

# Texas A&M The Battalion

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## Israeli cabinet meets; official's fate at stake

**United Press International**  
**JERUSALEM** — Prime Minister Menachem Begin called a third cabinet meeting today on the Beirut massacre report to decide the fate of Defense Minister Ariel Sharon — and possibly that of his entire government.

Israel Television said today's meeting would be the last Cabinet session on the commission's recommendations, adding Begin has decided on a course of action, but gave no details on the prime minister's decision.

The investigating panel recommended Sharon be ousted for his "personal responsibility" in the Sept. 16-18 massacre by Israeli-backed Christian militiamen of hundreds of residents of two Palestinian refugee camps.

A senior Israeli official said Begin

does not want to fire Sharon. This would leave Begin the options of resigning himself, possibly forming a new Cabinet without Sharon or placing him in a lesser ministry, or calling new elections.

Public opinion polls show Begin's popularity has not suffered because of the massacre and he would be likely to increase his support in the Israeli parliament in such a vote.

Amid Wednesday's frantic political maneuvering, Begin met alone with Sharon and also conferred with U.S.

special envoy Philip Habib on the Lebanese negotiations.

The Cabinet Wednesday put off a decision to adopt the recommendations after Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan said two army generals, also criticized for their roles in Lebanon, asked to plead for leniency to save their careers.

During a three-hour emergency meeting, a majority of Cabinet ministers were in favor of accepting the commission's recommendations, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor said.



photo by Dena Brown

### "Evita" — Aggie style

Jody Stablein, a sophomore marketing major from Houston, performs a medley of songs from the musical "Evita" with the Century Singers Wednesday in the MSC Lounge. The concert, sponsored by the MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society, promotes "Evita," which will be performed here Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

## Comedian tells Aggie crowd blacks must control destiny

by Karen Schrimsher

**Battalion Reporter**  
 Black people must wake up to reality and take charge of their own destiny, says civil rights activist and comedian Dick Gregory.

"When are you black folks going to get your act together?" he asked Wednesday.

Dressed in a blue warm-up suit, Gregory spoke to a group of about 100 in Rudder Auditorium. The event was co-sponsored by the MSC Black Awareness Committee and SC Great Issues Committee in honor of Black History Month.

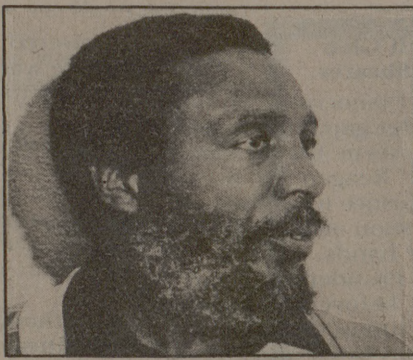
Gregory said that blacks will be able to liberate themselves only if they stop allowing themselves to be manipulated and straighten out their

priorities.

Gregory, whose presentation resembled a comic routine more than a speech, said he was concerned with the number of black student athletes at Texas A&M in comparison with the total number of black students. He advised black mothers against "raising gladiators (football players) for white people's institutions."

He also said that educational institutions are responsible for mass manipulation of students. Schools teach people how to make a living — not how to live, Gregory said.

"There are no good schools in America," he said. "They are all here for one purpose — to manipulate — not to educate. If you can't see it, then you're crazy."



**Civil rights activist and comedian Dick Gregory**

Gregory, who was a member of the track team when he attended

Southern Illinois University, also expressed his concern for physical fitness.

Speaking about Black History Month, Gregory quipped: "It used to be Negro History week, now it's Black Month. You would know they'd give us that old short month — February."

Gregory also said that it is ridiculous for blacks to celebrate George Washington's birthday because Washington was a slave master. He likened the situation to Jews being forced to celebrate Hitler's birthday.

Since Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday is not recognized as a national holiday, blacks should take one anyway, Gregory said.

## Reagan proposes lower wages for teens to up job chances

**United Press International**  
**WASHINGTON** — President Reagan blames increases in unemployment of unskilled teenagers on the minimum wage law and says youths should be exempted from its provisions to improve their chances of getting a job.

"The line on the chart for unemployment for teenagers goes right along increasing with the increase in minimum wage," Reagan told a group of regional editors and broadcasters Wednesday.

He said government demands on employers, such as a higher minimum wage and Social Security payments, have made it "impossible" for unskilled young people to find employment at the apprentice level.

