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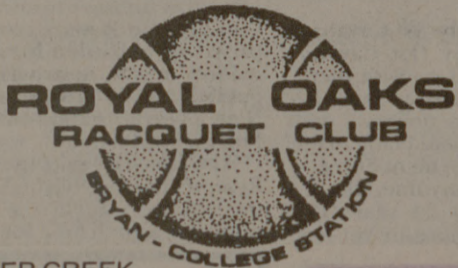
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Robot has 'talents' of his own

United Press International
SAN FRANCISCO — Hubot the robot — on sale for \$4,000 — isn't an R2D2.

Hubot can't make coffee, but has a tray to carry it around in if someone else brews it. He also doesn't do windows, vacuum the floors or do the dishes.

But the 4-foot robot can roll around leaving deep wheel tracks on carpets or speak through a voice synthesizer, repeating whatever words are typed into a keyboard. Sort of.

Instructed to say, "I am a robot," during a demonstration at a San Francisco store, Hubot blinked his 16 red lights and opened his plastic mouth.

"I am a rowboat," he said.

Robot inventor Mike Forino said 32 Hubots have been produced by Hubotics Inc., a San Diego County firm that has orders for 450 more.

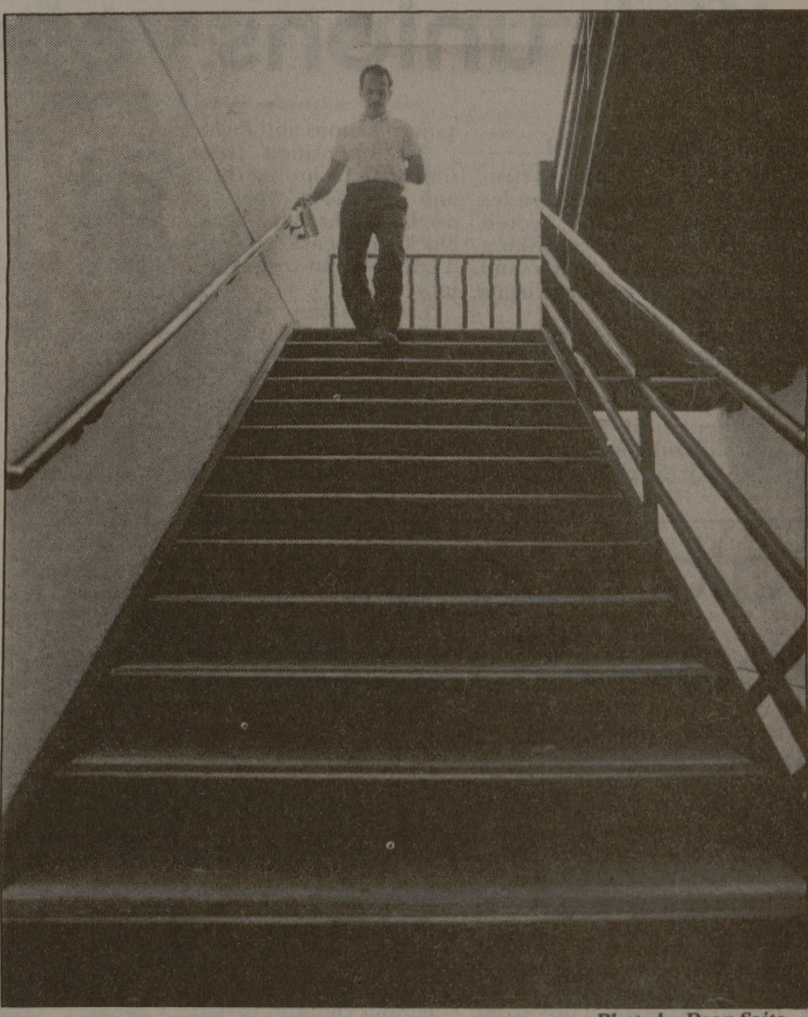
"Hubot is for people with \$50,000-a-year incomes," Forino said. "Hubot is not for everyone."

