

Texas A&M

# The Battalion

Vol. 90 No. 96 USPS 045360 10 Pages

College Station, Texas

Monday, February 18, 1991

## 'Nothing to be lost by talking' but ...

### Bush promises air war will continue against Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration said Sunday that there was "nothing to be lost by talking" but vowed to continue the allied bombing campaign while the Soviets seek a diplomatic solution to the Persian Gulf War.

"We say no cease-fire, no pause, get out of Kuwait," said Secretary of State James A. Baker III.

President Bush, vacationing in Kennebunkport, Maine, told reporters, "We are determined to finish this job and do it right."

The administration reiterated its resolve as Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz headed to Moscow for talks aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the crisis. He is scheduled to meet Monday with Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Bush said he did not know what would come of the talks, but he said Gorbachev was "trying very hard to seek an end to this conflict."

"He knows very well that the ob-

jectives spelled out by the United Nations ... must be met in their entirety," Bush said.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said the only thing that could slow the allied military campaign was the start of an Iraqi pullout from Kuwait.

"The only thing we can really believe is action," Cheney said on ABC's "This Week With David Brinkley." "We have to see him withdraw from Kuwait."

"We have a certain tempo to our military operations now and ... we're not going to break that tempo unless it is clear that he is complying with the (U.N.) Security Council directive," said Bush's national security adviser, Brent Scowcroft.

Baker, interviewed on CNN's "Newsmaker Sunday," said the Soviets were welcome to seek a diplomatic solution, but he expressed no

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RICHARD S. JAMES/The Battalion

Students, faculty and Bryan-College Station residents march in Saturday's Operation Desert Support parade. Many of the marchers have family or friends in the Persian Gulf.

### Troop supporters participate in parade on A&M campus

By Jayme Blaschke  
The Battalion

More than 170 Bryan-College Station residents turned out on a chilly and rainy Saturday morning to participate in an Operation Desert Support parade and rally.

Singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" and holding signs that read "God Bless the U.S.A.," the crowd marched along the streets of Texas A&M to Simpson Drill Field, where several speakers addressed the crowd.

Retired Air Force Col. James Edwin Ray, Class of '64, told the crowd that troops in the Gulf are dependent on people at home for support.

Ray said he was shot down over Vietnam in 1966, captured and held prisoner by the North Vietnamese until 1973.

During that time, he was used as a "human shield" to protect military targets, much like the downed U.S.

pilots in Iraq.

"As much as we hate to send troops to war, there are times when such values as justice and the protection of the innocent must override peace," he said. "That's why I'm glad to see events like this, to let them know the job they're doing is appreciated."

Matt Hedding, one of the organizers of the parade, said Operation Desert Support was created to focus community support for soldiers in the Gulf.

"It looks like the war is going to continue, so we'll keep this organization up all semester," Hedding said. "Hopefully, it won't be needed much longer than that."

Becky Conner, a Bryan High School student, said the war concerns many high schoolers because of the possibility of escalation.

"Everyone's very supportive of

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JAY JANNER/The Battalion

### Dogs utilized in search for missing professor; come up empty-handed

By Timm Doolen  
The Battalion

The search for a missing Texas A&M professor in the Brazos River proved fruitless this weekend, despite the use of specially trained search dogs.

Brazos County Sheriff Ronnie Miller said Dr. Peter John Sharpe, 50, is still considered missing and the search will continue.

The bioengineering professor was last seen Jan. 24, the same day his van was found abandoned along the river near a bridge on Highway 21.

Miller said officers have searched around the bridge and 30 miles downstream, as far as Highway 105 near Navasota.

Four dogs from Children-Education Search and Rescue (CESAR) of North Richland Hills near Dallas covered about eight miles of river downstream from

the bridge Saturday and Sunday.

Tim Samsill, head of CESAR, said the dogs — two German shepherds, a bouvier and Labrador retriever — can smell body fluids.

Miller said the sheriff's department is not certain Sharpe's body is in the river.

"We're keeping an open mind," Miller said. "The door's always open something else happened, but the way everything points is that he's in the river."

He said at least eight men a day have been looking for Sharpe since his disappearance more than three weeks ago.

They have searched by boat, plane, helicopter and on foot, and have dragged several miles of the river.

