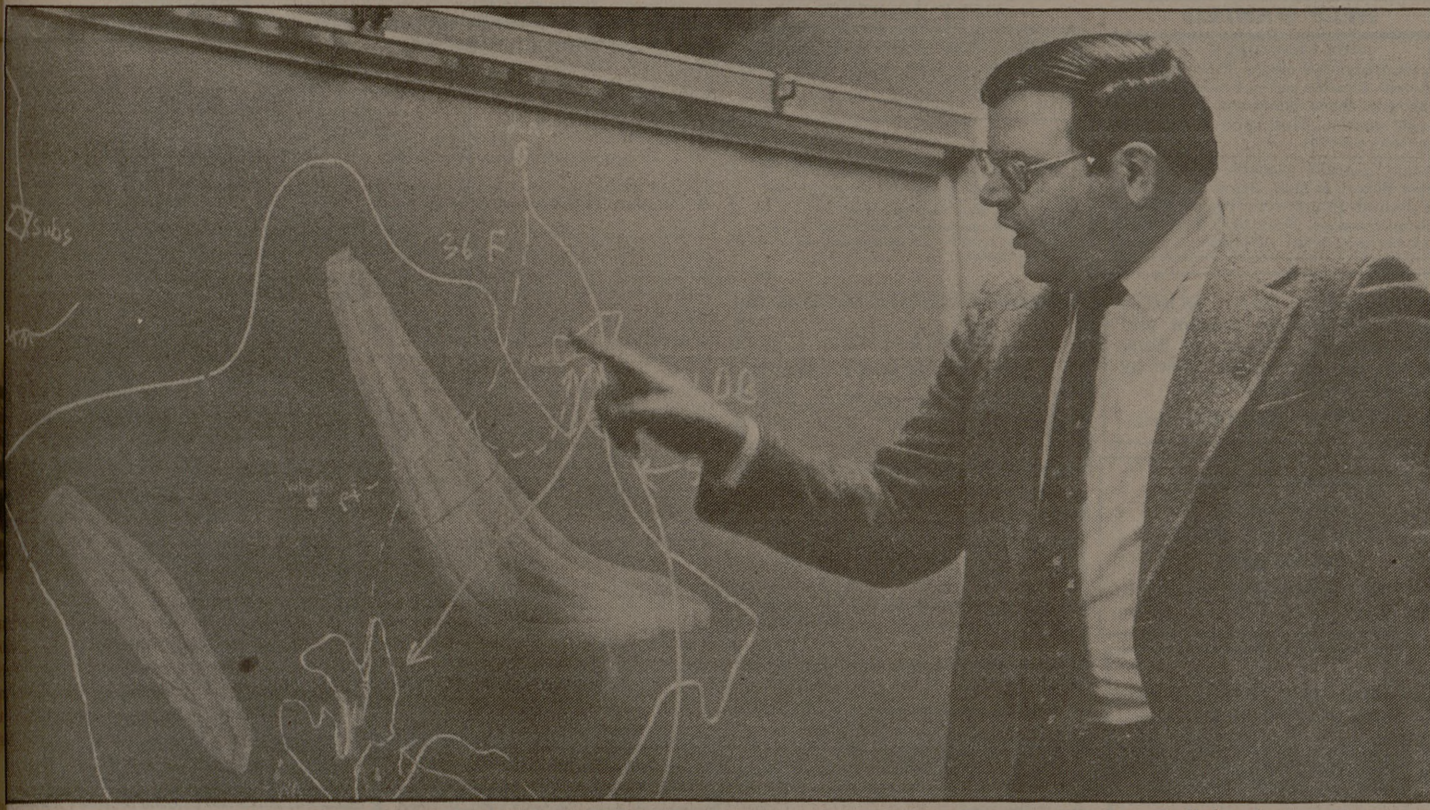


Local / State



Dr. James Bradford, assistant professor of history, illustrates the Japanese attack on Hawaii during the Pearl Harbor panel discussion presented last night by the MSC GROMETS in Rudder Tower.

Shoplifting increases during holiday season

By Chris Howland, Susan Scott and Rebeca Zimmermann
Battalion Reporters

As shoplifting activity triples in the final weeks before Christmas, some local merchants are preparing for the increase in thefts by increasing security.

The College Station Police Department has conducted a seminar on shoplifting and related crimes to alert store owners to the problem. Police said large coats with inside pockets, bloomers, and umbrellas with large rubber bands attached are frequently used by shoplifters.

Ron Morton, manager of the local J.C. Penney Co., said his store increases the sales force and shows films about shoplifting to employees to prepare them for the Christmas shopping season.

However, Ed Bushak, manager of K-Mart, said he did not notice an increase in shoplifting during the holiday season.

"Actually in proportion to sales, it decreases," he said.

Morton and Bushak said cosmetics and records are a prime targets for shoplifters. Morton said clothes also disappear when shoplifters try them on.

Rusty Rush of R. Rush and Co. said his store is smaller and does not have the theft problems that most large department stores have. He does not change his shoplifting policy during Christmas.

