

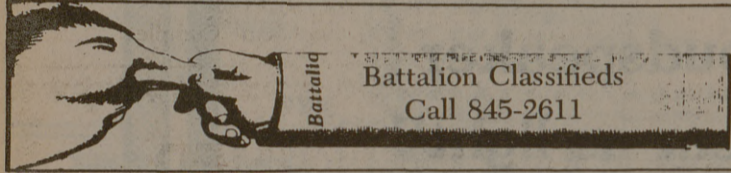
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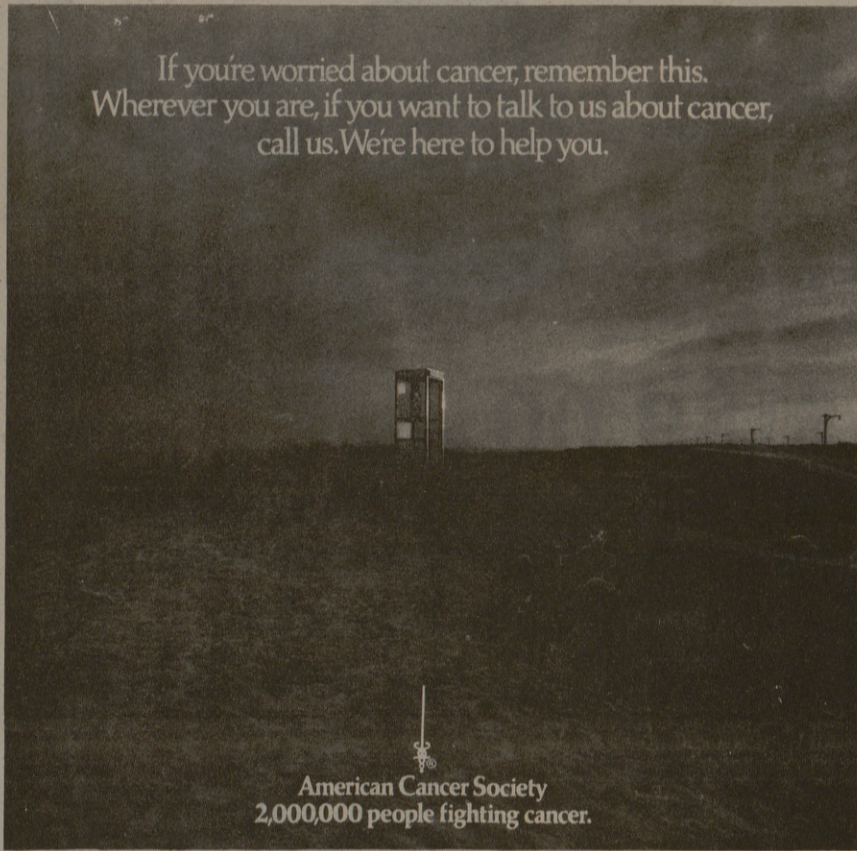
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# 2 charged in death of robbery suspect

**United Press International**  
KERRVILLE — A San Antonio man, 22, and his female companion were charged Tuesday with capital murder in a bizarre case involving kidnapping, rape, robbery and murder.

Ronald Johnson and Deliah Gonzalez, 18, were arrested late Monday near Sealy and are being held with-

out bond in connection with the death of Edward Higgason, 21, identified only as a transient, whose body was discovered early Tuesday in a creek bed east of town by Kerr County Sheriff Paul Fields.

Higgason was suspected of being involved in the rape and robbery of a San Antonio woman who was en route to Kerrville late Monday, authorities said.

The woman was forced into her car by two men at a roadside stop on Interstate 10, about 8 miles southeast of Kerrville, Fields said.

Fields said the woman was robbed of her money and jewelry, and a female accomplice, waiting in a nearby car, returned to Kerrville at that point.

The two men drove the woman's car toward Kerrville and along the way, said Fields, they "leisurely raped her."

After the rape, Fields said an argument apparently erupted between

the two men and one "smoked his partner and left him in the creek bed."

The remaining suspect and the woman continued to Kerrville where they were joined by the female accomplice, Fields said. The trio left for Houston in the kidnapped woman's car, apparently intending to hold her for ransom, he said.

The San Antonio woman escaped at a rest stop near Flatonia, Fields said, and managed to alert someone nearby who called the authorities.

Fields said his office was contacted about the kidnapping and put out a bulletin on the woman's car. A short time later, Johnson and Gonzalez were arrested at Sealy and taken to the Austin County Jail at Bellville.

Following the arrest of the pair, Fields said, his department was able to determine where the shooting occurred. He said a .44 magnum pistol, believed to be the murder weapon, was recovered.

Assistant District Attorney Stephens Ables of the 198th district, said Tuesday authorities had not linked the crime spree to the March deaths of two San Antonio men found slain near an Interstate 10 roadside park.

The bodies of Robert Skinner, 21, an Abilene Christian University student, and Clifton P. Yates, were found hours apart on March 24. Skinner had been dead about a week, but Yates apparently died the day his body was found, authorities said.

## Supersonics suspended

**United Press International**  
GRAPEVINE — A 121 percent increase in the cost of jet fuel since January 1979 has forced suspension of Concorde flights from Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport to Europe as of June 1.

