

briefs

from the wires of United Press International

Ford lifts grain embargo for chance at Soviet oil

WASHINGTON — President Ford announced Monday the United States and the Soviet Union have sealed a five-year agreement providing for U.S. grain sales to Russia but are still negotiating possible U.S. purchases of Soviet oil.

The grain agreement, negotiated in Moscow, provides for a minimum Soviet purchase of 6 million to 8 million tons a year over five years starting Oct. 1, 1976. Ford said it represents \$1 billion in annual export revenues.

The pact will also provide an escape clause for the United States should crop production fall short of need.

Ford also released a letter of intent with the Russians which says negotiations will resume this month for American purchase of 200,000 barrels a day of Soviet crude oil and petroleum products.

However, FEA Administrator Frank Zarb told reporters the crucial point is the price at which the oil will be sold and made it clear the United States wants favorable prices, presumably lower than the going world rate.

As a result of the grain agreement, Ford lifted an embargo on grain shipments to the Soviet Union that was placed in effect last August after the Russians had purchased 9.8 million tons of American wheat and corn.

GM says fuel gains will disappear

MILFORD, Mich. — At least part of the automobile fuel economy gains of the past two years will disappear by 1978 because of federally mandated clean air standards, a top General Motors Corp. executive warned Monday.

Howard Kehr, an executive vice president, said stiffer standards for 1977 cars would cause a fuel economy loss on individual models. But he said the firm's overall fuel economy average probably will increase slightly because GM will sell more small cars.

In the case of cars sold in California, already suffering a 10 per cent fuel economy loss compared with those in the other 49 states, Kehr said, the penalty could amount to as much as 20 per cent next year.

As for fuel economy penalties in 1978, he said, "It could be anywhere from going out of business to none because we simply don't know how to meet those standards."

"We need a technological breakthrough to meet the standards without the major fuel economy penalties that now seem inevitable," he said.

Kehr made the remarks at a news conference at the GM proving ground on the first anniversary of the catalytic converter, the small control device responsible for the fuel economy improvements.

Quarterly GNP rise best since 1955

WASHINGTON — Income tax rebates and easing inflation boosted the national economy this summer to its biggest quarterly gain in more than 20 years, the Commerce Department said Monday.

After falling for 15 months and leveling off in the second quarter, the real Gross National Product increased 11.2 per cent in the summer quarter. It was the best quarterly improvement since the 12.4 per cent increase in the first quarter of 1955.

GNP measures the dollar value of all the production of farms, factories, mines and utilities and the services of government employees, doctors, bank tellers, insurance salesmen, dry cleaners and other nonproduction workers.

The GNP gain occurred primarily because consumers dipped into savings buoyed by tax rebates and \$50 Social Security bonuses to buy durables such as cars and home appliances. Wealthy Americans and businesses increased investment spending by a stunning 18 per cent.

Assistant Commerce Secretary James Pate said the tax rebates contributed to a "substantial increase in consumer spending, especially in durable goods."

Pate said consumers banked the money at first, which sent the savings rate up to an unusually high 10.6 per cent in the second quarter. But they began spending — reflected in a dip in the savings rate to 7.7 per cent in the third quarter — when auto prices dropped and other sales bargains were offered.

SCAU to begin a comparison of local supermarket food prices

by Nancy Gooch
Staff Writer

A survey and comparison of food prices in nine Chapel Hill area supermarkets by the Student Consumer Action Union (SCAU) will begin in approximately two weeks. SCAU Special Projects Director Mike Locherby said Sunday.

The survey, called "Comparison Shopper," will compare every two weeks prices of frozen foods, produce, meat, fish and poultry, dairy products, processed fruits and vegetables, staples and miscellaneous prepared foods and will present consumers with a ranking to show which store is less expensive overall.

The survey will compare prices of individual store brands as well as brands that can be found in all the stores, Locherby said.

Stores to be surveyed are A&P at Airport Road, A&P at Eastgate, A&P in Carrboro,

Big Star, Byrd's (in Carrboro), Colonial Stores, Kroger, Winn-Dixie and Fowler's.