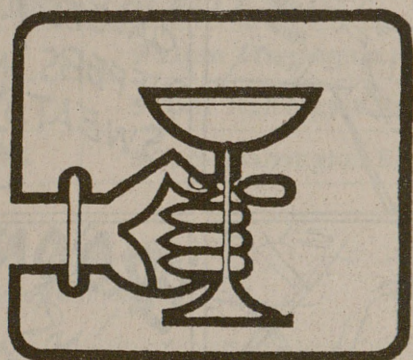
The dogs showed some signs of activity at a few points, but divers

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The search for A&M professor Dr. Peter John Sharpe, missing since Jan. 24, continued this past weekend, as divers from Montgomery County (top) and specially trained search dogs from Dallas (bottom) were employed by the Brazos County Sheriff's office. Both the dogs and the divers failed to turn up any clues to the bioengineering professor's disappearance.

## Brazos County complies with state DWI regulation

By Mike Luman  
The Battalion



A driving-while-intoxicated conviction in Brazos County means a permanent black mark on the offender's statewide record, but many Texas counties are letting repeat DWI offenders roam the state's highways unnoticed.

State law requires all 254 Texas counties to report DWI convictions to the Department of Public Safety in Austin.

The conviction goes on a motorist's permanent record. When a driver is stopped, a state trooper or local peace officer can retrieve the information from the DPS computer in minutes.

Robert Owen, Austin DPS assistant manager of driver improvement and control, says many counties report only a few DWI convictions per year and some do not report at all.

He says Brazos County regularly reports DWI convictions to Austin.

Ann Morris, a Brazos County deputy district clerk responsible for sending felony DWI convictions to Austin, says about 99 per-

cent of local DWI convictions are sent to DPS headquarters.

Barbara Johnson, a chief deputy with the county clerk's office, says her office sends all misdemeanor DWI convictions to Austin.

Brazos County Attorney Jim Kuboviak says a repeat DWI offender could be picked up in Bryan-College Station and treated as a first-time offender, if prior convictions never were reported.

"Theoretically, it could be a problem if other counties don't report," Kuboviak says. "It would stop the driver from getting higher punishment."

First and second DWI offenses are misdemeanors that carry fines and short mandatory jail terms. Third and subsequent offenses are felonies and carry larger fines and longer mandatory jail terms.

An Austin DPS official, on condition his name not be used, released the names of

some counties that "have problems reporting convictions."

Duval County in South Texas has not reported a DWI conviction since 1981, and Edwards County, also in South Texas, has reported only one DWI in 10 years, he says.

Other "problem" counties include Hemphill, Colorado, Kenedy, Glasscock, Borden, Crane, El Paso and Caldwell, he says.

Owen says reasons other than negligence contribute to lack of reporting in some counties.

Some counties, including El Paso, use a pretrial diversion plan, Owen says. Under the plan, DWI offenders can avoid a conviction by going through a counseling and probation program.

He says motorists can rack up several DWI "first" offenses by using a pretrial diversion system.

### Donations exceed goal of telethon

By Twila Waddy  
The Battalion

The Give Five Telethon Saturday raised more than 700,000 volunteer hours — more than double last year's total — for nonprofit and volunteer organizations in the Brazos Valley.

The telethon, sponsored by Texas A&M's KAMU-TV and co-sponsored by Post Oak Mall, asked community members to donate time instead of money, said Rod Zent, director of educational broadcast services at KAMU-TV.

This is the second year of the telethon. Last year 2,000 Brazos Valley residents pledged 348,000 hours.

This year's goal was 2,500 individuals and 450,000 hours of donations, but the results far exceeded expectations.

"There was a lot more awareness of the campaign this year since it was the second year and more people got involved," Zent said.

Donations were phoned into the KAMU studio or given at the mall at one of the 20 different booths representing the organizations.

Some of the organizations included the American Heart Association, Boy Scouts, Brazos Beautiful, Brazos Valley Head Start Program, Girl Scouts, March of Dimes, MADD and Twin City Mission, Inc.

"We identified 20 organizations that we featured in the telethon, but we try to raise hours for any organization," he said.

People were asked to donate five hours a week, but organizations accepted any amount of time. The lowest amount of time donated was one hour a week, Zent said.

"There were a lot of people, different groups out trying to gather hours before hand," he said. "And there are still people bringing in pledges."

Zent said names of people who donated time will be sent to the organizations they volunteered for and that organization will contact them.

Different bands and groups provided entertainment and increased people's awareness, Zent said.

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### BATTIPS

Anyone with story suggestions can call BATTIPS, The Battalion's phone line designed to improve communication between the newspaper and its readers.

The BATTIPS number is 845-3313.

Ideas can include news stories, feature ideas and personality profiles of interesting people.