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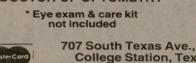
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Oil rig worker says Iranians were 'going to kill anything that moved

Odessa man who was working on a Persian Gulf drilling rig, targeted by Iranian gunboats, said the attackers "were going to kill anything that

Bob Jackson said the Monday attack was clearly in retaliation for the U.S. assault earlier on two Iranian

"I saw these gunboats about a half-mile away attack this tanker," Jackson told the Houston Chronicle from his home in Abu Dhabi.

"One of the small gunboats shot three or four rockets into the tanker," he said. "It was cut in half.

The boats then went toward an Iranian-controlled island in the gulf about 10 to 15 miles away, he said.

'I kept scanning over the horizon and looking that none came back be-fore we all went back to work," said Jackson, 55, who retired after 28 years with Houston-based Cameron Iron Works and now works as a consultant for the United Arab Emirates' government-owned petroleum company.
"We're out there trying to make a

living, that's all," he said.

Then I saw a white wake coming

"Then they started machine-gunning us. They would rake the deck, trying to kill people.'

- Bob Jackson, worker on attacked oil rig

in Persian Gulf

was the gunboats coming back," he

It looked like they were returning to fire at the tanker, but they made an abrupt 90-degree turn toward the

rig, Jackson said. "They stopped maybe 200 yards away, and they just looked at us," he "Then they turned, and I said, 'Boy, this is it.'

By turning, the gunboat was able to point its rockets at the rig, whose platform is about 80 feet above wa-

The gunboat fired 10 or 12 rockets at the rig's legs, hoping to blow one apart to topple the rig, Jackson

"They hit us (with rockets) six or seven or eight or 10 times," he said. "When they hit the rig, it bounced me off the floor about two feet.

"Then they started machine-gunning us," Jackson said. "They would rake the deck, trying to kill people.'

As the gunboats circled the rig, firing at those on the platform, Jackson said, the crew would run to the

opposite side.

The U.S. Navy was alerted, but Jackson said he never saw any U.S. ships and did not know whether they may have caused the Iranians to

withdraw. The Iranians seemed to lighten their machine gun firing when char-tered helicopters flew to the rig and evacuated the personnel, Jackson

"I think they were there to kill all of us," he said. "They were going to kill anything that moved. There were having fun, like children.

"They were there to hurt people; they were there to sink something,"

Grumman Corp. could bring up to 2,000 jobs to Houston

Corp. announced Tuesday it would build a Southwest Regional Development and Production Center here, bringing the city at least 1,000 new jobs in the next year.

The aircraft and aerospace company, which already employs about 500 people in Houston, said the job count could grow to 2,000 or more, depending on the outcome of several NASA and Defense Department programs. "Grumman feels betting a large

part of our company future on Houston is a good bet," J.J. Busso-lini, Grumman vice president for business operations, said at a news

'We have identified Houston as our next area of expansion," Busso-lini said. "We think we have an eco-

nomic advantage here."
Grumman, based in Bethpage,
N.Y., selected Houston from among other potential sites in Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama, Bussolini said. He said none of the new Houston

jobs would be the result of transfers from other Grumman facilities.

base now owned by the city.

The land originally was earmarked for Grumman's civil space

The new project, which carries an initial investment of \$10 million over the next two years, was the culmination of efforts by officials of the Houston Economic Development

"The loss of the space station contract was a serious setback to our corporate plan," Bussolini said, adding that Houston officials kept encouraging the company to add to its pres-

'We wanted to assure them Houston was very enthusiastic," Mayor Kathy Whitmire said.

Orumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs and engineering support for Grumman said work in Houston will include civil space programs, manufacturing and development on Air Force missile programs are programs.

incentives to locate at Ellington Field, a strong work ethic shown by employees at its existing Houston unit for NASA space station work. operations, an excellent pool of po-Grumman, however, lost the bid for tential employees and cost savings the job when NASA selected rival for construction and operations of McDonnell Douglas Corp. for construction and operations of new facilities compared with other parts of the country.

The Grumman announcement is further proof of Houston's commitment to diversify," U.S. Rep. Mike Andrews, whose district includes the

Lee Hogan, president of the Houston Economic Development of the oil-dependent area's efforts to get more involved in aircraft and aerospace industries.

