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Gramm-Rudman 'changed rules of game'

Budget law's effectiveness debated at A&M symposium

By Sondra Pickard
Senior Staff Writer

Although the U.S. Supreme Court has declared part of the Gramm-Rudman law unconstitutional, the director of the Office of Management and Budget said Wednesday that the changes the law made in the nation's budget process have helped reduce the federal deficit by \$55 billion this year.

James C. Miller III, director of the OMB, Sen. Phil Gramm, and John Anderson, a former independent candidate for president, discussed several aspects of the Gramm-Rudman balanced-budget law at A&M in a symposium sponsored by the Memorial Student Center Great Issues Committee.

In its first full year of operation, Miller said, the Gramm-Rudman law has reduced the 1986 deficit of \$225 billion — an all-time record — to \$170 billion or less. Spending increases also will be held at bay, a remarkable achievement in an election year, he said.

"The failure of Congress to uphold a provision in the act should not cloud the success we're likely to experience this fiscal year with re-

spect to the deficit and federal spending," Miller said. "Gramm-Rudman-Hollings has changed the rules of the game—at least for this year."

But Miller stressed that "what Congress can do, it can undo," and said there's a need to look toward a more permanent, constitutional solution to the deficit problem.

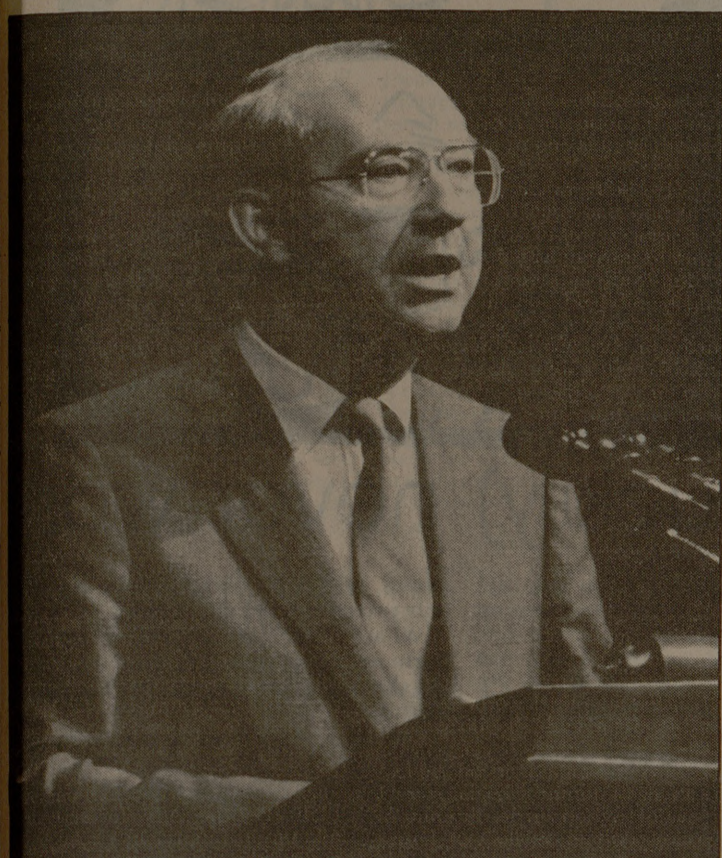
Originally drafted by Gramm and adopted by Congress in 1985, Gramm-Rudman requires the president to submit budgets that will reduce the federal deficit to zero in five years. The law also declared a national emergency and makes all budgets binding—even down to the subcommittee level.

Also because of the law, neither house in Congress can consider a budget that doesn't meet specific targets.

Gramm explained the history leading up to the law, and said the federal government system would not produce the results he thought desirable in keeping a balanced budget. His conclusion, he said, was to change the system.

"Whether it's good or bad," Gramm said, "Gramm-Rudman is an

See Gramm, page 10



Sen. Phil Gramm



James C. Miller

1 killed, 2 injured in failed robbery of 7-11 store in CS

By Mike Sullivan
Staff Writer

One man was killed and two more wounded during what police say was an attempted armed robbery of the 7-11 store at 101 Southwest Parkway early Wednesday morning.

College Station police Captain John Kennedy said the two suspects have been arrested and charged with aggravated armed robbery and attempted capital murder.

Coleman Conner, manager of the store, said that at about 2:00 a.m. Wednesday three armed men wearing masks came into the store.

