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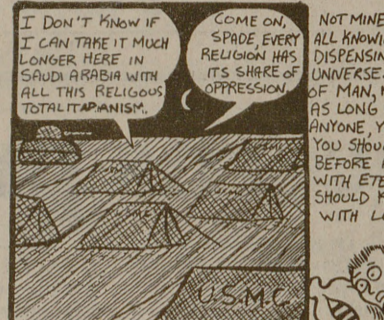
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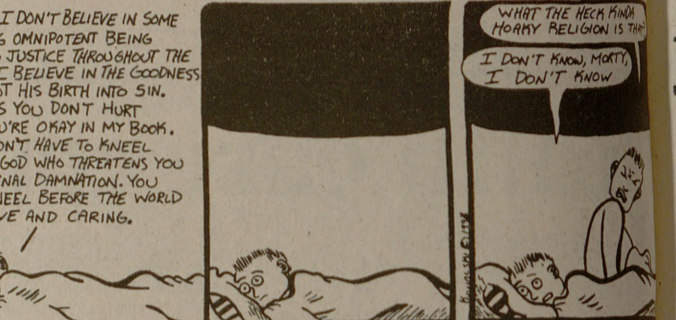
**House honors
 Marine killed
 in gulf war**

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas House unanimously approved a resolution honoring Lance Cpl. Arthur Garza, a Kingsville native who was the first Marine from the state to die in the Persian Gulf war, and stood to applaud his family.
 Garza, who died in an accident last month, enlisted in the Marine Corps at age 17, after he graduated from high school.
 He "has returned home to Kingsville, Texas, a hero at the age of 20," said the resolution by Rep. Irma Rangel, D-Kingsville, approved Thursday by the House. The Senate approved a similar resolution Wednesday.
 Garza's family was introduced to the House, including his wife, Jennifer Garza; parents, Mary Helen Garza and Oscar Garza; sister, Mari-cella Garza; and brother, Jose Domingo Garza.
 The House resolution also extended sympathy to Garza's grandmother, Lilia Luna, and his baby daughter, Sasha Nicole.

Spade Phillips, P.I.



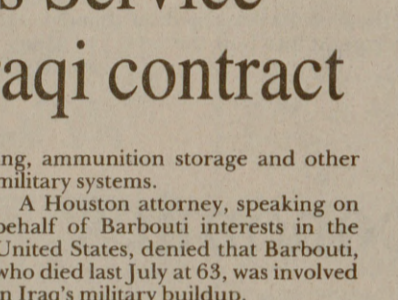
by Matt Kowalski



**U.S. Customs Service
 probes into Iraqi contract**

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston businessman had a 1981 contract to provide Iraq with engineering design and other services for military sites that now are targeted by U.S. forces, according to a Customs Service probe.
 The U.S. Customs Service in Houston paid for information, including the contract, that may have contributed to allied forces' ability to locate Iraqi military sites, the Houston Chronicle and KPRC-TV reported.
 In a copyright story Thursday, the Chronicle said the contract, worth \$552 million, allegedly was taken from the London offices of the late Ihsan Barbouti, an Iraqi expatriate whose family has business ties to Houston.
 The 1981 contract called for a Barbouti company to provide Iraq with engineering design, material supply and other services for the construction of hardened aircraft shelters, fuel storage, airfield light-

Tubularman



Nerd House



ing, ammunition storage and other military systems.
 A Houston attorney, speaking on behalf of Barbouti interests in the United States, denied that Barbouti, who died last July at 63, was involved in Iraq's military buildup.
 "The allegations concerning the Iraqi installations are absolutely, unequivocally — and I say this without equivocation — are false," said Bill Rosch.
 The contract and other information were turned over to a U.S. Customs special agent at a London hotel on Sept. 1, a month after Iraq invaded Kuwait, according to a Customs Service document obtained by the Chronicle and an attorney who was present.
 The contract lists 16 locations in Iraq where construction supposedly would take place.
 The informant was paid \$2,700, the Customs document shows, as part of an ongoing investigation of Barbouti activities in the United States.

"O.K. GUYS, THE NERD IS ASLEEP. LETS GO FOR THE RIGHT INNER NOSTRIL AND THE LEFT EAR CANAL."

Civil rights groups seek adjustment of census

AUSTIN (AP) — Hispanic and civil rights groups filed lawsuits Thursday seeking to ban use of 1990 census figures that aren't adjusted for minority undercounts, a move that could delay legislative redistricting.
 The two lawsuits are aimed at forcing the U.S. Commerce Department and the state to add hundreds of thousands of people believed overlooked by the census to the data the state uses to redraw legislative boundaries.
 "We feel that this time around, we have the population in this state to ensure that Hispanics and Blacks get more representation," Rep. Ro-

man Martinez, D-Houston, a member of the House Redistricting Committee, said.
 "Not only for Hispanics and Blacks and the homeless but also for rural Texans and all Texans alike, there needs to be an adjustment; and it needs to be done now," Martinez said.
 The Texas Civil Rights Project and Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund filed the lawsuits, seeking an injunction against the release or use of unadjusted census information.
 Preliminary census figures have been released, but U.S. Commerce Secretary Robert Moshbacher

will not decide whether to adjust the official data until July 15.
 Thursday's lawsuits were filed in state district court in Hidalgo County and federal district court in Brownsville. The class actions also name as plaintiffs several Hispanic citizens and non-paying residents who were not counted during the census.
 The suit contends the counties most affected by the short count are Cameron, Hidalgo, Val Verde, Maverick, El Paso, Harris, Bexar and Dallas.

Workers demand new AIDS-testing bill

DALLAS (AP) — A gay activist group has criticized proposed legislation that would allow emergency workers who suspect they've been bitten by someone carrying the AIDS virus to demand the person be tested for the deadly infection.
 "There has been no case of anybody ever getting AIDS through a bite," said Bruce Monroe, president of the Dallas Gay Alliance.
 "This is a way for them to intimidate gay people and dehumanize

them when they deal with them in any arrest situation."
 The bill is scheduled for a hearing Monday before the House Committee on Public Health. Rep. A.R. Ovard, R-Dallas, introduced the legislation at the request of the Dallas County Sheriff's Department.
 The bill would cover tests for several infections but is mainly aimed at finding human immuno-deficiency virus, said John Young, Ovard's legislative aide.
 Under the bill's proposed guidelines, any police officer, firefighter, emergency medical service employee or correctional officer could ask his agency to order a person to undergo HIV testing if the person has bitten them, and if they have reason to believe the person could be infected with HIV, the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

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 7:30/9:45PM
 Rudder Theatre
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 Midnight
 Rudder Theatre
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Magistrate frees two reporters pending appeal

HOUSTON (AP) — A federal magistrate Thursday freed without bail two newspaper reporters charged for contempt of court after they refused to help a defense lawyer identify murder witnesses.
 U.S. Magistrate Nancy Pecht released James T. Campbell of the Houston Chronicle and Felix Sanchez of the Houston Post on their own recognizance at least until a hearing scheduled next Monday on their appeal.
 Earlier Thursday, State District Judge William Harmon had sentenced the reporters each to 30 days in jail and fined them \$500 after they refused for a third time to comply with his order.
 The reporters had faced up to 18 months in jail for refusing Harmon's order to help defense attorney Steven Oncken identify the witnesses.
 Pecht also delayed a hearing on the reporters' appeal of the contempt citation to give lawyers for the Harris County Sheriff's Department, which issued the subpoena, time to prepare their case. The hearing was postponed until Monday morning.