

Inmates refuse orders after execution of death row man

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Prison officials were forced to lock down a wing of death row convicts who refused to report for work earlier this month in memory of a fellow inmate who was executed, inmates disclosed Wednesday.

The action on behalf of Donald Gene Franklin caused an interruption in work flow at the nation's only prison factory totally staffed by condemned men.

Texas Department of Corrections officials said a factory supervisor mispoke when he previously allowed inmates to remain in their cells on the day of an execution because they were distraught or didn't care to work that day.

The courtesy had been in effect since the factory opened 2½ years ago.

"I'm not aware of any written pol-

icy," spokesman David Nunnelee said. "It was explained to them there was no policy."

The supervisor earlier this year was transferred to another unit and a new supervisor was in charge Nov. 3 when Donald Gene Franklin became the first Texas inmate to be put to death since January.

This time, about 45 inmates — three times the usual number — failed to report to work the day of Franklin's execution.

"They would have been better off to sacrifice that one day of production and start off the next day with an explanation," Lester Bower, an inmate who works in the Ellis I Unit garment factory, said. "But no, they want to make a big deal out of it and so it'll be two or three months smoothing feathers back down. In the long run, production-wise,

they'll suffer more by what they did. "It just got out of hand. I don't know how else to explain it."

Franklin, executed for the 1975 abduction-slaying of a San Antonio nurse, was one of the longest-serving inmates on death row.

His appeal, until rejected in June by the U.S. Supreme Court, blocked virtually all executions in the state for about a year.

"What made this situation a little different was that because of the customary 12 to 15 people laying in (remaining in their cells and refusing to work) — because Franklin was so well-known and because it had been so long since there had been an execution — about 45 men laid in," Bower said.

Only nine men reported to work for the regular 7 a.m. shift.

"You have to understand the men do not understand they have done anything wrong," Bower said. "It's the old minor understanding that blows up into a major confrontation."

Instead of the usual two security people, nearly two dozen officers converged on the plant.

At least four inmates who work at the start of a line making shorts were written up as disciplinary cases accusing them of refusing to work.

The lockdown, which confines inmates to their cells, was lifted the next day, Nunnelee said.

"Both us prisoners and the administration just grope around in the dark and once in a while we bump into each other," Bower said. "We all learn from these little experiences."

Jury convicts accused mass murderer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Jurors on Wednesday convicted mass murder suspect Leo Narvaiz Jr., described by prosecutors as a cold, gutless coward who butchered his ex-girlfriend and her three siblings because she spurned him for another man.

The 11-woman, one-man jury deliberated 2½ hours before convicting the 20-year-old Narvaiz of killing his former girlfriend, Shannon Mann, 17; her siblings, Jennifer, 19; Martha, 15; and Ernest, 11, at their mobile home on April 15.

Narvaiz, who has been calm throughout the trial, was fidgety before the verdict was read, but showed no reaction as the decision was revealed.

The punishment phase of the trial will begin Thursday morning. Narvaiz faces the maximum penalty of death by injection.

District Attorney Fred Rodriguez declined to comment, saying he would wait until after the punishment phase.

But defense attorney Ernie Glenn

said his client was surprised by the capital murder verdict.

"I think anybody would be surprised by a verdict such as this," Glenn said. "(But) I think Leo will accept the verdict as it came back from the jury."

The guilty verdict came one day after a tape recording of one of the victims' final words was played in court.

Shannon Mann called a 911 emergency telephone operator during the attacks and said her boyfriend was beating them up. A voice on the tape, identified by a police detective as Narvaiz's, asked Shannon Mann, "Why did you have to do this to me?"

Rodriguez said that Narvaiz killed the Manns to punish them because Shannon refused to see him anymore.

"He wants justice. He's gotten the right to a public trial," Rodriguez said in closing arguments Wednesday.

"What right did this gutless, spineless, murderer accord them? None at all," said Rodriguez, who de-

scribed the slayings as the most grisly in the county's history.

