

# State

## Motorcycle gang deals in drugs and land

**United Press International**  
**Editor's note:** Members of the DPS intelligence division consented to interviews — the first they've given — by UPI about the Bandidos after DPS Director Col. Jim Adams gave his permission. One of the rules was that the officers would not be identified.

SAN ANTONIO — The Bandidos, Texas' largest outlaw motorcycle gang, have entered the corporate world. Being a Bandido is no longer just a matter of Harleys, beer busts and brawls.

With millions of dollars that law enforcement specialist say is earned in drug trafficking, the nouveau riche Bandidos are showing business savvy by buying up residential and commercial property and other investments.

"Some of the clubs are making millions and

millions of dollars in narcotics trafficking," said a member of a Department of Public Safety intelligence division established to monitor the gang. "They're getting into property, real estate and small businesses. This is what really worries us. They're not just blowing it on parties anymore."

DPS officials refused to discuss Bandido land purchases further, saying the information was too important to their intelligence work.

Lt. Bobby Simpson of the Austin Police Department's organized crime division said Bandidos have been busy in the Austin property market, using a corporation to buy commercial property and old homes. However, they were rejected recently in an attempt to purchase a 300-acre lakefront plot.

Another Bandido, a 50-year-old Corpus Christi man, owns 15 to 20 small businesses in the Gulf

resort community with assets of \$12 million, law enforcement officers said.

"The Bandidos consider him (the businessman) on their highest level," one officer said. "Because he's got so much money to fund the Bandidos' operations, his advice is listened to by the Bandido national president."

Nearly every major law enforcement agency in South Texas has at least one officer assigned to gather information on drug trafficking and outlaw motorcycle groups.

They take note of every arrest made of a Bandido. They try to keep track of where Bandidos are living, who was just released from jail and what they're plans are.

Simpson considers the Texas-based Bandidos, one of three major motorcycle gangs in the United States, the single greatest organized crime

problem for state law enforcement.

"Just their presence puts fear in people," he said.

Simpson said the bikers have engaged in counter-intelligence operations against police and have trained members in police combat tactics. Their stated goal, he said, is to form a Bandido "nation" where only outlaw motorcycle club members would be allowed.

"That's what they consider themselves now — a separate nation," he said.

The Bandidos' chief moneymaker is the manufacture and sale of methamphetamines, but they also have served as distributors for large drug operations.

The FBI delved into the gang's El Paso operation in late 1978, looking for information about the attack earlier that year on James Kerr, then

an assistant U.S. attorney in San Antonio. Bandido insiders told investigators about the deal, a string of murders and a meeting which the attack on Kerr, who was not wounded, although his car was riddled with bullets, planned.

An affidavit from that El Paso investigation, which police used to persuade U.S. Judge William Sessions to approve a tap on Bandido headquarters, provides a glimpse of the Bandido world. One FBI informant said Rudolph James "Shakey" Mattonal vice president of the Bandidos, admitted a murder and said he had been told that Edward Crochet was responsible for two

The source also said Carl Lynn, who eventually was arrested on cocaine charges, told him he used the Bandidos to distribute cocaine

## Texas Briefs

### Artists protest

**United Press International**  
 SAN ANTONIO — The Texas Art Band buzzed President Reagan with a dozen kazooos to demonstrate its displeasure with budget cuts for the arts.

Glenda Park, spokesman for the Texas Art Band, marched for several hours Monday with 11 other band members in front of the San Antonio Museum of Art. Ms. Park, who is outraged at more than \$85 million she said is spent every year to support U.S. military bands, said budget cuts for the arts have made military bands a "national art form." Wearing boards painted to look like toy soldiers, the artists' marched with bare behinds to a countdown of "one, two, three and-a-four."

### Canada oil lease

**United Press International**  
 HOUSTON — Husky Oil Ltd. will pay \$360 million for the offshore oil and gas leases in Canada belonging to Shell Oil Co.'s subsidiary, Shell Explorer Ltd. of Calgary.

Husky will acquire interests in Shell Explorer's mineable oil sands positions in the province of Alberta. The sale, announced Monday, is at a price equivalent to \$430 million Canadian. It also includes future payments contingent on the development of certain properties, Shell said. The Husky acquisition includes about 23 million acres of offshore leases and permits off the East and West Coasts of Canada. The main blocks of land are the Nova Scotia Shelf and Slope, the Gander block and the West Coast of British Columbia.

### Astrologists meet

**United Press International**  
 DALLAS — The publisher of the nation's foremost magazine on astrology, Edith Custer of Lynchburg, Va., will address next month's meeting of the Texas Astrological Association convention.

Ms. Custer, who publishes The Mercury Hour, will speak to more than 100 teachers, professional practitioners and beginners in the art science attending the Aug. 1-2 seminar in Grand Prairie, sponsors said Monday. The program includes 21 lectures.

The 10-year-old Texas Astrological Association is headquartered in Dallas and has about 70 members.

### Candygram thief

**United Press International**  
 FORT WORTH — An armed robber posing as a "candygram" delivery man stole jewelry valued at about \$50,000 from the wife of a prominent businessman.

Police said the robber — in one hand carrying a long white box wrapped with a pink ribbon, and in the other an automatic pistol — rang the doorbell at the home of Jack Bean, president of Bean Box and Bag Co. and an active figure in Tarrant County politics.

While Bean's daughter was looking for a pen to sign a receipt for the candy, the man stepped inside the home and pointed the pistol at Bean's wife, Lorene.

Demanding Mrs. Bean's jewelry, the man forced both women upstairs, where the man took several pieces — including a diamond cluster ring valued at \$25,000 and a 6.14 carat diamond ring valued at \$20,000.

He then ordered both women to lie face down on the floor.

"He told us to stay there for five minutes," Mrs. Bean said. "We did exactly what he told us to do."

Police said they had no suspects in the case.



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