

Burger King buys oriental food chain

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A former \$1.80-an-hour cashier for Uncle Sam has completed a whopper of a deal by selling her Chinese fast food business to a conglomerate that owns Burger King, which will operate Quik Wok restaurants.

Pillsbury Co., owner of the hamburger chain, announced recently it was purchasing San Antonio-based Quik Wok Inc. for an undisclosed sum. Quik Wok operates eight stores in San Antonio and one in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

"Oriental food by Burger King is a first, a pioneer venture," said Quik Wok founder Constance Andrews.

Jeff Campbell, chairman and chief executive officer of Burger King, said, Quik Wok "provides us with an exciting entry into the ethnic food business — a business we feel has substantial consumer appeal and growth potential."

Andrews, 46, recalled in a telephone interview that her last job was as a cashier at the Lackland Air Force Base post exchange when she decided to open a Chinese food restaurant in 1972 — Golden Wok.

She hocked her furniture for \$2,500 and borrowed money from her brother's military bonus to invest \$3,700 in the restaurant. She did her own plumbing and electrical work.

"I had never cooked Chinese food on a Chinese stove until the first customer put in the first order, but I said to myself, 'If the Chinese can do it, you can do it,'" she said. "Ignorance was bliss."

She said the Small Business Administration noted she was operating in the heartland of "Tex-Mex" food, and predicted she would go broke in three months. Later, she said, the SBA loaned her \$10,000, "probably to shut up my writing to Washington." She paid back the loan in 2 1/2 years.

"I had played around at the house frying rice and tried to develop recipes about how to cook in a wok," she said. "But a Chinese stove — 36-feet long and stainless steel — is a whole different animal. There are three big gas jets, and the flames practically engulf the wok."

Andrews said she was "down on my knees with no help when Kenneth Lau walked in in February 1974, and asked me if I needed a Chinese cook. It was the greatest thing that ever happened to me."



No Remedy?

Photo by GREG BAILEY

Dr. G's is going out of business. The nightclub, one of the few live music spots in the area, was a popular hangout for students. Dr. G's helped provide

local bands exposure and presented music legends such as Bo Diddley. The club will hold a garage sale Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Utilities

Gov. White claims to be cost-cutter

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Taking the offensive on an issue which is almost sure to come up in next year's campaign, Gov. Mark White said Thursday he has succeeded in lowering Texans' utility bills.

"If that's all they have to talk about then I'm not very concerned," said White, who has not announced for re-election but is expected to run.

White harped on electric bills in the 1982 campaign that ended with his upset of incumbent Bill Clements. At his weekly news conference Thursday, White said he has turned campaign talk into action that cut electric bills.

"Many Texans now pay an absolutely lower rate than they paid in the preceding administration, brought about by considered, thoughtful reg-

ulation by appointees of this administration," White said.

The big change has been in fuel fees. Under the old system, electric companies were allowed to automatically pass increasing fuel costs on to customers.

Under the influence of White's appointees, the Public Utility Commission changed the rule and took it upon itself to approve appropriate fuel charges.

The new, less flexible rule has resulted in overcharges because of declining natural gas prices. Houston Lighting & Power Co. recently announced \$147.6 million in refunds. Central Power & Light Co. is refunding \$88.1 million.

White said the end of the automatic fuel adjustment charge forced utility companies to look for the cheapest fuel.

"Consumers benefit because electric companies are now forced . . . to go out in the marketplace like other businesses to compete for fuel and try to bargain for lower prices," White said.

"Under the old system, they never asked for lower prices, they just passed on higher costs."

"They weren't doing that until I came along. I think it's important to recognize that."

Critics of the new rule say it unfairly results in overcollections that necessitate refunds of consumer dollars that should not have been paid in the first place.

Some critics also say any electric bill reductions are a result of dropping fuel prices, not anything White or his appointed utility panel has done.

White disagreed.

Judge rules military exchanges' policies discriminatory

Associated Press

DALLAS — More than 1,300 Dallas-area women could be affected by a federal judge's ruling that the Grand Prairie headquarters of the Army & Air Force Exchange Service promotion policies are biased.

