

Solution sought in union battle

United Press International
DALLAS — Robert Lindner, international chairman of the Transport Workers Union, indicates that his union has little recourse against what he claims to be heavy-handed tactics used by American Airlines during current contract negotiations.

According to Lindner, American Airlines has attempted to scare his members with a vow to lay off workers if they don't approve a new contract by March 5. Union officials rejected the proposed contract as a Friday strike deadline neared and referred the pact to the 10,000 members of the American local for a vote. The union officials recommended that the workers turn down the contract and go on strike.

"We can't complain to the National Labor Relations Board because it doesn't govern our industry," he said. "We're under the National

Railway Labor Act, which allows management to make any kind of threat it wants."

Lindner, who spoke with the Dallas Times Herald by telephone from New York, said taking the matter to a federal court would not be a viable alternative because the case would probably be heard in Dallas.

"American has dealt with us with a heavy hand from the beginning," said Lindner. "They obviously think they can scare some people by doing that, and maybe they can."

A 21 percent increase, including a "lifetime" job guarantee was included in American's final offer. However, the airline asked for the right to use workers in tasks other than their primary duties, as well as the right to contract out maintenance work to non-union mechanics.

Texans want stiffer penalties for DWI's

United Press International
HUNTSVILLE — Texans favor much tougher treatment of people convicted of drunken driving and firmer handling of juveniles who commit crimes, according to a special Texas Crime Poll.

The survey was released Tuesday by the Criminal Justice Center at Sam Houston State University at the request of the governor's office.

According to Dr. Raymond H. C. Teske, Jr., director of the Center's Survey Research Program, 2,000 Texans were selected at random and polled in November, 1982 on issues currently before the State Legislature.

Teske said, the adjusted return rate of 69.58 percent makes the survey reliable as a means of projecting the opinions of the state's population as a whole.

The poll highlighted the views of the citizenry concerning DWI cases, laws regarding juveniles, the legal drinking age, court-related issues including the death penalty and child sexual abuse, and the overall crime problem.

Respondents indicate strong support for raising the legal drinking age. Only 17 percent felt it should be retained at 19, while 62 percent favored raising it to 21. Only 13 percent suggested it be lowered to 18.

Concerning DWI cases, a sizeable portion of those polled indicated they had been personally affected by DWI-related accidents.

Thirty-seven percent, for example, said they have personally known someone who has died as a result of a motor vehicle accident involving a drunk driver.

Nearly one in ten said that a family member had died as a result of a DWI-related accident, and a similar percentage, 9.8, claimed to have had a neighbor killed in a drunk-driving case. The survey showed that 14.1 percent had a close friend who died in such an accident.

Texans polled thought that evidence seized illegally should be admissible if the policeman believed he was acting within the law, with 75 percent favoring such evidence being admissible.

Those polled indicated supporting stiff penalties for child abuse, and favored using the death penalty in specific instances.

In general, Texans seemed to question the use of the "insanity" plea in determining guilt or innocence, but favored the consideration of the insanity plea in determining punishment.

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Arms trial jury still deliberating

United Press International
DALLAS — Jury deliberations resumed Tuesday in the trial of Ian Smalley, a British citizen charged with being an international arms merchant who schemed to sell millions of dollars in modern weaponry to warring Iran and Iraq.

Despite eight hours of deliberation Monday and more hours last Friday, the seven-man, five-woman jury failed to reach a verdict.

Instead, the panel spent most of Monday listening to scratchy tapes of the government made in Washington, D.C. of conversations Smalley had involving the sale of arms.

If convicted, Smalley could receive up to 70 years in prison.

The Englishman faces charges of conspiring to smuggle 100 tanks to Iran and 8,400 tank-destroying missiles to Iraq despite a federal ban on the export of defense materials or

assistance from U.S. firms or residents to the Middle Eastern countries.

He was also charged with two counts of failure to register as an agent for those countries.

U.S. Attorney James A. Rolfe concluded his arguments by asking: "How in the world are we ever going to stop wars with people like Ian Smalley running loose to sell weapons to anybody who will buy?"

Throughout the two-week trial prosecutors portrayed Smalley as an opportunist eager to do business with Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khadafy and the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran.

Defense attorney Richard "Racehorse" Haynes of Houston argued that Smalley was fooled into believing he was part of a sanctioned but covert operation by the U.S. government to gain control of the Middle East.

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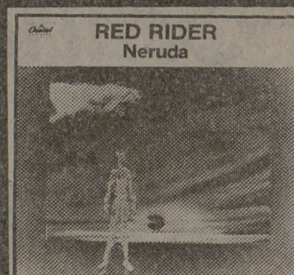
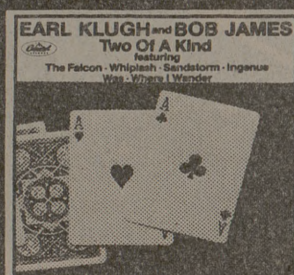
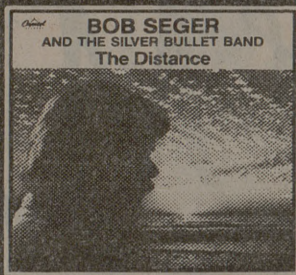
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