

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 82 No. 191 USPS 045360 8 pages

College Station, Texas

Friday, August 8, 1986

House to vote on Deaver probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House panel will vote next week on whether to recommend that an independent counsel investigate charges that former White House deputy chief of staff Michael K. Deaver committed perjury, the subcommittee's chairman said Thursday.

The panel will consider a report that alleges "possible perjury before the committee" when Deaver testified last May during a closed session, said Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce oversight and investigations subcommittee.

The subcommittee will meet Tuesday to consider approving the report, which asks the independent counsel to "inquire into whether or not indictments for criminal misbehavior should be acted upon by special prosecutor."

Dingell said he will ask the subcommittee to approve the report.

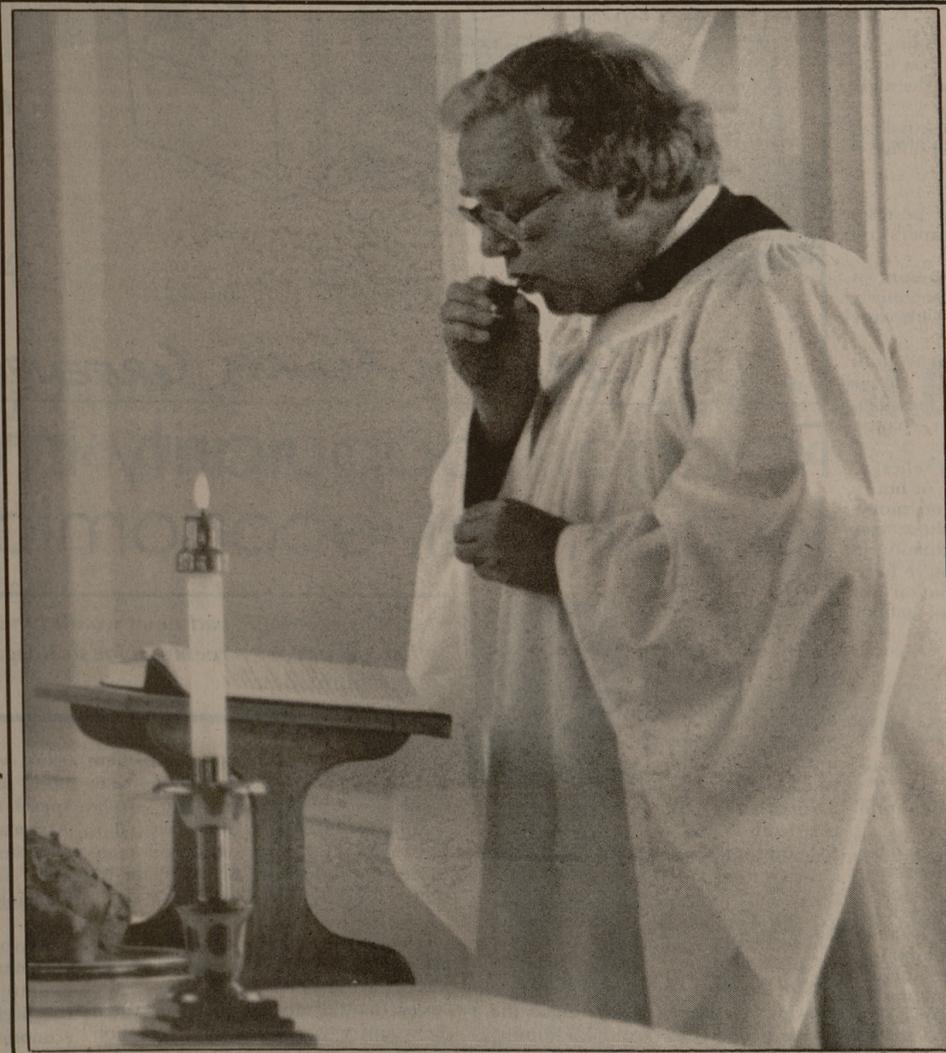
Randall Turk, a Washington attorney representing Deaver, said "it's inappropriate to comment until such time as we have an opportunity to see any report prepared by Mr. Dingell's subcommittee."

The report deals with "several items of serious conflict in Mr. Deaver's testimony before the committee under oath," said Dingell, who also chairs the full Energy and Commerce Committee. It also recommends that an independent counsel act on findings by the General Accounting Office that Deaver may have violated conflict-of-interest laws.

Dingell declined to specify what elements of Deaver's testimony were in conflict, saying he would prefer to wait until the report is considered by the subcommittee before he says more.

However, NBC Nightly News quoted sources as saying that Deaver

See Deaver, page 8



Two Teaching Jobs

Dr. Cleve Want, a Texas A&M associate professor of English, is the interim pastor at Friends United Church of Christ. Want became involved with the

church in April when a local minister recommended him for the interim position, and will continue as pastor until December.

