

LULAC threatening L.A. Olympic boycott

United Press International
 EL PASO — Mexican Americans may boycott the summer Olympic games in Los Angeles if ABC does not put more Hispanics on the air, it was announced Wednesday by the national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Mario Obledo, visiting El Paso to finalize plans for LULAC's national convention here June 21-24, said he was sorely disappointed that ABC, which has the rights to televise the games, "has not tried to televise the games and has not tried to put more Hispanic broadcasters into the coverage of the international sporting events."

Obledo said LULAC officials will meet with ABC officials March 7.

A spokesman for ABC said the officials who could comment on the meeting were in Yugoslavia, attending the Winter Olympics.

"If ABC does not respond favorably, we will call for a boycott of the Olympics," Obledo said.

The attorney, a former official in the administration of California Gov. Jerry Brown, said LULAC may also extend the boycott to major sponsors of the Olympics.

"It is dismaying that 55 years after LULAC was founded, we're still having problems like

this," Obledo said.

Obledo was in El Paso to take part in LULAC Week, celebrating the organization's founding in Corpus Christi in 1929.

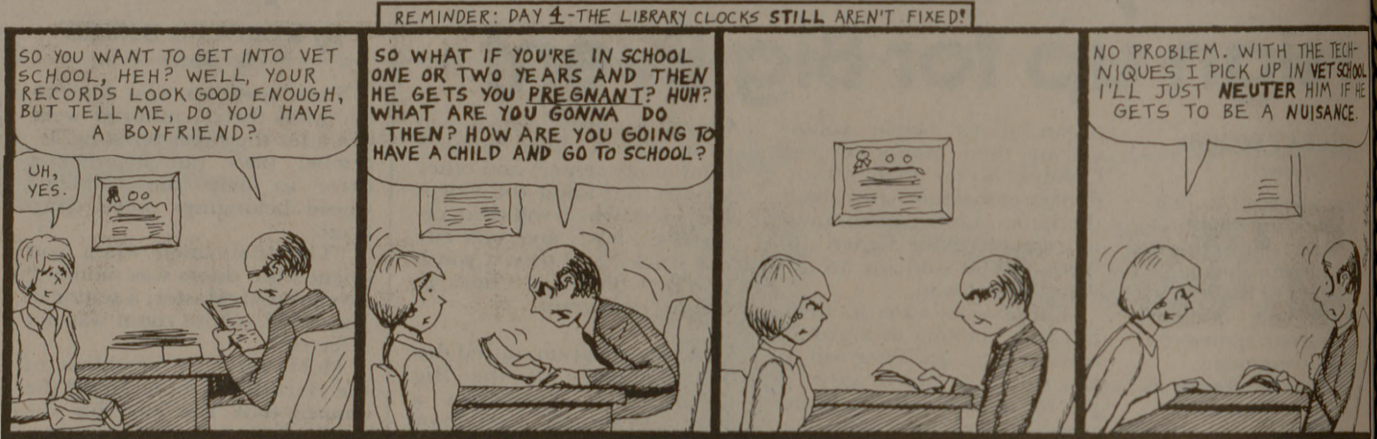
"My principal dream is to see LULAC out of existence when equality is achieved," Obledo said.

Obledo said about 6,000 people will attend the national convention in June.

The national president said a recent survey showed LULAC is the largest and most influential Hispanic organization in the nation.

Warped

by Scott McCloud



Texas towns to lose HUD grants

United Press International
 WASHINGTON — Nearly 150 small Texas cities will lose their eligibility for Urban Development Action Grants because the federal government no longer considers them economically distressed, officials said Wednesday.

However, Housing and Urban Development officials said 40 other Texas communities have shown since last March that they suffer the minimum standards of physical and economic stress to begin qualifying for the grants.

The UDAG grants are awarded to help build job-creating projects such as office complexes or retail centers in economically distressed communities.

"These grants fill the financing gap for projects that already have considerable private funding," said HUD spokesman Jack Flynn.

Since the UDAG program began in 1970, Texas communities have received \$113.6 million in grants that attracted \$792.6 million in private financing.

The agency said 149 Texas

towns were disqualified because updated 1980 census data on poverty levels and housing conditions showed they no longer met eligibility criteria that determine economic distress. The towns qualified under 1970 census data. Of the total, 47 have lost eligibility since last March and 101 since June 1982.

The communities dropped from the list have until the end of August to submit applications for their final UDAG grants.

