

Texas A&M The Battalion

Vol. 83 No. 6 USPS 045360 16 pages

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, September 8, 1987



Dining wall

Tamara Oesterling, a junior zoology major, examines ceramic plates by artist Philip Van Keuren at the gallery in the MSC. Created between 1980 and 1987, Van Keuren's prints and plates will be on exhibit through Oct. 2.

Photo by Jay Janner

Libya sends bombers into Chad territory

N'DJAMENA, Chad (AP) — Libya sent Soviet-built bombers into Chad's heartland Monday and French soldiers downed one of the Tupolev 22 jets with a missile near the N'Djamena airport, Chadian and French officials reported.

Chadian officials said five bombs were dropped on Abeche, 450 miles east of N'Djamena, killing two civilians and causing considerable damage. One of two planes spotted over this capital city in a second raid was shot down before it could drop its bombs and the other turned away, they said.

Libya said it conducted "successful air raids" into Chad and acknowledged loss of one plane. It cautioned civilian aircraft to skirt the danger zone and urged civilians to leave N'Djamena.

Libya's official JANA news agency said Col. Moammar Gadhafi's government sent messages to the U.N. Security Council, the non-aligned movement and other organizations "informing them of the serious dimensions resulting from the direct participation by France and the U.S.A." in the conflict.

Defense Ministry officials in Paris confirmed that a French artillery unit based at N'Djamena downed the twin-engine, long-range bomber with a U.S.-made Hawk missile. A journalist at the scene said the Tupolev exploded in a ball of green phosphorescent fire and fell slowly to the ground in pieces.

Less than 48 hours before the raids, Chadian soldiers intercepted a Libyan column heading toward the northern Chad outpost of Ouanianga-Kebir, routed it and pursued the retreating forces into Libyan territory, seizing and destroying a major Libyan base.

It was the first time Chad's army penetrated Libya in 14 years of war and territorial disputes with its northern neighbor. The army apparently crossed the border in retaliation for the loss on Aug. 28 of Aouzou in northwestern Chad.

President Hissene Habre's troops in the past eight months have driven the Libyans nearly out of Chad. They seized Aouzou Aug. 8 only to lose it again three weeks later.

Aouzou is the administrative capital of the disputed 43,000-square-mile Aouzou Strip that runs along the border. Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi annexed the area in 1973 and his forces had occupied it since.

Chadian officials said the units that moved into Libya would destroy the Matan-as-Sarra base and then pull out. They said the N'Djamena government had no intention of occupying Libyan territory.

In its report on Monday's action, JANA said the Libyan air force "launched successful air raids on the military air base of Abeche and N'Djamena airport following its transformation into a military base receiving continuous U.S.-Israeli reinforcements."

Jackson announces plans to run for president

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jesse Jackson, declaring he has a good chance of becoming America's first black president, said Monday he will announce his candidacy for the Democratic nomination on Oct. 10 and pledged to campaign for "jobs, jobs, jobs, peace and justice."

"In a real sense, I'm trying to fulfill the best dimension of the Constitution," he said. "If I can in fact become president, indeed as (John) Kennedy became as a Catholic, indeed as (Franklin D.) Roosevelt came riding in a wheelchair... every woman can, every man, boy and woman and girl can," he said on ABC-TV's "Good Morning America."

"So in a real sense, I'm giving America a chance to make a choice to fulfill the high-

est and best of an authentic and honest democracy," he said.

Jackson, who for months has been campaigning around the nation as an undeclared candidate, said he will make his candidacy official in Raleigh, N.C., at the national convention of his Rainbow Coalition.

"We agree that what we need is not just a new occupant for the White House," he said. "We need a new direction for our nation."

"We need a government that cares, a president committed to the well-being of the American family who will protect them from the exportation of jobs and the importation of drugs."

Jackson, who in 1984 won primaries in Louisiana and the District of Columbia, becomes the most liberal in the Democrats' sizable field of presidential contenders for 1988.

