

18 stage school board sit-in

Hector Garcia among arrested Mexican-Americans

By MARY ALICE DAVIS and NICK JIMENEZ

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City police officers last night arrested Dr. Hector P. Garcia and 17 other Mexican-Americans who had staged a 3 1/2-hour sit-in at the Corpus Christi school district administration building.

however, the group was released about 11 p.m.

The group was released after the school board declined to press charges of trespassing.

A crowd believed to be "at least" 100 persons strong waited in the small entrance to the police station and outside

on the steps during the two hours.

Shortly after Garcia and the other 17 persons were taken to the second floor of the station to the jail, School Supt. Dana Williams, school counsel J. W. Gary and school public information director Ron Whitlock arrived to talk to police officials.

A member of the city's legal staff conferred with the school officials and the group discussed the filing of charges under the state trespassing law.

Police had plans to release the group under personal recognition bonds at one point but the protesters, according to reports, declined to leave the jail.

Much of the two hours was taken up apparently with the protesters discussing whether they wanted to leave the jail. The 18 persons never entered a jail cell but spent much of the time in a corridor of the jail.

The 18 persons were arrested at the

school administration building when they refused to follow a police order to vacate the building.

Those arrested, Police Chief James Avant said, were not formally booked during their stay at the jail. A thumb print was made but this is an administrative procedure of the jail. A formal booking would have included a full set of fingerprints and a photo, he said.

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DR. HECTOR GARCIA LEAVES BOARD BUILDING FOLLOWED BY CMDR. TACKETT ... Dr. Clotilde Garcia (right, foreground) watches brother after sit-in (Photo by George Gongora)

Corpus Christi

Dr. Hector Garcia and 17 other Mexican-Americans were arrested by city police officers after the group of protesters had staged a 3 1/2 hour sit-in at the school administration building.

Defense attorneys for Thomas Odis Hammond, charged in the murder of William Asher Richardson, have been ordered not to allude to alleged misconduct by Richardson.

Texas

Police in Houston said the fall which left Barnett Garrison, husband of the former Candace Mossler, in critical condition was apparently an accident.

Improved jail conditions in Dallas were blamed in Sunday's escape of four prisoners as officials theorized the four might have received a hacksaw blade in their uncensored mail.

Tornado sightings accompanied by deluges and hard winds were reported across Southeast Texas. No immediate reports of injury came with the stormy weather.

Larry Temple, Austin lawyer and former aide to President Lyndon B. Johnson, was named by former Gov. John Connally as state chairman of Democrats for Nixon.

National

Republicans at a hearing on party reform in Miami Beach denounced convention membership quotas.

New York City police believe that two businessmen shot to death in a restaurant in the Upper East Side were mistaken for a hired killer for members of the Mafia family of Joseph Colombo.

Speaking to newsmen after his two-week visit to North Vietnam, former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said he thought that a few American prisoners of war would be released soon by Hanoi.

The Miami Beach City Council voted, 4-3, to allow demonstrators to camp at Flamingo Park during the Republican National Convention.

The federal Pay Board will make no change in its 5.5 per cent a year limits on wage increases, the board said.

International

All 156 persons aboard an East German charter flight were killed when their Soviet-made jetliner crashed shortly after takeoff from East Berlin.

British dock unions announced that their leaders will vote tomorrow on whether to end the strike that has closed British ports for the last 18 days.

The latest secret meeting of presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger with senior North Vietnamese officials was announced Monday.

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Weather

Increasing cloudiness with warm temperatures is forecast for Corpus Christi and vicinity through tomorrow.

2 businessmen slain in NYC believed mistaken by hired killer for Mafia kin

New York Times News Service NEW YORK - Two businessmen shot to death Friday night in an Upper East Side restaurant were apparently gunned down by a hired killer who mistook them for members of the Mafia family of Joseph Colombo.

This version of the shooting in the Neapolitan Noodle Restaurant on East 79th Street was given out Monday by Police Commissioner Patrick V. Murphy at the West 82nd Street precinct. Murphy said that the four victims were standing at a place at the bar that had been vacated a few minutes earlier by the four Mafia members.

shooting were all meat wholesalers said by the police to have no connection with organized crime.

The two men killed were Sheldon Epstein, 40, of New Rochelle, N.Y., and Max Tekelch, 48, of Woodmere, N.Y. Wounded and now recovering were Leon Schneider, 48, of East Meadow, N.Y., and Jack Forem, 55, of Brooklyn.

Murphy said that the targets of the gunman were Alphonse (Little Allie) Persico; his nephew Alphonse Persico; Jerry Langella, and a fourth man he did not identify.

The man called Little Allie is the elder brother of Carmine Persico, one of the leaders of the Colombo crime family, now serving a 14-year sentence in Illinois for interstate theft.

Langella, who was named with Persico

GOP flays convention quota

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Republicans of every stripe denounced convention membership quotas Monday as undemocratic, unworkable and unhealthy for the GOP as their Rules Committee opened hearings on party reform.

In an opening statement, chairman William C. Cramer all but ruled out any form of quota system for delegates to the 1976 convention by declaring a survey of party leaders showed overwhelmingly that "Republicans do not want to be a quota party."

"They desire that our party be the unquota party: Uncompromisingly open to all, accessible to all..." Cramer said. "We have no desire to quota in some favored few and quota out many others who are deserving."

But a long string of witnesses also pointed out that Republicans are a minority party, now behind Democrats and independents. They said the party has to find some way to broaden its base or perish.

