

Tape recording of deaths used to help convict killer

United Press International
BROWNSVILLE — Jurors who listened four times to a terrifying tape recording of the beating deaths of two people ignored defendant Paul Wolf's claims of insanity and sentenced him to life in prison.
 Wolf, 21, was convicted Wednesday for the beating-death of school teacher Genia Castro. The jury gave him the maximum sentence of life in prison.
 Three times in the trial the jury listened to a 23-minute tape recording made by Castro's fiancé, Billy Staton, as he too was beaten to death last July 16 at Wolf's farm house near La Feria.

The jury heard the tape one more time during its verdict deliberations.
 The tape, intended by Staton to be used for evidence in a child custody battle with his ex-wife, Sherry Wolf, recorded the sounds of the blows Wolf admittedly delivered to Staton with an iron bar in the living room of the Wolfs' home instead.
 South Texas law officials found the recorder when the bodies of Staton and Castro were found in a drainage canal three weeks after the killings. The tape was sent to the FBI in Washington to determine if there was anything on it of use in the case.
 The FBI found what District

Attorney Rey Cantu told jurors was "23 minutes of death."
 Staton could be heard moaning, the blood in his lungs gurgling as he was dragged from the house and dumped in the trunk of a car. A faint shotgun blast, the one which killed Castro who was also beaten, can be heard on the tape.
 Cantu, who played parts of the tape yet again during the punishment phase of the trial Wednesday, said without it, getting a conviction would have been more difficult.
 "In most murder cases the only witness you have is dead and the only thing you have is what the defendant tells you," he said.

"I know of no other trial where evidence such as this was supplied by one of the victims."
 Cantu said he will use the tape again, if admitted as evidence, in the Wolfs' separate trials for Staton's death. Mrs. Wolf is to be tried in July. Wolf's trial has not been set.
 Wolf had maintained during the eight-day trial he was innocent by reason of temporary insanity of killing Castro and Staton, both 26, because he could no longer take his stepdaughter's crying when she had to leave with her father on court-appointed visits.
 Wolf showed no emotion when the verdict was read.

Officials fear police imposters

United Press International
SAN ANTONIO — Two recent burglaries of stores that provide police uniforms and badges have authorities concerned about possible police imposters, Deputy Chief Marion Talbert said Thursday.
 Last January, burglars took several police uniforms in various stages of completion from Sugarman's Uniform Store, and

a March 22 burglary of Simmangs Engraving netted about 40 police, fire and sheriff's department badges.
 "We're concerned, but we don't consider it a critical thing," Talbert said.
 Talbert said people had tried to impersonate San Antonio police officers in plain clothes but never in a uniform.

Opponents rap jobs plan

House passes welfare bill

United Press International
AUSTIN — The sponsor of on-the-job training program for welfare recipients says his plan could save the state \$9 million a year in welfare payments, but opponents called the proposal "demeaning and dehumanizing."
 The legislation, approved by the Texas House on a 101-45 vote Wednesday, would initially target 5,000 of the 90,000 Texans who receive assistance under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children's Program.

Rep. Gerald Geistweidt, R-Mason, said his program could break the cycle of welfare dependency and save the state \$9 million a year.
 "Let's help the people get out of the hole we helped put them in by not giving them alternatives," Geistweidt said.
 Under the program, a welfare recipient would be required to take a job in the public or private sector under a two-month arrangement where the recipient would continue to receive all welfare payments.

During the next four months, AFDC payments would be switched to the employer as a subsidy for the job training. The state would pay for child care and transportation during the six-month period.
 However opponents, mostly black and Hispanic lawmakers, said the plan would not work.
 Rep. Lloyd Criss, D-Texas City, said the program could create a situation where employers would fire current workers to replace them with welfare

recipients at cheaper wages.
 "This is welfare for the employers," he said. "It does nothing to help welfare mothers in any shape or fashion."
 Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, said "I think this bill is demeaning and dehumanizing, among other things."
 Proponents hope the trainee would wind up with a permanent full-time job.
 If the pilot program is successful, it could be extended statewide in two years.