He said his new campaign will work on broadening the party's base of support, widening its "mainstream into a river," in part by continuing his old theme of registering new voters.

"The leadership of the Democratic party is going to be much fairer to me in part because I'm part of the leadership of the Democratic party," Jackson said.

"The party has recognized the errors of its ways in 1984," he said. "It will expand

and coalesce and win in 1988. We will work out any internal problems internally. My campaign must focus externally on jobs, jobs, jobs, peace and justice."

People should vote against him "if I do not make sense," Jackson said.

"But if one does not vote for me because I'm black, I'll leave that in God's hands because God made me that way and I'm glad about it," he said.

Jackson, relying heavily on his support from organized labor, formally disclosed his plans during a Labor Day swing through Pittsburgh, Cleveland and New York City.

He made his first announcement on ABC-TV from Pittsburgh, attended a Ro-

man Catholic mass at a racially mixed inner city church, and marched through a supportive crowd of more than 5,000 people watching the city's 100th Labor Day parade.

From the pulpit at the Roman Catholic Church, the Baptist minister led pre-parade worshippers, including many laid-off steel workers, through a 10-point "Workers' Bill of Rights."

Jackson said workers have rights to a job, to union representation, a living wage, safe work place and pension security. He played to the local audience, saying American steel workers should not lose their jobs to foreign "slave labor."

"Let us fight together and not one another," he said.

Federal laws require A&M to release information about students to public

By Clark Miller
Staff Writer

For any business or organization that requests students' names, phone numbers, addresses, class schedules — even their parents' names and addresses — A&M must comply to stay within the boundaries of federal law.

The sex, race, date and place of birth and class standing also is information accessible to the public.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 says universities have to divulge this information to those who submit a written request and pay a fee.

"The University doesn't advertise this service, but we have to comply with it," Texas A&M Registrar Donald D. Carter said.

Jaime Roman, a systems analyst in the A&M records department, said the University charges the businesses and individuals not associated with A&M a fee that covers A&M's costs for labels and computer time.

A&M only charges what the service costs the University, or the service would turn into a business, Roman said.

Students who don't like the idea of this information being available can prevent the information from being released.

Carter said students can go to the registrar's office in Heaton Hall by Sept. 18 and fill out a form to block the directory information from be-

ing released. But students may be better off if they allow public access to this information, he said.

"In some cases, withholding directory information can do more harm than good," Carter said. After the information is blocked, even if a student needs to be reached because of an emergency, he said, his address and phone number can not be given over the phone.

Employers looking for a prospect's phone number also would be turned down if the student withholds that information, he said.

Roman agrees that withholding information may not be to the students' advantage.

"In the long run, it's there to pro-

vide a service more than harm somebody," Roman said.

Carter said students' grades, test scores and social security numbers are not released.

Roman said the kinds of people who use the directory information are companies that want to sell a product, people who are looking to hire someone and banks that want to offer credit cards to students.

There are an estimated 50 to 100 requests for student directory information each year by sources other than the University, he said. So if a student can stand the inevitable "junk" mail, there are benefits to having the information available, he said.

Silver Taps ceremony to honor five students

By Elisa Hutchins
Staff Writer

Silver Taps is one of Texas A&M's sacred traditions. It will take place at 10:30 tonight at the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue in front of the Academic Building.

The ceremony began in 1898 to honor A&M students who had died, and traditions have been added over the years.

During the 1920s the flag began being placed at half-staff during the day of Silver Taps.

At 10:15 p.m. chimes from the MSC tower will signal the start of Silver Taps. And at 10:30 p.m. the Ross Volunteer Firing Squad will march to the statue and fire three volleys in a 21-gun-salute to the deceased students.

Six buglers from the Aggie Band will play "Taps" three times.

The buglers will play one time facing north, once toward the south and also to the west from the top of the Academic Building.

