

Spielberg comes to Texas

Movie set location sought

United Press International
EL PASO — The man who brought you "E.T." is considering filming part of his next movie in El Paso.

Producer-director Steven Spielberg was in El Paso last Sunday and Monday scouting locations for a forthcoming movie, according to Joe Sierra of the Greater El Paso Tourism and Convention Bureau's Film Liaison Office. A portion of the movie is to be shot in El Paso's Lower Valley.

Sierra escorted Spielberg and

other members of the film's pre-production crew to locations in San Elizario, Hueco Tanks and in the Avenue of the Americas area east of El Paso.

"He's a super guy," Sierra said. "Real down to earth. He's all heart."

Sierra said location shooting for the film — titled "Fandango" — will take place in late May and early June at those locations.

Historic San Elizario, part of the Missions Trail, would be the site of a wedding sequence in

which 300 El Pasoans may be hired as extras. Bill Newkirk of the Film Liason Office said details still are being worked out with Lower Valley County Commissioner Rogelio Sanchez for use of the historic area.

"They looked for this place all over Texas," Sierra said.

A spokesperson for Warner Bros. Films, which will distribute the movie, said "Fandango" is in pre-production. The spokesperson said Spielberg's participation in the project may be li-

imited by his involvement in the sequel to "Raiders of the Lost Ark."

"Fandango" is a comedy involving three former University of Texas students, Sierra said, one of whom inherits his parents' strip-mining operation upon his return from Vietnam. Though locations across Texas will be used, much of the filming will take place in and around the Austin area.

Sierra said that the film had a \$6 million budget. He expects the two-week shoot to generate about \$1 million locally.

Spielberg, 34, is the hottest director in films today. "E.T." has made more money than any movie in history. Thursday it was nominated for nine Academy Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

Spielberg's other box-office hits include "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "Jaws." His film debut was "Sugarland Express," much of which was shot in Texas.



staff photo by Denis L.

Ambassador Viron P. Vaky spoke to Scona 28 about Latin American coun-

tries Saturday morning. Vaky was final speaker for Scona.

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SCONA speaker sees 'no simple solutions'

by Robert McGlohon
 Battalion Staff

The nature of U.S.-Latin American relations has been significantly altered, a former U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs said here Saturday.

"Both the scenery and the actors have been changed," Viron P. Vaky said during the final day of the SCONA program "Latin America: Challenges and Alternatives."

The lens through which the United States views Latin American countries has been distorted by stereotypes and misconceptions, Vaky said, and no generalization about Latin America could be true.

In the past, people have questioned the U.S. policy of using tax-payers' money to bail-out

troubled Latin American tries, Vaky said. The United States instead should consider what would happen if some countries did not receive aid.

Latin America, through its remarkable growth in the World War II period, has become an increasingly important part of the world economy, Vaky said.

Vaky said both the United States and Latin America face several related problems in the near future:

- increased unemployment in countries such as Mexico
- increased "illegal migration," not only from Latin America to the United States but also between the more developed Latin American countries
- repayment of the Latin American external debt. More than half the world's external debt is owed by Latin American countries.
- poor communication in the other side, which has hampered U.S.-Latin American relations throughout the years.

What looks to be a mutually beneficial situation given Washington viewpoint, viewed from Latin America, a tyrannical decree imposed by the United States by right superior economic and military power, Vaky said.

And that, he said, means there are no simple solutions to the problems of Latin America, he said, treating to the "Bunker mentality" of isolation or the pessimistic outlook of "big brother won't work."

What will work, he said, is cooperation and work toward mutually acceptable and realistic goals.

Vaky, a career foreign service officer, is an associate dean and research professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

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