

...ated only when state or local officials consciously intended to discriminate.

There was general agreement that the act needed to be extended. But the administration up until yesterday had argued against the results standard on the grounds that it could lead to lawsuits calling for proportional representation by race in municipalities all over the country.

Last October, the House voted. See VOTING, A9, Col. 1

...ing charges that American oil field equipment companies have made large payoffs to Mexico's government-owned oil company.

Court papers filed in Houston reveal that the grand jury, based in the District of Columbia, has spent several years investigating the allegations that millions of dollars in illegal payments were made.

Knowledgeable sources said the investigators are looking at a period

...effort to increase oil production automatically and quickly. A firm allegedly paid bribes to officials of Pemex (Petroles canos) in an effort to win the hundreds of millions of dollars worth of contracts being awarded to the Mexicans. According to federal investigators are examining the role of some high-ranking officials.

The inquiry, described by as a major, wide-ranging

## Article Critical of Carriers Stamped 'Secret' by Navy

By Morton Mintz  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The U.S. Navy has put a "secret" stamp on an unpublished article that questioned whether two American aircraft carriers "survived" simulated Soviet submarine and surface ship attacks in Ocean Venture '81, the largest exercise ever held by the Atlantic Fleet.

The writer of an article solicited by the nonofficial Naval Institute's Proceedings magazine, Lt. Cmdr. Dean L. Knuth, was the chief analyst of Ocean Venture '81, and its 1980 predecessor. In both naval exercises he was the American adviser to the British Navy's Vice Adm. John Cox, who was responsible for protecting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization "Blue" team's nuclear-powered USS Ei-

senhower and conventionally powered USS Forrestal from attack by the enemy "Orange" team in the Norwegian Sea.

While the U.S. Navy's official position is that both aircraft carriers did well enough in the exercises to warrant the purchase of two more nuclear-powered carriers, Knuth is critical of that interpretation.

"It is hard for me to accept the proposition that the Eisenhower and the Forrestal reached the Norwegian Sea from the North Atlantic without being attacked successfully, even though the Orange threat was very low," Knuth said in one of several interviews from his home in Morristown, N.J.

"What happened after that is of lesser importance, partly because

See CARRIERS, A14, Col. 1

## Court Allow Damage Suit On Commod

By Fred Barbash  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Supreme Court's bite of laws regulating the long-plagued commodity business yesterday when it ruled that fraud or manipulation in widely expanding industry caused damages in the federal courts.

The 5-to-4 ruling subjecting commodity futures brokers, and even exchanges, such as the Chicago Board of Trade and the New York Mercantile Exchange, to billion-dollar penalties as well as government enforcement efforts.

Fought vigorously by the industry, this potential double-barrelled shot is especially important in a period of deregulation, because it would strip traders from dependence on government agencies for enforcement of laws designed to protect the market.

The decision is "a very important step," says one analyst. See FUTURES, A6.

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