

Soviets demand elimination of total Communist control

MOSCOW (AP) — Communist maverick Boris N. Yeltsin and progressive activists said Thursday the party's decision to renounce its legal claim on power is not enough to end Soviet political repression and centralized control.

"It is necessary to eliminate (Communist) party organizations in the army, the police, the KGB, the courts, in all the state institutions," said Yuri Mityunov, a spokesman for one would-be opposition party, the Democratic Union.

Yeltsin was the sole member of the party's policy-making Central Committee to oppose the political reforms Wednesday. He said they failed to go far enough.

"I had grounds to vote against," he said in an interview in his office near the Kremlin. "But I think, however, that the platform represents if not a step then a half-step forward, and that lessens the tension before the (party) Congress."

He recommended the formation of a second party if the Communist Party fails to excise conservatives at the Congress to be held in early summer.

Yeltsin was a keynote speaker at the largest pro-democracy rally in decades at the foot of Red Square last Sunday. Several hundred thousand people rallied and demanded the party abandon its guaranteed leading role in Soviet society.

At the Central Committee meeting that ended Wednesday, the party did just that, approving President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's party platform that calls for revoking the party's constitutional guarantee in favor of a multiparty system where Communists would have to compete for power.

"The discussion was very hot," Yeltsin

said, gesturing expansively before departing to take the political temperature among activists in Leningrad. "The proposals were diametrically opposed. It was not easy."

Mityunov said pressure for reform is now moving to the streets and pointed to the growing number of incidents of angry crowds across the Soviet Union demanding the ouster of hard-line local Communist leaders.

Party secretaries in Volgograd, Tyumen, Chernigov and Sverdlovsk were removed in recent weeks, and activists said 6,000 people gathered in front of the party headquarters in Donetsk on Wednesday with a similar demand.

Reformers in Saratov plan to rally Sunday to demand removal of their party leaders.

Voter registration will end Monday

The last day to register to vote in the March 13 primary election is Monday.

To register, a voter registration must be completed and received by the tax assessor's office by 5 p.m.

Applications are available at the tax assessor's office in the county courthouse on Texas Avenue and E. 26th Street in Bryan, the Democratic Party of Brazos County headquarters in Greenfield Plaza in Bryan, and the Republican Party of Brazos County headquarters on Harvey Road in the Woodstone Shopping Center in College Station.

Applications also are available from a College Republicans table in the Commons today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and at Sbis Monday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On the application, a Brazos County address must go in the space for the permanent residence address. This address must be an actual residence, not a post office box. Other information needed for the application includes a Social Security number, birthdate and birthplace.

Absentee polling will be available from Feb. 21 to March 9 at the Brazos County Courthouse. Additional absentee voting that may be available will be announced next week.

In the March 13 primary election, the offices that will be chosen include governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller and treasurer.

Speaker: Eastern Europe needs course in capitalism

By JULIE MYERS
Of The Battalion Staff

The new non-Communist governments in Eastern Europe must do in months what it took the West centuries to accomplish if they want to ride the train of global capitalism and prosperity into the 21st century.

Dr. Morgan Reynolds made that observation Thursday night at the Wiley Lecture Series-sponsored program, "The Phoenix Reborn: Will Free Market Economics Rejuvenate Eastern Europe?"

Reynolds said there is no semi-socialist route to a rational, consumer-responsive, efficient economic system.

"Eastern Europe needs shock therapy," Reynolds said. "They should institute private property, individual rights, sound money, the rule of law, and limited government. In a word, capitalism."

Some of Reynolds' specific policy suggestions include:

- privatizing state enterprises, housing, land, all farm assets, banking and credit.

- legalizing underground economic transactions.
- adopting an independent judiciary.
- reducing taxes to low uniform rates on production and consumption of national income.
- adopting a sound monetary policy using convertible money.
- attracting western investment with no restrictions.

"In sum, trust the people," Reynolds said. "The economy must be completely liberalized quickly. This will produce 'economic miracles' on the scale of the 1948 'German economic miracle' following World War II."

There is a substantial history of free enterprise and liberty in central and eastern Europe, Reynolds said.

