

Official rebukes riot documentary

United Press International
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Gov. Bruce King Wednesday criticized an ABC-TV documentary on the brutal February prison riot saying the program should have emphasized the "positive aspects" of the state's penal system.

King said a report on the Feb. 2-3 uprising in which 33 inmates were killed to be issued Thursday by Attorney General Jeff Bingham would set the record straight. He said the attorney general's investigation of the riot was done in "much greater depth" than the program titled "Death in a Southwest Prison."

King denied one report in the program that he and other state officials received specific information about the riot before it happened.

"Hardly a day goes by where we don't receive information about possible problems at the prison" the governor said.

The governor also said he wanted to leave any personnel changes at the prison to the discretion of a new corrections secretary who would be hired by Oct. 15.

Earlier Wednesday King had issued a brief statement saying the documentary was presented with "an obvious preconceived bias."

And when he was asked later what portions of the program he felt were biased, King said, "What part wasn't biased?"

"When they said it was prisoner-against-prisoner during the uprising, that part was factual."

Bingham said earlier he generally agreed with conclusions presented in the documentary. But at the same time, he said it inaccurately blamed specific officials for problems at the prison.

Following an investigation of the riot which lasted months, Bingham said he "couldn't disagree with the conclusions in the documentary on the poor condition of our prison system."

"I think the basic points they were trying to make about the prison system being neglected, mismanaged, underfunded and understaffed were valid points" he said. "In order to make those points I think they took a few cheap shots at some of the people they interviewed."

"I think the explanation is not as simple as they would have you believe. They intended to identify particular people in the prison administration and public office and single them out and say they are responsible for the mess."

"The truth is that the mess has been there for decades. It is very difficult to single out people and explain it away on the theory of a few bad apples."

At the prison where inmates with television privileges were allowed to watch the documentary, a minor incident was reported after the show was aired Tuesday night.



Surveying the situation

Staff photo by Jeff Kerber

Adjusting his surveyor's equipment is Carlos Antonio Garcia, a senior in Company L-2 from San

High court denies exhumation

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court Wednesday dismissed a lawsuit by British author Michael Eddowes to have the body of the presidential assassin Lee

Harvey Oswald exhumed for examination. The ruling upholds a decision by a lower court in Fort Worth that prevented Eddowes from having the body exhumed. The decision

was a result of a suit filed in January 1979 against Tarrant County District Attorney Tim Curry seeking a court order for the exhumation.

Eddowes this month lost a second battle in Fort Worth to have Oswald's grave opened and is expected to appeal it. However, Wednesday's ruling does not concern this most recent legal rejection.

In the first suit a district court ruled in favor of Curry saying Eddowes was not a relative of Oswald and had no justifiable interest in the case.

The Fort Worth Civil Appeals Court later reversed that decision and dismissed the suit on grounds Eddowes had no standing to file the legal action. The Supreme Court without written comment Wednesday upheld the action dismissing the case.

Nugent says mideast war could cause gasoline crisis

United Press International
Road Commissioner Jim Nugent Wednesday said the conflict between Iraq and Iran could cause

the non-communist world is 1 to 1.5 million barrels per day above demand. Exports from Iran and Iraq total approximately 4 million barrels daily.

Nugent also said a complete shut-off of exports would leave a worldwide crude oil shortfall of 2.5 million barrels per day, 500,000 more barrels per day than what produced last year's gasoline crisis.

These hostile actions dry up oil from Iran and Iraq, the oil discussed oil surplus will evaporate and become a short fall of over dimensions than the Iran which caused last year's oil crisis lines," said Nugent, who is being re-elected in November.

Stephen

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