He said one suspect held a gun on him while two more suspects locked the other 7-11 night employee in a stall.

One of the suspects stayed in the stall with the employee and the other started walking around the store, he said.

Conner said that as he was taking money out of the safe and another suspect was holding a gun on him, a customer walked into the store.

Conner said as the customer came in, the suspects quickly hid.

"The customer didn't realize what was happening," Conner said.

"He (the customer) came in for a cup of coffee, . . . but I couldn't say anything to him because the guy still had the gun on me," Conner said.

He said one of the suspects realized the customer wasn't going to leave, so he snuck up behind him and took him hostage, putting him in a walk-in cooler.

At about the same time, another customer came up to the door, Conner said. The customer saw what was going on, went home and called the police, Conner said.

He said that before the police arrived, one of the suspects had started taking merchandise out the front door and putting it in his car.

"He had made two trips," Conner said, "and on his third trip he was taking cigarettes out the door when police car pulled up."

He said the suspect threw down the cigarettes and ran into the back of the store.

Conner said the suspect holding the gun on him also went to the back of the store.

"That's when I got free," Conner said, "and I went and locked myself in the back room."

From then on, Conner said, he could only hear what was going on.

Conner said he could hear the suspects take the other employee to a back bathroom and the suspects began yelling to police that they would kill both of the hostages.

While one of the officers held the three suspects' attention, the other officer went to one side of the store and hid.

A College Station Police Department press release said one of the suspects, Elvis Frank Tejera, a 21-year-old Cuban man from Bryan, attempted to shoot the officer and was shot and killed by the hiding officer.

A second suspect, a Cuban man who was still unidentified Wednesday evening, was shot by one of the officers at the same time Tejera was shot, Conner said.

The man is listed in critical but stable condition at St. Joseph Hospital in Bryan, a hospital spokesperson said. The spokesperson said the man had undergone surgery for a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

The third robbery suspect, Orta Flex, a 32-year-old Hispanic man, who police believe to be a resident of the area, also was shot by police during the robbery, the release said.

The hospital spokesperson said Flex received a minor flesh wound to one side of his body. He was released to College Station Police at about 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.

None of the three hostages, Conner, the night employee nor the customer, were harmed, the release said.

Most SWC student governments support divestment proposals

By Rodney Rafter
Staff Writer

While the A&M Student Senate Wednesday overwhelmingly rejected a resolution calling for the A&M University System to divest itself of investments in South Africa, student governments at universities around the state have taken varying degrees of action in efforts to encourage their universities to divest.

Texas A&M University System investments in companies that do business in South Africa total about \$5.5 million, according to statistics compiled by Students Against Apartheid.

A resolution was introduced Oct. 8 in the Texas A&M Student Senate calling for the A&M System to divest itself of holdings in South Africa, but the resolution was tabled until Wednesday, when 42 out of 57 senators voted against it.

Student representatives at some universities, however, have supported resolutions recommending divestment, while others have just started researching the issue.

The University of Texas student senate in Spring 1984 passed a resolution condemning apartheid and urging the UT System Board of Regents to divest, said Hugh Strange, attorney general of UT's student association.

The market value of UT System stock in companies doing business in South Africa is \$871 million, Joe Roddy, a system spokesman, told the Associated Press in an article printed in Tuesday's *Battalion*.

The regents didn't comply with the senate's request, but the senate has since adopted the Sullivan Principles, a code designed to see that corporations doing business in South Africa abolish apartheid within their companies, Strange said.

The principles, devised by the Rev. Leon Sullivan of Philadelphia, call for desegregation of the workplace, fair employment practices, equal pay for equal work, job training and advancement for blacks,

and improvement in the quality of workers' lives.

Rice University's student association passed a resolution last fall calling for its Board of Governors to divest from companies with interests in South Africa, said Stiny Schoci, internal vice president of the student association.

Schoci said she doesn't know how much of Rice's investments are tied to South Africa.

The board reviewed the association's request but decided against divestment, she said.

Currently, the students are too concerned with on-campus matters to pursue the divestment issue, she said.

Southern Methodist University's student senate passed a divestment

Student Senate rejects proposal calling for divestment by System

By Rodney Rafter
Staff Writer

The Student Senate Wednesday rejected a resolution that called for the Texas A&M University System to divest itself of all investments with companies that conduct business in South Africa.

The resolution was introduced at the senate's last meeting, Oct. 8, but was tabled for further discussion by the senate.

