

'Neutron bombs tested by army'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The U.S. military has test-exploded at least one of the top-secret neutron bombs involved in a new ban-the-bomb controversy, expert sources disclosed yesterday.

The sources said one or more of the controversial "people killer" radiation bombs have been exploded underground, probably within the past year, at the Nevada desert testing site.

At the Pentagon, a small group of neutron bomb protesters flung vials of their own blood against entranceway pillars early yesterday in a demonstration reminiscent of the Vietnam era draft protests. Police arrested four persons for damaging government property.

Sensitive to the political turmoil developing around the bomb issue, Washington officials refused to confirm or deny the reports that the weapon already has been tested underground.

They would say only that it is obvious that any experimental bomb undergoes such tests.

Word of the test came from sources close to the U.S. nuclear weapons testing program in Nevada, who said the blast — or blasts — were carried out in underground test caverns some 70 miles north of Las Vegas.

"The neutron bomb has been tested at the Nevada Test site, and probably within the past year," one expert source said. He declined to say whether there had been more than one test, or when the program started.

The neutron bomb is designed to kill people by intensive radiation, while doing only about one-tenth the blast or heat damage of other tactical nuclear weapons.

The effect would be to obliterate nearly all human life within a half mile radius of ground zero while minimizing harm to buildings, vehicles and other property.

Just before Congress adjourned for a 10-day holiday last Friday, senators who denounced the bomb as "repugnant" tried and failed to get all its production pillars eliminated from the public works bill in which they had been hidden. The House had passed the same bill apparently without noticing the bomb funds.

The anti-bomb senators have promised to renew the battle when Congress reconvenes Monday, but their opponents appear to have the voting strength to preserve the production funds.

The White House said Wednesday that President Carter will decide next month whether to use those funds and add the neutron bomb to U.S. arsenals.

Opponents argue the neutron bomb, designed for use in artillery shells and on short-range missiles, would increase the risk of battlefield skirmishes escalating into full-scale nuclear war.

Proponents say the weapon is needed to offset the superior field strength of Soviet bloc armies, and that it limits devastation to the intended target area much more effectively than regular nuclear field weapons.



Photos by Sally Hunter
A University workman installs part of the new restroom facility in Old Main yesterday. The restroom is in the University Provost's office and is part of a long-range improvement plan for Old Main, Ralph Zilly, vice president for business, said.



Toilet added to Old Main office

What flushes and costs a lot of money? An expensive hunting dog wouldn't be a bad guess, but the right answer to this riddle could be a new bathroom being installed in the University Provost's office in Old Main.

An anonymous caller, who identified himself as a University Maintenance and Operations worker, told The Daily Collegian about the bathroom and its cost yesterday afternoon.

A worker installing the pipes later estimated the cost to be at least \$10,000.

One Maintenance and Operations worker labelled the project "outrageous." Ralph Zilly, University vice president for business, said that the new bathroom is part of a long-range project for improvement of Old Main.

Funding for some of the improvements will come in part from the Penn State Alumni Association, Zilly said.

Zilly said he didn't know if the bathroom will be paid for through the alumni fund.

E.D. Frost, a local contractor, said, "It does not surprise me that it could run that high."

The bathroom will be on the second floor of Old Main along with a new office to be constructed from a storage room.

Anita H. Thies, of the Office of Public Information, said the workers might have confused the total cost of the new office and the bathroom with just the cost of the bathroom.

— by Bob Frick

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Pa. program cutbacks predicted

Shapp continues tax campaign

HARRISBURG (AP) — A campaign by Gov. Shapp and legislative leaders for new taxes is dying hard despite rank and file vows to shoot down any conference committee report that calls for a tax increase.

Shapp mailed a personal appeal for new taxes yesterday to each of the state's 253 lawmakers.

"It will be virtually impossible for government to provide the services which we were elected to provide without new taxes to fund government programs," Shapp wrote.

The governor said it is shortsighted to layoff thousands of state employees, who will only draw unemployment and possibly welfare payments anyway.

"In the meantime, the public will not be getting any services from the expenditure of these taxpayer dollars," Shapp said.

People are going to be hurt if day care, education, training, health, police, transportation and other programs are cut, he said.

Shapp said it's understandable for people to object to higher taxes. But he said Pennsylvanians already bear a comparatively light tax load. It's the eighth lowest of the 11 major industrial states and 22nd of the 50 states.

Shapp said he will have a better idea next week of what specific programs will be cut. He plans to review the cur-

State proposal could raise tuition

By LAURA SHEMICK
Collegian Staff Writer

A new state budget proposal that could slash \$9 million from the University's recommended appropriation would force another tuition increase this year, University President John W. Oswald said yesterday.

