

# 'He wanted to ... know the people and the country' Soldier killed in Panama was volunteer

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston soldier killed in a weekend grenade bombing at a Panama night spot volunteered to be in the Central American nation and wanted to learn about the country and meet its people, the soldier's mother said.

Army Spec. Anthony B. Ward, 21, died at U.S. military's Gorgas Hospital in Panama City at 5:15 p.m. Saturday, the U.S. Southern Command announced. Ward suffered chest and abdominal injuries.

Ward was among 16 American servicemen and 12 Panamanians injured late Friday in the attack on the disco My Place, which was known to be frequented by Americans.

"Anthony's motto for life was 'work hard and have fun,'" his mother, Lu, said. "He wanted to be in Panama. He volunteered and he loved it. He wanted to go in to know the people and the country."

Ward and her husband, Albert, both natives of Panama, headed for Panama on Saturday after being informed that their son was injured in the incident.

"About the time I got to Panama was the time Anthony left," his mother told the Houston Post from Panama. "I thought they were going to tell me where he was, where I could see him. Instead, they gave me another bombshell."

Ward said one of the other soldiers hurt in the attack said her son took the full impact of the blast, but was told if Anthony had not, more would have died.

The Wards on Sunday also visited the disco where the attack occurred.

"I wanted to see it," Ward said. "I wanted to know what happened and put myself where my child was. It's a very lovely place. It's the kind of place you would want someone to take you."

Ward belonged to the headquarters company

in the 5th Battalion of the 87th Infantry which is part of the 193rd Brigade in Fort Clayton, Panama, where he had been stationed for nine months.

He was in the Army for three years and recently re-enlisted. Before his Panama duty, he was stationed for two years at Fort Riley, Kansas, and also had served special assignments in Peru and West Germany.

Witnesses said two men yelling "Long live Noriega!" threw a grenade through a glass wall of the disco at about 11:30 p.m., then sped away in a car. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

It was the first such attack on U.S. soldiers in Panama since the Dec. 20 invasion that ousted dictator Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Another Texan injured in the attack, Army Pvt. David C. McKinney, 28, of Amarillo, remained hospitalized in satisfactory condition.

## Bentsen refers port proposal to new council

AUSTIN (AP) — U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, wants to refer the proposed \$500 million dredging of the Houston Ship Channel to the President's Council on Environmental Quality, a move that could give environmentalists another forum to argue against the project.

The Army Corps of Engineers is seeking congressional authorization to widen and deepen the channel. The Port of Houston Authority contends the project is economically vital — allowing its port to serve larger, more fully laden ships and stay competitive with other deep-water ports.

But the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas General Land Office — as well as a host of environmental groups — are fighting it.

They contend it would seriously damage the shrimp, oyster and fishing industry in Galveston Bay. The bay is the nursery and spawning grounds for 30 percent of the state's fishing products.

With the federal agencies at an impasse, Bentsen has stepped in on the side of the environmentalists — calling for review by the Council on Environmental Quality, the Austin American-Statesman reported Monday.

"We don't want to turn Galveston Bay into another Lake Erie," Bentsen said. "This matter is too important for us to sail into uncharted waters. We have to plot a careful course. And (the council) is best equipped to help us navigate."

Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro said Bentsen's entrance into the debate "sent a very clear signal."

"I now have confidence the corps will ... diligently pursue answers to some of these environmental questions," Mauro said.

## New Braunfels slaying prompts charges of police misconduct

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Attorneys for a man charged in the slaying of a young New Braunfels teacher say police ignored crucial leads, and others allege police in that city have a history of mishandling investigations.

Jack Warren Davis, 30, is charged with capital murder in the November stabbing and strangulation of third-grade teacher Kathie Bolanis-Campolo.

Davis, a former Mississippi resident who recently moved to the area, lived and worked as a maintenance worker in the same apartment building as Bolanis-Campolo, a University of Texas at San Antonio graduate.

Last week, defense lawyers filed a writ of habeas corpus alleging the New Braunfels Police Department investigation "ignored leads to evidence" that could free Davis.

Davis' attorney, John J. Curtis, said police videotaped a few strands of hair visible in the left hand of the victim, but the hair vanished be-

tween the crime scene and the crime lab.

"It's strange," Curtis said. "The only physical evidence that could clear my client is gone." He added that important photographs also are missing.

A March 16 hearing has been set in state District Judge Robert T. Pfeuffer's court in New Braunfels.

**"It's strange. The only physical evidence that could clear my client is gone."**

**— John J. Curtis, defense attorney**

Sources close to the case indicate the defense may subpoena government officials to support their claim that missing and tainted evidence is "a common practice" in New Braun-

fels, the San Antonio Light reported in Monday's editions.

And one local high-ranking law enforcement official with knowledge of the Bolanis-Campolo case said up to 50 other criminal cases may have been tainted in recent years through police "incompetence, idiocy or downright malicious behavior bordering on criminal negligence," the newspaper reported.

