

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## WEATHER

TOMORROW'S FORECAST:  
Partly cloudy  
HIGH: 86 LOW: 64



Thursday, October 12, 1989

## De Klerk ready for negotiations on black rights

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — President F.W. de Klerk told militant anti-apartheid leaders Wednesday he was ready to negotiate on black voting rights, but they demanded more concessions before serious talks begin.

The three-hour meeting with Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and two other church leaders came a day after de Klerk announced his decision to free eight longtime security prisoners, including seven leaders of the outlawed African National Congress.

"I hope today's meeting will be looked on as a milestone on the positive road ahead," de Klerk said after the talks.

But Tutu, the Rev. Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and the Rev. Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, said de Klerk declined to give clear-cut responses to their demands.

"We made it clear we need results," Chikane said. "Without results, we can't have negotiations."

The clergymen demanded the lifting of the state of emergency, legalization of the African National Congress and other banned groups, the release of all detainees and political prisoners, the lifting of restrictions on political activity, and clemency for prisoners on Death Row.

"If these things happen, we'll say to our people: give them (the government) a chance. They are serious," Tutu said.

However, the clergymen said they would press on with calls for tougher economic sanctions against South Africa unless de Klerk complied with their demands.

De Klerk, who became president in August, said the clergymen were reluctant to trust his pledges to negotiate a new, just political system.

"We are really no longer arguing about the fact that all South Africans must have a vote, that all South Africans must become involved in all decisions affecting their life," he said. "What we must now start talking about is how do we structure that."

De Klerk opposes a one-man, one-vote system and black majority rule. He has not specified what role he envisions for blacks in the national government.

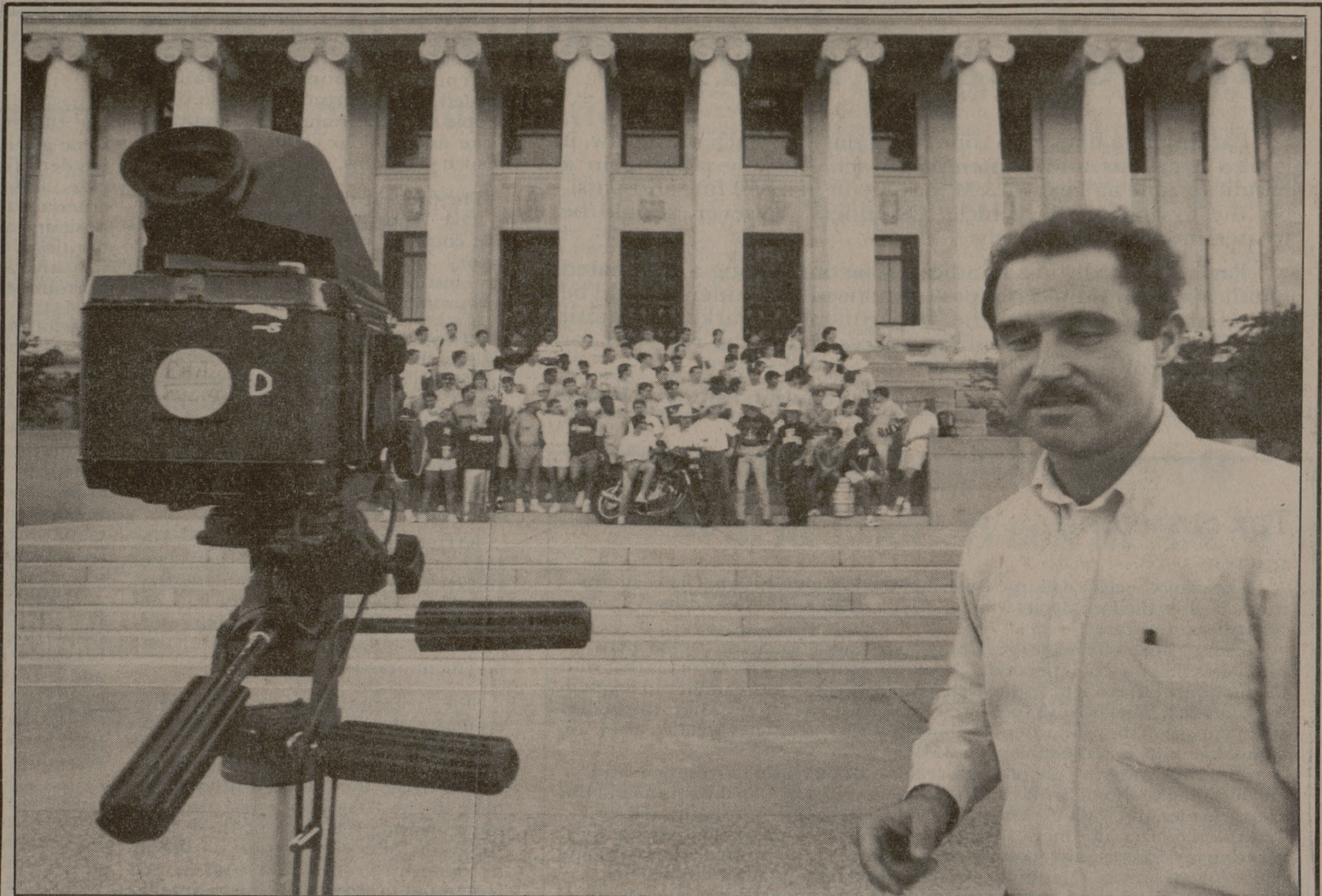
The president said his government planned to consult with a wide range of South African leaders as part of a step-by-step process to negotiate a new constitution.