At the conclusion of the music, Silver Taps also will be finished until the first Tuesday of the next month.

For freshmen, transfer students or students who have not attended before, this event should be treated with respect, and some observances from the Traditions Council should be made.

- The area between the Sul Ross statue and the Academic Building is reserved for friends and family of the deceased.

- Don't stand or sit on the benches that line walkways between the flagpole and the statue.

- The dark and quiet atmosphere on campus at the late hour should be preserved. Try to keep noise to a minimum and don't bring cameras or flash units.

The names of the deceased are posted at the flagpole on the day of the ceremony. The first ceremony of this school year will honor five students who died since the last Muster was called on April 21.

- Gordon Charles Prigoff, 22, a senior history major from Dallas, died April 22.

- John Woolsey Sumner, 23, a senior agricultural engineering major from Itasca, died April 26.

- Sarah Jane Wagener, 20, a freshman general studies major from Robstown, died May 16.

- Roy Arnold, 23, a senior accounting major from Tomball, died May 28.

- Douglass Michael White, 20, a senior English major from Austin, died Aug. 4.

The purpose of the ceremony is to pay final tribute and to show A&M pride for the students who have died, because they are eternal Aggies.

Attendance at Silver Taps is not mandatory but go anyway — even if the deceased students weren't friends or relatives. It is part of the campus and tradition of Texas A&M.

Shiite kidnappers free West German hostage

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Shiite Moslem kidnappers in Lebanon on Monday freed one of their two West German hostages from seven months of captivity, and the Bonn government said Iran and Syria played a role in the release.

Syrian army officers drove 47-year-old engineer Alfred Schmidt to Damascus and turned him over to West German diplomats.

"It's wonderful to be a free man again," Schmidt said before he was taken to the airport for the flight home. "They didn't mistreat me."

"The treatment was all right. I'm OK. I want to see my family and friends."

A West German air force transport plane had flown to Damascus to pick him up.

Schmidt was released at 4 a.m. in the slums of south Beirut, a strong-

hold of Iranian-backed Shiite militants. His captors, who call themselves the Holy Warriors for Freedom, indicated the agreement was worked out by Syria.

Twenty-five foreigners remain missing in Lebanon, including eight Americans and Anglican church envoy Terry Waite.

Most are believed held by Shiite kidnappers loyal to Iran.

Terry A. Anderson, 39, is the hostage held longest. The chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press was abducted March 16, 1985.

In Bonn, Foreign Ministry spokesman Juergen Chrobog said: "Iran and Syria both helped win (Schmidt's) release. They both said they would help us and they did."

53-year-old businessman Rudolf Cordes. He was kidnapped Jan. 16, four days before Schmidt.

The kidnappers had demanded the release of two Lebanese Shiites, Mohammed Ali Hamadi and his brother, Ali Abbas Hamadi, from jail in West Germany.

Officials in Bonn said there were no plans to free the Hamadis.

Alexander Prechtel, a spokesman for the federal prosecutor's office, said, "There were never any negotiations to release the two Lebanese, and there are no plans to do so."

Spokesman Horst Siebert at Siemens, the huge electronics company that employs Schmidt, said: "No ransom was paid by Siemens."

Mohammed Ali Hamadi, 23, was arrested at Frankfurt airport Jan. 13 while carrying liquid explosives in wine bottles.

The United States wants him on murder and other charges in the June 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner to Beirut during which U.S. Navy diver Robert Stethem was killed.

His brother was arrested at Frankfurt airport Jan. 26 on charges of involvement in the Beirut kidnappings, which occurred soon after the arrest of Mohammed Ali Hamadi.

A third brother, Abdul-Hadi Hamadi, is Beirut security chief of the Iranian-backed militant Hezbollah, or Party of God. He is widely believed to have planned the seizures of the two West Germans.

In June, Bonn rejected a U.S. extradition request for Mohammed Ali Hamadi but said he would be tried on the charges in West Germany.