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USUALLY THEY FAIL."



The Food Chain

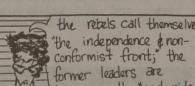


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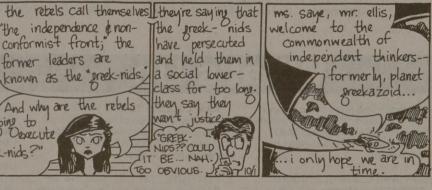


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known as the "greek-nids And why are the rebels publically & Dexecute, the "greek-nids?"



By Clay Welch

Mexico to reclaim national treasure

Customs agents seize painting from Museum of Fine Arts

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON - A historical paintng seized by Customs agents in a sustody dispute will be removed from the Museum of Fine Arts and returned to Mexico where it is considered a national treasure.

"The Destruction of the Mission of San Saba," which depicts the 1758 massacre of the mission's 400 sidents by Comanches and allied bes, will be taken down Sunday,

museum announced Although a federal court has ruled the 18th-century painting beongs to the U.S. government, Cusoms spokesman Dennis Shimkoski said Wednesday the painting will be given to the Mexican govern-

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You have to look at the history of the painting," he said. "It shows

the culture of Mexico. In essence, it's a national treasure. The United States is not going to keep a national treasure. We look at it as a cultural artifact unique to Mexico.'

The painting, valued at \$1 million, will taken down from viewing at the museum Sunday, but Shimkoski said he is not sure when it will be returned to Mexico.

Customs agents seized the painting from a broker in Austin in November 1989, and the museum gained temporary custody of it in March 1990.

Shimkoski said although the court ruled it belonged to the U.S. government, the customs agency still had to pay the lien holder \$430,000.

The court also found those who received the painting in the United States were innocent of any charges,

In an odd twist, the agency paid for the lien with money seized in

"Drug dealers paid for the painting," he said. "I think that's kind of poetic justice."

Painted by an unknown artist about 1763 and based on an eyewitness account, it is the oldest work from the Spanish colonial period in

It describes the massacre at the mission on the south bank of the San Saba River in southwest Texas.

The 7-foot-by-10-foot oil on canvas was commissioned by the Romero de Terreros family, who had lost a member in the massacre. It remained in the family's possession until 1980.

It was somehow was brought into the United States in 1981, and a dealer sold it to renowned collector Peter Wray of Phoenix for \$500,000.

846-4135

White House stalls passage of EPA rules, report says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - Seventy-six lew regulations prepared by the nvironmental Protection ency are being held up by the hite House, some in violation congressional deadlines, acrding to a confidential EPA re-

The stalled regulations include ome of the major provisions of the 1990 Clean Air Act intended control smog, reduce acid rain, otect the ozone layer and rece toxic air pollutants.

The administration is holding numerous rules, which is illeal, and which is not consistent ith the goal of protecting hunan health and the environ-ment," said a senior EPA official ho spoke on condition of

The report says that eight regations are currently being locked by the White House even ugh congressional deadlines of their completion have passed.

A copy of the Sept. 22 report was obtained by The Associated bess. Among the blocked regulations in the cott of rules govern ations is the set of rules govern-ng the trading of air pollution nissions, a program touted for lying on markets to curb acid in. The rules were due May 15. Another regulation that missed deadline would require tighter hission controls on new inciner-

ors and chemical plants. Yet another would require lat repairmen recycle ozone-deeting chemicals from refrigerais and air conditioners instead venting them into the air.

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