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# Smugglers, robber convicted; tug probe

**United Press International**  
CALVESTON — Four men have been convicted by a federal court jury of various roles in the smuggling of 100,000 pounds of marijuana into a Surfside marina.

Barry Phinous Stockton, 52, of Pearl, Miss.; Danny Sherman, 22, of Richland, Miss.; Edward Beeton, 31, of St. Louis, and Jeffrey Saragosey, 30, of New York, were convicted Monday. Albert Arnold Berry, 50, of Cayman Islands, was cleared.

Stockton was convicted of one conspiracy to smuggle charge. Beeton, Saragosey and Sherman each was convicted of one count of possession and one count of conspiracy.

Officers seized the marijuana-laden offshore oil industry supply boat Mr. Jake, five tractor-trailer trucks and a motorized conveyor belt being used by smugglers in the raid in which 35 persons were arrested.

# Clements sees stiffer drug law

**United Press International**  
DALLAS — Gov. Bill Clements Tuesday predicted laws will be introduced to restrict the sale of drug paraphernalia in Texas and to permit the use of wiretaps in cases involving drug dealers.

Clements and H. Ross Perot, chairman of the Texas War on Drugs Committee, addressed the problem of drug trafficking and the selling of drug paraphernalia during a luncheon of the Greater Dallas Crime Commission and at a news conference.

The officials outlined a three-pronged program to curb drug use and traffic in the state.

"I can guarantee that as long as I am governor, emphasis (on the drug problem) will increase," Clements said. "We will constantly increase pressure. The program will get stronger. We will persist, believe me."

At the news conference, Clements said he supports legislation allowing wiretaps on the phones of suspected drug dealers.

When asked whether such legislation would endanger the privacy of the citizens of Texas he replied: "I think that kind of sentiment is sheer nonsense. It's not invading anyone's privacy except the criminals'. Personally it bores me to hear bleeding heart statements from those who oppose it."

Perot said the program being developed to deal with Texas' increasing drug problem will depend on grassroot support in the state. He said the first step will be to educate parents and children to the dangers of drug use.

He said his committee also had

organized a panel that will study national laws dealing with drug use and drug trafficking, and compile a proposed set of laws for Texas. Perot said the third step in the program will be to get law enforcement agencies within the state to cooperate in efforts to curb drug traffic and use in Texas.

"The deck is stacked against law enforcement agencies who work under increasingly restrictive laws," Perot said. "The agencies are working against dealers who have no restrictions and no rules."

"The committee will study national laws and will put together a set of laws that will make Texas the worst state in the nation on drug dealers. We can make this a very hostile state to dealers to deal in. We can do it to seal off our ports."

Perot said the proposed legislation to allow wiretapping will include restrictions to protect citizens from arbitrary use of the law. He said law enforcement officials will be forced to get approval for the use of a wiretap from their superiors and the courts. He said the legislation also will carry stiff penalties for officers who misuse the wiretapping privilege.

Clements and Perot both said they aren't focusing their attention on youngsters who use drugs, but rather on catching the dealers.

"There's a world out there. One knows exists: the drug world," Perot said. "It's the number one problem facing our children. If you'll just roll up your sleeves and help, we can kick it."

## Tug capsizes

**United Press International**  
CALVESTON — The Coast Guard was investigating the capsizing of a 52-foot tugboat in which a 21-year-old man died.

Divers Monday recovered the body of Kenneth W. Diggs from the wreckage of the tug, which capsized while towing a dredge two miles east of Bolivar.

Three crewmen were rescued.

## Robbery sentence given

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — A woman has been sentenced to 40 years in prison for her role in a jewelry store robbery in which a deputy sheriff died.

Brenda Joseph, 35, pleaded no contest to an aggravated robbery charge and was sentenced Monday by State District Judge Ernest Cok-

er. Assistant District Attorney Tobias said Joseph cooperated with police in the case.

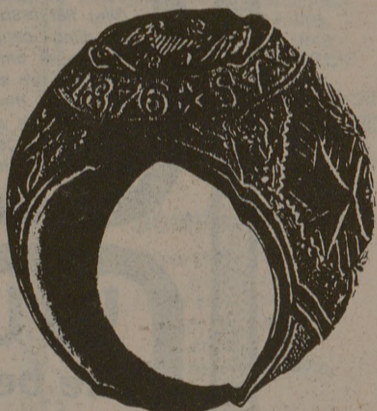
John Henry Selva, 28, of Orleans was sentenced to death February 1 in the July 30 killing of Harris County Deputy Al Curran, a \$10,000 holdup of Vera Jewelry.

Another man allegedly involved in the shooting was William Henry Kelly Jr., 24, who was led in a shootout with New Orleans police Aug. 9.

## Trivia on treaties

**United Press International**  
The 1905 treaty ending the Russo-Japanese war was signed in Hampshire.

# CLASS OF '80 SENIOR WEEKEND



Friday, April 25  
Senior Bash

Lakeview — 8-12 p.m.

Saturday, April 26  
Senior Banquet

Brazos Center — 5-8 p.m.

Ring Dance

MSC and Rudder Exhibit Hall — 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

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