Document 0730 California Thefts Make Travel Agents Jittery named:x-c n_of:x-i v_cause:e-i-h n:x n_of:x-i a:e-u BEING A TRAVEL agent used to be pretty glamorous . v_id:e-p-i q:i-h-h n:x n_of:x-i v_qmodal:e-h _ _ _ x:e-u _ a:e-u _ _ Now it 's getting downright dangerous time_n:x pron:x _ v_state:e-i-h x:e-u a_for:e-p (ARGI) (ARG2) n in California , where one agent was stabbed and another was shot and killed . p:e-u-i named:x-c _ q:i-h-h card:i-i-c n_of:x-i _ v:e-i-p _ q:i-h-h _ v:e-i-p _ v:e-i-p _ Los Angeles police say the thieves seem to be part of a crime network that knows how to convert blank tickets into real ones named:x-c n , the stolen tickets have been used for flights all over the world . _ q:i-h-h v_from:e-i-p n:x _ _ _ v:e-i-p p:e-u-i n:x x:e-u p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ So far , the thieves have stolen 3,632 blank tickets , according to Airline Reporting Corp. , a ticket processing center compresedure a ace-e _ q:i-h-h _ n:x _ v_from:e-i-p _ card:i-i-c _ a:e-p _ n:x _ p:e-u-i _ named:x-c few employee (ARG2) by two to five men, who walk into the agencies near closing or lunch time, when few employees are there card:i-i-c interval_p_end:i-i-i card:i-i-c n:x _ v:e-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x p:e-u-i v:e-i _ n:x n_of:x _ x:e-h-h little-few_a:e-p n_of:x-i _ place_n:x _ n=0. (ARG1) ____or_c Police say the robberies are usually pulled off by two n:x v_to:e-i-h-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ a:e-h v_off:e-i-i _ card:i-i-"They looked like ordinary vacationers at first , " says Willy LLerena , owner of Travel Air Service in Monte Bello , Calif. , describing five men who entered his agency last June pron:x v_like:e-i p:e-u-i a:e-p n:x a:e-e a:e-e __v_to:e-i-h-i named:x-c nam (ARGI) (and_c) , he says , they put two loaded pistols to his temple and demanded he open the safe . pron:x v_to:e-i-h-i _ pron:x v:e-i-p-h card:i-i-c v_cause:e-i-p n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x _ v_of:e-i-h pron:x v_cause:e-i-p q:i-h-h n:x _ [20730013] "They said they wanted to show me how serious they were, "he says pron:x v_to:e-i-h-i pron:x v:e-i-h- v:e-i-p-h pron:x abstr_deg:i a:e-p pron:x v_to:e-i-h-i [20730015] At El Monte Travel Center in El Monte , Calif. , customers now can get in only through a buzzer and lock system . p:e-u-i named:x-c name (I) (ARG2) , " says Ralph " Bud " Conner , owner of the agency , which was robbed of 180 blank tickets and \$ 850 last month _ v_to:e-i-h-i named:x-c _ named:x-c _ named:x-c _ ncf:x-i _ q:i-h-h _ n:x _ _ _ _ v_of:e-i-p-i _ card:i-i-c _ a:e-p _ n:x _ _ n:x _ card:i-i-c _ q:i-h-h _ n:x ——(ARG1) deal with clients this way in a service business with:e-i-i _ n:x q_dem:i-h-h n_of:x-i p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x n:x "But we 're just too nervous . " _ c:i-i-i pron:x _ x:e-u comp:e-u-u a_about:e-p-i _ _ [20730018]

1





