

Texas A&M The Battalion

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Taking requests?

Grad student Andy Nunberg plays his flute to relax Tuesday.

Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Superpowers sign missile treaty

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev, in a landmark moment of superpower affairs, signed a treaty Tuesday banning intermediate-range nuclear missiles and began talks that would reduce

proposals" during the first day of the three-day summit, an administration official said Tuesday evening after both leaders expressed satisfaction with the day's main order of business.

"We have made history," Reagan declared after he and Gorbachev spent more than three minutes putting their signatures — time and again — into leather-bound volumes containing the treaty and accompanying documents.

The INF treaty gives the superpowers close to three years to destroy their arsenals of medium- and short-range missiles in the 340- to 3,000-mile range. This process allows 100 missiles on each side to be destroyed by launching them without their warheads or by dismantling and exploding their components.

"We can be proud of planting this sapling which may one day grow into a great oak of peace," Gorbachev proclaimed.

"May December 8th, 1987 become a date that will be inscribed in the history books — a date that will mark the watershed separating the era of a mounting risk of nuclear war from the era of a demilitarization of human life," the Soviet leader said.

After the day's summit was over, Gorbachev hosted a group of about 60 prominent Americans at the Soviet embassy. He appealed for scholars and artists to pressure political figures to forge a "new relationship" between the superpowers.

Soldiers shoot down American plane

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sandinista soldiers shot down a plane flown by an American linked to Contra rebels and he may be put on trial, Defense Minister Humberto Ortega said Tuesday.

James Jordan Denby, 57, "was moved to the capital on Monday and at this time is being interrogated by state security" about ties with the U.S.-supported rebels, Ortega told a news conference.

The Defense Ministry said rifle fire hit the fuel tank of Denby's Cessna 172 and he made an emergency landing Sunday at San Juan del Norte.

Ortega said Denby might be tried, as was Eugene Hasenfus of Marinette, Wis., but added: "This time the laws of the country should be applied more severely."

Hasenfus was captured in Octo-

ber 1986 after a Contra resupply flight was shot down.

Denby was carrying a U.S. passport, the ministry said. U.S. Embassy spokesman Lou Falino said: "We've asked for access to see if the guy is an American. Right now we're presuming he's an American."

Documents Denby was carrying "confirm his link with the illegal ac-

tivities of the North American administration against Nicaragua," said Ortega, the brother of President Daniel Ortega.

Official Voice of Nicaragua radio said documents in Denby's possession connect him with members of Congress and John Hull, a U.S. citizen living in Costa Rica who often is linked to the rebels fighting Nicaragua's leftist government.

Texas A&M graduate class addresses problems of worldwide malnutrition

By Jamie Russell
Staff Writer

Hunger and malnutrition are affecting the world population, and Texas A&M will address these issues in a graduate class next semester.

The scope of the malnutrition and hunger problems lies in a number of diverse areas of study — ranging from economics to genetics, said Dr. George W. Bates, a professor of biochemistry who will be teaching the new class.

"At Texas A&M we are one of the strongest universities in the area of international involvement," Bates said. "There has been an emphasis by President Vandiver and others on A&M being a world-class university; that it's able to work on solutions toward global problems."

To address the issue of world hunger, the department of nutrition is offering an interdisciplinary graduate class called Agriculture and Nutrition in a Hungry World, NUTR 689, to both graduate students and non-graduate students near graduation who have at least a 3.25 GPA. There are no other prerequisites.

"I'm hoping we'll get some undergraduates taking the class," Bates said. "But we're aiming the course at the range of students in the agricultural sciences, nutritional sciences and biological sciences, and even areas such as economics, who would be interested in the broad, global view of why we have hunger and malnutrition."

The class — which has one section in the fall semester that will be taught on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a.m. — will be divided into three parts and will involve about 20 faculty members from diverse disciplines.

The faculty members will do several different guest lectures and contribute to lectures, but the majority of lectures will be taught by Bates. Other lecturers include Dr. David N. McMurray



Graphic by Carol Wells

such possibilities. "So we will have to bring those students up to speed, give them the essentials of nutrition and the description of the nutrition deficiency syndromes so we get some concept of what malnutrition means in biological terms . . . and the effects on human welfare."

The second part of the class, world food production, focuses on the agricultural aspects of what is happening now and the possibilities for the future, Bates said. The more food that can be produced, the less expensive it will be and the more it will be available for commodity or food support by the government, he said.

This section will cover such topics as world food production, food protein sources for the Third World, and climatology and oceanography and how it affects food production.

The class concludes with the economic, political, social and strategic determinants of nutrient distribution and malnutrition.

"The overall idea in this part is what do culture, environment, economics and politics have to do with the problem," Bates said.

The class is open to interested students from all majors. This will add to discussions and conversations so the class can have different viewpoints from students from different disciplines, Bates said.

"The main goal of the class is to develop an understanding of what the problems are in the way of malnutrition, where they exist, and what numbers of people are affected, to develop an understanding of the reasons that we have malnutrition, and develop a priority list for attacking the problems of malnutrition, both in the short range and long range," Bates said.

