

Four Texans under investigation for possession of assault weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign diplomats and federal investigators have been drawn into a mysterious web surrounding the arrests of four Texans and an unemployed Virginia man in a motel room filled with "unconventional warfare, assassination-type" weapons.

A fifth Texan, who claims to work for a Dallas-area defense contractor, was arrested in a nearby room at the EconoLodge motel in a crumbling part of Washington, where police said they found six children, ranging in age from 6 to 16.

Social services workers say they are attempting to identify the parents of the children, described as well-behaved and well-cared for, as the six adults remain in the city jail, each facing 41 separate misdemeanor weapons charges.

The adults are jailed on a \$50,000 bond; their next court date is May 15.

A day before the hotel raid, another Texan believed connected to the group, Ruben Anzuldua of Mission, was apprehended by the Secret Service outside the Soviet Consulate.

Court documents say authorities had received

information from a "confidential source that a group of individuals might be planning to enter the Russian Consulate . . . with automatic weapons."

Information received by police tied an orange car to the group, and authorities reported spotting the vehicle in front of the consulate last Thursday.

"Minutes later, two males exited the consulate and got into the car," court files indicate. The car was stopped by the Secret Service, and agents spotted a .22 caliber gun protruding from under the front passenger seat, the files said.

"Defendant Ruben Anzuldua had been in the car's front passenger seat," the file said. He is also in jail on \$50,000 bond, facing three weapons charges.

Police and other officials have said little since the 3:10 a.m. motel arrests Friday, and court documents provide a sliver of information in a case that appears to link the group to the Paraguayan Embassy.

Those documents reveal that one of the ar-

rested men claims to be employed as a "security officer" at a Dallas-area defense contractor that manufactures bomb bodies and missile hardware.

An officer, speaking on background, said the weapons seized are the "weapons an assassin would use. They were unconventional warfare, assassination-type stuff."

One of the men told police he has a nervous condition and lives on disability payments; two of the women claim to be former employees of Texas Instruments, another Dallas-area defense contractor. One of those women, Billie Joy McEwen, 43, of Rowlett, is a licensed firearms dealer who told police she suffers from a recent abdominal injury.

Another woman, also unemployed, has a heart murmur; and the only non-Texan, Kelvin Dee Owen Jr., 21, of Reston, Va., told police he is a former worker at a Washington guest-house and prior to that, was a waiter at the French Market Grill in Augusta, Ga.

Teen dies in accident after senior prom

HOUSTON (AP) — Students from Spring High School heard sirens when they arrived at a school-sponsored all-night party following the senior prom, but it wasn't until later that they learned the emergency vehicles were for fellow students involved in an accident.

Daniel Mulcahy Jr. and his date, Erin McMahon, were en route to a school-sponsored all-night party offered as a drug- and alcohol-free safe alternative when Mulcahy's 1984 Corvette, a graduation present, careened into a concrete-lined culvert near the entrance of a shopping center.

Mulcahy, 17, suffered a fractured skull and crushed abdomen and died later Sunday morning at Houston Northwest Medical Center.

McMahon, 18, was released from the medical center Tuesday.

Friends and classmates of Mulcahy erected a white cross Tuesday at the accident site a few blocks from the school.

Among the scrawled messages covering the crucifix, one stood out: "We love you, Danny."

Three white roses and yellow ribbons decorated the cross, along with parts of the car wrecked in the accident.

His funeral was held Wednesday morning at St. James Catholic Church.

Burial was at Resthaven Memorial Gardens.

During a rosary Tuesday, Mulcahy's open casket was surrounded with high school mementos: a football signed by his teammates, his varsity letter jacket, a lion mascot.

"He was telling everyone to be careful," said William Welch, who played defensive tackle alongside Mulcahy, a defensive end on Spring High's varsity football team.

Animal shelter receives grant, lowers cost of adopting pets

By Holly Becka

STAFF WRITER



Pets at the Brazos Animal Shelter can be adopted for a \$20 discount throughout May because of a \$1,500 grant the shelter received from the Purina Pet Parent Program.

Shelter Director Kathy Bice said dogs may be adopted for \$25 and cats for \$20 because of the grant.

"This is the second year we've received the grant," Bice said. "Purina donated \$1,500 for the 'Pets for People Program' in the name of Safeway to reduce (the cost of) adoptions this month."

Purina's nationwide program helps underwrite the cost of animal adoptions during May in conjunction with "Be Kind to Animals Week."

"This grant will cover 75 adoptions," Bice said. "Last year we received \$1,200, so this will go a little further."

Bice said this is the peak season to get a pet because so many are available and because of the grant.

"Each adoption comes with \$30 worth of coupons for trips to local vets," she said. "This program will give people the incentive to adopt pets instead of getting free ones, which really don't turn out to be free at all because of licenses, shots, worming and neutering."

"With this program, you'll actually be getting more than you're paying for."

Bice said the Brazos Animal Shelter is continuing its application process and overnight waiting period before an animal may be adopted.

"This reduces the return rate and the impulse buying rate," she said. "We want people to really think before they adopt a pet. We want them to sleep on it and make sure they're prepared to deal with the health, care and training of that animal."

She said the adoption process includes describing the environment the animal will be in, whether potential owners keep other animals, whether the owner will neuter, worm and give heart medicine to the pet, if they have a fenced-in yard for big dogs or a written agreement with their landlord stating they are permitted to have the pet.

"We want to make sure the animal will have the best home possible," Bice said.

7-Eleven sells San Antonio sites to operators of Stop N Go stores

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — 7-Eleven has sold its 75 San Antonio stores to National Convenience Stores, a corporation that operates Stop N Go stores and which now has about one-third of the convenience store market in San Antonio.

The multimillion-dollar sale is the latest for Dallas-based 7-Eleven, a subsidiary of Southland Corp., which hopes to unload 1,000 of its stores to pay debt incurred from a leveraged buyout in December 1987.

Stop N Go dominates the Houston market with 500 stores, including 279 purchased from 7-Eleven last year, and is second behind 7-Eleven in the Dallas-Fort Worth area with about 140 stores, compared to 400 7-Elevens.

7-Eleven, however, continues to dominate the industry with about 7,100 stores, followed by Circle K with

about 4,660 stores and Stop N Go, with 1,155, and growing.

Stop N Go has shifted from 1,100 stores in 21 markets, to 1,155 stores in ten markets.

"Our focus over the last three years has really not been on numbers of stores, but we have been busy restructuring our market base, selling stores in markets which we did not have real penetration and buying stores in markets where we had a very important presence," said Pete Van Horn, president and chief executive officer of National Convenience Stores.

"We think that is strategically very important and it positions us as we move forward in our advertising and it will be more important in the overall formula for success while being cost-effective in advertising expenditures," Van Horn said.

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