If a \$9 million decrease were to be absorbed solely through a tuition increase, students would pay about \$160 more per year than they pay now.

The proposal, made Wednesday by House Democratic floor leader James Manderino, cuts PSU funding from Gov. Shapp's recommended \$109 million to \$100 million. Gov. Shapp's recommended appropriation is three per cent over last year's \$106 million appropriation.

The budget proposal, one of four being considered by a joint House-Senate budget committee, calls for no new taxes and trims \$75 million from an earlier proposal. The first proposal would cut

five per cent from all government agencies and would hold other programs to 1976-77 spending levels.

J. Doyle Corman, Republican state senator from the 34th District, could not be reached for comment regarding the budget proposal.

Frederick M. Ciletti, special assistant to President Oswald for governmental affairs, said he is planning to line up supporters of a tax increase in Harrisburg on Monday.

"I've never seen the mood of the legislators so much against a tax increase, though," he said. "But I'm not totally pessimistic yet. Something good might happen, but it'll be later rather than sooner."

Ciletti said the problem with the budget was the proposed Philadelphia school subsidy.

"Geographical differences are at issue here," he said. Philadelphia legislators are trying to get a big subsidy for Philadelphia schools and they will not

compromise with legislators from other areas of the state, Ciletti said.

Penn State Budget Officer Chalmers Norris had no comment on possible consequences for Penn State Teamster Union contract negotiations or possible changes in the University's budget should the no-tax state budget pass.

Oswald said the University could no longer provide assurance against "serious layoffs of personnel" in all categories if the proposed budget were adopted.

"No longer could we assure students that programs and courses they planned will be available," Oswald said.

"Another round of devastating program cutbacks would also be required."

Oswald also expressed the hope that alumni, friends and students would contact their legislators to urge the restoration of the Governor's initial appropriation recommendation of \$109 million.

IN EDITION

You can lead a man to questions but . . .

This month's winner of the "Leading Question of the Month Award" goes to Congressman Joe Ammerman.

Ammerman recently sent a questionnaire to his constituents with such searching questions as:

"Should the government be doing more to bring down the unemployment rate?" Yes or No?

"Should we do more to conserve energy?" Yes or No?

And, "Should we discourage the production and sale of gas guzzling vehicles?" Yes or No?

Considering the nature of the questions and the cost of the forms, we have a question for Rep. Ammerman.

"Should congressmen be permitted to mail questionnaires like this to taxpayers' expense?" Yes or No?

The fact of the matter is . . .

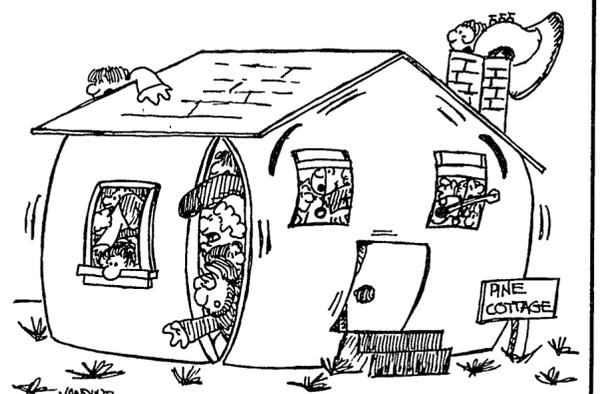
Just for your information, the University publishes a small, pocket-size pamphlet called FACTS.

FACTS is crammed full of facts (what else?) about Penn State. For example:

- Behrend College in Erie offers 11 four-year programs.
- The University granted 465 doctoral degrees during 1975-1976.

— The University expenditure during the 1975-1976 school year totaled \$321 million. Tuition supplied 21 per cent of that. (Felt like more though, didn't it?)

FACTS does miss a few important facts. For instance: How many toilets are there on campus? Where does John Oswald get his hair cut? How many squirrels are there on campus? Who needs a book of facts?



Taking the show on the road

Right above the Schwab Auditorium main entrance is a big sign that reads: "Artists Series has moved to Pine Cottage."

Now you can't fool us. Those folks over at the Artists Series sell a lot of tickets so there is no way that they could possibly fit an entire audience into Pine Cottage.

Not only could you not fit an audience into Pine Cottage, the entire Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra would be somewhat cramped and the Vienna choir boys won't all fit into one room.

Maybe it would be a better idea if the Artists Series just moved their administrative offices to Pine Cottage.

Unless, of course, that's what you meant all along . . .

Sometimes a great love potion

For any of you guys that have gone through the agony of trying to pick up a girl at a frat party, be gratified to know that the same frustrating feeling has been harnessed by science in order to combat gypsy moths.