He declined to say when the eight prisoners would be released, but other government officials said it could be within days.

Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress' best-known imprisoned leader, is not among the eight, and de Klerk said his status was not discussed at Wednesday's meeting.

Mandela is widely expected to be released within the next few months.

The decision to release the eight prisoners unconditionally was widely praised overseas and in South Africa.



### Say cheese!

Erich Bechtel, a photographer for AR Photography gets ready to take the Moses Hall group photo Wednesday afternoon. Photos of groups such as dormitory residents are being taken at the Ad-

ministration Building through November. Individual students' pictures are being taken by Yearbook Associates at AR Photography at 707 Texas Ave. South.

Photo by Frederick D. Joe

## Chemical weapons continue to worry leaders; A&M expert predicts bilateral weapon ban soon

By Todd Connelley

Of The Battalion Staff

Without warning, a cloud of mist drifts silently onto the battlefield, soldiers drop their weapons and stagger helplessly to the ground, then the wind shifts and carries the deadly cloud toward a nearby village.

President George Bush has asked for an international agreement to ban chemical weapons — the weapons capable of producing such scenes in warfare — but Dr. Ron Hatchett, of Texas A&M's Mosher Institute for Defense Studies, said that though an agreement will probably be reached soon, verification and ease of production will be tough obstacles to overcome.

The use of chemical weapons has been a controversial area since 1868 when the first conference was held to ban "weapons that are poison or asphyxiating."

However, it wasn't until World War I that chemical weapons made an impact on the world. The trench battlefields of France

served as laboratories for the latest advancement in weapons. After being released from a small canister, the deadly mist spread across the ground, eventually reaching the trenches where soldiers believed they were safe.

Such tales of horror prompted the Geneva Protocol, a unilateral ban in 1925 on the use (not stockpile) of chemical weapons. However, not all nations signed and the agreement has been ignored over the years, especially in wartime.

Bush called for a new ban on chemical weapons in a speech delivered to the United Nations two weeks ago.

Problems the Bush administration would have in enforcing the ban include the reluctance of countries like North Korea, Libya, Iraq and others suspected of having chemical weapons, to give up what they call "the poor man's nuclear weapons."

Hatchett said that such a ban will face many barriers even if an agreement is reached.

"In any other arms control negotiations, verification is simply a matter of identifying

the number and location of obvious military hardware — planes, missiles and tanks," Hatchett said. "In this situation, you have to verify the activities going on at chemical weapons plants that may be masquerading as, for example, a pesticide plant."