"We are now as interested in that as the price of oil," Hogan said.

for city to lear nuclear projet AUSTIN (AP) - A hearing

Jackson said, adding that the boats split an oil tanker in the rockets before attacking the legged jackup rig Scan Bij, aged by Houston-based Sa

aged by Houston-based 32
ling Co. Ltd.

Marty du Broc, operation
ager for the company, said to
owned by a Liberian firm an
staffed by U.S. workers.

About 70 people, includ
Americans, were on board we

"It was a miracle of God one was injured," du Brocsid He said those working for

Drilling are from Great Br Zealand, India and Pakista

son said. "I got a little wet

That's the last thing you wa He said he is in no hurry

to the rig as long as the pos mains the Iranians will lau

"I'm not going back—next few days, anyway."

Du Broc said the rig has be

site off Sharjah for about two The extent of damage w

Hearing set

"Everybody was very luc

attack occurred.

agreement to get Austin out South Texas Nuclear Pro been scheduled for June Public Utility Commi The hearing was set o

by Administrative Law Ju Smith, who is presiding Smith told participans that he would make every assure PUC action on the by a Sept. 1 deadline.

The agreement, sign Austin and Houston Power Co. officials last n the approval of the Pl federal Nuclear Regul

mission to become fina The agreement calls take over Austin's 400,0 share of the nuclear pro Austin to obtain 400,000 capacity from the Limes generating plant, a lignite in cility owned by HL&P in li County.

Austin also would receive mated \$137.5 million and drop a 5-year-old lawsut HL&P, the project's partner.

Group scoll

Few amnesty applicants accept offer of free bus transportation

HARLINGEN (AP) — Few amnesty applicants have responded to an offer of free bus transportation to the legalization center, and if ridership doesn't pick up, the stalled ride program may have to be dismantled, an immigration official said Tuesday.

Only four aliens showed up Tuesday for the 35-mile trip from McAllen to the Immigration and Naturalization Service's lower Rio Grande Valley legalization center in Harlingen, INS spokesman Virginia

On Monday, the first day of the ride program, only seven took the 90-mile trip from Rio Grande City on the 47-seat bus chartered from Valley Transit Co.

"I don't know if they're mistrust-ful," Kice said. "Maybe they don't want to ride on a bus we're sponsoring. I'm real disappointed."

She said the program was started after immigration lawyers reported that a lack of transportation from some of the more remote areas might be keeping some people from

there for some type of transportation," Kice said.

She said the bus trips were widely publicized in the local Spanish me-

Other publicity in the past two months helped to more than qua-druple the response at the Har-lingen center, Kice said.

Those events included remote radio broadcasts, a live three-hour telethon, Boy Scouts distributing INS fliers in neighborhoods and airplanes pulling banners advertising the deadline.

With the May 4 deadline approaching, applications at the Harlingen center have jumped from 250 a week in January to more than 1,400 last week, she said.

But nationwide, the turnout is

lower than expected.

INS critics say the cost of applying has hindered many applicants, who are among the poorest people in the nation. The agency charges \$185 for adults, \$50 for children, and a maximum of \$420 for an entire family.

applying.

"We can't waive the fee, because "I thought there was a need out that is not in our power," said Kice. We can't waive the fee, because

Jerry Sewell, INS district director in Harlingen, said it is too early to talk about discontinuing the ride program.

'If we don't get anybody on there, we may have to take another look at it," Sewell said. "We're not going to waste taxpayers' money if it's not be-

Another trip was planned for Wednesday from Brownsville to Harlingen, with repeat trips sched-uled from Rio Grande City, McAllen and Brownsville next week. Total cost of the bus program was about

"Two or three years from now, I hate to look back and think 30 miles came between someone and a chance for U.S. citizenship," Kice

The one-time amnesty offer is part of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, which was designed to pay for itself through ap-

An INS spokesman in Washington said 1,581,593 had been processed nationwide as of April 14.

for conviction head

AUSTIN (AP) - The Sta mission on Judicial Cor Tuesday announced app rimand of a Bell Count the peace who found an without conducting a trial

According to the con defendant charged with derly conduct was brought tice of the Peace Floyd bell's Belton courtroom © 22, 1987. The man pleaded cent, but Campbell imme convicted him.

The judge, contacted Test at his Belton office, did not the commission's accoun

"That was an old boy running down the high mph," Campbell said. way patrolman, the de iff and the game ward head him off and the

gunpoint to get him to "He had several oth filed against him. He p to all the other charge this disorderly condu took it on myself to

guilty."

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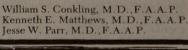
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