"The employer just can't afford to take these young people on," he said.

"I believe the minimum wage never should have been applied to young people looking for summer jobs, after-school jobs," the president said. He said elimination of the wage standard for teenagers "would be the

right thing to do."

The unemployment rate in January for teenagers was 22.7 percent, 45.7 percent for black teens. The minimum wage is \$3.35. Reagan has proposed a sub-minimum wage of \$2.50 for teenagers doing summer work.

Reagan's appearance before the media groups have been marked by his strong defense of the administration's approach to social programs. He insisted "the safety net is intact and is providing for those people who

have real need."

Reagan indicated he plans no retreat on his military spending, despite attacks on the size from Democrats and Republicans on Capitol Hill. Furthermore, he said, he has the backing of the voters because they don't believe "in a fire sale on national security."

"Defense spending is not the cause of our economic problems, and without it we would have no chances to get agreement with the Soviet Union (on disarmament)," he said.

## Graduate college responds to report

by Robert McGlohn

**Battalion Staff**  
 As a result of the recent report on minority conditions at Texas A&M, the Graduate College has started a \$117,000 fellowship program to attract qualified minority students.

"I'm glad that we have the Minority Merit Fellowships program in place," said Dr. George W. Kunze, dean of the Graduate College. "And we're going to be working hard at it to increase our minority enrollment."

The Minority Merit Fellowships program offers qualified minority students \$7,800 a year. The 15 fellowships require no duties of the graduate students, but candidates must maintain satisfactory academic standing.

The lengths of the fellowships will vary. Students in a master's program will receive two-year fellowships. Post-master's students who are working toward a doctoral degree will receive three-year fellowships. Doctoral candidates with bachelor's degrees will receive four-year fellowships.

The Minority Merit Fellowships program is the first program aimed at recruiting minorities that has been offered by the Graduate College. The college previously was limited to re-

cruiting minorities through graduate assistantships.

A graduate assistantship is not a fellowship or a grant, but a job. Quarter-time graduate assistants work 10 hours a week, usually in teaching laboratories. Assistants are responsible for preparing and conducting labs and grading lab assignments. They are paid \$250 to \$500 a month.

Kunze said the purpose of the fellowship program is to comply with federal regulations concerning the percentage of minorities at Texas A&M. Last fall, 285 — or 5 percent — of 5,729 Texas A&M graduate students were minorities.

"We have a quota to fill and this is one means by which we're attempting to meet this goal," Kunze said.

He has sent an announcement of the program to each of the more than 360 members of the Council of Graduate Schools of the United States.

Kunze hopes to fill all 15 of the fellowships in the program, but he said that may not be easy. Based on the experiences of other schools with similar programs, the Graduate College probably will have problems finding enough qualified candidates, he said.

Applications are due April 1.

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## Student Senate bill has chancellor's OK

by Kelley Smith

**Battalion Staff**  
 A two-part constitutional amendment must be passed to protect the Permanent University Fund and keep it within the Texas A&M and University of Texas systems, System Chancellor Arthur Hansen told the Student Senate on Wednesday.

The amendment was proposed in a bill by the Legislative Study Group, a Student Government committee that plans to lobby before the state legislature.

The bill, which was unanimously approved, called for the Available University Fund — proceeds from bonds issued against PUF land — to be made available to Prairie View A&M University. The AUF is divided between Texas A&M and the UT main campuses. Texas A&M receives one-third and UT receives two-thirds of the fund.

Hansen, speaking to the Senate in support of the student bill, said Prairie View A&M has been neglected.

There have been arguments that when Prairie View was begun, it was meant to be a part of a university of first class, Hansen said. Therefore some people feel that Prairie View should have had access to the PUF from the first day it was opened.

"The AUF would now be used for the maintaining of excellence at Texas A&M and Prairie View University," Hansen said.

The money would be appropriated by the Texas A&M Board of Regents. Hansen said the Board of

Regents could be trusted to act in a fair and equitable manner.

UT also recognizes that the problem of funding for Prairie View A&M is not limited to Texas A&M, Hansen said. UT administrators have agreed to give Prairie View \$60 billion from their AUF over a 10-year period.

The student bill also called for the establishment of an alternative source of funding for the other 17 state-supported schools in Texas.

If both parts of the amendment do not pass, the PUF will be threatened, Hansen said. The next attempt to get funds for the other schools will be an attack on the PUF that will try to break it up, he said.