Prior to World War II, Czechoslovakia was as vibrant, prosperous, sophisticated and productive as anywhere on the continent, Reynolds said. Forty years of social

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Moving mountains

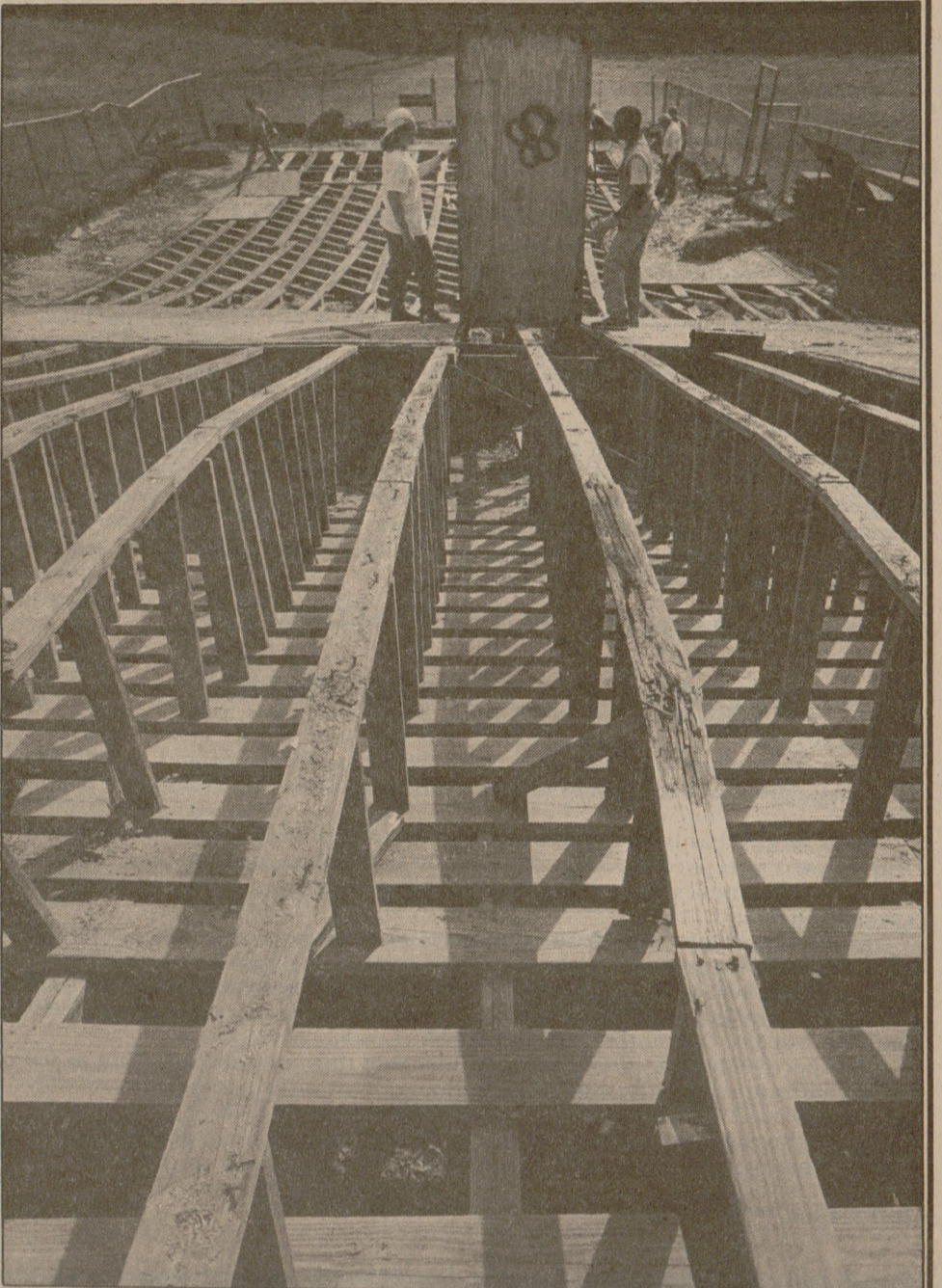


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack
Health and Physical Education Department employees Matt Shea and Johnnie Townsend, Jr. begin tearing down Mt. Aggie Thursday to make room for a new parking garage across from Rudder Tower.