U.S. District Judge Jerry Buchmeyer ruled Wednesday that AAFES, a worldwide military retail network, discriminates against female employees by requiring them to be willing to relocate before they can advance to high-level jobs.

The network also treats women

unfairly in promotion and placement in lower-level jobs where mobility is not an issue, Buchmeyer said.

The judge said he would decide at a later date the amount of damages or other relief Neoma Shafer and other plaintiffs in the class-action suit should receive from the exchange.

Shafer filed the class-action suit in 1976 alleging the exchange service had unfairly denied her and other women promotions. Shafer had un-

successfully sought promotions since 1975, according to the suit.

Buchmeyer ruled the requirement is unfair to women because women generally earn less than their husbands and are less able to move their families.

Of the 2,000 employees at the headquarters, 65 percent are women.

"The basic claim by AAFES is that the mobility requirement is necessary to assure an adequate source of mobile employees with which to

staff its facilities throughout the world," Buchmeyer said.

But AAFES didn't provide enough evidence to support the claim, the judge ruled while noting that Rosalee LeFleur, "the highest-graded female in the history of AAFES," attained her position without transfers.

Buchmeyer found that even in lower-level positions, women received "only 88.6 percent of the promotions they deserved," and "men receive 109 percent of the promotions they deserve."

Right-wing group gives contribution to former student

Associated Press

TEXARKANA — The only Republican in Saturday's special election for the first congressional district has accepted a contribution of almost \$2,000 from a conservative group who supports a right-wing Salvadoran leader.

According to Federal Election Committee records, Ed Hargett's campaign received a \$1,920 "in-kind" contribution in the form of a campaign worker from the Free Congress Political Action Group, on whose payroll the worker remains.

Responding to the report, Hargett, a former Texas A&M quarterback, said this week that the group supported him because he was a conservative and he couldn't be held responsible for anyone else the group supports.

"I don't really have anything to do with what they do," Hargett said. "The groups can do and support the people that they want."

The Texarkana Gazette questioned Hargett Wednesday about the political action group's support for right-wing El Salvadoran leader Roberto D'Aubuisson, who has been connected with death squads.

The Washington Post reported last December that the Free Congress PAC held a dinner in Washington, D.C., in honor of D'Aubuisson.

During congressional testimony, former U.S. ambassador Robert White linked D'Aubuisson to death squads, according to the Washington Post.

A Dec. 3, 1984 New York Times article stated that the Reagan Administration at one time denied D'Au-

buisson a visa to visit the United States.

He eventually was granted a visa because the State Department lacked firm evidence about D'Aubuisson's involvement in an assassination plot against the U.S. ambassador, the Times stated.

Hargett said he did not know about the Washington dinner.

At a Hargett rally in Marshall, in which Vice President George Bush appeared with the candidate and spoke in his behalf, a man said he was working for Hargett on behalf of the Free Congress PAC, the Gazette said. The campaign worker said he was "networking" conservative groups to support Hargett, the newspaper reported.

Hargett confirmed the man's role in the campaign, saying he was getting the conservative people working and supporting me.

"He's here to let those conservative groups know who the conservative is in this race," Hargett said. "The Free Congress, they want conservatives elected to Congress, and I think their support of me shows who the conservative is in this race."

The Free Congress PAC also has sent humanitarian aid in the form of medicine, food and military uniforms to the contras fighting in Nicaragua.

Hargett praised that effort to aid the contras.

"I think they see the necessity of opposing communism wherever it might be, and that's right in our back yard," he said. "So, yes, I think that it should be done."

Kidnapped

(continued from page 1)

this matter and we insist on the release of our hostages, all 46 of them, immediately and unconditionally," he said when asked about the seven during an appearance in San Francisco.

Vice President George Bush echoed Shultz, telling reporters in Brussels, Belgium, on Thursday, "That's always been the (U.S.) position. Release them all."

Only Tuesday, White House spokesman Larry Speakes had said the plight of the seven was not being addressed in the same package as the larger group.

Peggy Say, sister of one of the seven captives, said Thursday it was the pressure of press coverage that has made the U.S. government link demands for their release with the 39 TWA hostages.