According to statistics compiled by Students Against Apartheid, the A&M University System currently has about \$5.5 million dollars invested in companies that have interests in South Africa.

In a roll call vote of the 57 senators present at the meeting, 42 voted against the resolution, 14 voted for it and one senator abstained.

The senate listened to seven guest speakers—representing views both for and against divestment—and heard debate from only two senators before the resolution was brought to a vote.

Waylon Collins, divestment chairman of Students Against Apartheid, said apartheid in South Africa is racism and divestment sends a clear signal against apartheid.

"Investing in companies in South Africa is investing in apartheid," Collins said.

"Since blacks are being killed outright, it's also an investment in terrorism," he said.

Speaking against divestment, Dr. Morgan Reynolds, an A&M economics professor, said the senate should adopt a resolution urging the increase of capitalism in South Africa.

Reynolds said he believes many economic restrictions on blacks have been relaxed, if not abolished, because of international pressures placed on the South African government.

He said South Africa is experiencing economic repression because capitalism has been allowed to work with at least some success.

After hearing from the guest speakers, the senate floor was opened for debate, but only two senators spoke before a motion was made to vote on the resolution.

Robert Russell opposed the resolution and said divestment would have several drawbacks.

Russell said more than 30 percent of the endowments, gifts, grants and scholarships given to A&M are from companies that do business in South Africa, with the University receiving between \$16 million and \$23 million through those companies.

That money would be lost if the A&M system divests, he said.

vested in companies with interests in South Africa, Boates said.

The UH senate will hold a special session Monday to discuss a revised divestment resolution, said Khayan Husain, vice president of the student association.

The student governments of both Baylor and Texas Christian Universities have formed committees to research the divestment issue, but neither one has drafted resolutions on the matter.

Texas Tech University's student government investigated university investments in South Africa last year only to find that Tech has no ties to South Africa and invests mostly in certificates of deposit, student senate president Amy Love said.

UH has about \$8.4 million in-

5 more Americans expelled as Soviets withdraw workers

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin said Wednesday that five more American diplomats must leave the country and withdrew the 260 maids, drivers and other Soviet workers who handle the U.S. Embassy's daily non-diplomatic operations.

Soviet employees may be replaced by Americans but an overall personnel limit placed on the embassy and the U.S. consulate in Leningrad may mean, for instance, that a choice must be made between having a cook or a diplomat.

The Soviet Union seldom uses local employees in foreign missions. Its Washington embassy and San Francisco consulate operate almost entirely with Soviet staff.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov announced the expulsions and restrictions the day after 55 Soviet diplomats were ordered out of the United States.

Gerasimov's announcement brought to 10 the number of American diplomats ordered to leave in the exchange of expulsions, including the army and naval attaches.

About an hour after Gerasimov's announcements, Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev told the nation in a televised speech that Tuesday's U.S. expulsion order against 55 Soviet diplomats was "simply wild."

"Of course we will take reply measures," he said. "Very tough measures, so to say, on an equal footing."

He did not deal with the specifics of the government orders in his speech, which may have been taped before they were announced. Most of the speech dealt with nuclear disarmament and the Oct. 11-12 summit with President Reagan in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Gerasimov said the United States could replace the 260 translators, drivers, secretaries, mechanics, maids and cooks employed in the Moscow and Leningrad missions only with Americans.

He said the total number of staff members must not exceed 225 at the embassy and 26 at the Leningrad consulate, the same limits imposed on the Soviet Embassy and consulate in the United States.

State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said in making the expulsion announcement Tuesday in Washington that five Soviets were being kicked out in retaliation and the other 50 in order to reduce the Soviet staffing level to that of the United States in Moscow and Leningrad.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Jaroslav Verner said Wednesday that 225 American diplomats were accredited in Moscow and 26 in Leningrad, which means the diplomatic staff would have to be reduced to replace Soviet employees.

Verner would not comment on the expulsions and restrictions.

Members of Congress have pressured the embassy to reduce its dependence on

Soviet personnel, partly because of fears that some of them pass sensitive information to the KGB secret police.

Soviet employees work for far lower wages than Americans, however, and need not be provided with housing.

U.S. diplomats also have argued that local employees know the complicated operations of the Soviet bureaucracy better than Americans.

Gerasimov said four diplomats from the U.S. Embassy and one from the consulate were ordered to leave by Nov. 1, the same deadline given five other U.S. diplomats on

See Soviets, page 10