

Former inmate: halt strip searches

United Press International
LUBBOCK — A former Lubbock County jail inmate has asked a federal judge to halt what he calls unconstitutional practices in the jail including weekly strip searches of prisoners, court records showed Wednesday.

Samuel Jackson, 22, requested \$28,000 in damages for the strip searches as well as for censoring inmates' mail and for limited access to what he called an outdated legal library.

Jackson said he spent about five months in the jail on an assault charge before he was released earlier this month.

"Plaintiff and all other detainees in his cell area were subjected to routine mass (strip) searches," attorney Stephen McIntyre said in the lawsuit he filed in U.S. District Court on Jackson's behalf.

"They're still doing it," Jackson said of the cell block strip searches, which he said occurred weekly while he was in the jail. "It's not right what they're doing to prisoners," Jackson said.

U.S. District Judge Halbert

Woodward earlier this year ruled unconstitutional the jail's former policy of strip searching all people booked into custody.

That ruling stemmed from a case in which Barbara Wilkerson won \$15,000 in damages for a 1983 arrest and strip search. The jail's current policy gives people 24 hours after a bond-setting hearing before they can be strip searched.

Jackson also asked the federal court to rule invalid a new jail policy that prisoners cannot write letters to one another.

He said he wrote letters to a woman inmate, but she never received them. Two such letters were turned to him by jailers, Jackson said.

Jail administrator D.L. Young wrote a memo dated Oct. 10 saying that as of Oct. 15 jail inmates would not be allowed to receive mail from other Lubbock County prisoners.

"Due to the contents in some of the letters being written from one inmate to another, the policy of allowing one inmate to receive mail from another inmate in the Lubbock County jail has been recended."

Guatemalan school granted protection

United Press International
GUATEMALA CITY — The Education Ministry Wednesday called on government agencies to grant protection to teachers at a rural school who were harassed by leftist guerrillas last week.

Deputy Education Minister Adolfo Juarez Toledo said the Interior Ministry and national defense forces had been asked to protect the teachers from La Palva agricultural cooperative in La Libertad.

Guerrillas from the Rebel Armed Forces, one of four rebel groups fighting in Guatemala, reportedly entered La Palva's small public school Thursday, burned examination papers and threatened to kill the teachers, according to reports from the independent newspaper La Prensa.

La Prensa reported accounts from villagers in La Palva with some 150

families who said that armed men occupied the village threatening the citizens that if they did not leave the town in 20 days, the rebels would return to burn it down.

A military source said that army patrols were searching for the group of rebels in the isolated region.

In other developments, Interior Minister Adolfo Lopez Sandoval rejected a harsh report on human rights abuses in Guatemala released this week by the London-based Amnesty International.

The human rights group released a report criticizing 117 countries for human rights abuses.

In its section on Guatemala, Amnesty International charged that Guatemalan security forces and paramilitary groups acting on government orders continue "massive violations" of human rights, including torture, disappearances and extrajudicial executions.



Ready, aim, fire
 Riflery is a sport which requires a lot of practice and a lot of concentration. Sophomore Diana Pena, a member of the A&M rifle team, prepares for competition. The team placed first in the Southwest Conference in 1983.
 Photo by SONIA LOPEZ

New trial for insurance dispute

United Press International
AUSTIN — The Texas Supreme Court Wednesday rejected arguments that the survivors of an airplane crash could not collect insurance benefits because the plane had not been inspected as required by the insurance policy.

The high court ordered a new trial in a dispute between Joe Beth Warren Puckett, the survivor of one of the plane crash victims, and U.S. Fire Insurance Co.

On July 18, a Cessna 337 aircraft co-owned by M. Hunter Puckett

crashed near Pampa. Puckett and two passengers were killed and a third passenger was seriously injured.

U.S. Fire claimed it was not obligated to pay any damages or defend any claims arising from the crash because the plane had not been inspected for air worthiness as required by the insurance policy.

A Randall County district court agreed and the decision was upheld on appeal.

But the Supreme Court noted that pilot error — not the failure to

inspect the plane — had caused the crash.

"It would be against public policy to allow the insurance company in that situation to avoid liability by way of a breach that amounts to nothing more than a technicality," Justice Franklin Spears wrote in the majority opinion.

But Chief Justice Jack Pope disagreed.

"Courts are not in the business of writing insurance contracts," he said. "The court has written out of the contract the clear and express provi-

sertion that the aircraft air worthiness certificate shall be kept in full force and effect."

In another case, the court agreed to hear arguments on Jan. 9 involving a workers compensation claim. Lawana Bryant of Corsicana sued the firm that insured the Street Bakery, a nationally known fruitcake firm.

Bryant was laid off by the firm in October 1982 and returned weeks later to pick up her final check. As she was walking to the window, she fell and injured her-

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