New Braunfels Police Chief B.C. Boeck refused to comment Monday on the Davis charge because it is pending in court. But he said allegations that his department has mishandled other investigations are an indictment of the entire criminal justice system.

Two civilian committees and the FBI have probed such claims, Boeck said.

Comal County District Attorney Bill Reimer also refused to comment on the Bolanis-Campolo case or any other but expressed optimism that Davis would be convicted.

## Cooperative agricultural venture benefits trade in Texas, Mexico

AUSTIN (AP) — A five-year cooperative agriculture venture between Texas and Mexico has finally borne the fruit of new private trade initiatives, Department of Agriculture Commissioner Jim Hightower said Monday.

The third general meeting of the Texas-Mexico Exchange Commission, which was held Feb. 22-23 in Mexico City, helped establish trade leads between 60 Texas farmers, ranchers and food and fiber growers and buyers, and 150 of their Mexican counterparts, Hightower said.

He said deals now are in the works between Texas producers of rice, corn, beef, and dairy heifers and Mexican buyers, as well as between Texas delegates interested in purchasing flowers and organic coffee and produce from Mexican producers.

But Hightower said the specific agreements are less important than the contacts made.

"The main result of the meeting in Mexico City is not the trade deals and joint ventures and exchanges but

fact that the door is now open, the relationship is secure and the opportunity is there," he said.

"We have been seeking more than just sales," Hightower said. "We've been seeking, really, a partnership — a partnership based on trust, on mutual gain and on openness."

Businessmen were joined at last month's meeting by academicians and government officials who are trying to lessen Mexican government bureaucracy and initiate joint research and development programs, Hightower said.

He said a new openness in the Mexican economy has allowed agricultural producers and consumers to begin making direct deals.

"They're making a deliberate and very aggressive effort to privatize more of their economy, and to decentralize it," he said.

Previously, Mexican government agencies had overseen the purchase of agricultural products in volumes too large for the private Texas producer to supply, Hightower said.

## Richards counterattacks opponents

### State treasurer still refuses to answer questions about drug use

AUSTIN (AP) — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Ann Richards, besieged by questions about whether she ever used illegal drugs, on Monday counterattacked rivals Mark White and Jim Mattox for making her refusal to answer a campaign issue.

"No one has ever raised this question while I have been managing all of the money of the state of Texas," Richards, the state treasurer, said at a news conference. "The only time this question was raised was when I got in the way of those boys who want to be governor."

Richards, a recovering alcoholic, has twice refused to answer yes or no when asked during statewide televised debates if she had ever misused drugs.

She refused to answer again Monday, but did say she had never knowingly committed a felony offense.

She also demanded that White and Mattox discuss their finances. White has released only his 1988 income tax return and Mattox has yet to release any. Richards released her income tax returns for all the years she has held public office.

"I've been sober for 10 years. Have Jim Mattox and Mark White been honest for 10 years?" she asked.

With the Texas gubernatorial primaries a week away, former Gov. White is the sudden Democratic front-runner in polls while Richards struggles after repeatedly refusing to answer the drug question.

On the Republican side, three contenders are trying to keep multimillionaire oilman Clayton Williams from winning the nomination outright without a runoff.

After pumping more than \$4 million of his own into a slick television ad campaign, the colorful Williams stood at 45 percent in a Dallas Morning News-Houston Chronicle poll published Feb. 25.

If he wins 50 percent in the March 13 balloting, he avoids a runoff election for the GOP nomination to succeed retiring Republican Gov. Bill Clements.

Among the Democrats, Richards had been front-runner since entering the race in June, until White pulled ahead in the Feb. 25 poll, which showed him with 34 percent to Richards' 31 percent. State Attorney General Mattox was third at 17 percent.

Richards, who rose to national attention after her keynote speech at the 1988 Democratic National Convention — where she said George Bush was born with "a silver foot in his mouth" — insists her refusal to disclose whether she's ever used an illegal drug isn't a problem.

"I have been tested by fire, and the fire has lost," said Richards, a recovering alcoholic. "I feel

**"By continuing to raise these questions I think that we are sending a very sad message to a lot of people who see that if they seek treatment they will forever bear the stigma of their addiction."**

**— Ann Richards, gubernatorial candidate**

truthfully that it has energized a great number of people who feel it is important to do and say what I am saying, and that is: If you need help, get help."

But her opponents and others watching the race disagreed.

"Voters are more tolerant of that than lack of candor," George Christian, an Austin political consultant and former press secretary to President Johnson, said of drug use.

The question arose in two debates that were televised statewide. White and Mattox said they had never used illegal drugs. Richards didn't answer the question directly.

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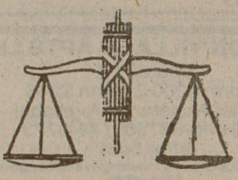
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