Yes, scientists have developed an anti-love potion that when sprayed over moth infested areas confuses the male caterpillars. The potion is a concentration of synthetic hormones similar to those used by the female caterpillar to attract the male.

When an area is sprayed, the male gets the idea that the place is just crawling with willing females. He spends the next seven days (his entire life) romping around trying to find one or more of those willing females.

After about seven days, the caterpillars die (because of old age or acute frustration, whichever comes first), having spent their entire life doing little else than looking.

For all you lady gypsy moths, maybe you can form a bridge club or something to pass the time.

Weather

An improvement for the weekend is foreseen. Partly sunny, warm and humid with a chance of thunder showers today, high 85. Fair with slightly lower humidities and temperatures tonight and tomorrow, low tonight 63 and the high tomorrow 83. Continued fair and warm Sunday.

Nurses get wage hike at Hershey

HERSHEY, Pa. (AP) — Nurses at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center of the University agreed to a new wage package yesterday and averted a threatened strike, a union official said.

The new package, required under a wage reopener clause in the existing two-year contract, gives the 300 members of the Pennsylvania Nurses Association a 6.3 per cent wage increase, union spokesman Richard Stober said.

The nurses voted to approve the package yesterday but Stober declined to release the vote margin.

In addition to the wage increase, Stober said the center agreed to give the nurses every other weekend off.

The contract also contains benefits such as maternity leave and shift differential for part time nurses.

On June 30, the nurses association rejected an offer from the medical center and said it would strike at 7 yesterday morning unless agreement was reached.

Conn. prison fire kills 5 inmates

DANBURY, Conn. (UPI) — Flames and heavy smoke, shooting through an overcrowded cellblock "like a blowtorch," killed five screaming prisoners at the federal prison here early yesterday.

A young woman guard, acting against orders, unlocked a door to free inmates and save an untold number of lives.

Danbury Hospital officials identified the dead inmates as Roger H. Ware, 27, Robert L. Moore, 33, Anthony Johnson, 28, Donnell Proctor, 32, and Holiday Henderson, age unknown.

Fire officials believed a prison arsonist set the blaze, which injured 62 other persons. Most suffered smoke inhalation.

Hospital officials said 13 inmates, a fireman and one guard remained hospitalized. Five inmates are listed in critical condition and eight in stable condition. The guard and fireman are also listed in stable condition.

"You could hear people screaming to get them out," said Police Sgt. Robert Lovell. "There were open flames showing at the rear of the building. There was yelling and screaming when we got there. At least 18 people were trapped in the cell block area."

Prisoners helped fight the fire.

Inmate Bernard Hill said he and another prisoner used a fire extinguisher but it was ineffectual. He said flames shot out of a washroom "like a blowtorch. The smoke was so bad you couldn't even see your hand in front of your face. All I could feel was people lying on the floor."

Hill said prison officials knew there was a fire in the dormitory, but would not open the door. "If they had been responsible, a lot of lives could have been saved," he said.

Danbury Fire Marshal Fred Tomaino said the blaze at the Federal Correctional Institution, which produced heavy and toxic smoke from fiberglass paneling, began at about 1:30 a.m. in the washroom area where inmates keep their work clothes. Asked if the fire was set, Tomaino said, "We believe it was."

Inmates said a young guard they identified as Deborah Richardson went against orders and opened a door to the compound, allowing the trapped prisoners to flee. None of the inmates tried to escape.

She refused comment when approached in the prison parking lot.

"They have told us not to make any comments. If I talk, I could lose my job," she said.

Many of the injured were released after treatment at Danbury Hospital, but five remained on the critical list. Among the injured were a guard and a fireman, both of whom were released.

Inmates at the 40-year-old facility, known as a "country club" primarily because of its pleasant rural setting, said an unidentified guard "panicked" and jammed a key in a cellblock door, apparently while trying to unlock it. Officials said at a news conference a key was broken in a lock, but would not comment further.

Another official said a fire drill had not been held at the prison in the past six months, and said he did not know why 10 inmates trained to operate fire equipment were not used. Some members of that team said they were kept in their cells and were unable to reach a fire engine.

George Marchman, a member of the inmate fire crew, said the group was not permitted to leave another dormitory during the blaze.

"We had to stand there and watch prisoners screaming and burning," he said. Marchman said the prison has a new fire truck that was not used.

But other prisoners were able to join the fight to free the trapped.

"The inmates did a terrific job. If it weren't for them, we would have lost a lot more," said Anthony Young, a deputy to vacationing Warden George Wilkerson.