

Display called 'anti-Semitic'

by Catherine A. Campbell
Battalion Reporter

A display in the Sterling C. Evans Library — which includes a picture of the Star of David dripping with blood — has been called "anti-Semitic" by many Texas A&M faculty members and students, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

The display, placed in the library by the Arab Student Organization, focuses on an enlarged photograph of slain people with a superimposed picture of Israel's prime minister Menachem Begin and a Star of David dripping with blood.

The exhibit is being displayed in one of three glass-top cases across from the reference section in the first-floor foyer of the library. The display also contains pictures from Time and Newsweek magazines of corpses lying in the streets of Lebanon.

Sheila Arestad, coordinator of exhibits for the library, said many people have been upset by the display.

"People wandered in, looked and shrugged ... some were outraged," Arestad said. "A few came up to me and asked me if I thought it wasn't inappropriate. I've had people who've phoned me and literally screamed at me about the case."

Arestad said she is "counting the minutes" until she can remove the display next Tuesday, when the reserve time on the case expires.

But she also said that she only has limited censorship power.

"Really, censorship is at question and our policy (for the display cases) was re-evaluated last spring so as not to censor," she said.

Originally the Arab Student Organization's display contained a hand-lettered statement which was removed on University Library Director Irene Hoadley's request, Arestad said.

The statement said: "This is peace for Galilee (the code name for the Israeli invasion of Leba-

non). This is peace for Israel. No more Palestinians. The final solution."

Arestad said the Arab students seemed to be saying that the Israeli solution to the Palestinian problem is to eliminate all Palestinians.

She said the statement was removed from the case because library guidelines allow them to remove hand-lettered statements, especially controversial ones. But, any material previously printed by the media cannot be censored, she said.

The Star of David in the case was published in an Arab student publication from California.

Nabil Al-Khowaiter, president of the Arab Student Organization, said he would have preferred to have the statement in the case instead of the poster of the Star of David.

"The statement had more power to it — it said more than the Star of David poster," Al-Khowaiter said. "The statement carried all the meaning."

Hoadley said: "The Star of David with the blood dripping is probably in bad taste. But having met the Arab students who put this out, I don't think they're doing this as a hate message."

The display is intended to show Arab support of anti-Israeli policies, she said.

Hoadley said some Jewish faculty members and Israeli students have objected to the poster of the Star of David dripping with blood, but not to the display itself.

"Some people seem to feel the library has a larger realm than it does," Hoadley said. "We provide a forum in terms of a place to express views or opinions, and the library, as stated in our policy, does not necessarily concur with the views expressed in the exhibits."

The cases can be used by any University recognized student organization or an official unit of the University, such as a college department.

Students will choose own prices

Exchange to cut used book costs

by David Tharp
Battalion Reporter

Students who are tired of paying more and getting less for used books will have a chance to beat the bookstore system and set prices for their own books using the Student Government book exchange program.

Theresa Wigley, coordinator of the program, said that from Dec. 13 to Dec. 17, students can bring used books to the Student Programs Office in 216 MSC and set their own price.

The price set by the student can vary between the amount bookstores pay for used books and the amount bookstores charge for used books, Wigley said. Bookstores usually pay 50 percent of the original cost of the used book and sell the same book for 75 percent of the original cost, she said.

"The exchange is patterned after one at the University of Texas at El Paso and one in New Mexico," Wigley said. "They charged 25 cents for handling. Next time we hope to have enough books so we don't have a service charge."

Wigley said Student Government hasn't had any problems with the MSC Bookstore over the book exchange program.

"The bookstore in the MSC is in favor of the exchange program," she said. "It would cost them more than the 25 percent mark-up made on used book sales to pay wages for workers to handle the mass of used books."

At least 100 students must participate to work, Wigley said, but she added that she expects

more than 500 students to participate.

The book exchange will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 12 to Jan. 21. Students will be able to select books from an index which will list titles and selling prices, Wigley said. Participants will have until Jan. 26 to pick up either their money or their unsold books. Unclaimed money and books will be donated to the Department of Student Services.

Students who use the Student Government service will be required to pay a 25 cent service charge to cover promotional expenses.

"If you have five books and mark them all up \$2 more than the bookstore will pay for them, that's \$10," Wigley said. "To a college student, \$10 is \$10, and

that's a good deal."

Wigley said several other universities already have book exchange programs.



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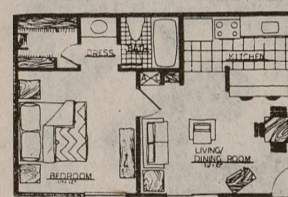
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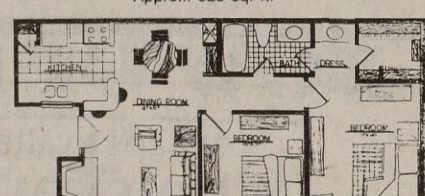
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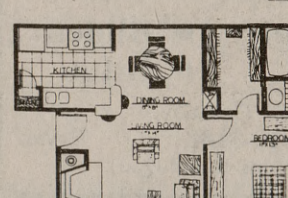
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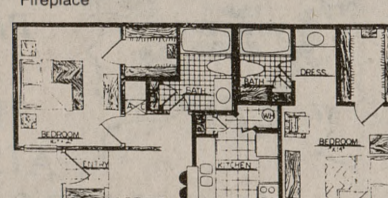
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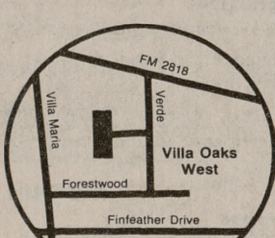
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