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FBI agent's defense ridiculed by prosecution in spy case

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - A prosecutor said angrily Thursday that defense arguments for the first FBI agent charged with espionage were "balo-ney," and ridiculed a comparison of

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War II.

the man to "Honeymooners" tele-vision character Ralph Kramden. U.S. District Judge David Kenyon said the case would go to the jury later Thursday after he instructed the panel.

The defense has contended that fired agent Richard W. Miller, 48, through his liaison with Soviet emigre Svetlana Ogorodnikov, meant to infiltrate the Soviet KGB, not to commit espionage against his own

country. "That story was baloney. It was not only baloney then. It's still balo-

History today

Associated Press

Today is Friday, October 18, the 291st day of 1985. There are 74 days left in the year. Today's highlight in history: On October 18, 1867. the United States took formal posses-tion of Alacha form Burger

On this date: In 1767, the boundary between

Maryland and Pennsylvania, the Mason-Dixon line, was agreed

In 1873, representatives of Co-lumbia, Princeton, Rutgers and Yale universities drew up the first rules for intercollegiate football. In 1898, the American flag was

raised in Puerto Rico shortly be-

fore Spain formally relinquished control of the island to the U.S. In 1944, Soviet troops invaded Czechoslovakia during World

War II. In 1950, Connie Mack, the "Grand Old Man" of major league baseball, announced he would retire as manager of the Philadelphia Athletics. In 1968, the U.S. Olympic Committee suspended two black athletes. Torping Smith and John

athletes, Tommie Smith and John

Carlos, for giving a "black power

salute as a protest during their victory ceremony in Mexico City. Ten years ago: Three leading bankers warned Congress that a default by New York City might adversely affect the world's money markets

money markets.

sion of Alaska from Russia.

ney," U.S. Attorney Robert Bonner said in his closing arguments.

Defense attorneys also have argued that Miller was such a bumbler that he was like the Jackie Gleason character in "The Honeymooners," without the humor

"It's cute," said Bonner, "but the only comparison between Ralph Kramden and Richard Miller is they were both overweight. Ralph Kramden wasn't disloyal to his wife. He wasn't disloyal to his country. We're not talking about Ralph Kramden in this case. We're talking about Richard Miller.

Miller "knew the basics" after 20 years with the FBI, Bonner said.

"He knew, for instance, you don't have sex with a female asset (source), a Soviet emigre whose loyalties were

in question. He knew that was a nono," Bonner said. "Every FBI agent knows that.

Miller is accused of turning over classified information in exchange for \$65,000 in cash and gold, and faces a life sentence if convicted. Mrs. Ogorodnikov and her hus-

band, Nikolay, have pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit espionage and have been sentenced to prison.

Bonner said he agreed with the defense that Miller was a misfit in the FBI but sternly advised jurors they were not to consider that.

The question of whether Mr Miller should have been fired is not an issue for you as jurors to decide,' he said.

Strike affects more than just autoworkers

Associated Press

WARREN, Mich. - When the assembly lines grind to a halt in this blue-collar town and autoworkers collect \$100 weekly strike payments instead of \$650 paychecks, the economic shock waves are felt far beyond the picket lines.

"When there's a strike, people hold on to their money," said Harry Peters, who runs the Royal Dinette furniture store about a mile east of Chrysler Corp.'s sprawling Dodge pickup truck complex.

"This is a neighborhood where you have a lot of people who work at the auto companies," he said Thursday. "When there's a strike, it's gotta

As in other communities where the automaker is a major employer, merchants and community leaders here expect the effects of a pro-longed walkout to be felt by retailers and supply industries.

"We get a lot of business from the autoworkers," said Dave Romberg, who runs an appliance-leasing out-

"Our collections are coming in slower from people who work for Chrysler and General Dynamics," he said. "We've been deferring them, tacking them on to what they owe, but we can only do that once or



Hightower says Middle America searching for unyielding leaders

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Middle America is neither right wing nor left wing, but rife with populist un-rest and looking for leaders who will get tough, Texas Agriculture Com-missioner Jim Hightower said Thursday in a speech he billed as an unconventional message from

The Democratic Party must seize the moment, not seek refuge in the middle ground, Hightower told a lunch-time crowd at the National Press Club.

"There is an ingrained populist spirit that is widespread and deeply held in the political body of this country today," Hightower said. 'These people are looking for political champions willing to (get tough)

and set things right again. He referred to the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980 and 1984, "These people are looking for political champions willing to (get tough) and set things right again."

— Jim Hightower, Texas agriculture commissioner.

with his own election in 1982 as a Democratic populist sandwiched in between.

"And I'm betting they're going to come home to papa in 1986," he said, referring to his re-election bid.

"The great masses of Middle Americans have not become nearly as Yuppie-ized, as Republicanized, as happy-faced as many of the pun-

dits and the Republican pollsters and other trend-spotters would like to believe," Hightower said.

Populism, he said, is born of a "realization that too few people control all the money and power and are leaving very little for the rest of us."

"Populism is propelled politically by the simmering desire of the mass of people to upend that arrange-ment," he said. "This is hardly a centrist position — by centrist you mean moderate — but it is at the center of most people's political becenter of most people's political be-ing and it is a very hot center indeed.

"That's not just a few people who feel like that. It's not just labor, it's not just poor folks, it's not just mi-norities, environmentalists, Volvodriving liberals. I contend it is the American majority.

French novelist Simon wins Nobel Prize

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Novelist Claude Simon, whose complex style has kept his work from becoming well known even in his native France, won the Nobel Prize for lit-

erature Thursday. Simon, 72, became the 12th French writer to win the prestigious award and the first since 1964, when

draw on his experiences with the Republican side in the Spanish Civil War and as a cavalry officer in World War II, combine "the poet's and the painter's creativeness with and the painter's creativeness with a deepened awareness of time in the

depiction of the human condition." Simon now spends most of his time growing wine grapes on the slopes of the Pyrenees in Salses in

were television crews outside his home early this morning.'

The Swedish news agency Tidningarnas Telegrambyra quoted Si-mon as saying in a telephone inter-view from Salses that he welcomed his new fame and hoped the award would bring a wider audience to his books, which even the Swedish Aca-demy said were difficult to read. "People will get to understand my work sooner or later," Simon was quoted as saying. "This is nothing new, that some authors are considered difficult.

reporters at the United Nations, Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Ali Rajai said a decision by Iran's Parliament on the fate of the American hostages was "not far away.

Five years ago: Speaking with

One year ago: Air Force Two, carrying Vice President Bush, was involved in a near-collision with a small, single-engine plane while approaching Boeing Field in Seattle

existentialist author and playwright Jean-Paul Sartre declined to accept his award.

The Swedish Academy said it had been watching Simon's work ever since the late 1950s when he became known as an exponent of the French "nouveau roman," or "new novel" style, which did away with conventional concepts of narrative structure, plot and character development.

The academy said in its citation that Simon's novels, many of which

His editor, Jerome Lindon of the Editions Minuit publishing com-pany, told The Associated Press by telephone from Simon's home that 'Claude Simon . . . is very touched by the honor bestowed upon him."

Lindon said it is unlikely Simon will make a public statement. He said the author wasn't surprised when he heard on the radio that he'd won the prize "because he was a contender two years ago, and because there Simon's last major work, and, according to the academy secretary, Dr. Lars Gyllensten, his most important, was the novel "Les Georgi-ques," ("The Georgics"), published in 1981. It depicts his experiences in the Spanish Civil War.

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