"One of the most frightening aspects of chemical warfare is that the very same chemicals used for manufacturing these weapons are the same chemicals essential for day-to-day living."

In addition to calling for a ban on chemical weapons, Bush directed his speech to the Soviets. Bush proposed to cut 80 percent of the 30,000-ton U.S. arsenal of chemical weapons if the Soviets agreed to cut their 70,000-ton stockpile by the same amount. The Soviets responded by proposing both to unilaterally wipe out their stocks and cease all chemical weapon production.

Hatchett, who served as personal representative for the Secretary of Defense on conventional arms control from 1983-88, said he believes the logic behind the Soviet move is the fact that they are better trained for a chemical

environment.

"They can afford to do it," Hatchett said. "They don't need chemical weapons as a means of mass destruction. If, for example, they are attacked by a European country, they aren't concerned with the property of chemical weapons that spares buildings. They will retaliate with another weapon with mass destruction capabilities, in this case nuclear weapons."

"Another reason they might have countered the way they did goes back to the core problem with banning nuclear weapons. If both countries reduce stockpiles to zero, it really doesn't matter because you can reconstitute those stocks so quickly."

"So, maybe it's a free offer. They can destroy these old stocks because they know it can be replenished so easily."

Hatchett said he believes a bilateral agreement in banning chemical weapons between the United States and the Soviet Union will be reached within the next six to eight months.

## Community discusses ban of Halloween

HARLINGEN (AP) — Parents' complaints that Halloween activities in schools promote witchcraft and Satanism have prompted the school district here to consider limiting observance of the holiday.

Janet Magee, director of children's education at the 800-member, non-denominational Christian Fellowship Church, has spearheaded the effort to take Halloween symbols out of the schools, because it is a "satanic holy day," she said.

"I asked the school board to ban Halloween because it's a religious holiday," Magee said Wednesday.

Tuesday night, the Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District appointed a committee to examine Halloween's role in the schools. About 200 members of area churches showed up, some wearing orange anti-Halloween buttons.

Committee members said they were not ready to decide on whether to ban Halloween.

Harlingen school Superintendent T. Carl McMillan said at a Wednesday morning meeting he advised principals that "in situations where they were coming on strong with witches and witches' brews and all that kind of stuff, perhaps they might want to tone it down a bit and concentrate on pumpkins and that sort of thing."

"He agreed to take the yucky stuff out," Magee said Wednesday. "Man, that's a major step."

But she wants all Halloween witches, witches' brews, ghosts and goblins and what she calls "the dark side" out of the schools, and hopes the school board makes the decision at its next meeting.

"The Christian religion is not allowed the same privilege in the schools," she said.

Parents are more wary of witchcraft since the discovery of 15 bodies last April about 25 miles to the south in Matamoros, Mexico.

Some of the victims were mutilated in ritual sacrifices in a distorted form of the Afro-Cuban palo mayombe religion.

Law enforcement officials at first said the victims were killed in satanic rites.

"The witches, cauldrons, brews and body parts are all part of ritualistic sacrifices and the symbols of a religion," she said. "Those things were found very close to home, 30 minutes from where we live."

McMillan, however, said Halloween always has been seen as a spoof of an old superstition.

"And kids have always looked on it as a fun time and a spoof rather than anything serious like this," McMillan said.

## Discovery of jumbo jet's engine part fuels search

ALTA, Iowa (AP) — The discovery of a key engine part from a jumbo jet that crashed in July intensifies the search of Iowa cornfields for other pieces to the puzzle of what caused the DC-10's rear engine to fly apart, officials said Wednesday.

"We don't know yet whether this is the golden nugget we're looking for," Jim Burnett, a member of the

National Transportation Safety Board, said. "But we're glad we found it."

Officials of General Electric Co., which made the engine in 1972, said the discovery of the fan disk of the crippled DC-10 that crashed July 19 while trying to land at the Sioux City airport is important to the investigation into what happened to United

Flight 232.