Locherby said store managers are not being notified of the survey although they may become aware of it through news stories and by seeing the surveyors.

The survey will be conducted by eight to 10 people who will record prices of 50 to 60 items at each store weekly. The prices will then be put into a computer which will rank the stores, Locherby said.

"We plan to post the printout in the Union or some other central location," Locherby said. The results may also be mimeographed and distributed.

SCAU plans to continue the survey for the rest of the year although SCAU faces a monetary problem in operating the computer. "Our budget allotted only \$30 for computer processing," Locherby said.

Plans for the survey have been met with enthusiasm. "We had good student response

when we advertised for people to help with the survey," Locherby said.

The Chapel Hill food stamp office has also asked for copies of the survey to distribute to their applicants, Locherby said.

The computer program for the survey was written by UNC law student David Matney. The survey will be coordinated by Susan Pringle, a freshman from Coral Gables, Fla.

Fraternity gets 'prank' bomb threat

A bomb threat early Monday morning at the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house on Cameron Avenue was probably a prank, Police Chief S.M. Hilliard said Monday.

An anonymous woman called the fraternity house around 12:15 a.m. Monday, said a bomb would go off in the house at 12:30 a.m. and hung up, Ed Peele, who answered the phone, said.

The woman also called to warn the police of the bomb at 12:14 a.m., Hilliard said. Police recorded the call, he said, but they do not know which call was made first.

Following the threat, the house was evacuated, and police searched for a bomb until 12:25 a.m., Hilliard said. Nothing happened at 12:30 a.m., and the fraternity members went back inside 10 minutes later, he said.

The call was evidently a hoax, Hilliard said. "Nothing was found and nothing went off. Usually they warn you a couple of hours before the bomb is to go off. She only gave us a few minutes."

The investigation is over because "there is nothing to investigate," Hilliard said.

20 firms to recruit next week

The following organizations will be recruiting on campus the week of Oct. 27-31 at the Career Planning and Placement Office, 211 Hanes Hall.

Monday, Oct. 28—Union Carbide Corporation; Ernst & Ernst; National Security Agency.

Wednesday, Oct. 29—Kelly-Springfield Tire Company; S.D. Leidesdorf & Company; Blue Bell, Inc.; Princeton University; Woodrow Wilson School of Public & International Affairs; Laventhol, Krekstein, Horwath & Horwath; American Hospital Supply Corporation; North Carolina National Bank.

Thursday, Oct. 30—American Hospital Supply Corporation; North Carolina National Bank; Arthur Young & Company; Wallace Business Forms; Harvard University; Graduate School of Business; Westvaco.

Friday, Oct. 31—University of Chicago. Information and assistance pertaining to summer and fulltime employers not represented by on-campus visits are also available at 211 Hanes Hall.

Students selected to visit Toronto

The following students have been selected to participate in the 1975-1976 Toronto Exchange: Marjie Boal, Bonnie Calvert, Anne Choquette, Ann Gerhardt, Susan Hurt, Martha Lee, Libby Lewis, Linda Little, Beth Maloy, Andell McCoy, Stewart Parker, Sheri Parks, Maryalice Quinn, Carol Steadman, Elizabeth Taylor, Marguerite Wonsley.

Nancy Zaytoun, Mark Allen, Jim Barbee, Hymie Bielsky, Ansel Boiter, Bill Bruton, Trent Chavis, Mike Cox, Bobby Crawford, Mark Davis, Ben Dean, Ray McAllister, Jimmy Jones, Jim McLean, Chris Moore, James Peace, Alan Perry and Mike Rogers.

WRITERS

The Daily Tar Heel needs two experienced news writers to serve as beat and general assignment reporters.

Applicants must have past newspaper or journalism experience and must have examples of their work. Students wishing to apply should contact News Editor Jim Roberts at the Daily Tar Heel for an appointment, 933-0245.

Correction

The prices listed in the Shoney's Seafood specials advertisements were incorrectly listed as \$2.25. The correct prices are \$2.55 for the seafood specials. We regret the error and apologize for any inconvenience caused to Shoney's or readers of the Daily Tar Heel.

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