At the shoplifting seminar, Johnny Maxwell, a security guard for a food chain, told the audience that most shoplifting is done by

housewives and young children. Maxwell told the group that college students and teenagers who actually have the money to purchase items sometimes shoplift as a challenge. Professional shoplifters are very rare, he said.

Maxwell advised store owners to remove store areas enclosed by racks to prevent shoplifting. He also suggested putting bells on doors to attract the store owner's attention.

Police estimate that a store's profit loss is about 0.5 percent to 1 percent because of shoplifting. The average loss per shoplifter varies from \$5 to \$23 per incident.

The Police Department said if store representatives apprehend a shoplifter, the store managers must know exactly what merchandise was stolen, which counter it was stolen from, how it was taken and how it was concealed. They must know whether the merchandise is still concealed on the suspect, and they must identify it as

the store's property. About 50 percent of those apprehended are prosecuted, police officials said.

The penalty for shoplifting an item worth \$1 to \$5 is a fine of up to \$200. For an item valued at \$5 to \$20 the penalty is a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or up to 80 days in jail. For items \$20 and above, a fine of up to \$2,000 and/or up to 12 months in jail can be imposed.

In Bryan and College Station the first-time offender is usually placed on probation, police officials said.



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40th anniversary observed

Panel discusses Pearl Harbor

By TIM FOARDE

Battalion Staff
Forty years ago, the U.S. military was shaken by a devastating attack by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Eight battle ships in the harbor and close to 200 planes were destroyed on Dec. 7, 1941. More than 2,400 Americans were killed.

Three Texas A&M history professors participated in a panel discussion Monday at Rudder Tower commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Dr. Roger Beaumont discussed the forecasting of the Japanese attack, Dr. James Bradford explained the strategic elements of the attack itself and Dr. Martin Melosi, author of "Shadow of Pearl Harbor," discussed the bombing's aftermath and the question of culpability.

Beaumont traced the decay of Japanese-American relations from the end of the Russo-Japanese war in 1906, through the outbreak of

WW II in 1939, up to the day of attack in 1941.

The U.S. military had several warnings about the possibility of a Japanese attack and particularly vulnerable Pearl Harbor, Beaumont said.

Forewarnings of an attack included a report from Billy Mitchell in 1924 who testified before Congress that "... some Sunday morning, about 7:30, Japanese aircraft would come in, catch the Pacific fleet at anchor in Pearl Harbor, and destroy it," Beaumont said.

Mitchell's prediction, however, included some prerequisites that didn't develop before the attack.

Predictions of an attack on Pearl Harbor ranged from science fiction stories to military intelligence reports. As 1941 approached, the increasing number of rumors about a Japanese attack created a type of "crying wolf" disbelief that contributed to the U.S. military unpreparedness, Beaumont said.

Bradford said the Japanese used a two-wave attack to surprise the U.S. forces at Pearl Harbor.

The first wave of Japanese aircraft was to cover all planes in the air, the airfields and then attack the fleet of battleships and destroyers, Bradford said.

The first wave was far more damaging than the second wave, which was equipped to attack aircraft carriers that had not arrived at the harbor yet.

Bradford said the Japanese plan basically worked as planned, except it went better than they expected. The American reaction was one of disbelief.

Speculations about culpability — such as the idea that President Franklin D. Roosevelt knew about the attack beforehand but allowed it in order to enter the war — were common but unfounded, Melosi said.

Investigations about culpability were said to threaten U.S. military security, he said. The U.S. had decoded many Japanese military

codes and it was important that the Japanese did not discover their codes had been broken.

The result was the Roosevelt administration's effort to bury the Pearl Harbor story and assign the blame to Pearl Harbor Naval Commander Husband Kimmel and Pearl Harbor Army Commander Walter Short, Melosi said.

The politically sensitive nature of the Pearl Harbor issue caused the Roosevelt administration to adopt a "cover-up" attitude. Several culpability investigations were carried out, Melosi said, but most of them were affected by the administration's "national security" censorship.



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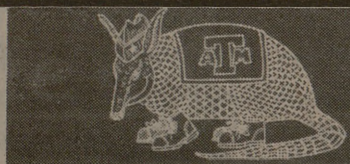
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ORGANIZATION MEETING

Thurs., Dec. 10 8:30 p.m. #115 Kleberg Bldg.

If you can't attend the meeting, please fill out form in Room #129 C Kleberg. If you aren't preregistered, you can register for it during the add/drop period in January.

Santa gives workers big bonus bag

United Press International
CLEVELAND — Santa Claus visited the employees of Lincoln Electric Co. Friday, and inside his bag was a record \$59 million in Christmas bonuses.

Santa — otherwise known as Board Chairman William Irrgang — made the announcement to his 2,684 employees. This is the 48th consecutive year that workers at Lincoln, the world's largest manufacturer of arc welding products, have had extra money for Christmas shopping.

Although the amount works out to an average of more than \$22,000 for each employee, the bonuses are calculated according to the worker's earnings, merit ratings and length of employment, so the exact amount each employee receives varies.

Last year, Lincoln's 2,637 workers divided more than \$46 million in bonuses, said Irrgang, who made the announcement in the company's cafeteria — the same place in which workers have been told since the bonus program began in 1934.

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