

STATES

10,000 vie for parts in Stone's latest on JFK

DALLAS (AP) — A casting call for the latest Oliver Stone movie was more like a cattle drive, with an estimated 10,000 would-be actors vying to be extras in the film on former President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

But the turnout pleased the man hired to organize auditions for the yet-untitled film. About 1,000 people an hour responded Saturday to the casting call at the Dallas Convention Center.

"We have some really good stuff here," said Kevin Howard, a veteran of "Talk Radio," another Stone movie. "We were looking for a lot of Texas, Texas, Texas people, especially people who were here when Kennedy was shot."

Declining to elaborate on details of the upcoming movie, Howard noted that "the rumor is that Kevin Costner is going to star, but we can't confirm anything yet."

Two casting assistants moved among the aspiring actors, deciding who would get to read for one of 199 speaking parts to be cast.

Those not chosen are still eligible for one of 2,000 nonspeaking roles. All will learn the outcome next week.

Education service On Location in Fla.

On Location Education, a provider of education for performing children, has opened an office in Orlando, Fla., to help service the burgeoning entertainment industry in that area.

OLE will begin providing classroom services for the following spring productions: "Clarissa Tells All," a new TV program taping at Nickelodeon Studios at Universal Studios Florida; and "My Girl" (working title), a film being shot on location in central Florida and at Universal Studios Florida, starring Dan Aykroyd and Macaulay Culkin.

On Location Education is based in New York and serves current productions including "The Cosby Show" and "The New Mickey Mouse Club."

Submissions for the States Page, which appears every Friday, may be sent to Duane Byrge, states editor, The Hollywood Reporter, 6715 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

Unions: 'Fighting in Hawaii is over'

By PENNY PENCE SMITH
HONOLULU — Hawaii Teamster and IATSE union representatives have been in Hollywood delivering a message of conciliation to producers after a restructuring of the long-troubled Hawaii Teamster Local 996, according to the union's new motion picture coordinator Joe Tavares.

An independent Motion Picture Division will become a part of the new Teamster regime, elected when longtime Hawaii Teamster president Art Rutledge stepped down. The new division will consist of approximately 80 members including drivers, location managers, catering personnel, wranglers and security people.

The Hollywood meetings were intended to let major studios know that "the fighting in Hawaii is over," said

Tavares, referring to decades of infighting among the local ranks, as well with other Teamster organizations.

The result was animosity toward production companies filming on location in Hawaii, higher production costs and a loss of revenues as producers took their projects to locations elsewhere.

"The major message we were giving the producers is that we'll honor the agreements we make," said International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employees business representative Al Burns.

In the past, he explained, a verbal agreement and budget would be established in advance of a production, "but when the company arrives, maybe 20 unions member showed up instead of the 10 agreed upon. It caused a lot of conflict."

Orion satire 'Article 99' puts \$5 mil into Missouri economy

By JOHN Q. MABRY
Production has been completed in Kansas City, Mo., on Orion Pictures' "Article 99." A dark satire about a team of doctors and nurses working in a Veterans Administration hospital, the film stars Ray Liotta and Kiefer Sutherland.

It filmed for three months at the end of last year in Kansas City, leaving \$5 million in the state.

Under the direction of Howard Deutch, the location shoot provided an opportunity for local extras as well as disabled veterans to play parts, ranging from bed-ridden patients and hospital orderlies to medical administrators.

The players and crew were impressed with the disabled vets who played parts.

Most of the filming took place at Trinity Lutheran Hospital, with the

chapel on one of the floors serving as an auditorium for the film's production team.

"Article 99" is the biggest project to ever film in the state, said Gary Gonder, manager of the Missouri Film Commission. Other projects that have used Missouri as a location site have included Universal Pictures' "White Palace," which left \$4 million in the state, and Miramax's "Mr. & Mrs. Bridge," which generated \$3 million.

Other projects to film in Missouri last year included "Back to Hannibal," a Disney Channel telefilm starring Ned Beatty and Paul Winfield; a CBS telefilm, "Sometimes They Come" with Tim Matheson and Brooke Adams, which was shot in Rocheport and Kansas City; and "The Prosecutors," which filmed in St. Louis.

STATES ROUNDUP

Minnesota

The ninth annual Rivertown International Film Festival will be April 19-May 4 in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Sponsored by the University of Minnesota Film Society/Minnesota Film Center, the festival will present more than 70 feature films from 30 countries. In addition, the festival will present a number of short films.

The festival also emphasizes the work of U.S. independent filmmakers, with some Hollywood releases.

Washington

"The Graham Kerr Show" is serving up less cholesterol and serving up plenty of production taping in Seattle. After a 19-year sabbatical, the garrulous chef brought a new cooking show to the airwaves last year, taping at the KING-TV television studios in the city.

The studio audiences for the shows have been filled to capacity every night. The show tapes two separate half-hour shows, five nights per week.

Over the past three years, that conflict sparked threats of violence, the filing of criminal complaints with the FBI and union confrontations on the sets of the TV series "Jake and the Fatman" and "Island Son."

According to Hawaii production sources, Lorimar Prods. shuttered its "Island Son" prematurely, due in part to problems with the union and the resulting production cost increases.

The western Teamsters hierarchy also slapped the wrists of Local 996 last year when it resisted a longtime agreement between Hollywood producers and the Hollywood Teamsters.

According to that agreement, drivers used for location filming in any western state must be hired through the nearest local Teamsters union, but the production company has the final decision over who they will hire.

Hawaii's then-82-year-old Teamster president Rutledge called the contract part of a "nefarious plot" concocted by Hollywood Teamsters "to establish themselves as czars of the movie production business in Hawaii," and refused to support it.

IATSE's Burns underscored the original intention of the agreement. "Our local operates in a support capacity. That means we'll provide whatever personnel is needed without any more disagreement."

"If we say we'll provide 10 drivers, the company will get 10 drivers," Burns said.

Tavares said that as a result of the improved policies being established by the Hawaii Motion Picture Teamsters, "we can offer support transportation budgets that compare with those in Los Angeles, particularly if a company shoots on the island of Oahu."

The new attitude toward visiting production should help improve what Georgette Deemer, film branch manager for the Hawaii State Department of Business and Economic Development, has termed "very disappointing production revenues last year."

"The attitude of the Teamsters hurt us a lot," Tavares confirmed. "Producers were afraid to come to Hawaii."

"This new Teamster regime seems to be one of the most important developments in the relationship between the union and the film commissioners in the state," said Ken Levin, film commissioner for Hawaii's island of Kauai.