



Barton visit

Congressman Joe Barton, Class of '72, participates in a mock Congressional meeting Tuesday with Bart Munro and Monte Franke, members of his

Brazos County Advisory Committee. They were trying to create an imaginary federal budget. The group held their meeting at K-Bob's.

Photo by Jay Janner

Ex-police chief says he was hired for killing

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A former police chief admitted Tuesday that he participated in a bungled contract murder and said he was fired through an advertisement in Soldier of Fortune magazine by a man accused of advertising as a "Gun for Hire" in the same periodical.

Michael Wayne Jackson, former police chief in Tatum, Texas, testified in the trial of Richard Michael Savage, 39, who is accused of murdering a botched, murder-for-hire scheme.

Jackson said he met Savage in Atlanta after Savage answered an advertisement the former police chief placed in Soldier of Fortune, offering bodyguard and surveillance work.

Shortly after they met, Jackson said Savage brought up the idea of

blowing up someone's car with hand grenades, after a previous attempt had failed.

"He wanted me to get underneath the car and rewire the hand grenades so that they would detonate as soon as somebody started the ignition," Jackson said, adding he refused to do so but agreed to stand watch while someone else hooked up the bombs.

Savage was indicted with four other people in October 1986.

The indictment states that in response to Savage's advertisement, a woman named Alice V. Brado hired him to kill Colorado businessman Dana Free, a man she said bilked her out of her \$300,000 life savings.

Savage subsequently hired other people and supplied them with guns and hand grenades to carry out the killing, according to the indictment.

Brado pleaded guilty to paying Savage \$20,000 to arrange Free's death. She later died in prison.

The trial was moved from Houston, due to publicity from an unrelated civil suit in which a jury there last month found the Boulder, Col.—based magazine negligent and awarded \$9.4 million to the family of a woman killed in a contract allegedly arranged through a Soldier of Fortune ad.

Jackson said he received a total of \$2,000 from Savage for his involvement in the contract on Free. Records at the Tatum Police Department show Jackson was chief in the northeast Texas town for four weeks in 1978.

He is serving time in federal prison in Texarkana following state and federal convictions for crimes committed in Arkansas and Georgia.

Hispanic leaders meet to set agenda for political platforms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hispanic leaders from across the country gathered Tuesday to forge a national agenda embracing Mexican-Americans from South Texas colonies to Los Angeles barrios and Puerto Ricans in New York tenements to Cubans in Miami's Little Havana.

"We've got a good cross-representation of Hispanics from across the United States. It dispels the myth that Hispanics are not unified," said Pablo Sedillo, chairman of the National Hispanic Leadership Conference.

"Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Mexican-Americans, Central and South Americans are participating, Democrats and Republicans, conservatives and liberals. We're proving we can come together and we are going to make a difference," Sedillo said.

More than 300 delegates at the conference, which meets during presidential election years, will vote Wednesday on a sweeping agenda that its leaders hope to have in-

cluded in the Democratic and Republican party platforms.

"The issues that are going to be recognized and come out of this conference will speak very clearly and concretely as to what a presidential candidate should be doing to represent the needs of Hispanics — education, employment, housing, civil rights, health," Sedillo, of Santa Fe, N.M., said.

Former New Mexico Gov. Toney Anaya said, "We are arriving at a consensus statement that will be very strong. It supports all the Hispanics — regardless of their country of origin."

More than 3.5 million Hispanics are expected to vote in November's general election, according to the NHLHC, and its leaders say that's more than enough to shape the outcome and ensure their needs get top billing in the party platforms.

In its draft agenda, the NHLHC recommends education reforms to stem the high school dropout rate — only 50.9 percent of Hispanics com-

plete high school compared with 77.7 percent of the general population; appointment of a Hispanic to the U.S. Supreme Court; massive government spending on employment and training; better opportunities for Hispanics to fill upper-echelon positions in education, government and business; and enhanced access to health care and affordable housing.

The draft also seeks a one-year extension for undocumented aliens to apply for amnesty and for the president to immediately suspend the deportation of Salvadoran and Nicaraguan nationals from the United States.

"If I had to single out any one thing that would be it — to keep our youth in school," said Al Zapanta of Dallas, director of government affairs for ARCO Oil and Gas Co.

"We have to educate them so they can take their rightful position in society," he added. "We keep filling the bottom rung, but they're not moving up."

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