovisual productions and fiction.

Dr. Robert Shutes, professor of curriculum and instruction and committee chair, stressed that the report was not a statement of University policy but rather one of a faculty posi-

tion. It is meant to express the major points of faculty concern on the current tenure and promotion policy, he said.

"We need to broaden the categories to be considered in promotion and tenure," Shutes said. "Not all parts of the University should be considered the same. The categories for performance may vary from college to college."

Dr. Tom Kozik, professor of mechanical engineering and a co-chair of the committee, said the report came about as a result of rhetoric in the last few years.

"It defines what we as a faculty perceive us to be," Kozik said. "A 'multiversity' versus a university."

Kozik said the report should not lecture the University on how to enforce or implement the new program but should leave that up to the University.

But Dr. John McDermott, distinguished professor of philosophy and professor and head of humanities in medicine, said the senate should be very specific on how to implement the proposal. Otherwise, he said, the entire policy the senate hopes for may be rejected completely by the administration.

Because many senators aren't here in the summer, Speaker Sam Black said the report probably won't be officially approved by the senate until the fall semester, at which time it will be submitted to the president.

Warplane forces Pan Am jet to land

LIMA, Peru (AP) — A Peruvian warplane forced a Pan Am jumbo jet to land at the Lima airport Monday after the American plane violated Peru's air space, officials reported.

The officials, who spoke with the condition that they not be identified, said the Boeing 747 was en route from Santiago, Chile, to Los Angeles, Calif., when it was intercepted by an air force jet fighter and the airliner landed here at 7 a.m.

Airport police told reporters the plane departed for Los Angeles at 3 p.m. after a fine of \$5,000 was paid.

Felix Ortello, an Argentine

journalist on the Pan American World Airways flight, told reporters at the airport that the plane had developed mechanical difficulties after leaving Buenos Aires and mechanics worked on the craft in Santiago.

He said the problems re-emerged after the jetliner left Santiago, and he believed the pilot was flying to Lima, where the repairs could again be made, when the jet fighter appeared.

Ortello said that on a normal Santiago-to-Los Angeles flight the plane would have flown out over the Pacific Ocean after leaving Chile and would not have been near Peruvian air space.