'Out for blood' challenge draws to end today

Today is the last day to donate blood for the Texas A&M-University of Arkansas blood drive challenge sponsored by the American Red Cross.

Two bloodmobiles will be in front of Rudder Tower from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and beds are set up for donors at the Commons from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The winner of the Arkansas-A&M blood challenge will be determined on a percentage basis of the populations at the campuses since A&M has 25,000 more students than Arkansas.

Arkansas was leading the contest as of 5 p.m. Thursday.

Men's and women's residence halls at A&M, as well as on-campus organizations, Corps of Cadets dormitories and Greek organizations are vying to see which will donate the most blood. The winner from each category will receive a plaque from the Red Cross.

Donors can receive Domino's Pizza and free cups designed with Ol' Sarge and the words, "Aggies are out for blood for the Red Cross."

Eastern markets attract U.S. interest

By CHRIS VAUGHN
Of The Battalion Staff

With the sweeping reforms going on in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, an expert on foreign aid believes the United States will forget about Latin America.

David Black, a representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, said America will turn its economic power to the recently opened markets in Eastern Europe instead of helping its neighbors to the south.

"The U.S. is going to forget about Latin America for probably 10 years," Black said Wednesday after his speech to the MSC SCONA XXXV convention. "Latin America will be on the back burner until there is a major war or something drastic happens."

Black, who has worked with the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and in the 21-nation Organization of American States, delivered his speech about foreign aid to the Student Council on National Affairs.

The dismantling of the Communist party monopoly in Czechoslovakia, Poland, East Germany, Romania, and most recently, the Soviet Union has prompted the Defense Department to begin trimming its budget.

Black said more economic aid to Eastern bloc countries is possible now since the United States and other Western nations have a new market of skilled laborers, Black said.

The amount of money earmarked for foreign assistance to Latin American countries in Congress' 1990 fiscal budget, however, is not very much, Black said.

Congress has appropriated \$3.2 billion for foreign economic

assistance out of the \$14 billion allocated for foreign affairs, little of which will reach Latin America, he said.

"El Salvador receives the lion's share of that money for Latin America, too," he said.

Black said rebuilding must occur very soon in Panama or the Panamanians support for the invasion, however necessary, will sour.

President George Bush said last month that the United States will provide Panama with \$1 billion in assistance to rebuild its shattered economy as a result of the invasion. Conservative figures, however, estimate the damage to be \$2.2 billion.

Black said the United States is likely to ignore Latin America until the countries lower their huge debts to other nations.

Black said foreign economic assistance is important to the United States, even though he said it is unpopular with most Americans.

"For every dollar we send to Latin America, the public sees that as a dollar less that we're spending on our own social programs," he said. "But, fortunately, our congressmen know that foreign assistance ultimately helps us."

When Latin American countries receive assistance, they are more willing to buy U.S. goods and more willing to support the policies of the United States government, Black said.

Black said the American government will have to form a long-range foreign policy plan in order for its foreign aid programs to work correctly.

"Foreign aid is a function of foreign policy," he said. "Unfortunately, our country does not have a coherent long-range foreign policy plan. It is long past time the U.S. developed one instead of reacting to events as they happen."

Off-campus dorm offers alternative in student housing

By NADJA SABAWALA
Of The Battalion Staff
PART 3 OF A 3-PART SERIES

For A&M students wanting an alternative to dormitory and apartment living, University Tower could be the answer.

At the corner of University Drive and Texas Avenue, University Tower is a privately owned building serving as a residence tower, hotel and conference center.

Owner Leonard Ross said he believes students choose to live at the tower because services and amenities offered there are unavailable in either dormitories or apartments.

"We help the University with their housing shortage and we give the students an alternative," Ross said.

Jeff Simmons, a freshman economics

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Expert: 'Killer bees' will swarm into Texas, misconceptions

By BILL HETHCOCK
Of The Battalion Staff

The sky is full of deadly insects that block out the summer sun. The flying attackers search for unsuspecting prey, descending in swarming, stinging assaults of victims who struggle, shriek and swat at the lethal pests.

As the scene ends, a victim sinks to the ground, another casualty of "killer bees."