Photo by Wes George

Missing agent of CIA defects to Soviet Union

GARLAND (AP) — The parents of former CIA agent Edward Howard said they learned he had defected to the Soviet Union when he called them Tuesday morning from Moscow.

"He said more or less he's going to settle down and wants his family to come see him," Ken Howard told the *Garland Daily News* in a telephone interview Thursday.

"I'm relieved to know where he's at and that he's OK," Howard said, declining to reveal specific details of his conversation with his son.

Edward Howard, 33, vanished from his Santa Fe, N.M., home last September, just days before the FBI charged him with espionage. The Soviet Union said Thursday it had given him asylum.

It was believed to be the first defection by a CIA agent and the first American defection to Moscow since the 1960s.

Just before disappearing, Howard quit a job with the New Mexico state legislature's finance committee. FBI agents said his wife, Mary, aided his moonlit escape by placing a dummy in a car to make it appear he was there.

Mrs. Howard later left Santa Fe and her whereabouts were unknown. But Ken Howard told the *Daily News* that his daughter-in-law and her 3½-year-old son moved to Minnesota to live with her parents.

The Howards, who live in the Dallas suburb of Garland, did not immediately return messages left on their telephone answering machine Thursday by The Associated Press.

However, Howard told the *Daily News* that his son said he was granted political asylum and that he will be looking for a place to live somewhere other than Moscow. He said he would write when he finds a home, Ken Howard said.

Howard said he probably won't visit his son until he retires in about

six years, out of fear of jeopardizing his own job at Texas Instruments in Dallas, where he is an electronics technician.

Edward Howard, who had been in training for a Moscow post, worked for the CIA from January 1981 to June 1983, when he was fired.

U.S. officials said he flunked a polygraph test that indicated he had used illegal drugs while he was an agent and was guilty of petty thefts of money.

Lewis says stock buy 'an error'

AUSTIN (AP) — House Speaker Gib Lewis will repay \$25,000 to his political campaign fund that he says was mistakenly used to buy stock for his company's employee retirement system in 1982.

Lewis blamed the error Wednesday on a Lake Worth National Bank of Fort Worth employee, who he said mistakenly debited Lewis' speaker campaign account for the stock purchase.

"It was just one of those dumb things," Lewis told *The Dallas Morning News*.

Tom Stewart, president of the Lake Worth bank, said Thursday he "couldn't rule out the fact that it was an error" but added that Lewis "has always had impeccable dealings with us."

Copies of portions of Lewis' bank statement were sent anonymously to reporters earlier this week, along with a funds-transfer slip showing that \$25,000 had been taken from the "Gib Lewis Speaker's Campaign Fund" and applied to a loan specified only by number.

Lewis said Wednesday, however, that the money actually went to buy the stock and should have been charged instead to the account maintained by his company, Lewis Label Products Inc.

Lewis, who is a director of the Lake Worth bank, said he had three accounts at the bank at the time, and "obviously the funds were transferred from the wrong account."

"As far as this transaction is concerned, those funds will be restored to the campaign account from the account originally intended, that of Lewis Label Products Inc.," Lewis said.

It was not illegal to divert campaign funds to personal use in 1982, although the Legislature changed the law in 1983 to make it so.

House committee approves income tax ban

AUSTIN (AP) — The House Ways and Means Committee, at a hastily convened session Thursday, approved a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban a state personal income tax.

Committee members voted 7-5 against proposing a ban on a corporate income tax.

Chairman Stan Schlueter, D-Killeen, said "corporate executives" have told him they prefer a corporate income tax to taxes aimed at specific industries.

"They feel, at least, it's reflective of what their company is doing and reflective of the economy," Schlueter said of the corporate income tax.

White to broaden focus of special session

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Mark White said Thursday he may allow lawmakers at the special legislative session to consider a bill to permit out-of-state banks to purchase Texas institutions.

"A strong banking community is very important to a strong economy," White said at a news conference.

The measure now goes to the full House for consideration.

In his Wednesday speech to a joint House-Senate session, Gov. Mark White announced his support

for the constitutional amendment.

"I expect we should have a corporate tax prohibition as well as personal," he said at a Thursday news conference.

The governor said he had

talked with officials of independent banks and Texas bank holding companies.

"Their consensus is that some form of interstate banking should pass in order to strengthen their institutions and provide more capital for investing in Texas," White said.

White added that the lack of a state income tax "is a very attractive way to get companies to move to your state."

If approved by the Legislature,

the proposed constitutional amendment would go on the November general election ballot.

Schlueter said the measure — in some form — would win House support, but now has a "less than even" chance of winning Senate approval.

Opponents of the proposal say it unnecessarily precludes a source of income the state might need in the future.

Only a handful of lawmakers are saying an income tax should be considered as a way to get the state out of the current budget crisis.

