

August 30, 1990

ORANGE: Mobile home park rents stay the same. Page 4.

GREENFIELD: 'Renegade' budget ruled 'just not legal.' Page 3.

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Greenfield, Massachusetts

This afternoon, sunny, mild, dry, 75 to 80. Tonight, clear skies, cool, low in 50s. Friday, mostly sunny, continued mild and dry, near 80. Details, Page 7.

Heather O'Donnell, Davis Street School

SINCE 1792

40 CENTS

Hostages may have to travel across desert

The Associated Press

Iraq has attached a price tag to the evacuation of Western women and children being used as hostages, announcing Wednesday that it will allow planes to pick them up only if the aircraft first fly food and medicine into the embargo-squeezed country.

If the West doesn't agree, Baghdad said, the evacuees would have to travel overland, most likely to Turkey, 370 miles north of the capital, said the diplomats, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Iraq's airspace is currently closed to all foreign carriers.

Iraq's leader, President Saddam Hussein, promised Tuesday that the thousands of Western women and children would be able to begin leaving the next day, but none have yet been able to start the journey.

Of the 21,000 Western hostages in Iraq and Kuwait, 3,000 are Americans, including about 1,000 women and children.

On Wednesday, Saddam also denied seeking a deal for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, rebutting reports that he had sent a message to President Bush offering a compromise. Iraq seized the oil-rich emirate on Aug. 2 and later annexed it.

In other developments:

- U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, heading for talks in Jordan with Iraq's foreign minister, said today he seeks to apply Security Council resolutions — not to negotiate what has been decided. The main resolution calls for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

"It is not my job, and I want to be very clear about it, to negotiate the resolutions," he said during a stop-over in Paris.

- Turkey said today that it had rejected an Iraqi request to resume food shipments for needy Iraqi children, saying it will adhere to the U.N.-ordered embargo on trade with Baghdad.

A U.S. diplomatic source confirmed reports that resistance fighters in Kuwait are receiving American logistical support and are being

See GULF Page 12

Warfare master on call for advice

The Los Angeles Times

JERUSALEM — Erwin Rommel, Heinz Guderian and George S. Patton Jr. were his military mentors. And like them, Maj. Gen. Avraham Adan became a master of armored warfare.

Rommel and Guderian were the chief architects of the German army's blitzkrieg tactics, which swept traditional armies out of their way during World War II. And Patton was the only Allied general they feared.

In the Arab-Israeli War of 1956, as a battalion commander, Adan directed a key battle in the Sinai Desert campaign that led to the breakthrough to the Suez Canal. In 1967, his brigade spearheaded the attack across the Sinai. And in 1973, he

commanded the tank division that crossed the Suez Canal and, racing south, encircled the 3rd Egyptian Army.

Adan — Israelis call him "Bren," after the British light machine gun he carried in the 1948-49 Israeli War of Independence — is 64 now, but he is still on call in case of war.

Short, wiry and reserved, he talked with a reporter the other day about the problems that American tank forces would face if they go to war with the Iraqis in the sands of the Arabian Peninsula.

The desert, he said, is neutral. It is up to the tank commanders to take advantage of the terrain.

