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**What is Your American Indian Movement I.Q.?**



- By the time of its takeover of Wounded Knee, South Dakota in 1973, the American Indian movement had received grants amounting to at least \$400,000.00 from:
  - The American Civil Liberties Union
  - The Office of Economic Opportunity
  - The Oglala Tribal Council
- "Look ahead — The Red Trinity, Daddy Karl, Baby Vlad, and Holy Ho smiling atcha . . . Socialist salvation awaits even a lackey of the capitalist oppressors like you, brother, if you just believe in the future." — written to Douglass Durham after his exposure as an F.B.I. agent by
  - Dennis Banks, A.I.M. head.
  - John Foreman, Columbia Pictures
  - Paula Giese, A.I.M. chief researcher
- "The white man has the Gxxdxxx gall to celebrate a birthday in 1976 over my blood. I promise you that it will be an unhappy birthday. Everyone, everywhere should participate in blowing out the white man's candle." At an A.I.M. meeting in March, 1974, \_\_\_\_\_ said it.
  - Russell Means
  - Dennis Banks
  - Clyde Bellecourt

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**E. B. Cushing's legacy lives on in stone**

By **DON MIDDLETON**  
and  
**JOHN ADAMS**

**The first 100 years**

As any fish in the Corps of Cadets can tell you, the inscription on the Cushing Library is: "Mendel, Sachs, Bacon; Washington, Bullfinch, Faraday; Cushing Library; Maxwell, Pasteur, Shakespeare; Plato, Watt, Newton."

There may be a few of those fish who can tell you that the Cushing Library is situated east of the Academic Building, adjacent to the Sterling C. Evans Library.

And while the twelve names engraved around the facade of the library are recognizable to most college students, there are probably less than a handful of Aggies attending class today who know why the Cushing Library is so named.

In case you haven't noticed, Aggies like to name buildings after other Aggies, mostly those who have done something notable in their lives. It's a time-honored practice, even though it may be confusing to campus visitors at times.

It's also the best way to commemorate the deeds and achievements of the great men of A&M history.

Naturally, we all have fond memories of George F. Fermier, Francis M. Law, Mark Francis, Frank C. Bolton and, of course, Edward Benjamin Cushing.

E. B. Cushing was the first man to graduate from Texas A&M as an engineer. He entered A&M in 1877, graduated in 1880 and since his name comes early in alphabetical order he received his degree before other engineer-graduates.

His diploma reads "Bachelor of Letters," but he had taken courses in civil engineering and after graduation went to work for the Galveston, Houston and San Antonio Railroad as a construction engineer.

So that's enough to name a major college building after him? you ask. Hardly. Read on.

In 1908, after having built and maintained railroads in Texas and the wilds of Mexico, he went to work for the Southern Pacific Railroad as engineer in charge of construction in Texas and Louisiana.

The son of a moderately well-to-do Houston publisher, Cushing was well on his way to making a name for himself in the railroad business, as well as a fair amount of money.

But money alone doesn't get your name engraved in granite around here.

When World War I began to loom on the horizon, Cushing quit his job with Southern Pacific and enlisted. There was only one problem — at forty-five he was too old to join the Army.

Not to be left out in the cold, Cushing sent a few telegrams to the right people, reminding them of his qualifications and in no time at all he was in Uncle Sam's Army.

Cushing was given the rank of Major, attached to the 17th Engineering Regiment and sent to Le Havre, France. There he began doing for the Army what he had been doing for Southern Pacific, only he did it for a lot less cash and a larger sense of accomplishment.

You see, Edward Cushing was the kind of man who would rather do something for his country than himself. And quite a few people recognized his abilities and sensed his deep patriotism. One of those per-

sons was General "BlackJack" Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe.

Pershing transferred Cushing to his own general staff, promoted him to Lieutenant Colonel and gave him the title of Advising Engineer.

Cushing served Pershing well enough to be promoted to Colonel before the end of the war and to be awarded the General-in-Chief's medal for distinguished service. He also received the French Legion of Honor and commendations from the governments of Belgium and Italy.

His war record alone might have been enough to rate him a plaque in the office of the Former Students Association. But that's not the whole story. In fact, if it hadn't been for Edward Cushing there might not be a Former Students Association much less an office to hang plaques in.

It was Cushing, along with a fellow Aggie named John Youche, who came up with an idea for an Ex-Cadets Association as early as 1879. Their idea became reality in 1888. The name was changed first to the Alumni Association and in 1921 to the Association of Former Students.

Cushing was elected to his first

term of office as President of the alumni group in 1900, and subsequently held the spot several times before his death.

In 1912 Edward Cushing was appointed to the Board of Directors by Governor O.B. Colquitt. You may recall that that was the year the Main Building burned.

That incident was the beginning of several years of financial trouble for the College. When Cushing was elected President of the Board in 1913, he was faced with a total deficit of \$87,265.