The Ways and Means Committee voted 11-1 for the amendment that would ban a personal income tax. Rep. Dan Morales, D-San Antonio, voted against it.

3,450-pound shark landed in New York

MONTAUK, N.Y. (AP) — Fishermen reeled in a 3,450-pound great white shark, with help from the legendary shark hunter whose exploits inspired parts of the movie "Jaws."

Hundreds of spectators gathered Thursday at a dock on the eastern tip of Long Island to see the 16-foot, 8-inch creature.

"We crushed the record," said Donnie Braddick, 30, of Huntington, who completed the capture at about 8 p.m. Wednesday with help from shark fisherman Frank Mundus and four others.

The shark, caught on a 150-pound test tackle normally used to catch giant tuna, was said to be 800 pounds heavier than the previous record for a great white shark that was caught, as listed in the Guinness Book of Records.

The fishermen were in the Atlantic 30 miles south of Montauk when they spotted as many as eight great white sharks feeding on a dead whale on Monday.

Basin spokesman Richard Berk said the fish might not qualify because of the weight of the line used to catch it and the number of fishermen involved in the catch.

"One guy has to do it with no assistance," he said.

Geren stresses trade in debate with Barton

By Olivier Uytendaele
Staff Writer

Congressional candidate Pete Geren stressed foreign trade issues in a debate Thursday with Congressman Joe Barton, who emphasized his conservative voting record and an oil import fee he's sponsoring in the House.

The debate was held at the First Baptist Church gymnasium in Magnolia, a small town about 60 miles southeast of College Station. The atmosphere was reminiscent of a small-town fish fry.

The debate was unusual in that Barton was not present. He addressed the audience from a pay phone near the souvenir shop at the U.S. Capitol building, he said.

Barton explained that a Department of Defense appropriations bill today required that he be in Washington. Barton was called away to vote twice during the debate.

Tuesday's debate was the first of several the candidates intend to hold in various towns throughout the 6th Congressional District.

Barton's oil import fee would place an \$8 fee on oil imported at the current price of \$14 per barrel. The fee would become progressively smaller as oil prices

rise, and would be eliminated when oil prices climbed over \$22 per barrel.

Barton also said that he and 33 other House Republicans introduced a bill that would repeal the Windfall Profits Tax. The bill is the House counterpart of legislation passed in the Senate Tuesday night, Barton said.

The Windfall Profits Tax was imposed on oil producers during the Carter administration when oil prices were rising sharply, but since the collapse of oil prices earlier this year the tax has not generated income.

Geren says he supports the oil import fee, which is supported by all Texas House members and one Texas Senator.

Geren said that the \$168 billion trade deficit has cost Texas 170,000 jobs and accused the Reagan administration and Barton of not effectively addressing trade issues.

He said Barton didn't join other Texas congressmen in an unsuccessful attempt Wednesday to override Reagan's veto of a textile trade bill Congress passed earlier this month.

Geren said that farmers and small businessmen are not given enough attention by either Barton or the Reagan administration.

Drug tests for Reagan, Bush to 'lead the way' for nation

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan and Vice President George Bush will take drug tests next Monday "to lead the way" toward achieving a drug-free American workplace, the White House said Thursday.

Spokesman Albert Brashear said the 78 members of Reagan's senior staff also have been asked to give urine samples Monday if they are not on vacation, but he stressed that the tests were voluntary.

"We're not out to punish anyone," he said.

"The president has made it clear that he is seeking a drug-free workplace for all Americans," the spokesman said. "He believes that all federal employees deserve a drug-free environment, and that federal employees should set the example..."

— Spokesman Albert Brashear.

Reporters also asked Brashear several times to spell out the consequences for any members of the senior staff who did not volunteer to take the test, but Brashear did not elaborate.

"If they don't take it, they just choose not to take it," he said at one point.

the body after one to four days, so with mandatory tests, no advance notice is given.

Brashear said "this is a voluntary program." Asked whether it might become mandatory, he said, "We're not at that point yet."

But he also said "I'm sure that it (the refusal to submit) would be noted... probably by their supervisor."

He said he did not know how many of the senior staff members would submit to the test, which screens for use of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, PCP and certain forms of amphetamines and barbiturates.

Brashear refused to say whether the White House would reveal how many of the officials refused to take the test, and said no test results would be made public.

Kenneth T. Blaylock, president of the American Federation of Government Employees, the largest federal workers' union, scoffed at the idea.

In a telephone interview from Las Vegas, Nev., where the union was preparing for a convention opening Monday, he said, "I don't think people are going to run out and take a drug test just because the president is taking one."

Blaylock, whose union represents some 700,000 federal employees, also said, "You can bet they (the White House) wouldn't have publicly announced it (the drug testing program), if they had not known their people would, in fact, participate."