

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

## Attention!

Freshmen members of Company I-1 take on a determined look during drills conducted before they are permitted to receive sophomore

privileges. The men are preparing to jump up on the monkey bars in Spence Park. The group later went on a picnic to celebrate.

## Supercollider bill may eliminate all but one site, legislators say

SAN ANGELO (AP) — Some West Texas legislators believe a bill aimed at trying to bring the superconducting supercollider to the state contains language intended to eliminate all but a Dallas-area site from consideration.

At issue is whether the wording of the proposal should suggest "one or more sites," as contained in the Senate version, or "two or more sites," as in a bill offered by the House Science and Technology Committee.

The full House is expected to vote today on its committee's version. After that vote, a Senate-House conference committee will have to thrash out a compromise on proposals that the Texas National Laboratory Commission may submit to the U.S. Department of Energy to try to win the multibillion-dollar facility.

Rep. Larry Don Shaw, D-Big Spring, has distributed a "Dear Colleague" letter to all 150 House members asking them to support the "two or more" version.

"I said in the letter that two of our competing states — California and Arizona — already have announced they are submitting two sites," Shaw said. "We submitted three for the homeport. And DOE has said they expect more than one site from many states."

"I reminded them that Illinois submitted two sites (25 years ago) for the Fermilab, and the site selected was that state's second choice. I reminded them that (U.S. Sen. Lloyd) Bentsen said Texas is too big to offer just one site, and that it is imperative we offer the federal government the broadest examples of what the state has to offer."

Rep. Dick Burnett, D-San Angelo, said the Senate wording could clear the way for a single site proposal.

"The word around the House," Burnett said, "is that a decision already has been made that the TNLC will recommend a site near Dallas — possibly the one near Waxahachie."

Jim Kaster, legislative liaison from the govern-

nor's office, said last week research has shown the Dallas site best met DOE criteria.

The bill itself, relatively routine on the surface, gives the TNLC permission to hire an outside consultant without going through the normal, time-consuming state bidding procedures.

Not only would the "one or more" language eliminate a Garden City site, but also the many other communities now spending their own private and public funds for site proposals, legislators said.

On Thursday, West Texas legislators, along with several committee chairmen and other representatives from around the state met with House Speaker Gib Lewis to ask that his appointments to the Senate-House conference committee represent the two-or-more faction.

The meeting was spearheaded by Burnett and Shaw.

"The speaker assured us he doesn't care how many sites are forwarded to Washington," Shaw said Friday.

## Contra investigators check Bush's dealings in supplying weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — Iran-Contra investigators are looking into Vice President George Bush's connections to the supply of weapons to the Nicaraguan Contras, including a record of involvement from start to finish by a former CIA agent who is a top aide to the vice president.

Reporting to Congress on the progress of his investigation, independent counsel Lawrence Walsh specifically listed the office of the vice president as among the objects of his ongoing criminal investigation. He said those inquiries were "proving fruitful."

While there have been questions about the vice president's role since last winter, only recently has the focus sharpened on Bush and his aides. The Tower commission's report released in February made scant mention of Bush's role despite signs of involvement in the affair by him and his staff. But the Tower panel interviewed only Bush and none of his staff.

Wary that Bush's 1988 presidential chances could be wrecked on the shoals of the Iran-Contra affair, the vice president's political advisers insist that they do not have a problem as congressional hearings open Tuesday.

But Donald Gregg, the CIA agent who is Bush's national security adviser, as well as two of his own aides, bring the investigative trail into the office of the vice president. Investigators have talked to former White House staffers about Gregg's activities.

In addition, Bush, himself a former CIA director, has had meetings with key figures in both the arms

sales to Iran and the private aid network for supplying the Contras.

Moreover, Bush attended the daily intelligence briefings for President Reagan where a number of key decisions in the case were made, including the one at which the Iran initiative was formally approved.

"The office is being looked at," a source familiar with the congressional investigation said Thursday. "There are people being talked to."

Bush campaign manager Lee Atwater said last week, "I do not see Don Gregg as a political liability for the vice president."

Gregg acknowledges that in December 1984 he recommended his friend from his days in Vietnam, Cuban-born former CIA agent Felix Rodriguez, as an on-the-scene adviser to the Salvadoran air force at Ilopango air base in El Salvador.

Gregg refused to be interviewed for this story. He has maintained there is evidence fired National Security Council aide Lt. Col. Oliver North recruited Rodriguez into the network providing support for the Contras, and that he was unaware of that involvement.

This was in 1985, during the two-year period when Congress had made it illegal for the government to provide lethal support to the Contras trying to overthrow Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government.

But twice when the Contra support program ran into trouble, Rodriguez took the problem directly to the vice president's office.

One former White House official familiar with the NSC operations said that Gregg was more closely re-

## A&M-Galveston still facing pressure from Legislature to close operations

By Lee Schexnaider  
Reporter

On April 13 a bill was in the Texas House of Representatives that would have cost Texas A&M at Galveston the freshman and sophomore portions of its undergraduate program. Those provisions were taken out of the bill, but it was another close call.

"During the last couple of years there has been pressure to close the school," said William Mobley, deputy chancellor for academic and resource development for the Texas A&M University System.

The university, located on Galveston Island and Pelican Island, has been threatened with closure twice in the past two years. The actions mostly were the result of the strain that the drop in oil prices have caused on the Texas economy.