Mrs. Say, sister of kidnapped Associated Press correspondent Terry Anderson, said she was feeling very emotional because for the first time she had read in the newspaper "that George Shultz said, 'They have 46 of our people and we want them back.'"

"When I picked up the paper this morning, I said, 'You did it. The media did it,'" Mrs. Say said on the NBC "Donahue" program.

Administration officials declined to publicly or privately speculate whether linking the group of seven to the 39 could throw a monkey wrench into the sensitive diplomatic maneuverings for release of the hijacking hostages.

Nabih Berri, the Shiite leader who is handling negotiations from the hijackers' side for the release of the 39 American hostages, has said the seven aren't under his control.

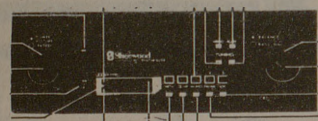
Mrs. Say and relatives of some of the other hostages periodically voiced frustration prior to the hijacking that the administration was not doing enough to free them and that she and other relatives had been unable to meet with Reagan.

Besides Anderson, 37, the AP's chief Middle East correspondent based in Beirut, and Jenco, 50, the five Americans held since before the hijacking are William Buckley, 56, U.S. Embassy political officer, kidnapped March 16, 1984; the Rev. Benjamin Weir, 60, a Presbyterian minister, May 8, 1984; Peter Kilburn, 60, American University of Beirut librarian, Dec. 3, 1984; David Jacobsen, 54, director of American University's hospital, May 28, 1985; and Thomas Sutherland, dean of American University's agricultural school, June 9, 1985.

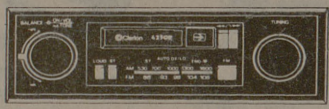
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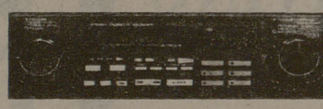
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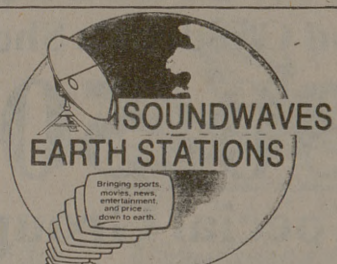
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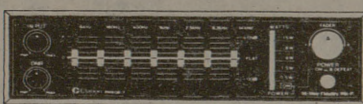
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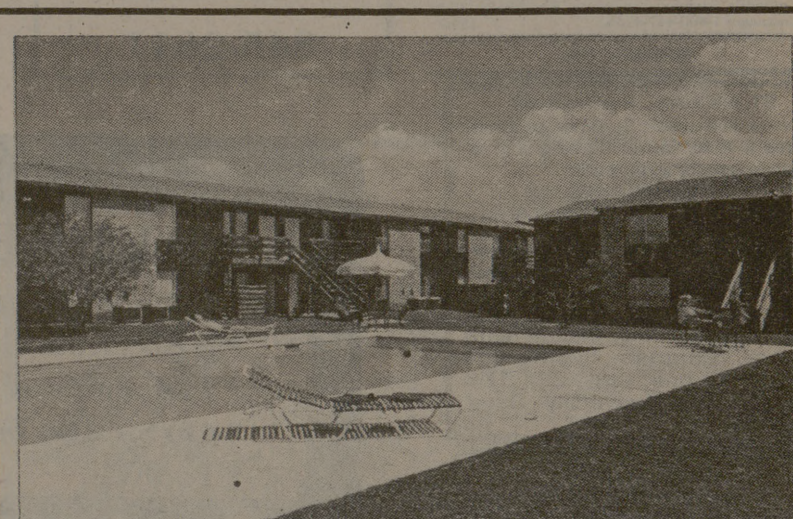
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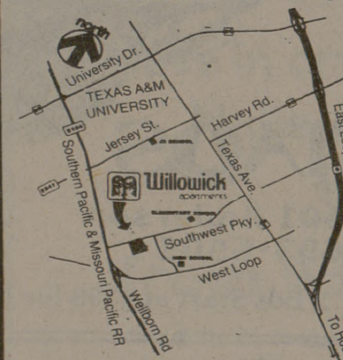
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