

Faculty discusses military actions

by Michelle Powe

Battalion Staff

Nearly two weeks after the massacre of American Marines and their paratroopers in Lebanon and the U.S. invasion of Grenada, there is confusion among Americans — across the country and at Texas A&M — about what happened.

Five Texas A&M faculty members viewed this week by The Battalion mirrored those mixed feelings about U.S. foreign policy and American involvement abroad.

"There is confusion about why the United States is in Lebanon and in Grenada. There is confusion about whether the Grenada invasion was justified, or if it violated the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States — both of which forbid intervention by members into the internal or external affairs of other member nations."

James L. Payne, political science professor, says the invasion of Grenada was "a very necessary type action."

"I said the vital interests of the United States were threatened by the presence of Soviets and Cubans in Grenada. I said the United States must continue to resist Soviet presence — and take over by totalitarian governments — in the western hemisphere in the Middle East."

"Without a doubt, communist regimes are the greatest violators of human rights in the world and if we're

concerned about human rights we have to object to communist regimes."

He blamed much of the current confusion about U.S. foreign policy on "hysterical" journalists and congressmen, who blow U.S. involvement abroad out of proportion.

Dr. John D. Robertson, an assistant professor of political science, has different views. He said the invasion of Grenada was "a repugnant, illegal, immoral act that has shamed this country."

"We don't have the right to tell people who their friends should be," he said. "We have invaded another country to replace a government which we find distasteful."

"What gives us the right to condemn the soviet actions in Poland, the soviet actions in Afghanistan, the soviet actions in South Korea when we do the same thing in Grenada?"

He said the Grenada invasion is an example of President Ronald Reagan's willingness to use military force instead of diplomacy.

And the American people are partly to blame for Reagan's "shoot from the hip" policies, he said, because they are not acting as a conscience for the American government and making the government answer for its actions.

"My problem is why we (United States) think we can play an effective role in every part of the world," he said.

He said the multinational peace-keeping force in Lebanon does not seem to be effective.

"We would be better off playing the role of a cautious, distant mediator — not a participant (in Lebanon)," he said.

Robertson said he thinks the American people have needed some sort of victory, especially after the Lebanon bombing, and that victory came in the form of the Grenada invasion.

But Robertson says that although the administration may have reaped short-term rewards in U.S. public opinion, there may be high costs to pay in the long-run because of the Grenada invasion.

He predicts that the Soviets will use the invasion as a propaganda ploy in the third world to lessen support for the United States.

He said third world countries may be less trusting of the United States now that it has invaded a small country.

He said the Soviets also may try to use the invasion against the United States by convincing U.S. allies in Europe to prevent further deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons there.

But Robertson said the important issue at hand is not the costs or benefits to Reagan, or the criticism from European allies. He said these are important, but secondary concerns.

Robertson said the important issue is whether or not the invasion of Grenada was consistent with the moral principles of the American people.

The three other Texas A&M faculty members who were interviewed said that time will answer most questions about Lebanon and the invasion and how these incidents might affect U.S. foreign policy in the future.

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Karla James, Battalion photo

Practice, practice

The women's drill team practices spinning guns and marching in formation during an early evening practice. The women are preparing for the officers' tryouts held Wednesday. The new officers will be announced Sunday.

Troops to leave Grenada

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan, announcing U.S. troops will pull out of Grenada soon, Thursday angrily rejected comparisons of America's military "liberation" of the island and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

On two other occasions during a brief session with reporters in the White House briefing room, the usually unflappable Reagan bristled at questions about what the Grenada operation means to overall U.S. foreign policy.

The president testily informed the group that a U.N. vote condemning the invasion "didn't upset my breakfast." And he chided reporters for parroting Nicaraguan leaders' assertions that their nation might be next on a U.S. military hit list.

The session opened with Reagan smiling as he delivered a statement announcing the "situation is stable" on Grenada and that "military resistance" has ceased.

"Our objectives have been achieved and as soon as logistics permit American personnel will be leaving," he said.

The president said the 18 Americans killed and 89 wounded are "heroes of freedom."

A White House spokesman said Thursday some of the nearly 6,000 American troops may leave Grenada "as early as tomorrow," depending on transportation arrangements.

Stressing the operation was needed to rescue some 1,000 Americans on Grenada, Reagan said it also "saved the people of Grenada from repression and laid aside a potential threat to all people of the Caribbean."

Traveling philosopher

Lucky rolls into town

by Clara N. Hurter and Elizabeth Hascall

Battalion Reporter

Thousands of miles have rolled over this man's wheels: his wheelchair wheels.

"My friends call me Lucky," he said. Lucky, a 46-year-old, cigar-smoking, jewelry-making, traveler journeyed from his home in Pin Springs, Fla., to Oregon and back within the past seven years.

Despite his 16,000 mile trek, this lucky's first trip to Texas A&M. He said he's just passing through an- College Station on his way to Houston, Beaumont and then Wrensville.

Lucky plans to vacation and go home when he gets to Brownsville. He left Florida in 1977 after many attempts to find a job and a place to live.

No apartments would rent to me because I'm handicapped," he said. "I couldn't get a job either."

Lucky has been confined to his wheelchair for many years because he has multiple sclerosis.

Fattered Texas and Confederate flags fly from his wheelchair, packs his belongings hang off the sides.

Lucky wears a large white button on his shirt that proclaims: Lucky, a crusader for the handicapped.

