Services This Sunday November 5

at A&M Consolidated H.S. Cafeteria Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. (enter Welch St. Lot)



South College Station **Lutheran Mission**

Stan Sultemeier Mission Pastor

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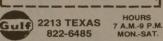
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Cause disputed

Lebanese, Arab students disagree on war

Battalion Reporter

Last month, Syrians in Lebanon unleashed what has been called the fiercest attack since the Beirut fighting began in 1975. The International Red Cross estimated that 500 civilians were killed, 3,000 were injured and about 37,000 homes were destroyed.

The Syrians were sent to Lebanon in 1976 as part of the Arab peace-keeping force after civil war broke out there.

Texas A&M University students from Middle East countries had

opposing views about why the Lebanese conflict began.

The civil war started mainly, some said because of the division of power between the Christians and Moslems in Lebanon.

The political structure is based on a 1943 covenant which apportions legislative and executive strength between Christians and

Moslems with a ratio of six Christians to five Moslems.

The Lebanese president, by law, is always a Maronite Christian (the largest Christian sect), the prime minister a Sunni Moslem, the commander in chief of the armed forces a Maronite, etc.

The covenant is based on the 1932 census, when the Christians were a majority. Now the Moslems are in the majority, not including

the Palestinians. The Christians also have most of the country's wealth, in addition to their political advantage.

Other students say the problem stems from tensions between

Lebanese and non-Lebanese in the country Thousands of Palestinians have moved to Lebanon since 1948, after being ejected from other Middle East countries. Since then they have launched their attacks on Israel from Lebanon's southern bor-

The Israelis have retaliated against the Palestinians in Lebanon, severely damaging the Lebanese economy, tourism and agriculture.
Sami El-jamous, a graduate student in electrical engineering, said
Lebanon welcomed the Palestinians at first. But when Israel began
attacking Lebanon, the government tried to halt the Palestinian ac-

tion. "Our economy was destroyed because the south was a battle area only. There were no crops planted and tourists stopped coming," $h_{\rm e}$

However, the Lebanese army was small and ineffective in stopping the Palestinians, he said, and the Maronites "decided to do the job themselves "Then the leftists (mostly Moslems) got with the Palestinians

against the government to get more power against the Christians," El-Jamous said.
"In 1976, the Syrians came in as a peace-keeping force," he said.
First they were neutral, but after six months they turned against the

Christian conservatives, he said.

"The Christian conservatives in Lebanon didn't want our government to be controlled by anyone but Lebanese," El-Jamous said. Joe Chiha, a graduate student from Lebanon, agreed. "We won't accept being governed by Syrians," he said.

"Ninety percent of the people fighting against the Christians are non-Lebanese," El-Jamous said. "They are trying to change the government to a way which it can be controlled by them."

El-Jamous does not think that distribution of wealth and power is

El-Jamous does not think that distribution of wealth and power is the main problem in Lebanon. "We have co-existed for over 1,200 years in Lebanon," he said. I don't think rich and poor makes a difference. You never see people

starving in Lebanon.
"We are the only democracy in the Middle East," the Lebanese

"We the Lebanese want, instead of the Syrians, a neutral force

perhaps European, to try to create a strong government in Lebanon.

Arab students, who asked that their names not be revealed, die agreed. One said that calling Lebanon a democracy was "nonsense because only a Maronite can become president of Lebanon.

"It is the democracy of the rich man, not a democracy for all," h

He said the Lebanese conflict was caused by economic and political inequalities between the Maronites and the rest of the Leba

The student said about two percent of the people in Lebanon have 90 percent of the wealth and power, and that more than 50 percent live at the poverty level.

Resentment of the Maronites by Moslem majority led to the Lebanese civil war, he said.

"It will be a long time before you will see a strong central government in Lebanon," another Arab student said. "It has no muscle, no

He predicted President Carter will direct his next peace initiatives toward Lebanon. However, El-Jamous said, "Carter doesn't care about Lebanon. If he did, he wouldn't have given millions of dollar



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The Department of Mathematics will take applications for cian, 822-1347, Ex. 274. student employment for Spring Semester 1979. Applications are available in the Mathematics Department, Room 102 Milner Hall. Application deadline is November

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OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOTICE **BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE MAJORS**

Preregistration for the Spring Semester 1979 will be conducted during the week of November 13-17, 1978. Spring Semester Schedule of Classes will be available on or about November 6.

All Biomedical Science majors are required to schedule a conference with their Academic Advisor and obtain an approved Course Request Form for use at preregistration. You can avoid long waiting periods by making an appointment with your advisor and having your Course Request Form approved prior to the week of preregistration. When you have obtained the approved Course Request Form, deliver it to the Biomedical Science office, Room 332, Veterinary Medical Administration Building. During preregistration week, you should return to the Biomedical Science office to pick up your registration packet and complete your preregistration.

SEE YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR SOON

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THE RING CLERK IS ON DUTY FROM 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M. EACH DAY, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, HOWEVER, IN ORDER FOR OTHER DUTIES TO BE CARRIED OUT, ABSOLUTELY NO ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN BETWEEN 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. OR BETWEEN 4:00 - 5:00 P.M. 8. ALL RINGS ORDERED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ON OCTOBER 30TH OR DECEMBER WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE SAME DAY WHICH WILL BE APPROXIMATELY FEB-

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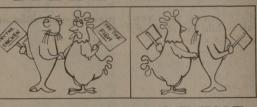
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