



Associated Press

Texas welcome

King Hussein of Jordan arrives in Houston Monday for a 4-day visit and was greeted by his daughter-in-law, Princess

Firyam (right), Houston Chamber of Commerce president Louie Welch (left), and a Marine honor guard.

B-1 a 'flying Edsel,' critic says

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The B-1 bomber President Reagan wants to build as the temporary mainstay of the U.S. strategic air arm would be a "S40-billion flying Edsel," Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said Monday.

But Sen. Jake Garn, R-Utah, said the plane is needed and its cancellation by former President Carter was "a tragic mistake" that has "more than doubled its cost."

Both Leahy and Garn are members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which must screen the \$20.9 billion the administration

"The B-1 bomber will be obsolete before it is deployed."

— Sen. Pat Leahy

proposes to spend on the B-1 in the current fiscal year.

Garn is a member of the subcommittee on defense, which began working on the military budget Monday. Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, subcommittee chairman, is against reviving the B-1.

Leahy made his comments in a news release that was distributed along with copies of a letter from Alice Rivlin, director of the Congressional Budget Office, estimating the cost of the proposed 100 B-1s at \$39.8 billion.

Leahy was not present. He was thrown from a horse Sunday and is expected to be hospitalized for about a week.

The Air Force has estimated the cost of the B-1s at \$19.7 billion. The estimate does not take the rate of inflation into account. The budget office estimate does include the rate of inflation and a number of potential additions to the airplane.

"Unfortunately, we cannot pay for the B-1 with last year's dollars or build it without full equipment," Leahy said.

"The B-1 bomber will be obsolete before it is deployed," he said. "I do not believe we can afford a \$40-billion flying Edsel."

Garn supported the administration's argument that the B-1 is needed until an airplane capable of eluding radar, known as Stealth, is developed.

"There is no Stealth airplane," Garn said. "The existence of Stealth was leaked last year for political purposes in the middle of a campaign."

Misty-eyed Brady visits redecorated pressroom

By Carl P. Leubsdorf
Washington Bureau of The News

WASHINGTON — President Reagan played before a packed house in the refurbished White House pressroom Monday. But the crowds were not there for him.

They came to see press secretary Jim Brady during his first visit to the pressroom since he suffered near-fatal brain injuries when shot during the March 30 attempt on Reagan's life.

The brief ceremony was an emotional moment for White House staff members and reporters. Few people had seen Brady since the rainy March day when he suffered wounds so serious it was not expected he would live out the day, much less ever return to the White House.

Although the repainted, redesigned room had been decorated with red, white and blue ribbons and flowers to give the occasion a festive air, Brady's condition — he still is confined to a wheelchair and talks in a high-pitched voice — added a poignant note.

Nevertheless, Brady showed he retains the wit that made him popular among reporters.

"We miss you, Jim," Helen Thomas of United Press International said.

"I miss you," Brady said, paused a moment and then said, "I miss most of you."

Earlier, Reagan, noting the pressroom is on top of the old White House swimming pool, said, "It isn't true, however, that the floor has been hinged," and Brady quipped, "Yes it is."

The once-ebullient press secretary was notably subdued and somewhat misty-eyed in what was intended to be — as much as anything — therapy for him. But he gave a thumbs-up sign as he was wheeled in and told the reporters, photographers and technicians, "It's nice to be back. Hello, good friends."

Later he joined Reagan in cutting a red, white and blue ribbon extending from the podium and then delivered several brief greetings to the assembled news corps. "I'll come back," he said.

"Jim, we're all waiting for the day that you're back for good," Reagan said. Cheers from the reporters drowned out Brady's comment, but, bending to hear him, the president reported, "He says he is, too."

The oft-repeated promise that his job awaits him is considered important therapy for Brady. But it was obvious Monday his full-time return is nowhere near.



Associated Press

First lady Nancy Reagan hugs press secretary Jim Brady.

Countdown for Columbia to commence

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Space officials gave the go-ahead Monday for a second, abbreviated countdown to begin Tuesday morning for the space shuttle Columbia.

The clock is to start at 7 a.m. CST for a 6:30 a.m. Thursday launch of the first spaceship to attempt a repeat trip into orbit.

The first count was interrupted Wednesday at 31 seconds before liftoff when filters in two of three auxiliary power units became clogged.

The units have been cleaned, the spacecraft checked and astronauts Joe Engle and Richard Truly are ready to try again. They will fly to the Cape Tuesday from the training base at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Weather, as it did last week, seems to be touch and go, with a storm front traveling toward Cape Canaveral. Light, intermittent rain was forecast for Thursday morning.

"Right now, they're saying the weather should be OK for launch," space agency spokesman Mark Hess said. "That front is expected to

See COUNTDOWN on Page 10A.

D/FW passenger load jumps 10.7%

By Michael Weiss
Staff Writer of The News

Despite the air traffic controllers' strike, which has curtailed airline schedules and decreased nationwide air travel, officials of Dallas/Fort Worth Airport reported Monday a 10.7 percent jump in passenger traffic during August.

An even higher boost is expected when September results are calculated, officials said.

Slightly more than 2.1 million passenger arrivals and departures

were reported in August, compared with about 1.95 million during August 1980, officials said.

Increases were noted in domestic and international travel and in the volume of air cargo shipments.

D/FW spokesman Jim Street said preliminary figures for September will show passenger levels up nearly 16 percent from September 1980. Departures and arrivals are expected to up 8 percent for the first nine months of 1981, he said.

National statistics, released by the Air Transport Association, a

trade organization, indicate a 0.2 percent decline in passenger traffic during September and a 5.1 rise for the first nine months of 1981. Air traffic controllers went on strike Aug. 3.

Street said the D/FW increase is due partly to flight increases undertaken by American Airlines, which has sought to develop its Dallas-Fort Worth operations into a national hub, which allows passengers to make connections at D/FW.

American added 11 destinations from D/FW in June, and boardings

during September rose to 413,000 in September 1981 from 244,000 a year before — a 69 percent jump, American Airlines officials said.

Many passengers traveling on other airlines also are choosing to make connections at D/FW instead of other national hubs, such as Atlanta and Chicago, Street said.

The area economy also has benefited D/FW air traffic, he said. "You just have to talk about the economy of the town that has not been affected like everywhere else," Street said.

INSIDE

Bridge . . . 12A
Business Sec. D
Classified 10-31B
Comics . . . 9B
Crossword .10B
Editorials . 14A
Entertainment . . . Sec. C
Financial .Sec.D
Horoscope . 4C
Line 1 . . . 4C
Metropolitan 17A
Movies . . . 5C
Obituaries .10B
Scrabble . 12A
Television . . 7C
Texas & S'west 9A,23A
Viewpoints 15A

Fair

North Texas — Fair and slightly warmer through Wednesday. Highs Tuesday and Wednesday 61 to 68. Low Tuesday near 35. South Texas — Fair through Wednesday. Highs Tuesday and Wednesday in the 60s in the hill country to the mid-70s in the south.

More weather on Page 18A.