

state

Plea bargain denied for former sheriff

United Press International
HOUSTON — Calling it "most inappropriate," a federal judge Friday rejected a plea bargain for a long-time San Jacinto County sheriff accused of torturing prisoners and subjecting blacks, women and rock music fans to strip-searches.

A lawyer for recently-resigned Sheriff James C. "Humpty" Parker withdrew the former East Texas lawman's guilty plea after U.S. District Judge Gabrielle McDonald's ruling.

Parker now faces trial and a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison and a \$30,000 fine. He was offered three years in prison and a \$15,000 fine in the plea bargain.

Prosecutors have said Parker tortured prisoners and subjected blacks, women and rock music fans to strip-searches. Parker is also charged with extorting money from a bail bondsman.

McDonald said she found the deal worked out by prosecutors "most inappropriate," adding she based the decision on her judgment and knowledge of the law.

Parker, 47, a sheriff since 1969, was prepared under terms of the agreement to cooperate with a grand jury's investigation of alleged brutality and kickbacks in the county, his lawyers said.

Parker resigned from office immediately after making the guilty plea March 13 on two felony civil rights charges and one extortion charge.

Coldspring city councilman Robert Brumley was appointed to complete Parker's term, which ends in 1984.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Woodward said a three-count criminal information accused Parker of water-torturing at least 15 prisoners, illegally arresting motorists on the U.S. 59 and extorting money from a

Coldspring bail bondsman. "On the water tortures, that was reserved for major felonies where they could not solve the crime, but they had a suspect. They'd bring them in and torture them until they got a confession and then take that evidence to the prosecutor," Woodward said.

Parker was also charged with selectively stopping "hippies," blacks or motorists with license plate numbers which indicated they were from Shreveport, La., on the highway and searching their cars for drugs.

Prosecutors claimed Parker and some of his deputies sometimes damaged taillights or other equipment on cars to make it appear the original traffic stop was legitimate.

The American Civil Liberties Union previously filed suit making many of the accusations against Parker. The case has not yet gone to trial.



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Stuart Kuehn, right, a agriculture economics major from McAllen, gives Andreel, from Calvin, some coaching before a relay race. Kuehn and

Company B-2 were working with a senior physics education class for Andreel and other children from Calvin and Hearne area schools.

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7:25 9:30

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THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER
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TREASURES OF THE FOUR CROWNS
7:15 9:35

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JOY STICKS
9:00

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7:15 11:00

10-TO-MIDNIGHT
9:05

DEATH HUNT

'Tex-Mex' study set for August

United Press International
EL PASO — The many versions of Spanish spoken in border states will be the topic of a national conference at the University of Texas at El Paso.

"We're not saying 'Tex-Mex' is good or bad," Professor Emeritus Jacob Ornstein-Galicia said Friday. "There are a number of different dialects used by Spanish-speaking peoples of the United States, and we are saying that they are deserving of research and study."

The conference, the first of its kind in the nation, is tentatively set for Aug. 11-13, he said.

Ornstein-Galicia said the different dialects of Spanish vary from state to state, with New Mexico, Texas, Arizona and California developing their own versions of the language.

"The conference will be a scientific study of the research needs of Mexican-American-Spanish," he said. "The program will feature people from all over the country who are involved in this field and will include the place of regional dialect versus standard Spanish and English in bilingual education."

Mexican-Americans added English words to Spanish and in the process, have developed a separate dialect including the use of new words that are neither English nor Spanish, but have special meaning on the border, Ornstein-Galicia said.

"In El Paso, you will hear a phrase, 'hay te watcho' or 'best of circles,'" he said. Spanish language purists and people from Mexico or Spain are baffled. It means, "I'll see you in the so-called 'proper' Spanish is 'hay te veno'."

Other Americanizations of the Spanish language, he said, include 'troca' for truck, 'mion,' the border verb for type, instead of 'esquina maquina' and 'repollo' for cabbage instead of 'col'.

The conference will be financed in part with a grant from the National Endowment for Humanities. Speakers from Mexico and a Peruvian scholar have been invited, Ornstein-Galicia said.

"Rather than stressing differences of Spanish as it is in this area, we are finding much of the language is the same to that found elsewhere. The influence of English is of degree," he said.

Ornstein-Galicia, organizer of the conference, directed a similar conference on Spanish in Chicano English in September, 1981 at UT El Paso.

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