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Renegade forces set fire to Egyptian hotels

CAIRO, Egypt — Renegade security forces and civilian mobs set fire to hotels, looted shops, stormed a prison and sent tourists scrambling to safety Wednesday after fighting broke out with army troops near the Great Pyramids.

Sources said scores were killed and hundreds were injured.

Edward Bernier, spokesman for

the U.S. Embassy, said about 120 Americans were in the area. None were injured, he said.

The rioting began when conscripts from a Central Security Force camp near the pyramids protested against rumors that their term of service was to be extended from three years to four, the official Middle East News Agency said.

Suit seeks to close center

(continued from page 1)
ney's should not be allowed to represent Wasson, because he is being sued as an individual and not in any official University capacity.

"To allow TAMU System attorneys to appear in this cause would further allow public facilities and public funds to destroy competition," the petition says.

Wasson's defense will probably be that he's acting in an official capacity and performing a viable educational purpose, the petition states. But KLS asks that this protection be denied.

"That exclusion is not intended to protect overzealous state employees from creating retail centers under a claim of immunity. . . ." the petition says. "Centers that destroy local businesses, thus depriving private persons of property, without due process of law."

Wasson, in Dallas on a business trip, said he was told not to comment on the case and referred all questions to the System attorney.

Ted Hajovsky, System General Counsel, said the suit was frivolous and without merit.

"If we operated according to their standards, the University couldn't even sell food on campus," Hajovsky said.

Larry Berry, president of KLS, said he has been pursuing legal action against the University since the Center opened in 1984.

He says that along with the other retailers he is slowly being bankrupted. And he says he is paying tax dollars to put himself out-of-business.

"The center just has everything," Berry said, "I don't think anybody can compete with them."

Vendors: Computer sales off

(continued from page 1)

Center, says the center is able to offer a 20 percent to 40 percent discount on computers, and a 35 percent to 50 percent discount on software.

The Micro Center's sales for the last quarter — from September through December — were \$650,000, which projects to over \$2 million annually.

Berry says he doubted if annual computer sales from all independent outlets in Brazos County were as high as \$2 million.

The economy hasn't been good for retailers in the past months, Wright says.

She says the University and the area retailers should be helping each other through the difficult time.

"The University needs growth in Brazos County to grow itself," Wright says. "Why should other businesses be attracted to the area if the University can come in and undercut them?"

Dr. George H. Lucas Jr., assistant

marketing professor and faculty committee member for the Center for Retailing Studies, says the Micro Center probably isn't good for the economy as a whole, but it is good for education.

"Anything the University can do to get computers into student's hands, the better," Lucas says.

Lucas said some colleges, such as Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y., require all incoming freshmen to purchase computers through the university at drastically reduced prices.

According to Lucas, computer retailers in Brazos County could compete with the Micro Center by concentrating on the services the center does not offer.

Kevin Mullenix, manager of Computerland, says they are doing just that.

"In some ways I figure they've (the Micro Center) helped," Mullenix says.

He says a lot of students come to him because they're frustrated with the Micro Center's lack of services.

Center providing discounts

(continued from page 1)

would contract directly with the national vendors, Kane says.

The major advantage of this program as stated by the subcommittee was the discount that would be available to the faculty, staff and students of the System.

Kane says the center is a service organization and is not state-funded. He said the center's funds for overhead and shipping come from a 10 percent markup on the price of the merchandise.

The center is able to offer a 20 percent to 40 percent discount on computers, and a 35 percent to 50 percent discount on software, Kane says.

The center can afford to sell its merchandise at such a reduced price because it buys directly from the manufacturer at a negotiated price, Kane says.

"Unfortunately, the local dealers can't compete with the volume discounts the large corporations give us," Kane says.

Kane says there's still a big market for computers in the Bryan-College Station area. He says the center can't provide some services available from retailers.

"We're obviously going to do more volume than the local retailers simply because of the convenience factor and of course because of the discount," Kane says.

The center does have a contract with two local vendors, Radio Shack and YES Computers, which offer similar discounts to the students, Kane says.

Some income deductible

(continued from page 1)

deductible at the rate of 9 cents a mile, or you may keep a record of actual medical-related expenditures for oil and gas. In either case, you also may add parking fees and highway tolls.

To meet the 5 percent threshold, you may add premiums for medical insurance; doctor and hospital bills; prescription drugs and insulin; the cost of any legal operation, including abortion and sterilization; a facelift or other cosmetic surgery; the Internal Revenue Service has held even a hair transplant is deductible. A special captioning device that allows a deaf person to watch television may be written off. So may the cost of removing lead-based paint from a child's room — but not the cost of repainting.

You may not deduct the medical portion of your car insurance, a weight-loss or stop-smoking program, any social activity (such as dancing) for general improvement of your health — even if your doctor prescribes it — or (generally) meals and lodging when you are away from home for medical treatment unless they are provided in a medical facility.

However, up to \$50 a day for lodging outside a medical facility may be written off if necessary for medical care, such as a trip to an out-of-town out-patient clinic.

If you install special equipment in your home for medical reasons and on doctors' orders, a portion of it may be deductible, depending on whether it raises the value of your home.



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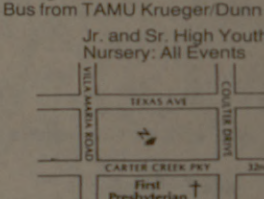
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"They must be playing RAGE again."

Poetry Contest

The deadline is this Friday, February 28. Winners will appear in a publication in the Spring.

Entries may be dropped off in Rm 226 Blocker. Rules also posted in Rm 226.

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