Fortunately for Texans, the arrival of the Africanized honey bee, popularly known as the "killer bee," will not be as dramatic as horror movies depict, Dr. John Thomas, Texas Agricultural Extension Service entomologist, said.

"They're not going to cause the kind of problems that a lot of people perceive, because they've seen too much TV or too many films about the killer bees," Thomas said. "They visualize these things as coming in great swarms and stinging anything that moves. That just doesn't happen."

The Africanized honey bees, expected to enter South Texas in 1990 or 1991, do not deserve the name "killer bees," Thomas said. However, behavioral studies of the insects show that when Africanized honey bees are disturbed at their hive, they will

sting 10 times as much as domestic honey bees, he said.

"These honey bees defend their colonies, so defensive is the more accurate adjective to describe the Africanized honey bee," he said. "It very actively defends its colony. If a predator or man appears to threaten that colony you'll have more of the bees attack and sting, and the bees will respond more quickly."

When Africanized bees are not protecting the hive, they are no more likely to sting than the domesticated European bees that are common in Texas now, Thomas said. Even if the Africanized bee does sting, a single sting from this bee is no more harmful than a common honey bee sting, he said.

"The venom of the Africanized honey bee is chemically identical to the European bee," Thomas said. "The Africanized bee is a wild tropical bee with a personality problem compared to the gentle, domestic European bee."

Thomas said he expects the number of deaths in Texas due to honey bee stings to increase to two or three people a year when

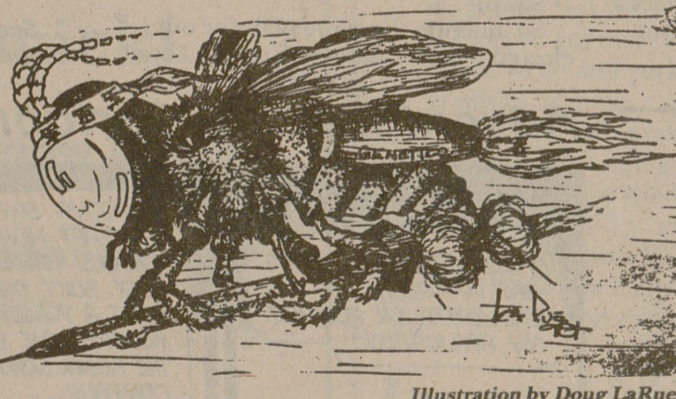


Illustration by Doug LaRue

the Africanized honey bees arrive. Texas now averages one bee-related death a year, he said.

The exact date of the bees' arrival in Texas depends on weather conditions and wildflower growth, which will attract the bees into South Texas, Thomas said.

Experts in the field have predicted the bees will reach the Rio Grande Valley in March 1990 at the earliest. Thomas said this is a conservative estimate of the arrival date.

"My bet is that we'll pick up the first

swarms in March, April or May of 1991, based on movement and knowledge of terrain in that area," he said.

The bees are expected to migrate north at a rate of 200 to 300 miles a year after crossing the Texas border, Thomas said. Their ability to adapt to different climates will determine how far north they will travel, he said.

Most problems with the Africanized bees will occur in urban areas, Thomas said. This is because there is a wider variety of flowers and plants from which bees collect pollen and nectar, and there are more places to set up colonies in cities, he said.

"Bees in a city have more resources and more places to set up housekeeping in all the human structures," he said. "Of course we don't like to think about this, because that's where there's a greater probability of the bees running into people. But that's where we're going to have most of our problems."

Thomas said a Texas Africanized honey

bee management plan has been developed to minimize the negative impacts of the bees, and to provide the public with accurate information.

"If you do encounter a swarm, and they perceive you to be a threat, get out of there," Thomas said. "You can outrun a bee. Get in a car, get in a house or zig zag through brush."

"Don't stand there and swat at them because they will recruit more bees from the colony. Africanized bees respond very quickly and in large numbers, and you can't win that battle."

Africanized honey bees are a cross between European and African races of the honey bee, Thomas said.

The bees were first crossed during breeding studies in Brazil in 1957, and have since spread throughout South and Central America and into Mexico.

The leading swarm of Africanized bees is now 150 miles south of Brownsville, Thomas said.