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## Lawyer pans attempts to commute sentences

United Press International SAN ANTONIO — District Attorney Sam Millsap Monday called deplorable attempts by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to commute the life sent-ences of three habitual criminals.

The parole board is seeking sentence commutations from Gov. Mark White that would make the three felons eligible for almost immediate parole, Millsap said

The three Texas Department of Corrections inmates -Andrew R. Carrizales, Jose Jesse Martinez, and Jessie Frank Montoya — were convicted as habitual criminals in Bexar County and sentenced to life terms

However, the state legislature revised the habitual criminal sta-tute in the last session, permit-

Missing shrimper sought

United Press International SOUTH PADRE ISLAND — Coast Guard boats and planes Monday searched Mexican waters south of the mouth of the Rio Grande for a shrimp boat that radioed Sunday night that it was sinking with three crewmen

However, a Coast Guard spokesman said there was no evidence of a boat by the name that the distress call gave and that the S.O.S. possibly was a hoax.

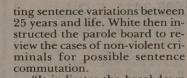
aboard

The radio caller said the boat was the "Sentaya" out of Port Isabel, but the spokesman said the harbormaster and several shrimping firms contacted had not heard a boat by that name.

"Even if it was a hoax, we still

hae to assume it's a real call," the Coast Guard spokesman said. He said the boat gave a posi-tion 12 to 15 miles off the Mexican coast south of the U.S.-

Mexico border. The Coast Guard sent a boat to the area after the 8:30 p.m. Sunday call was received, then sent another boat and began an air search Monday.



'It indicates the breakdown "It indicates the breakdown of the penal system," Millsap said of the new policy. "The board now takes the position that these sentences should be second guessed." Millsap called such steps to reduce prison overcrowding "deplorable."

The sentence commutations recommened for the three men, along with the time they have already served, would make them elgible for parole almost immediately, he said.

"We are not talking about people who have committed minor crimes," Millsap said. "They committed drug offenses

and multiple burglaries. People who have been convicted of a felony three times have proven they no longer have the right to walk among us.

Millsap said he would oppose the board's attempts to commute the sentences.



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United Press International WASHINGTON — The Supme Court, rejecting pleas om 11 nations, refused Mony to enter a multimillionollar dispute over how Califora taxes subsidaries of foreign

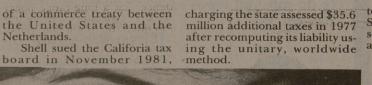
rporations operating in the

The decision leaves intact a initary tax" system in Califor-ia, which takes into account the ernational profits of multinanal firms instead of income nerated in the state alone and erally means international ms pay more taxes in the state. The court turned down an ppeal by Shell Petroleum N.V. the Netherlands who asked it Other states with a unitary tax are Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ore-gon, Utah and Nebraska.

Because the overseas profits of a company are often greater than those earned in the United States, the taxes assessed to the domestic subsidiary are usually greater than if the tax was asses-sed to only the domestic profits.

California decided to use the unitary method of taxation be-cause it is often difficult to determine what percentage of a company's total profits are earned in

Netherlands.



John Makely, Battalion staff

### Warm, lazy afternoons

building. The warmth was shortlived however, as the temperature dropped into the low 40s

#### Greg Malatek, from Gonzales and Mollie Morris from Huntsville, sit in the warm sun waiting for their bus by the Reed McDonald last night.

# Court sidesteps tax issue

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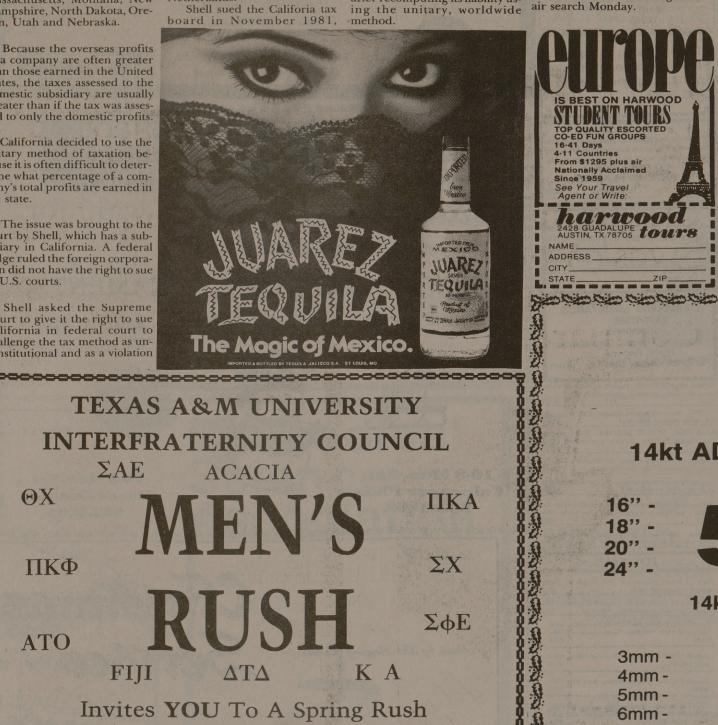
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consider whether foreign naons may challenge the right of ate tax officials to consider the orldwide profits of a foreign rporation in assessing taxes on subsidiary doing business in

The problem, which has wn the ire of foreign-based tinational corporations, now eing studied by a presidential mission to determine if the te is interfering with internanal treaty obligations

In other business-related acthe court:

•Refused to decide whether federal Racketeer Influed and Corrupt Organizans Act (RICO) allows comies to be sued for triple dames in business fraud cases. The peal, brought by Prudential surance Co. against 400 resints of a retirement communlocated near Kansas City, said ch stiff penalties should not be wed for "garden variety civil

In the unitary tax case, the stices spurned the arguments nine European nations, Japan d Canada by refusing to hear dispute over California's tax hods. The U.S. government not taken a position on the troversy. Last term, the Supreme

urt authorized the use of the ary method to tax the ine of U.S. corporations with sidiaries overseas, but the stion of using the method to foreign corporations is more ficult because of treaties ed with other governments omote international trade. The dispute has far-reaching plications for economic rela-ns between the United States d other industrial nations, ecially in Europe, which has billion invested in the Und States. California and 10 other states

mpute the tax liability of fore--owned businesses by taking percentage of the worldwide of the company, rather in a percentage of the profits ned in the state.

the state

The issue was brought to the court by Shell, which has a subsidiary in California. A federal judge ruled the foreign corporation did not have the right to sue in U.S. courts.

Shell asked the Supreme Court to give it the right to sue California in federal court to challenge the tax method as unconstitutional and as a violation

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