Plane crash may be fault of ex-worker

CAYUCOS, Calif. (AP) — A fired airline worker who wanted to kill his boss smuggled a .44-caliber Magnum handgun onto a jetliner whose crew reported gunshots just before a fiery crash killed all 43 on board, ABC News reported Tuesday.

The airline confirmed that a fired USAir employee and his former boss were on Pacific Southwest Airlines Flight 1771, which crashed Monday afternoon. USAir recently bought PSA.

"At this point it does not appear that it was an accident," said Richard Bretzing, a special agent in charge of the FBI in Los Angeles. "It appears at this point — and has yet to be substantiated — that it was a criminal act on board that caused the craft to come down."

In a memo to airline employees, PSA President Russ Ray said, "We have no basis to believe that the accident was caused by mechanical reasons or a crew error."

However, a handgun fired aboard the jetliner wouldn't necessarily cause it to crash, said George Dahlman, a spokesman for the jet's manufacturer, British Aerospace, at its American headquarters near Washington, D.C.

"Any kind of penetration of the fuselage might result in depressurization, but there's no reason to think that it would cause this kind of accident," Dahlman said.

The crew of the flight from Los Angeles to San Francisco reported gunfire aboard the plane and smoke filling the cockpit and radioed the code for an on-board emergency.

Moments later, witnesses on the ground saw the flaming four-engine

BAe-146 jet streak in a vertical dive into the green, oak-studded hills of a cattle ranch 175 miles northwest of Los Angeles.

ABC, citing a confidential government source, said authorities found a suicide note or recording left behind by the former USAir employee.

The man learned that his former station manager was going to be on the plane, bought a one-way ticket and smuggled the gun and six rounds of ammunition aboard, using his airline badge to avoid security checks, ABC said.

USAir spokesman Nancy Vaughan acknowledged that a 35-year-old former employee was aboard. But she said that he had turned in all his airline identification to USAir headquarters near Washington, D.C., and that they had been destroyed.

"David A. Burke joined USAir on June 13, 1973, and was terminated for misappropriation of funds from his position as a customer service agent for USAir at Los Angeles International Airport on Nov. 19, 1987," she said.

The name D. Burk, address unlisted and spelled differently than the name released by USAir, was listed by PSA as one of the dead.

USAir identified Burke's former boss as Raymond F. Thomson, who was supervisor of customer services for USAir at Los Angeles International Airport, Vaughan and USAir spokesman David Shipley said. PSA said Thomson, 48, was on board Flight 1771, but referred all questions about the criminal investigation to the FBI.

ABA panel decides to give Kennedy their highest rating

WASHINGTON (AP) — An American Bar Association panel decided unanimously Tuesday to give Supreme Court nominee Anthony M. Kennedy its highest rating a week before the Senate opens hearings on him.

The ABA panel's rating of "well qualified" was a boost for Kennedy, a federal appeals court judge who is President Reagan's third choice to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court.

The Senate Judiciary Committee plans to start confirmation hearings next Monday.

The 15-member ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary rated Kennedy, 51, of Sacramento, Calif., well qualified to serve on the Supreme Court, Justice Department spokesman Terry Eastland said. The other possible ratings were "not opposed" and "not qualified."

No senator has announced opposition to Kennedy. All but one of the women's, civil rights and civil liberties organizations that campaigned against defeated Supreme Court nominee Robert H. Bork have remained neutral so far.

Only the National Organization for Women, which opposed Bork, and the anti-abortion American Life

League have announced opposition to Kennedy, a 12-year veteran of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals who has written more than 400 opinions.

The lack of coordinated opposition and the favorable ABA rating indicate Senate hearings will open in a calm political atmosphere, a contrast to the strong opposition to second nominee Bork, an appeals judge who was Reagan's first nominee for the vacancy that occurred in June with the retirement of Justice Lewis F. Powell Jr. The court has been meeting with eight justices since Oct. 5.

A campaign to defeat Bork was well under way a week before his hearing began in September, and word had leaked out that the ABA panel was seriously divided. Ten panel members rated Bork well qualified, four said he was not qualified and one member was not opposed.

The well-qualified rating is reserved "for those who meet the highest standards of professional competence, judicial temperament and integrity," according to the ABA standards. "The persons in this category must be among the best available for appointment to the Supreme Court."

Finals Schedule

Dec. 11 (Friday)

Classes meeting MWF 8 a.m. will have final 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF 1 p.m. will have final 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Classes meeting TR 8 a.m. will have final 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF 9 a.m. will have final 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Dec. 12 (Saturday)

Classes meeting MWF 2 p.m. will have final 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Classes meeting TR 9:30 a.m. will have final 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF noon will have final 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF 10 a.m. will have final 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Dec. 14 (Monday)

Classes meeting MWF 3 p.m. and MW 3 p.m. will have final 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Classes meeting TR 11 will have final 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Classes meeting TR 9:30 p.m. will have final 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF 11 a.m. will have final 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Dec. 15 (Tuesday)

Classes meeting TR 2 p.m. will have final 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.
Classes meeting TR 12:30 p.m. will have final 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Classes meeting TR 5 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. will have final 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Classes meeting MWF 4 p.m. will have final 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Classes meeting MW 4 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. will have final 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.