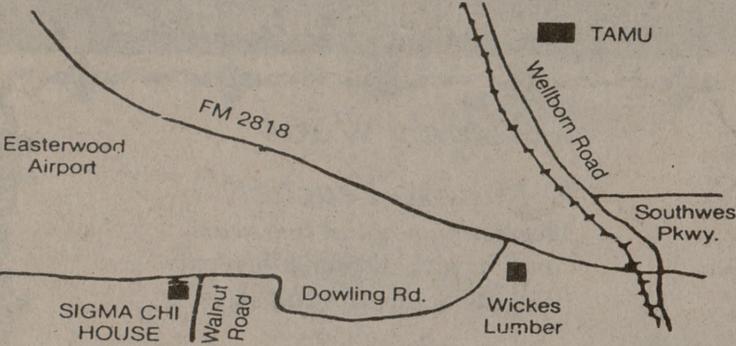




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FAA calls detector inadequate to stop all plane disasters

WASHINGTON (AP) — A \$1 million bomb detector that the Federal Aviation Authority starts operating Friday at a New York airport is not sensitive enough to spot an explosive like the one that destroyed Pan Am Flight 103 last December, Science magazine reports.

The magazine, the journal for the American Association for the Advancement of Science, said the bomb detector, called a thermal neutron analysis device, or TNA, is being set at a sensitivity that will uncover about 2.5 pounds of plastic explosives.

Science said British experts believe the bomb that brought down Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, on Dec. 21 contained only about one pound of explosive. The crash killed 270 people.

A TNA bomb detector has been installed in a special building at JFK Airport in New York and will go into operation for international TWA flights on Friday, FAA officials said. The agency has said it wants U.S. airlines to spend about half a billion dollars to install 491 of the machines at international airports over the next five years.

The bomb finder is a 10-ton, 13-foot-long machine. It uses neutrons, a type of sub-atomic particle, to probe luggage for the presence of nitrogen, a major component of ex-

plosives. The luggage passes through the machine on a conveyor belt, and if nitrogen of a certain level is detected, the machine indicates the source, enabling operators to separate suspicious bags.

Science said the machine is so massive that it requires special construction to install, increasing the cost of deploying the \$1 million machine.

A problem with the system is that some types of fabric, leather and such things as plastic ski boots can have nitrogen densities as high as explosives.

She made no mention of Thursday's developments on the couple's daily religious broadcast.

Bakker (Continued from page 1)

Thursday afternoon.

"I would like to tell the people, you can be in our shoes and see if you can hold steady for 2½ years," she said. "He was very distressed last night after what happened in the courtroom."

Defense attorney George T. Davis told Potter that Bakker, 49, kept saying he wanted the trial to continue but was "on the floor in a fetal position."

"If Mr. Bakker is handled gently and carefully he may be able to proceed with this trial," Davis said. The defense had tried to persuade the judge to allow Bakker to stay in a private institution.

Bakker's wife described a similar scene last year, saying in a fund-raising letter to supporters that her husband had stayed in a fetal position for hours after he was forced to leave the ministry in 1987.

As a result of Bakker's collapse, Nelson's collapse came the same day that lawyers confirmed that another key witness in the trial, former PTL second-in-command Richard Dortch, was being treated at a Clearwater, Fla., hospital for an undisclosed ailment.

Marsals said the shackles that bound Bakker are standard procedure for moving prisoners.

A few supporters were on hand to offer encouragement.

"He will come back," said Lorene Mays of Jacksonville, Fla. "Jim's a fighter. He's not a quitter, . . . but it will take time."

in increased recruitment of students in space-related fields of study. The recruitment of women and minorities will be emphasized in the program aimed at preparing students for careers in the aerospace industry.

All of the consortiums submitted proposals to NASA to apply for participation in the program and the Texas delegation has already formed a network and plans that are ready to be implemented. Bentsen said the Texas consortium's plan was the most comprehensive and received praise for including private companies so that the transition to

commercial developments can be made easier.

Board of Regents Chairman William McKenzie said it takes the public sector, the private sector and academia to bring innovation and change — and the combination A&M is doing just that.

"For a long time we've been a land grant college, then a sea grant college," McKenzie said. "We're ranked eighth nationally in research — and are continuing to bring innovation as we can now add that we are a space grant college."

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