"This is the key to the whole search," Jerry Clark, a flight safety investigator for GE, said. Clark spoke at the Storm Lake airport as workers loaded the fan disk onto an airplane headed to a GE engine plant in a Cincinnati suburb for inspection.

One hundred searchers hired by

GE will walk newly harvested fields in northwest Iowa this weekend.

Flight 232 crashed while trying to land at the Sioux Gateway Airport after its tail-mounted engine disintegrated in flight, throwing parts that severed all the plane's hydraulic lines. The jumbo jet cartwheeled across the runway in a fiery crash that killed 112 people; 184 people survived.

Farmers have been recovering small pieces of the No. 2 engine for several weeks, but investigators said the key to what happened is apparently the 290-pound titanium disk that holds fan blades.

But on Tuesday Janice Sorenson was running a combine through corn a half-mile from her house on her farm about 10 miles north of Alta. Alta is about 80 miles northwest of Des Moines.

"I felt a resistance against the combine, so I backed up, and I looked and I could see the fan blades protruding from the ground," Sorenson said.

She said the disk "was buried between 6 and 8 inches. It was all in one piece but there were pieces of fan blades that had been broken off."

What she had found was about two-thirds of the fan disk assembly, which looks like a windmill.

Burnett said it is too early to assume that a flaw in the disk caused the crash. "The metallurgical examination of the disk itself, if in fact the

problem originated there, should in fact reveal the cause," Burnett said.

"Hopefully, it is something that will answer a lot of technical questions and might do so in short order," he said.

It is unlikely, he said, that the NTSB will reveal results of tests before a hearing that begins Oct. 30 in Sioux City.

In Evandale, Ohio, GE plant spokesman David Lane would not theorize about what might have gone wrong with the disk, which probably was made in the early 1970s, but said GE was eager to see the part.

"This is a very significant find, in our eyes," he said.

Sorenson said she knew immediately what the piece was because GE had distributed pictures to farmers.

"I was shocked and I was very happy for GE because they put a lot of time in it," she said. "Hopefully it will solve some of the problems they've been looking for."

GE lawyer Stephen Gadd said Sorenson will receive a portion of the \$50,000 reward it offered for the disk equal to the percentage of the disk she recovered, plus separate rewards for each fan blade. The company is paying up to \$1,000 each for recovered blades.

Clark said he hopes the weekend search will yield results now that fields no longer have 10-foot stands of corn.

## Student 'Y' celebrates centennial

By Mia B. Moody

Of The Battalion Staff

The Student 'Y' Association, the second oldest student organization at Texas A&M after the Corps of Cadets, will celebrate its 100th anniversary Friday and Saturday with a reception and banquet.

"The Student YMCA has been a vital part of Texas A&M since 1889," David Mendoza, Student 'Y' president, said. "In fact, it used to coordinate visits from TWU women, show weekly movies and provide chapel services for A&M students."

Mendoza, a graduate student from Beaumont, said the name, Student YMCA, was changed to Student 'Y' shortly after women were accepted into A&M to allow women to join the organization.

Today, many of the functions previously assumed by the YMCA have been taken over by other groups, such as the Division of Student Services, the All Faith's Chapel and the Recreational Sports Department, Mendoza said.

Celebration of the centennial will begin Friday with a reception in 205 and 206 MSC for former and current Student 'Y' members. Student leaders are invited to attend the event, Mendoza said.

Saturday at 9 a.m. the organization will dedicate a plaque to founders of the YMCA in the name of J. Gordon Gay, former Student YMCA secretary and founder of A&M Fish Camp.

"Mr. Gay was ahead of his time," Mendoza said. "According to his son, he provided support services for minority students during a time when blacks didn't have many privileges."

Saturday at 7 p.m. the Student 'Y' will hold a banquet in 201 MSC. The keynote speaker is Norris Lineweaver, vice president of the Management Resource Center of the south Texas cluster of YMCAs.

In addition to Lineweaver's address on a commitment to lead, Rachel Boatright, editor for A&M's Student 'Y'-Centennial publication, will present an overview of the history of A&M's Student 'Y'.