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# A&M historian denies U.S. tried to overthrow Soviets

By Scott Redepenning  
 Reporter

During World War I, soon after the Bolshevik Revolution started a civil war to replace czarist Russia with the Soviet Union, President Woodrow Wilson sent thousands of U.S. troops into the area in what seems to have been an attempt to choke the government in its birth.

Dr. Betty Unterberger, a Texas A&M historian, said Tuesday night in Rudder Tower that this charge is simply untrue.

In her University Lecture Series presentation, "Intervention Against Communism: Did the United States Try to Overthrow the Soviet Government?" Unterberger, a specialist in Soviet-American relations in Asia, said that Wilson never tried to stifle the fledgling Soviet government.

In fact, she said, he encouraged its development and growth.

She explained that Wilson had declared a strict policy of non-intervention in Russia, but was ultimately

forced by war allies England, France and Japan into involvement.

Unterberger supported this claim with a detailed account of the events surrounding the turbulent period that gave birth to the Soviet Union.

She said Wilson adamantly refrained from entering Russia until Bolshevik leader Leon Trotsky invited U.S. troops to help protect the nation's arctic ports.

Under pressures of the allies, she said, Wilson later reluctantly expanded his troop's duties to include helping evacuate Czechoslovakian soldiers who had been fighting on the eastern front before it was dissolved.

Troops also helped protect the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

England and France used this need for protection as an excuse to get the United States further involved, she said, when it was really a facade for their intentions to reopen the eastern front against the Germans.

Japan, she said, was simply seeking a foothold in eastern Russia.

This presented Wilson with a difficult dilemma, Unterberger said.

If he decided to leave the troops, he would risk further involvement in the budding nation's affairs, a direct contradiction to his policy of non-intervention, she said.

If he pulled out, however, eastern Russia would be left completely under the control of Japan, a nation in which he had little trust.

Wilson chose to let his troops remain, and in protecting the railroad, they incidentally came into conflict with Bolshevik forces. This is what has become widely known to Soviets as the United States trying to crush the Soviet Union in its infancy, she said.

Unterberger said that while Wilson's intentions had always been to let the Bolshevik Revolution take its own course, the Soviet Union continues to use the event as a propaganda tool to warn its people about the threat of capitalist containment. She said that no Soviet child grows up without learning of the event.

## B-CS trying to stop drunken drivers

By Robert Morris  
 Reporter

They are there. Whether watching from the parking lot of the Zephyr Club or following their suspects along a winding path from the Dixie Chicken back to campus, they know their target — the drunken driver.

"They" are off-duty police officers who soon will be patrolling the streets of Bryan-College Station with the sole intention of bringing drunken driving to a stop.

It is not a surprise attack.

The city councils of Bryan and College Station both recently approved the program.

The Texas A&M University Police Department followed suit earlier this week.

Kristi Matthews, coordinator of the Brazos County anti-DWI program, said the focus of the campaign is to let people know that getting caught is a real possibility.

College Station Police Maj. Ed Feldman said the most important factor of the program is the attention it will put on drunken driving.

Kirk Brown, president of the Brazos County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, said the deterrence factor leaves much to be desired.

Brown, who has held his position for the past four years, said he thinks the task force is a great idea.

He said, however, he hopes the College Station police will not view it as the complete solution to the drunken driving problem.

He said College Station police

have adopted a policy of response instead of prevention — which in other words means unless an accident occurs, the likelihood of getting caught is minimal.

However, he said he supports the new program and hopes it will have some effect in reducing the number of drunken drivers in the county.

Matthews said the program, which has been in planning since last October, will involve the police departments of College Station, Bryan and Texas A&M.

Up to four off-duty officers will patrol each city.

Two officers from A&M and possibly two officers from the sheriff's department will patrol the campus, Matthews said.

The police officers will be employed for "dedicated enforcement patrol."

Their specific assignment — find drunken drivers.

Feldman said the officers will not answer ordinary dispatch calls.

Instead, they will cover areas that they feel warrant special attention, depending on the situation.

Matthews said the goal is to make at least one arrest for every four hours on duty.

The city will provide the vehicle and pay for the cost of fuel as well as for maintenance and repair of equipment while the program funds will cover the overtime costs of the officers.

The patrols will be used one week-end every month, with the Thanksgiving holiday targeted as the probable starting date, Matthews said.

She said the program began a year ago in 10 Texas counties as a general attack on the DWI problem.

Brazos County was selected for funding because of the large number of young people in the area, Matthews said.

However, she said, there was not a disproportionate amount of DWIs in the area; the problem is simply the large number of drivers on the road in such a small geographical region.

As coordinator of the effort, Matthews was allowed to set her own agenda and attack the problem as she saw fit, she said.

Funding for the program comes from the traffic safety section of the State Department of Highways, but the money the state distributes originates from a general fund set up by

## Police Bec...

The following were reported to the University Police Department through Monday:

**MISDEMEANOR THEFT:**  
 • Eight bicycles were reported stolen.

• Five wallets were reported stolen.

**FELONY THEFT:**  
 • A videocassette recorder reported stolen from a conference room in the Ocean Building.

**CRIMINAL TRESPASS:**  
 • Two students were arrested and jailed at the Brazos County Sheriff's Office for trespassing the Cain Pool area. The report said an officer spotted the students as they were climbing the ladder to the diving platform.

• A professor reported someone damaged eight tiles and broke a paper holder off the wall in a bathroom in the Academic Building.

**HARASSMENT:**  
 • Some employees at the Memorial Student Center snack reported that they have been receiving harassing phone calls during peak business hours.

# Off-duty police will patrol for DWIs

The National Highway Traffic Safety Association.

The money, \$300,000 total, will be spent in several areas, including added patrols (\$25,000) and funding to cover the new strain of added prosecution will cause a personnel of the judicial system.

One manifestation of this will be the use of a full-time warrant officer, Matthews said.

A public information campaign also will begin later this year for further research, Matthews said.

Matthews added that she will convince people it's not just other poor damn fools that caught.

## Homosexual rights group calls slaying 'gay bashing'

KYLE (AP) — A national homosexual rights group says the slaying of an Austin businessman, whose body was found in a burning auto, may be an extreme example of "gay bashing."

But a police investigator said the motive is only one possibility in the murder of Edward Schiffers.

Schiffers, 39, was found dead in the front seat of his burning car at an Interstate Highway 35 rest stop in Kyle last week. His

hands were tied behind his back, he was partially clothed and he had been struck in the head, police said. A preliminary autopsy gave the cause of death as smoke inhalation.

Jeff Gutierrez, a spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Service Center of Los Angeles, said the rest stop where Schiffers was killed may have drawn people's attention on attacking homosexuals because it had a reputation as a meeting place for gays.

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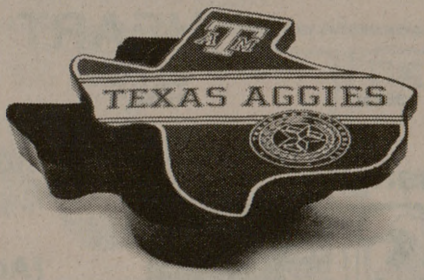
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