The agency also noted it expanded the list of criteria to include long-term high unemployment as a measure of economic distress.

To qualify for UDAG grants, a small city must meet three of these six criteria:

- At least 21 percent of the city's housing units must have been built prior to 1940;
- Per person income for the period 1969-1979 must have risen by \$4,036 or less;
- Population growth for the period 1970-1980 must have been 1.7 percent or less;
- The rate of growth in retail and manufacturing employment for the period 1972-1977

must have been 6.9 percent or less;

- The percentage of people living at or below the official government poverty level must be 12.4 percent or more; and/or
- The city must be within an area or county which has an unemployment rate of 10 percent or greater over the period 1981-1982.

The Housing and Urban Development Department said these Texas communities no longer qualify for UDAG assistance:

Alice, Alvarado, Alvord, Ames, Anahuac, Anton, Athens, Barry, Barstow, Bay-side, Blackwell, Bonney, Booker, Bowie, Boyd, Bronson, Bronte, Brownsboro, Buda, Centerville, Chandler, Chico, China, Cibolo, Clarksville City, Cleveland, Coahoma, Coffee City, Goldspring, Corrigan, Crandall, Crandall, Dean, Dell City, Devine, Dorchester, Eagle Lake, Eastland, Edgewood, Edom, Eldorado, Elkhart, Emory, Fairfield, Follett and Fisco.

Also Gallatin, Ganado, Giddings, Gray, George West,

Gholson, Gilmer, Godley, Linda, Gordon, Grandfield, Grayburg, Gunter, Hale, Carter, Hallsburg, Hallsville, Haslet, Henrietta, Huntington, Jasper, Jewett, Johnson, Joshua, Jourdan, Kent, Kirbyville, Krum, Kyle, La Worth, Lamesa, Latexo, Law, Lawn, Lincoln Park, Livingston, Lorenzo, Lovelady, Lower Crossing, Marietta, Millam, Mount Vernon, Mustang, Nareth, New Deal, New W. Nome, O'Brien, Odem, Olesby, Onalaska, Orange Grove, Pattison, Pittsburg, Pleasant Plum Grove, Point, Point Blank, Ponder, Post, Post oak, Pottsboro, Poyner.

Others are Quinlan, Quin-tana, Reklaw, Rice, Riesel, Vista, Riverside, Roscoe, Ros-sadler, San Felipe, Sanger, San Patricio, Sansom Park, Villav Savoy, Seagraves, Sealy, Sils-bury, Smyer, Stratford, Surfside Beach, Tatum, Texhoma, Three Rivers, Tioga, Tom Bean, Trent, Tuscola, Venet Waller, Walnut Springs, Wernert, Wells, West, Wharton, Willis, Wilson, Winfield, W nona and Woodville.

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Parents could be held for kids' crime

United Press International
 EL PASO — A juvenile convicted of a property crime will be forced to pay restitution to the victim or the parents will be liable under a new plan announced Wednesday by a Texas district judge.

Enrique Pena, the judge who handles most juvenile cases for El Paso County, said he thinks victims of juvenile crime will be treated better under his plan.

Working with the County Juvenile Probation Department and the county attorney's office, the plan will also make sure that the victims are fully compensated for any loss they have suffered.

"The state has recently amended laws that permit judges to order the parents of juveniles to make restitution if the juvenile can not," Pena said.

"I recently had a case in which some juveniles burned a house down," he said. "The insurance company reimbursed the home owners around \$100,000 but the owners were still out another \$5,000. I ordered the parents of the boys who committed the crimes to pay that amount off in small amounts."

Under the judge's plan, crime victims will be told what their role is in the legal system,

what the courts expect from them, and what they can reasonably expect from the courts.

The victims will be told to attend court hearings involving the criminal and will be given access to a system that will keep them informed at all times of the status of their particular cases, the judge said.

They will be told whether the juvenile is in the county juvenile detention home or in a home detention program during the legal proceedings, he said.

At sentencing time, the victims will be able to tell the judge about the crime's physical, psychological and financial effects on themselves or on their families.

The judge said he will consider the victim's feelings and a written statement prepared by the probation department after consultation with the victim.

One of the keys to keeping victims informed will be a series of letters sent to victims during each step of the case.

Pena said those steps "formally recognize and promote the courtesies and considerations that should be extended to crime victims."

The last step, according to Pena, is the process in which the victim gets involved in the sentencing process of the juvenile.



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