During the demonstration, Hubot informed passers-by that it was 12:10 p.m.

Hubot was equipped with a television — black and white — a radio with slightly fuzzy sound, a video game machine and a thermometer 14 degrees off.

Forino said the time will come when every American home will have a robot like Hubot. But he admitted the time may not be now.

"Hubot doesn't do the dishes, wash the windows or make the bed," Forino said. "Hubot is not R2D2. He's Hubot."



Coming down
Bill Palmore, visiting professor of architecture from New York, leaves building A of the Langford Architecture Center by means of a not often used stairwell in one of the corners of the building Monday afternoon.

American mercenaries killed in crash: senator

United Press International
Two American mercenaries were killed in the crash of a rebel helicopter that was shot down over Nicaragua during a raid on a Nicaraguan military camp, Sen. Patrick Moynihan said Monday. Nicaragua lodged a protest with the State Department.

The U.S.-made OH58 helicopter was shot down Saturday when it accompanied a three-plane air assault by CIA-backed Nicaraguan rebels on the military training school in northwestern Nicaragua.

The three crew members aboard the craft were killed, two burned beyond recognition, the Nicaraguan government said. It said said four Nicaraguan children and an adult were also killed in the air strike and two Nicaraguans were wounded.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said authorities were attempting to identify the nationality of the third crew member, "a tall, heavy-set, blond," who has "all the appearances of an American."

In Washington, Moynihan, a New York Democrat, had been informed by the CIA that two Americans were aboard the helicopter but the agency denied that they were on the CIA's payroll. Moynihan said "the best guess" was that they were free-lance mercenaries.

"We assume they are Americans,"

Moynihan said in an interview on the CBS "Morning News." "We do not know. Last week, about seven young men came in (to Honduras) from New Orleans. And apparently made their way to the FDN, the rebel 'contra' group.

"Two of them clearly were in a helicopter that flew over Santa Clara (in Nicaragua Saturday) where there had been a firefight on the ground between the Sandinistas and the contras. The helicopter was shot down, and this one man came out alive (but was killed)."

Moynihan, vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, did not identify the Americans nor did he say how the CIA knew they were aboard the helicopter.

A State Department spokeswoman said, "Although we have no independent confirmation of the downing, we can confirm that we have received a diplomatic communication from the Nicaraguan government on this matter and no U.S.

government personnel were involved in this incident."

The American deaths would be the first reported in the almost 3-year-old rebel war against Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government. The Nicaraguan government has charged that the rebels use foreign mercenaries, but the charges have never been confirmed.

Nicaragua's Foreign Ministry lodged an official protest with the U.S. State Department, charging the Reagan administration with escalating the undeclared war that has received \$55 million in U.S. funds since 1981.

"The use of massive air methods provided by the CIA to the bands of mercenaries is evidence of an escalation in the open war the U.S. government is waging against Nicaragua," the protest said.

Nicaraguan officials said they would release photographs of the body of the blond man so that his next of kin could claim the body.

Police on alert for reprisals after gang fight kills seven

United Press International
SYDNEY, Australia — Police investigating a gunfight between rival motorcycle gangs that left six bikers and a 14-year old girl dead said Monday they were on the alert for reprisals threatened by the wife of an injured gang leader.

Police have so far arrested 31 bikers and charged them with various offenses related to the massacre Sunday in the parking lot of a hotel at Milperra, about 18 miles southwest of Sydney.

Six bikers and a 14-year-old girl were killed in the battle between the Comancheros and Bandidos motorcycle gangs and 21 others were injured. Eleven bikers were still hospitalized late Monday, two in serious condition.

The wife of Comancheros' presi-

dent John Ross, who is fighting for his life in a Sydney hospital, vowed to avenge those killed and injured.

"Those Bandidos who did this are still running around. Our Comancheros are dead," Vanessa Ross said. "Their brothers will settle the score."

