

# Coverage 'sterilized'

## Listen Up

**Editor:**  
I write to you on this occasion to express my disappointment and disbelief at the seemingly sterilized treatment given by The Battalion to the Richard Levinson lecture. The coverage of Richard Levinson appeared in the Tuesday, Oct. 8 edition of The Battalion and in my eyes, was just that: A report on Richard Levinson. The fact that he lectured on the A&M campus was not even mentioned.

Several other significant aspects of the event were also not reported. They include:

1. Members of the Organization of Arab Students and the Iranian Students Association distributed before the meeting, reprints of a pamphlet entitled "Zionist Israeli Acts of Terrorism 1939-1974."
2. Levinson addressed the distributors of the pamphlet while holding a copy in his

hand and, during the course of his speech, justified most Israeli acts as anti-terrorism.

3. When the question period was opened, it was dominated by members of the Organization of Arab Students and the Iranian Students Association who asked him to clarify various aspects of his lecture and to justify several cases of alleged terrorism by Israelis. Levinson, in several specific cases admitted Israeli wrong doing, but because the Israeli government had apologized in the cases of civilian killing, he would not label the acts as terrorist.
4. Tension over the controversy was more than evident with the Campus Police in visible attendance and several persons speaking and acting while emotionally overcome.

These events indicate more than

just Richard Levinson calmly explaining his expert opinion on the subject. They represent an event. Tuesday night the greatest public controversy I have seen on this campus took place in the Memorial Student Center. For some reason the existence of that controversy was not reported by the university newspaper.

I am of neither Arabic nor Islamic heritage. I am not pro-terrorism, and up until Tuesday evening I was, as the average student still is, poorly informed on the Middle East situation. Members of the Organization of Arab Students and the Iranian Student Association made an appearance at that lecture peacefully trying to make known the plight of the Palestinians today. Their efforts to gain much needed exposure in this area were only further frustrated by the Battalion's failure to report the lecture as an event. For

this I am truly sorry.

Ray Daniels

## New context

**Editor:**  
I would like to point out the presence of foreign students in North American campuses in a different context.

First of all, as everybody should know we are giving up many things when we decide to come to the U.S. to improve our education. This evidently proves our positive attitude towards the University. As far as I know, among graduate students there are proportionally as many outstanding foreign students as North Americans along U.S. campuses.

My own experience in this university has told me how the foreign students participate actively in the economic, cultural and social de-

velopment of this community. During the time we live here we develop a sense of love and respect to this land that will be carried with us wherever we go. In this sense we contribute to make even greater the name of TAMU and hence the word AGGIE is known all over the world.

I would like then for the U.S. community, our faculty and staff to reject the idea of the international students as coming to TAMU to steal the place of other students here, and the false attitude of our getting something without giving anything. In fact we pay our fees as everybody else.

I would rather like to see the end of discriminatory practices and for the international students to be considered as a potential good contributing to the betterment of the University and the community.

Pedro Sanabria

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