Soviets patrol Gulf coast

United Press International
HOUSTON — A Navy spokesman said four Soviet ships idled within 50 miles of eastern Louisiana recently, but was mistaken when he said the task force came that close to the Texas-Louisiana border.
 "I was in error by including Texas within the 50-nautical-mile area," said Navy Lt. Aaron Long by telephone from Washington, D.C. Wednesday.
 "They didn't come within 50 miles of Texas. They came within 50 miles of eastern Louisiana," he said.
 Long previously was quoted

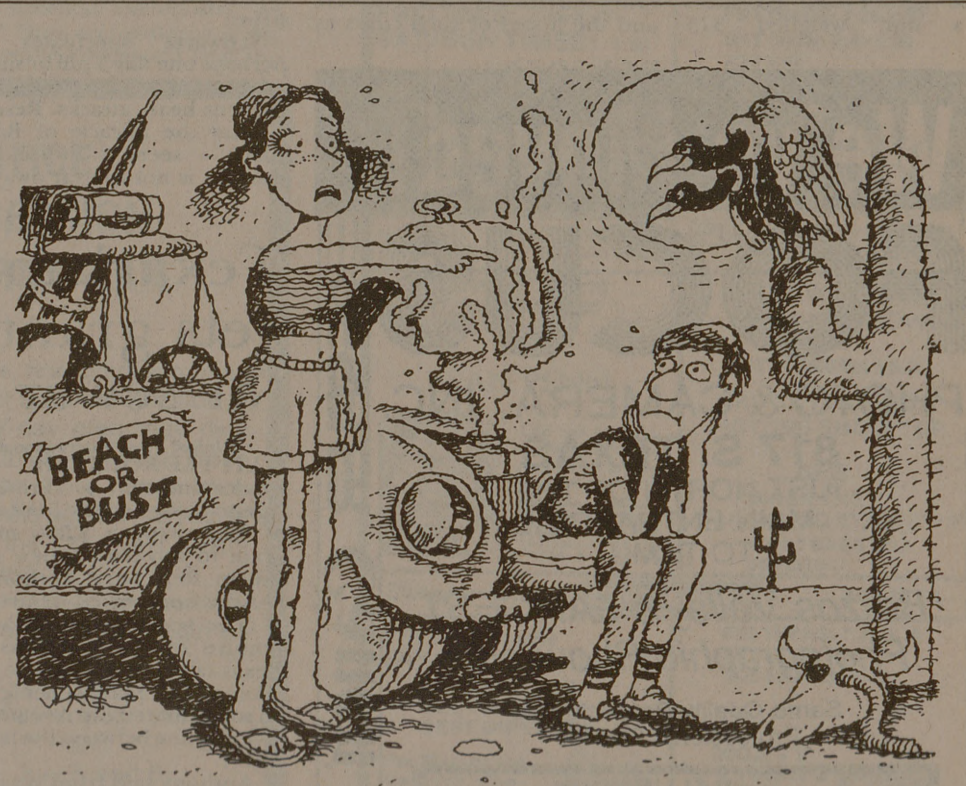
as saying the ships came within 50 miles of the Texas-Louisiana border.
 The spokesman said the ships traveled in international waters along the U.S. coast east of Texas at one point during a three-month visit to Cuba. He said the ships operated in the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico from Nov. 25, 1982 until Feb. 1, 1983.
 The task force consisted of four ships, including a missile cruiser named the Admiral Isakov, a frigate named the Resvyy, a tanker and a submarine, said Pentagon spokesman Bill Rable.

"One of the primary objectives of the task force visit was to show the flag, as they do periodically. They were in Cuba for a while and in Cuban waters for most of their stay," Rable said.
 Long said ships of any nation can legally travel international waters, which lie beyond the 3-mile territorial limits of the United States. Officials said such trips close to adversary nations are routine.

Teen threatens Dallas officer

United Press International
CEDAR HILL — A suburban Dallas teenager who threatened to shoot an officer in the lobby of the police station because he was "distressed" over being expelled from school was being held in lieu of a \$100,000 bond Thursday, officials said.
 Kevin Allen King, 17, of DeSoto walked into the lobby of the station at about 3:45 p.m. Wednesday carrying a .410-gauge shotgun and asked for an officer, said Sgt. P.C. Hambrick. When investigator Jimmie

Johns came into the lobby, the youth pointed the shotgun at her and threatened to "blow her head off," Hambrick said.
 King then walked out of the building and into the parking lot, where four officers convinced him to put down the gun and arrested him, Hambrick said.
 King was held at the Dallas county jail. Cedar Hill Municipal Judge Robert Jealous set bond at \$100,000.
 Police later discovered the gun was not loaded.



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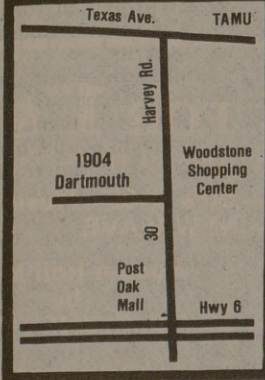
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