"Remember that the desert is not as flat as it looks," he said. "There

See TANKS Page 12

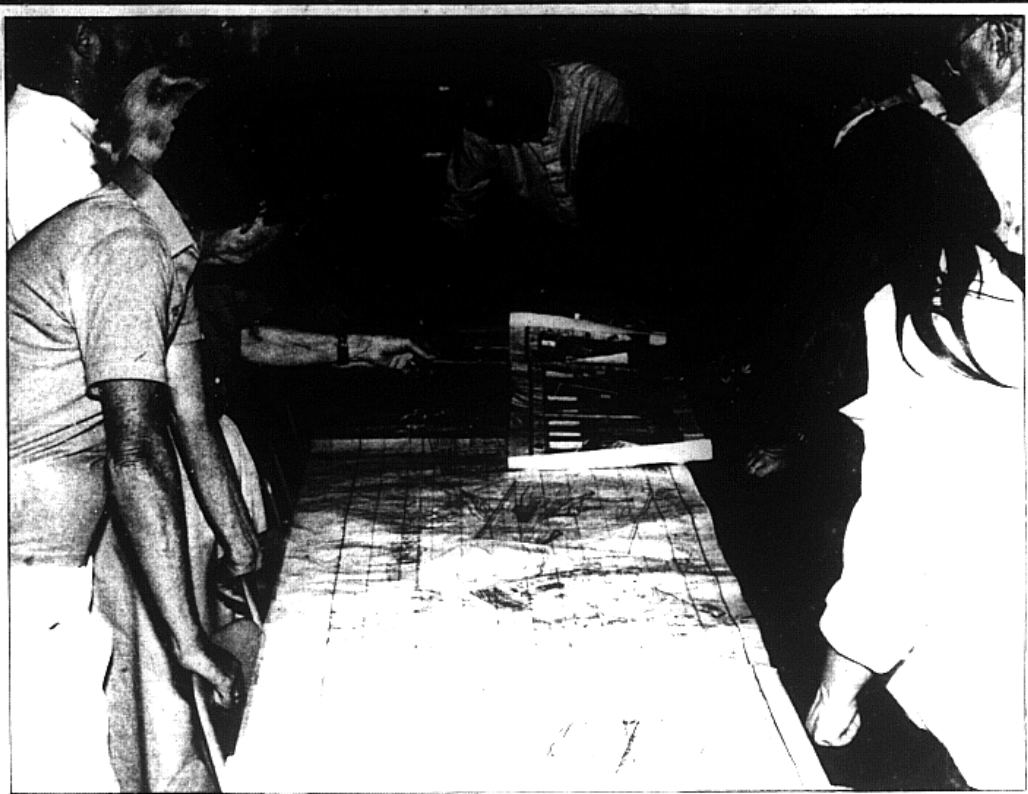
Patent claim could be worth millions

Combined sources

LOS ANGELES — This week's startling news that a heretofore unknown La Palma, Calif., engineer was awarded a broad-ranging U.S. patent for microprocessor technology has reopened the question of who actually invented

The answer, on which a market valued last year at \$7 billion potentially hinges, won't be easy and won't come quickly, patent attorneys, semiconductor company officials and market analysts said Wednesday.

And, they added, until the answer is determined — probably



Greenfield residents crowd around the revised plan for a mural on the Borofsky Building on Main Street

Mural seen as art and eyesore

Go Greenfield directors oppose the project

By MICHAEL TERAULT
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — Freedom of artistic expression bumped up against the desire to prevent what some feel would be an eyesore at a Wednesday night forum on a planned mural for the downtown.

Although no votes or polls were taken, it seemed that the audience of about 100 in the Greenfield High School cafeteria was evenly divided between those who oppose the mural planned for the Borofsky Block downtown and those who support the project or freedom of expression. The 2,400-square-foot mural is intended to provide a historical overview of Greenfield's history and heritage.

Meanwhile, the Go-Greenfield business organization has gone on record as being against the mural. A majority of the merchant group's board of directors do not wish to see "this particular mural in that particular location," said Marion Roman, the organization's downtown manager. She said the board was not against murals per

Law professor says a mural is not a sign

By MICHAEL TERAULT
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — A Springfield law professor who has studied the issue said Wednesday that murals are not signs.

While the town's attorney has yet to issue an opinion on whether a mural planned for downtown is technically a sign and subject to government control, Western New England College Professor Russ VerSteeg said his research turned up three court cases where judges ruled flatly "a work of art is not a sign."

Russ VerSteeg, a professor at Western New England College, said he "felt compelled" to attend Wednesday's mural forum after learning about the controversy in Greenfield.

VerSteeg said he has been preparing an article for submission to legal journals on law and public art.

If the mural planned for the east wall of the Borofsky Block is

See PROFESSOR Page 8

se, but worried how this one fit into the downtown design.

The artist, Janet Braun-Reinitz

of Brooklyn, N.Y., did not attend the forum because she thought people would feel more at liberty

to speak if the artist were not present, according to project coordinator Rebekka Tippens of Colrain.

"I think that one of the things this country has been founded on what we have fought for is the right to freedom of expression," J. Proujansky of 131 High St. said. "To me, that's the primary issue we as a community have to face, whether we as a community support the right for an individual artist to express himself."

"Every time we turn around, someone's talking about their rights. But the majority of the people in Greenfield don't want this mural," said Dorothy B. Yetter of 686 Bernardston Road, arguing that the right of the majority should be considered.

"Greenfield will not be my kind of town if a mural is painted on that wall," said Robert L. Cloutier of 266 Wisdom Way.

"To the gentleman who's opposed to any mural at all in Greenfield, maybe he should move to a different country," said Daria B. Fisk of 11 Park St., arguing that

See MURAL Page 8

Mural

From Page 1

this country protects the right to free expression.