After hearing public testimony, the committee voted to keep its deliberations Tuesday open to the public. Cramer had said earlier in Washington that the committee and its subcommittees would go into closed sessions when it got down to hammering out their reform recommendations.

Shadowning the proceedings is the knowledge that this convention, with President Nixon certain of renomination, won't be affected by the reform but any plans of Vice President Spiro T. Agnew to top the party's 1976 national ticket would be.

Massachusetts Gov. Francis W. Sargent, who testified for reform, said in a news conference later that some of the proposed changes "might well" diminish Agnew's chances for a presidential nomination but said this was not the intent.

"I do not think he would want to be the

beneficiary of a nomination which came from caucuses which were closed to women and blacks and other minorities," Sen. Robert Packwood of Oregon said of Agnew.

A long string of witnesses told the committee that a system such as the one adopted by the Democrats to assure proportional representation for women, youth and minorities would be the undoing of the Republican party.

But there the accord ended as witnesses differed over just what quotas are and what the alternatives should be.

Speaking for an Ad Hoc Committee on Delegate Selection Reform which he heads, Rep. Tom Railsback of Illinois suggested that states be required to

Release of a few POWs seen

New York Times News Service SAN FRANCISCO - Ramsey Clark, a former U.S. attorney general, said here Monday that he thought that a few American prisoners of war would be released soon by North Vietnam.

Clark's statement was made at a news conference following a two-week visit to North Vietnam that ended Saturday.

"I urged them to release some prisoners, and I say frankly I think they will - a few, I don't know when," he said. "But what they tell you - and you know I have a little difficulty arguing with it - is 'We can't release pilots when pilots are bombing our children.'"

Clark chose his words carefully when asked whether American military commanders had attempted deliberately to destroy the system of dikes in North Vietnam.

"I saw damage to dikes, sluices and canals of a substantial nature at at least six places," he said in the news conference

at the St. Francis Hotel here. "At a couple of places, it was evident that it was a massive assault. At the time I saw it, there were no military targets there."

He said also that he recognized that such targets, perhaps antiaircraft batteries, could have been moved away before he saw the dike damage.

In a 40-minute statement and in the 20 minutes of questioning that followed, Clark repeatedly attacked the bombing on moral grounds. He said he had seen a hospital that was destroyed by bombs between last December, when, he said, it was seen by an American visitor, and the time Clark saw it.

"We are bombing the hell out of that poor land," he said. "We are hitting hospitals. I can't tell you whether it's deliberate. But to the people who are getting hit, it doesn't make much difference, does it?"

Clark said that he had a letter from Hanoi's deputy premier - minister of foreign affairs, Nguyen Duy Trinh, concerning the release of prisoners.

He did not distribute copies of the letter but he read from his own notes of Trinh's statements during their two-hour and 45-minute interview. Clark made the point that the notes were based on the minister's statements as translated into English.

Reading from his notes, Clark quoted Trinh's having said: "With the agreement on the military and political issue, I will guarantee the solution of the prisoner

problem and the return of all the prisoners."

Another statement was that a settlement must be made on the "Provisional Revolutionary Government's seven points and two additions" before the prisoner issue is resolved.

Clark quoted Trinh as having said that "Nixon is more interested in the fate of the Thieu government than in the fate of the U.S. prisoners."

Clark said he had been taken one night to a prisoner-of-war camp, which he did not name or locate, and permitted to see the rooms of ten prisoners, and to talk to them for a long period. He said he had asked that the prisoners be released.

"I talked and pleaded because that's all I could do," he said. "You can't demand. When it comes to the prisoners, they've got the power, don't they? The B52's"

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Rogers says Demos' talk has fantasy 'coloration'

By WALTER R. MEARS AP Political Writer

Republicans began their buildup Monday to the re-nomination of President Nixon with Secretary of State William P. Rogers accusing Democrats of "Alice-in-Wonderland" talk about Vietnam policy.

Rogers disputed, and Republican National Chairman Robert J. Dole denounced, the assertion of Democratic vice presidential nominee Sargent Shriver that Nixon missed a North Vietnamese peace signal four years ago.

"This thing has taken on an Alice-in-Wonderland coloration," Rogers said.

He turned to the political counterattack after telling the Republican Platform Committee the administration has fashioned a foreign policy that may realistically lead to a generation of peace.

There were ripples of dissent as Republicans talked about other aspects of their platform and their rules, but it was a predictably placid beginning on the work of the national convention that opens in a week to nominate Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew for second terms.

Sen. Edward W. Brooke of

Massachusetts, a Negro and a critic of Nixon's war policy, was named to lead off a three-part keynote address to the convention.

Dole announced that Mayor Richard G. Lugar of Indianapolis and Mrs. Anne Armstrong, co-chairman of the Republican National Committee, will join Brooke as keynote speakers.

Sen. George McGovern, the Democratic presidential nominee, was in Washington on the eve of a campaign swing to the Midwest.

In Boston, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy said Agnew "will be one of the biggest issues in this campaign, and he will be an issue because Sargent Shriver will make him one."

Agnew and his future political prospects were a factor as the Republican Rules Committee discussed party reform proposals designed to broaden participation in future GOP conventions.

McGovern was nominated by a Democratic convention that already had opened up the delegate selection processes and expanded representation of women, minorities and young people.

Republicans are discussing similar

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RAMSEY CLARK INTERVIEWED (AP Wirephoto)