Money appropriated by the State Legislature was slow in coming, so Cushing personally underwrote the costs of operating the school. When he left office in 1915, the College was again in the black.

Edward B. Cushing died in 1924 at the age of 62. To the College he left a large collection of books, including many rare engineering books, toward the establishment of a new College library.

When the Board of Directors approved the construction of a new library in 1929, a committee from the Association of Former Students petitioned the Board to name the building after Cushing.

The petition stated in part: "There is perhaps no man who has had the

interests of the college so much before him and no man whose name deserves such a fitting tribute to a college."

In 1930 the Cushing Memorial Library was formally dedicated.

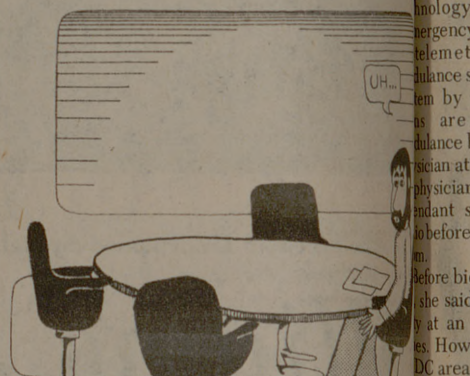
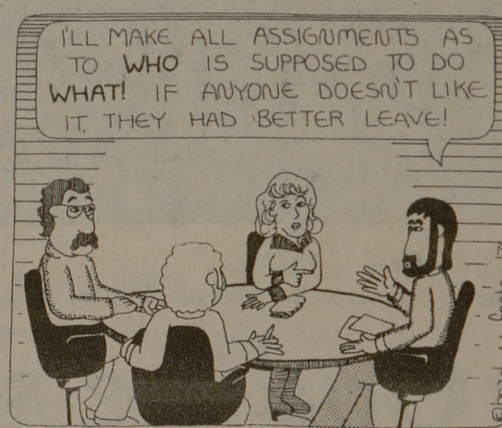
Edward Cushing had planned and supported A&M College for years. His college roommate, Reynaud, eulogized the man who had meant so much to A&M as salient traits of character, but those who knew him best, his honesty, his integrity, his high standards, his faithfulness, his breadth of intellect that allowed him to master the most complex problems connected with his work.

And that is all there is to the building named after you.

**Guest editor**

The Battalion welcomes editorials. However, each submitted should be typed, spaced, include the author's name and be limited to 300 words. Submit guest viewpoints to Battalion, Reed McDonald Building, room 216, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. Articles may also be brought to son to room 216, Reed McDonald Building.

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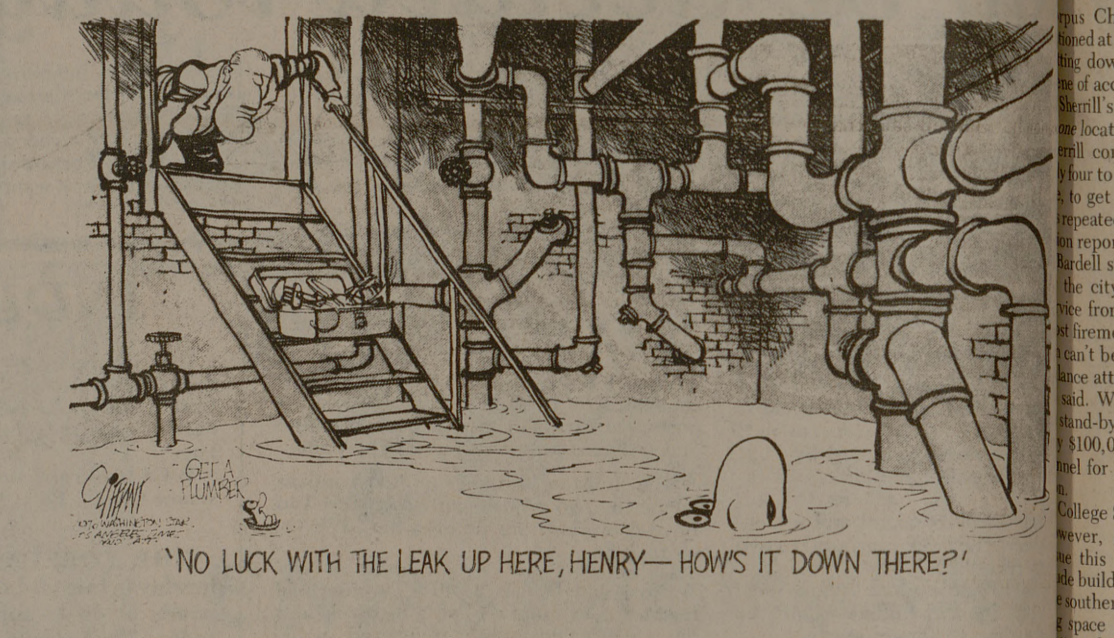
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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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