"He started out with that grain of vengeance in his black heart. He got to thinking he had been replaced. He had a mission in mind and when he got out there he executed it."

"There was a smell of fear in the mobile home. They stared death in the face and they saw a knife-wielding, cowardly, cutthroat — Leo Narvaiz — and that was the last person they saw before they died," Rodriguez said.

Narvaiz, accused of breaking windows in a truck belonging to Shannon's boyfriend in late March, had maintained his innocence after his arrest.

He told police investigators two days after the slayings, however, that he remembered going to the Mann home after snorting a large amount of cocaine. He said he stabbed Jennifer after she stabbed him, but that he did not remember stabbing Ernest, Shannon or Martha.

A tape-recorded telephone call made by Shannon Mann to the 911

emergency service that was played in court on Tuesday, however, revealed that Narvaiz was at the home during the slayings and that Shannon Mann begged him for her life, prosecutors said.

"Leo, please don't," Shannon Mann is heard saying. "I love you. I love . . . I love you."

"Did you call the cops?" the male, identified by police as Narvaiz, asks Shannon Mann.

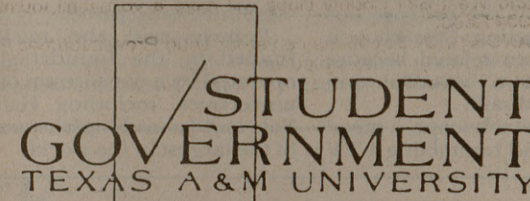
"No, I didn't," she said.

Testimony has revealed that the slayings were carried out in less than 10 minutes and that some knife blows were delivered so hard that blades broke in the victims' bodies.

Narvaiz has shown little reaction during the three-week trial, which has attracted more than 100 people per day to the small courtroom.

Glenn suggested in closing arguments that police did not do their job correctly and may be trying to pin the crime on Narvaiz.

"Look at these pictures and decide, 'Is it possible that this little guy did this all by himself?'" he said.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Progress Report

To: The Students of A&M
From: Student Government Communications
Public Relations Chairman: Michelle Van Duyen
Newsletter Chairman/Editor: Rod Jag
Staff Writers: Meaghan Affleck, Tim Meyer, Beth Schreiber, Terri Welch
Re: The activities of Student Government during the Fall of 1988

The Progress Report will include:

1. A Summary of current Status of the committees in Student Government
2. Some projected plans from each committees for the rest of the 1988 school year.
3. To better inform the students at Texas A&M on the progress of Student Government

Executive Branch

A. Big Event- A one day event for students at Texas A&M to donate their time & skill through services to the Bryan College Station Community.

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

B. COSGA-Texas A&M's National Conference on Student Government Associations.

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

C. Elections Commission-Coordinates the Fall Freshman elections and Spring All-U elections for Student Government, class council, and Yell leaders

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

D. Freshman Programs- Leadership development Program for freshman

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

B. Christmas Party for Student Government in December at Dr. Adair's House.

E. Legislative Study Group (LSG)- To be a professional representative for the Students of Texas A&M in our state's Congress on issues affecting the Students.

1. Current Status

A. Researching the possibility of undergraduate tuition being placed in the hands of the Board of Regents

- B. Researching the South Texas Law Suit
- C. Incorporate Texas A&I into the A&M System

F. Muster- Plans and execute Muster ceremony on campus.

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

G. Parents Weekend-Coordinates activities on Parents Weekend, April 7-9, such as the All University Awards Ceremony, RHA Casino Night, MSC Varsity Shows, Corps Review.

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

H. Traditions Council-Working to keep traditions alive at Texas A&M

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

Legislative Branch

A. Finance- Financial allocation of Student Services fees

1. Current Status
2. Projected Status

B. External Affairs- Issues arising off campus

1. Current Status

C. Internal Affairs- Keeps the Senate active during and outside of formal meetings

D. Rules and Regulations- deals with revisions of University Regulations.

1. Current Status

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