"For several years, non-PUF schools have looked on the PUF with envy," he said.

The bill would allow bonds to be issued at 30 percent of the value of PUF land, versus the current rate of 20 percent. It also would allow the bond proceeds to be used for construction at all campuses within the Texas A&M and UT systems.

Approval of the student bill authorizes the Legislative Study Group to lobby in support of the bills that correspond to the Student Senate bill.

On Wednesday, Gov. Mark White proposed a constitutional amendment on college construction financing, declaring it an emergency item.

The proposal, which agrees with the position supported by the Student Senate, would establish a permanent fund for the state-supported colleges not in the Texas A&M and the UT systems.

## New lock systems installed in six women's dormitories

by Kim Schmidt

**Battalion Staff**  
 Residence hall security, which has been questioned in recent weeks because of several violent incidents, has been upgraded this week with the installation of new locking systems in six women's dormitories.

Clements, Haas, Hobby, McFadden, Neeley and Underwood halls have received new security systems, which have been in planning stages since December. Leggett Hall will have its security system installed by the middle of next week, said Glenn Ferris, housing operations supervisor.

Installation of the system comes after several violent incidents occurred here last fall and this semester. One rape and 10 assaults were reported at Texas A&M last semester.

The new security system involves issuing keys to more than 1,750 women living in seven dormitories, Ferris said. The keys unlock outside entrances to the halls. Entrances will be locked every night after visitation hours and will re-open at 8 a.m.

Ferris said he thinks the \$2,500 system will prevent people from wandering uninvited into the dormitories at night.

"We're all excited about it (the security system) and hope it is successful," Ferris said.

Dormitory residents have been briefed on the new system and cautioned not to lose their keys, he said.

"The women seem very positive and appreciative of the security effort," he said.

Susan Vaughn, head resident of Clements, where keys were distributed last Thursday, said residents

feel more secure with the new system.

Other head residents said they are glad to see the new system, but said they know it cannot solve all the security problems.

Deborah Lancello, head resident of Mosher Hall, said crime awareness should be increased with the increased security.

"It (the security system) is not going to be perfect until residents are aware and take some more responsibility for their own security," she said.

Vaughn said: "Some girls won't lock their doors no matter what. But now we're at least limiting entry in some way."

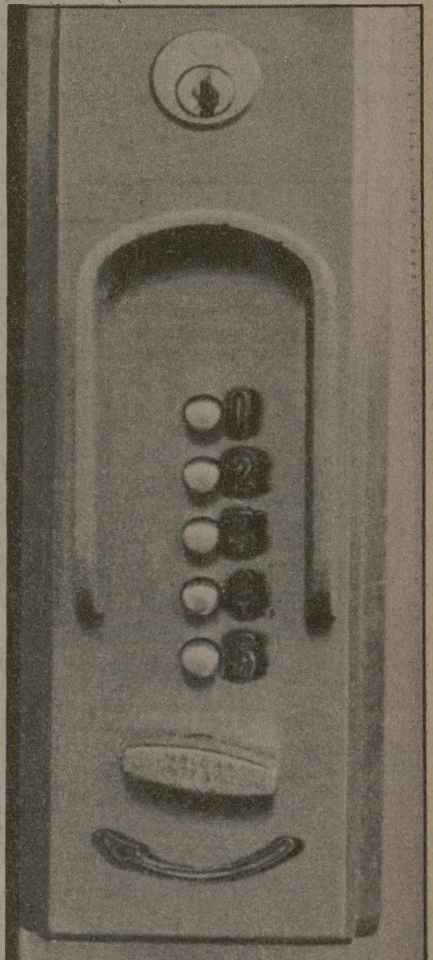
In addition to the upgraded security systems in the six women's dormitories, other residence halls are initiating new systems following the rash of rapes and assaults that have plagued Texas A&M in the past few months.

Visitors to Cain Hall, the men's athletic dormitory, now are required to sign in and out at the main entrance after 7 p.m. All other doors are locked after this time.

Briggs Hall also has a new security system. Installed on a trial basis last fall semester, the system allows all four entrances to the hall to be secured by push-button combination locks.

Fiona McCracken, head resident of Briggs, said that although the lock system is taken more seriously now, residents were careless with it in the beginning.

"Last semester, the number got out and the whole (Quadrangle) knew what it was even before the semester see DORMS, page 5



Combination lock system in use at Briggs Hall