As police mounted special patrols in surrounding suburbs, Detective Inspector Ron Stephenson expressed fears of revenge killings.

"We don't want to create any apprehension but we certainly have to consider that there might be further reprisals," Stephenson said.

A police spokesman said questioning of those arrested is continuing, but no murder charges had yet been filed.

Ross said the Bandidos had known exactly where her husband and other leaders of the Coman-

cheros would be on Sunday.

"They came in and picked their marks. Our president (Ross) was hit in the face, head and chest, they killed our vice-president, our sergeant of arms and secretary."

"But we will keep fighting even if only the old ladies are left," Ross said.

Four of the bikers killed were members of the Comancheros, and the other two were from the Bandidos.

The 14-year-old girl, Leanne Walters, was selling raffle tickets for charity when she ran into a shotgun blast and was killed instantly.

The battle began Sunday afternoon as several hundred people in the grounds of the Viking Tavern hotel enjoyed a quiet drink in the warm, spring sunshine.

Vietnam vet denies transporting 'illegals'

United Press International
CORPUS CHRISTI — A Vietnam veteran, contending he was legally and morally right in helping people flee from Salvadoran death squads, goes to federal court Tuesday asking that three alien transportation charges against him be dropped.

Jack Elder, 40, director of the Catholic Church-sponsored Casa Oscar Romero refugee center in San Benito and active supporter of the so-called Sanctuary Movement, has indicated that he will not fight the government allegation that he transported some Salvadorans to a Har-

lingen bus station earlier this year.

U.S. District Judge Hilton Head Jr. will hear arguments from the defense as they seek to dismiss the charges on grounds that the Salvadorans in question were not illegal aliens, but instead were bonafide refugees under both international and U.S. law.

Elder could be sentenced to a maximum 15 years in prison if convicted, although most first offenders are given probation in alien transportation cases in which money does not change hands.

Elder's defense is similar to that of Stacey Lynn Merkt, 29, a religious

layworker at Casa Oscar Romero, who was convicted by a federal jury in Brownsville last June and sentenced to three years probation although she argued she did the right thing under both "God's law and man's law."

U.S. District Judge Filemon Vela, who presided at the Merkt trial, dismissed himself from presiding at Elder's trial. The defense had filed motions claiming that Vela "bent over backwards" to resist pressure from Bishop John Joseph Fitzpatrick who founded the refugee center, taking on a "prosecutorial role" in the Merkt trial.

Doesn't that beautiful mind of yours deserve a beautiful body?

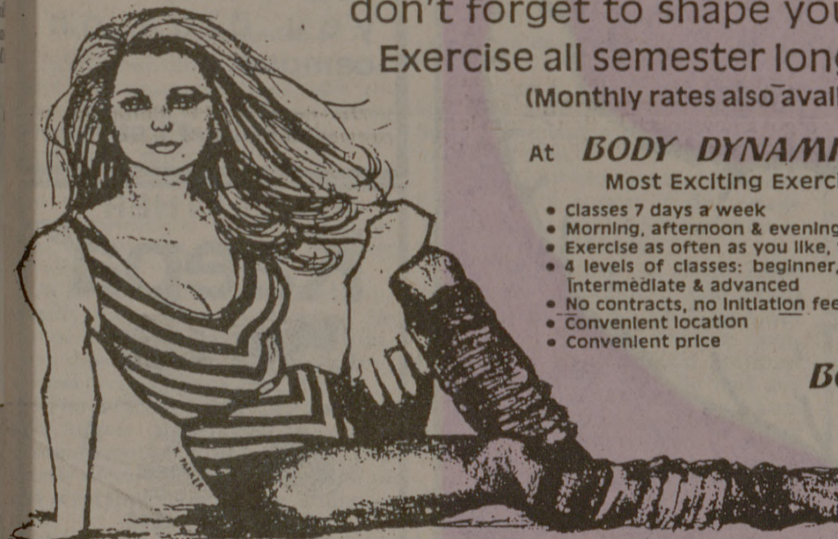
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