Cloutier said he was concerned about traffic safety. People driving by on Main Street might become distracted by the mural and get into an accident, he said.

"You're supposed to be watching the car in front of you, not the signs on the side of the street or the pretty girl in the mini-skirt," Richard Westfall of 18 Valley View Drive said.

"I get the feeling there's a little narrow-mindedness here. Let's give it a try," Westfall said.

"I'm very much against it," said Eleanor L. Pierce of 6 Elm Terrace. "The garish colors and design would detract from the Veterans Mall, which is very, very important to many of us."

"It will remind many of the undesirable, inner-city graffiti spots," Pierce said.

Precinct 2 Councilor Bernard F. Prescott said a brightly colored mural would conflict with the idea of a memorial for "quiet observance" of the veterans' sacrifice.

"Are we going to be defeating part of what the community established here? ... I suspect many people feel that tradition should be maintained, along with the decorum that goes along with it," Prescott said. "If we put a mural like that next to every cemetery, what would be your reaction?"

Tippens thought the mural would complement the mood of the memorial. The memorial was there to commemorate Greenfield's war dead, while the mural would be there to commemorate "what has passed or is in danger of passing" in Greenfield, Tippens said.

As the memorial is "evocative," so, too, would be the mural, she said. It would strengthen the concept of the memorial as being a place to reflect, she said.

And in response to repeated comments from residents, Braun-Reintz has agreed to tone down the colors, Tippens added.

Town Council President Charles J. "Chuck" McCarthy said he did not see how the blank wall in its current condition, with rust stains, was being respectful to the veterans mall.

Stanley Parda of 504 Lamplack Road, a veteran, said that he rarely sees anyone at the Veterans Mall now. He suggested that painting a mural on the wall overlooking the mall might help to attract more people to the memorial.

Police Chief David F. McCarthy said he opposed the mural's location, facing the police station from the west. "I don't think there's one person in this room who's going to face this mural as much as I am. It's right on my front doorstep," McCarthy said.

He said that the downtown's current motif suggests "country living." He thought the mural would contradict that. "I see big-city crime coming to Greenfield. I don't want to see big-city graffiti coming to Greenfield, too. I know it's art. But to me, it's graffiti," McCarthy said.

Alice Jurcik of 42 Union St. said that many people in town resisted the sculpture on the Veterans Mall

when it was first proposed, but now people have grown accustomed to it. "Given a chance, art can grow on you," she said.

Ira S. Mitchell, owner of the Subway shop in the Borofsky Block, said that, legally speaking, there is no requirement for public input. The building is privately owned, and the owners — Joel Arstenstein and Keith Kaneta from towns in Hampshire County — have endorsed the mural, Mitchell said.

"They can paint their building purple. They can do what they want," Mitchell said. "It's a private building. Please keep that in mind."

"They think (the mural's) a positive addition to Greenfield. It'll give a little color and life to Greenfield. I also agree with them," Mitchell said.

"A few works of art in the town enhances the town, not detracts from it," said Fred Jurcik of 42 Union St.

"I think what this girl has done is obnoxious to the town of Greenfield," Planning Board member Marion Kelleher said, referring to Tippens. "I think they ought to start again."

A resident asked if there was any way for the town to hold a referendum on the mural. Town Manager Norman E. Thidemann said that because the mural was to be painted on private property, there was no legal way such a vote could be held.

But if the town attorney rules that the mural qualifies as a sign under the town's zoning code, then the mural's sponsors — Tippens's Institute for Cultural Understanding and the Traprock Peace Center in Deerfield — would have to get a special permit from the zoning board of appeals because of the mural's size, which would be larger than what is allowed for signs, Thidemann said.

Aside from that avenue, the town has no other regulatory jurisdiction over the mural, Thidemann said.