Bill Presnal, executive secretary for the A&M Board of Regents and vice chancellor for state affairs, said A&M-Galveston has become a lightning rod for controversy.

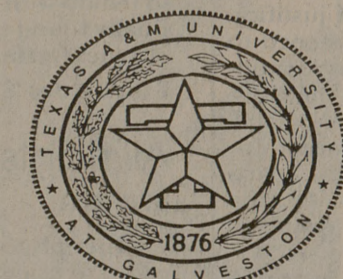
Dr. Stephen Curley, associate professor of general academics at A&M-Galveston said the threatened closures have made people anxious.

"It's almost become standard procedure to be threatened by the Legislature," Curley said. "We've been something like a political football that people have been kicking around. It is uncomfortable to be a football."

A proposed institute for marine-related research, similar to Woods Hole Oceanographic Insti-

tution in Massachusetts or Scripps Institute of Oceanography in California, has been recommended by the board. The institute will be a joint project between A&M and the University of Texas.

Dr. James Kanz, associate professor of marine biology at A&M-Galveston, said this institute could help stabilize the university.



"A research institute here would really take off," Kanz said.

He also said that part of the problem the university is facing is its limited scope. It is restricted by law to marine related areas. The degree programs include marine engineering, marine biology, marine fisheries, marine sciences, marine transportation, marine administration and marine systems engineering.

The final decision on the fate of A&M-Galveston lies with three groups — the Texas Legislature, the Coordinating Board for Texas College and University Systems, and a joint task force of faculty and administrators from Texas A&M University and A&M-Galveston.

Presnal said House bill 2181

## Official pushes racial equality with white vote

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — The chairman of South Africa's most powerful corporation said Sunday that apartheid "has made fools of us all" and urged whites to vote this week for candidates committed to racial equality.

Gavin Relly, chairman of the Anglo American Corp. mining and banking conglomerate, said in a newspaper column that the governing National Party has turned away from reform and should be defeated in Wednesday's elections for the white chamber of Parliament.

"The privileged white electorate, in my view, should support candidates who have the courage to move forward to a policy of putting all South Africans first, irrespective of race, color or creed," Relly wrote in the *Sunday Times*, the country's largest-selling newspaper.

Relly was among the leaders of a delegation of South African businessmen who traveled to Zambia in September 1985 for talks with officials of the outlawed African National Congress, the guerrilla movement fighting to end white domination in South Africa.

In his column Sunday, Relly said meaningful black-white negotiations "will mean a dramatic, mind-wrenching and courageous act of leadership."

Under apartheid, South Africa's 24 million blacks have no vote in national affairs, while the 5 million whites control the economy and maintain segregated schools and neighborhoods.

President P.W. Botha, in a letter to voters published in English and Afrikaans newspapers Sunday, said the National Party's insistence on separation of races is "based on the practical realities of our population structure."

"You can criticize me and my government for our personal shortcomings," he wrote. "But never for a lack of love, or dedication to South Africa."

The National Party, heavily favored to retain its large majority in Parliament's dominant white chamber, has tried to present itself as a centrist party that would enact some reforms but resist black majority rule.

It is being challenged by two far-right parties which oppose any modification of apartheid. Also running

is an informal alliance of liberal parties and independents who favor abolition of discriminatory laws.

Said one independent, former Ambassador to Britain Denis Worrall: "South Africans are simply fed up to the back teeth with our apartheid image as the 'ugly South Africans' — the racists and untouchables of the world."

## Officials say new law hurts Latin region

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prospective return of hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens to Latin America and the Caribbean because of the new immigration law could aggravate the region's already serious social and economic problems, U.S. officials say.

Of the estimated 3 million to 5 million illegal aliens in the United States, more than 75 percent are believed to come from America's southern neighbors, with Mexico accounting for more than half the total.

But Mexico, because of its size, is expected to be able to absorb its returnees more easily than tiny El Salvador, a major refugee source whose economy is suffering from prolonged civil war and a devastating earthquake last October.

The administration is considering a plea from President Jose Napoleon Duarte to give temporary refuge in the United States to the huge number of Salvadoran aliens who would otherwise be expected to return home.

The presence of illegal aliens in the United States has represented a significant benefit to the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean. Each alien working in the United States means one less job to fill back home and the dollars they send to family members who stayed behind often make the difference between a measure of prosperity and penury.

But a number of U.S. officials and diplomats said it is impossible to gauge the degree to which the return of the illegal aliens will set back the economies of these countries.

engineering major and editor of the A&M-Galveston student newspaper, the *Nautilus*, said students are not sure what to think about the survival of the university anymore.

"Most of the students don't know what is going on," he said. "We are just sitting around and waiting."

Kanz said students who have attended the university for several years have lived under this cloud for a while and haven't seen it close; they also have heard a fair number of positive things told to them by the administration.

"I'm sure the students are saying, 'Well, there is not too much I can do about it at this stage, and I am just going to go ahead with my school work, get my degree and go on,'" he said.

Curley said the problems affect future students more than current students.

"It is difficult to recruit new students to a place that has been threatened by the Legislature," he said. "People are reluctant to commit themselves to something that makes front page news."

John Merritt, A&M-Galveston public information officer, said there has been a good side to the publicity. More people now know about the university and that, he said, is expected to help enrollment.

Curley said students have not let present troubles with the university get them down.

"The single most encouraging expression of what is happening