

B109 (G) 1DN

BEATING 200

DALLAS, TEX. (AP)--AN EMPLOYEE OF KERA-TV IN DALLAS WAS BEATEN BY FOUR MEN LATE MONDAY NIGHT APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF A DOCUMENTARY ON CUBA.

MIKE KRODELL, 26, MASTER CONTROL DIRECTOR FOR THE EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION STATION, SAID HE WAS BEAT UP BY FOUR SPANISH-SPEAKING MEN WHO IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES TO HIM AS CUBANS.

KRODELL SAID THE MEN FOLLOWED HIM WHEN HE LEFT THE STATION ABOUT 10 P.M. AND THEN CURBED HIM IN EAST DALLAS, PULLED HIM OUT OF THE CAR AND BEAT HIM.

KRODELL SAID THE MEN APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTOOD THE CONTEXT OF THE DOCUMENTARY, "REPORT FROM CUBA." "THEY KEPT INSISTING IT WAS NOTHING BUT COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA," HE SAID.

THE DOCUMENTARY COVERED CUBA FROM THE TIME CASTRO TOOK OVER UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME STATING AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT CASTRO HAD HYPNOTISED HIS PEOPLE INTO THINKING ALL HE WAS DOING FOR THE COUNTRY WAS GOOD.

"THEY APPARENTLY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE WORD, 'HYPNOTISM,'" KRODELL SAID.

KERA OFFICIALS SAID THE STATION HAS BEEN RECEIVING THREATENING PHONE CALLS SINCE THE SHOW WAS FIRST TELECAST LAST NIGHT.

STATION MANAGER RAY HUFFER SAID HE HAD READ THE SCRIPT AND COULD FIND NOTHING WRONG WITH THE NATIONAL EDUCATION TELEVISION PRODUCED PROGRAM. HE SAID THE PROGRAM WAS SHOWN AGAIN AT NOON TUESDAY DESPITE CONTINUATION OF THE THREATENING CALLS.

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