

## More Dominicans Arrive At A&M On AID Program

Twenty-eight new Dominican Republic students have arrived here for study under Agency for International Development-sponsored scholarships.

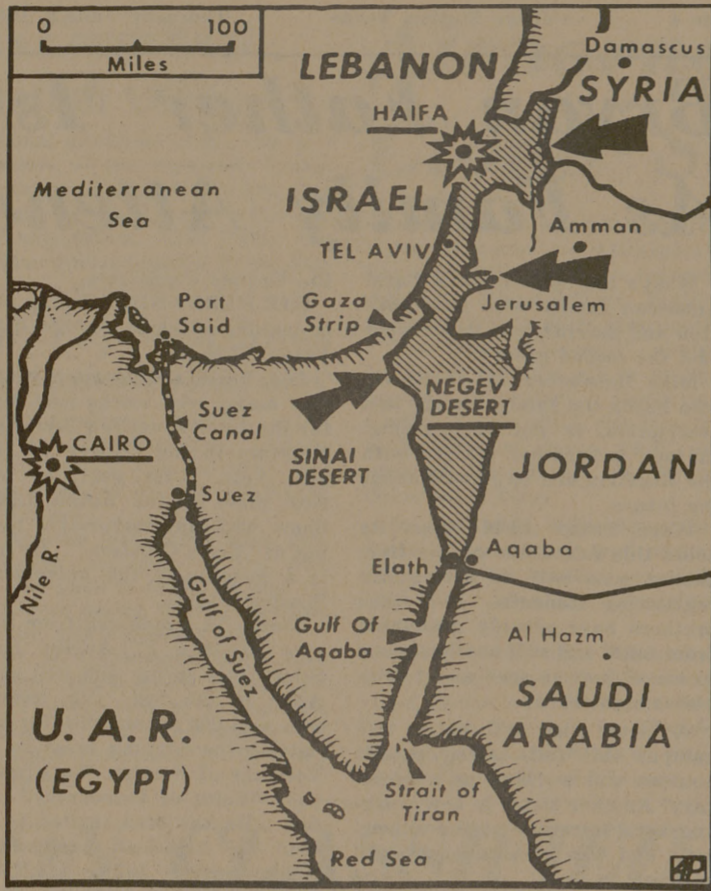
The 28 students will start an intensive English training program and enroll as regular students in the School of Agriculture next September, according to W. E. (Bill) Beach, Dominican Republic programs coordinator of the International Programs Office.

"We now have 67 Dominicans at A&M under AID scholarships," Beach noted.

"This is the only AID sponsored group selected entirely on academic and leadership abilities, without regard to language training," he added.

The group includes three staff members and eight recent graduates of the Instituto Superior Agricultura, an A&M-Ford Foundation project; and two 1967 graduates each of the Mocha and Loyola Agricultural Schools. The other 13 are employees of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The A&M contract with AID-Dominican Republic has the goal of training 100 students for bachelor degrees in agriculture, Beach pointed out.



**ARAB-ISRAELI BATTLEFRONT**  
Arrows indicate where Egyptian, Jordanian and Syrian forces were reported joining battle with Israel. Bomb symbols mark Cairo, which Egypt said had been bombed, and Haifa, where Syria said it bombed the oil refineries. AP Wirephoto Map)

## THE BATTALION

# Duo Makes Central American Trek

Two Texas A&M students will make a summer trek to Central America to study taxonomy and distribution of bats.

Wildlife Science students Richard La Val of Florissant, Mo., and Terry C. Maxwell of San Antonio hope to capture more than 1,000 bats in Nicaragua, Honduras and possibly El Salvador.

La Val is a doctoral candidate and Maxwell is a senior.

"We're going to explore caves, streams and other places and

catch bats with our hands, butterfly and mist nets," La Val commented. "There are more than 100 different kinds of bats in that area."

Dr. Carter said a three-month research excursion to the area this fall will complete the study.

La Val and Maxwell are hopeful their trip won't be as adventurous as a recent research visit to the same area by Carter, La Val and Tom Webb, a graduate student from El Paso.

"We had no sooner driven into Guatemala City until we were arrested by military authorities as suspects in the assassination of the Guatemalan Air Force' public relations chief," Carter recalled.

"Lt. Col. Eduardo Enrique Figueroa had been murdered the morning we drove into town," he went on. "When soldiers stopped our car and found a lot of guns, we were thrown in jail without further questioning. They didn't

want to see our identification or anything. It was a real shock."

"The jail was crowded with deserters and other Army criminals," he continued. "Everybody was fed beans in dirty plates except us. The commandant of the post arrived early the next morning and released us immediately. He was very apologetic."

"It was an interesting experience," Carter chuckled, "but we didn't stick around long."

## New Device To Purify Air Invented By EE Scientist

A Texas A&M scientist has invented a device which he hopes will aid man in curing air pollution woes.

The device, which Dr. Nicholas Gothard built after several years work on the theory, purifies air by trapping unwanted contaminating particles with an electrical field.

The laboratory model is a metal cylinder with an electrode inside. About 20,000 volts is applied to the system. This is about as much voltage as there is on an ordinary television set. Filled with smoke, the cylinder clears itself in a few seconds when the voltage is applied.

Dr. Gothard notes there are many electrically-activated systems used in air purification in commerce and industry today.

"BUT THESE depend on charging the contaminating particle itself, perhaps by a screen, and then attracting it by a charge of opposite polarity," he pointed out.

In Dr. Gothard's device, however, the particles receive no charge. They are brought to filtering material around the central electrode by what Dr. Gothard says is a "converging electrical field." This is roughly similar to the principle whereby a comb run through the hair will pick up bits of paper.

Dr. Gothard says he has experimented with cigarette and oil smoke, dust and water vapor and finds all are cleared from air by the device.

An assistant professor of electrical engineering at A&M, Dr. Gothard built the device during off-time hours around home.

A FUTURE application might be filtering unwanted auto exhaust fumes which ultimately produce smoke. The hydrocarbons could be collected by such a device in the exhaust system which would operate off the car's electrical system. Dr. Gothard is hoping to develop several applications in collaboration with Don Dale of College Station.

Other applications might be the removal of pollen, dust and humidity for people with allergies. Or it could be used in cars where a combination of air con-

Infrared emissions from Jupiter indicate the planet radiates four times as much energy as it gets from the sun.

ditioning and cigarette smoke produces stinging of eyes.

Dr. Gothard notes cigarette smoke is one of the hardest things to filter with conventional devices because the individual particles are so small. From experiments with cigarette smoke, he is confident his device does it with high efficiency.

"IT WILL even remove smells

"IT WILL EVEN remove smells," Gothard said. "Blow perfume in one end and you can't smell it at the other."

In development, higher voltages probably will be tried.

Since the attraction point of the pollution is the electrode inside the cylinder, the covering filter would have to be removed periodically.

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