But his handicap doesn't seem to affect his sense of humor. When Lucky went into a College Station McDonald's, he made up a new Aggie joke.

"I made up three Aggie jokes in McDonald's," he said. "It's a good place to think."

Lucky lit his stubby brown cigar and chuckled.

"How do you make a piranha pie?" he said. "Take an Aggie to it."

Traveling around in a wheelchair has its problems. Lucky parks under highway overpasses when it rains and sometimes sleeps there.

When the weather is nice, any place he can find to park his chair the night will do, he said.

This isn't Lucky's first wheelchair. His chair he currently "lives" in has been several times.

"I busted 14 spokes on one wheel in California and had to flag someone down," he said.

Lucky said he needs to have something welded on his chair and hopes it will be fixed at Thompson Hall. "I've got \$10," he said. "I hope it's enough cause that's all I've



Elizabeth Hascall, Battalion photo

High mileage barely shows on Lucky or his rolling home.

Lucky makes jewelry, does odd jobs, and takes donations to support himself.

He said he hasn't been able to receive funds from any national organization because of the red tape involved and dues required.

Lucky stuck his cigar in his mouth and wheeled down the sidewalk.

Everytime someone would ask him where he was going, Lucky would chuckle before he answered.

"To the corner," he said and pushed away.

CCF project receives letter from president

by Ronnie Crocker

Battalion Staff

With nearly \$13,000 of its \$25,000 goal reached, the Texas A&M Village of Hope project is gaining the support of some very prominent people, both locally and nationwide.

In the last two months Dr. Robert Scott Kellner, coordinator of the project, has received letters from President Ronald Reagan, Rep. Phil Gramm, and Alan Romberg, spokesman for the U.S. Department of State.

Kellner said that the attention has been directed not to him but to the students for their efforts in the fund-raising drive, which is to end around Christmas.

In a letter dated Oct. 21, President Reagan expressed his thanks to Kellner for informing him about the project. He also extended his best wishes.

The project will "adopt" a village of children in Colombia. This will be done first with financial support but it won't end there, Kellner said.

The long-range goals are to make the village completely self-supportive by instructing the natives in the technical, agricultural and other fields.

Reagan wrote: "The type of people-to-people project you are undertaking is one of the most effective ways Americans can demonstrate to others our concern for their well-being."

"It also shows our commitment to the democratic ideals we share with our hemispheric neighbors."

The letter from Gramm, dated Sept. 27, reflected similar sentiments.

Romberg's Sept. 29 letter was written in response to a letter from Kellner to Secretary of State George Shultz.

In it, Romberg wrote that the program is "a prime example of Reagan Volunteerism," referring to the president's attempts to give the control of such projects to non-governmental bodies.

He also wrote "the students, faculty and residents of College Station all deserve praise for their efforts."

Kellner also has received an invitation from the local Lion's Club to attend a luncheon to honor five Texas A&M students who broke a world record Oct. 23 by running 193.8 miles in 24 hours while raising close to \$1,000 for the Village of Hope.

The luncheon will be held at noon on Nov. 7 at the Ramada Inn.

Financial support also has come recently from several other student groups including the Aggie Cowboys, who donated about \$1,000 of the revenue from their Oct. 29 Bourbon Street Bash.

Women from Briggs Hall sold soft drinks at the Texas A&M-Southern Methodist University football game

that same day and made \$500 to be donated to the project.

In addition, a College Station couple, Mr. and Mrs. Franco Daconturbia presented Kellner with a check for \$1,000 about a week ago.

After the money is collected it goes to the Christian Children's Fund, a charitable organization for needy children founded in 1938 by a Richmond, Va., minister, J. Calzitt Clark.

Don Murray, public relations manager for CCF, said the first action the group takes is to set up field offices staffed entirely by nationals of the country.

Surveys are then taken to find where the needy children are. Information on the children then is sent to the group's headquarters in Richmond, where requests for sponsors are sent out nationwide.

About \$200 will feed one child for one year. Of the money donated to CCF, 80 percent goes directly to the child while the remaining 20 percent stays in Richmond for salaries, equipment and advertising, Murray said.

CCF currently operates in 20 countries around the world.

But Kellner said that after CCF presents the money to the Village of Hope, its role ends and the project becomes solely the responsibility of Texas A&M.

MPACT and Pulse tellers at MSC to operate soon

by Ray Walker

Battalion Reporter

The long awaited moment of having access to the MPACT and Pulse teller machines at the Memorial Student Center is almost here.

"I am fairly confident that the machines will be working this weekend," asst. Vice-President for Fiscal Affairs and Controller Robert Smith said.

"They were scheduled to be ready for public use by the beginning of this semester," he said, "but some pieces were late in arriving to the campus. This caused a delay in the use of the machines."

The last missing pieces are needed to complete the alarm system in the machine. They are expected to arrive from Dallas this week, Smith said.

"The banks refuse to put any

money in the machines until the alarms are working," he said.

The MSC Council began discussing the installation of the automatic teller machines in May of 1982.

The machines are to alleviate long check cashing lines at the Memorial Student Center's main desk.

A contract for the automatic teller machines was written between three local banks and the University.

The machines, property of the banks, will be maintained on a rotational system. Republic Bank of A&M will have control of the machines the first year. United Bank and then First Bank and Trust will take care of the maintenance in the following years.

Anyone who has a Pulse or a Teller II card will now find it easier to get "quick cash" on the Texas A&M campus.

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forecast

High approaching 80, with a 20 percent chance of rain.