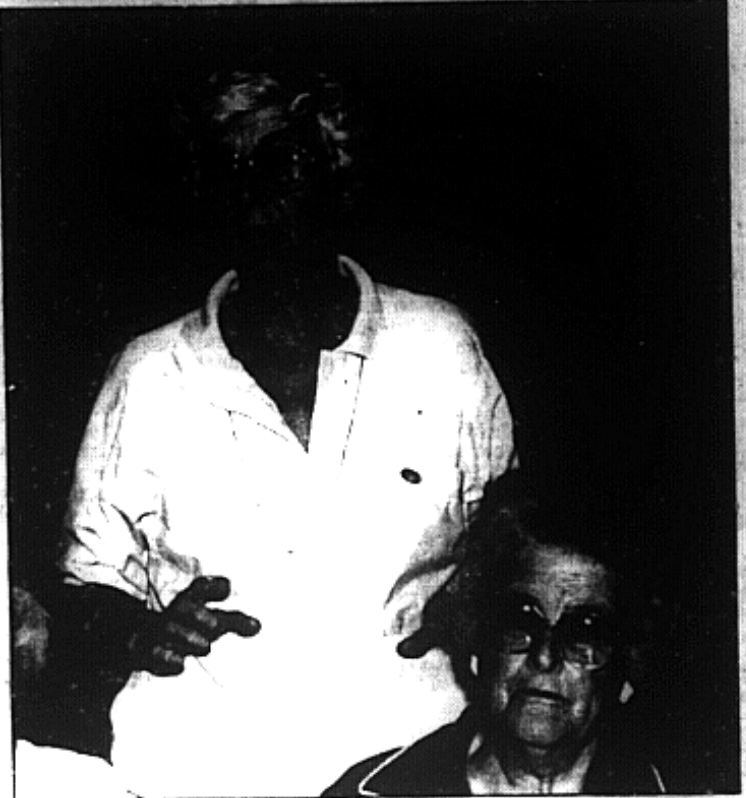
"The mural's going to go up, whether or not the people want it," said Peggy Johnson of 59 Pierce St.

Precinct 8 Councilor James A. Singiser Jr. said that since it is beginning to look like the mural project will proceed, townspeople should take a "positive approach." Rather than fighting the mural, they should offer suggestions so that the mural that is eventually painted will be more palatable to them, Singiser said.

Tippens said the artist is open to any suggested revisions.

Tippens said that the ideas and suggestions for the mural that were presented at the forum, along with the concerns and criticisms, would be relayed to Braun-Reintz in Brooklyn.

Tippens said she would not know what the status of the mural project is until talking with the artist. Because summer is nearly over, there might not be enough time to start and finish the mural before the cold weather sets in, unless the project gets started very soon, Tippens said.



Recorder/Peter MacDonald

Marion Kelleher of 60 Riddell St. in Greenfield voices her displeasure with the proposed mural Wednesday night.

Professor

From Page 1

found to be a sign, a special permit from the zoning board of appeals would be needed because the mural's size would exceed the size restrictions for signs spelled out in the town's bylaws.

Town Attorney Edward P. Smith has made an "off-the-cuff, informal" opinion saying the mural can be considered a sign, Town Manager Norman E. Thidemann said at the forum. Selectmen, most of whom oppose the mural, have directed Smith to research the issue and come up with a written legal opinion.

VerSteege told local residents that a group called the Latin American Advisory Council wanted to paint a

mural in a community in Illinois and ran into opposition from local officials. A federal court there later ruled that the opponents had "run afoul of the First Amendment, which simply forbids that kind of regulation (of public art)," VerSteege summarized.

He said he contacted Rebekka Tippens of Colrain, the coordinator of the mural project in Greenfield, after a student in his "Law and the Arts" class, a Greenfield resident, showed him newspaper articles about the mural issue.

Reading the news articles, he said he felt as though his legal article had "come to life."

Lewin trial postponed to study evidence

BOSTON — A Suffolk Superior Court Judge postponed the murder trial of Albert Lewin until Oct. 1 to give defense lawyers time to examine new fingerprint evidence that allegedly links Lewin to the fatal shooting of a Boston police detective. Jury selection in the trial, which is to take place in Greenfield, had been scheduled to start Sept. 10. The trial was moved to Franklin County due to widespread publicity in the Boston area.

The trial was scheduled to be held in Greenfield. "In fairness to the defendant, the request to continue this case, in the face of what the defendant is confronted with ... is not unreasonable," said Judge John J. Irwin during a hearing Wednesday.

Lewin is accused of firing a .45-caliber pistol through the door of an apartment in the city's Dorchester section during a drug raid in 1988, killing detective Sherman C. Griffiths.

Hotel Barre burns two days after closure

BARRE — Fire officials are investigating the blaze that destroyed the historic Hotel Barre two days after the 101-year-old, restored inn had been ordered closed by a bankruptcy officials.

"A business tragedy has become a human tragedy," said David M. Nickless a Fitchburg lawyer, who had been appointed trustee for the property on Monday. "The town has lost something that it had put its whole heart and soul into. The restoration of the hotel had become the rebirth of the town."