

Security tip: keep outside doors shut

By CPL. BETTY LeMAY
Special to The Battalion

Residence hall security and personal safety are shared responsibilities. Anytime the outside doors to your residence halls are unlocked or propped open, hall traffic can not be regulated.

Not all visitors have friendly intentions. A resident who props open an outside door compromises the safety and security of the hall's residents. Pebbles, coins, paper racks, pizza boxes or any object used to

render the door unsecured could lead to discipline charges including eviction from the hall.

Many students develop a false sense of security while living in a university environment. Texas A&M is a city of over 40,000 and is open to a neighboring community of over 100,000. To think students live in a totally safe society is naive. Students can do things to lower their chances of becoming victims of property or violent crimes including:

- Never propping doors open or letting strangers into a hall.

- Always locking their room door, even if they are going to be gone for a short period of time.

- Not giving anyone the keys to your dorm or apartment.

- Reporting all suspicious activity to the University Police and hall staff.

Clothing description, height, weight, direction of travel and license plate number are all important in apprehending offenders. If you have questions concerning resident hall policy, talk with your resident advisers.

Big Event

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about other people and yourself by doing a project like Big Event," she said.

Courtney Reed, a resident at 400 Cooner Street in College Sta-

tion, said she appreciated the students' help. "It certainly is nice in the way of things being cleaned up fast and cheerfully," she said.

Mike Quance, junior biomedical science major who painted a house in College Station, said the work was fun, and it was rewarding to help others. "It's their town and it's nice to give something back," he said.

Another College Station resident of Cooner Street, Halline Stewart, extended her thanks to the students for their good work and cheerful attitude.

"They were singing and doing cheers while they worked," she said. "If more people did this kind of service, our country would be better."

Thatcher

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defense because unexpected events will occur, she said. When a crisis arises that requires military action, a nation should not wonder whether it has the resources to tackle the problem, she said.

"You are able to make the right decisions when the unexpected happens, when the tyrant strikes, because of the correct decision on defense you've made years earlier," she said.

In the fight against communism, Thatcher said the U.S. decision to create the Strategic Defense Initiative, or "Star Wars," was one of its greatest.

She said "Star Wars" was important in the fight against communism "because it went to a stage which the Soviet Union knew it could not compete with the United States."

The lessons learned after both world wars are applicable today with the problems facing Russia,

Thatcher said.

After World War II, Germany did not face the same hyperinflation and economic problems encountered after World War I, because the world learned that war-torn countries must be rebuilt to keep economies stable and to keep absolute rulers from seizing power, she said.

"After the second world war, we realized we had done nothing to help after the first world war," Thatcher said. "The lessons were learned. We turned around and helped both Germany and Japan to found democracies which they had not really known before."

The United States and other countries must follow these examples and support change in the former Soviet Union because "now when we find that Russia is going towards hyperinflation, she too will need some of the help so that the best in the Russian people is not destroyed."

Thatcher also said the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will benefit all countries involved, and foreign trade among countries will no longer be unbalanced.

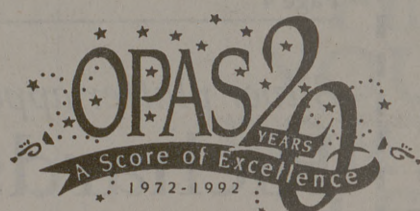
"You are able to make the right decisions when the unexpected happens, when the tyrant strikes, because of the correct decision on defense you've made years earlier."

-Margaret Thatcher

"I think the United States, Canada and Mexico are absolutely right to form NAFTA," she said. "You will find that it will bring up the standard of living in Mexico and the biggest trade in the world is between two good manufacturing nations."

Thatcher said the conflict in Yugoslavia will not be resolved through summits and peacekeeping discussions, implying military action may be required.

"You cannot deal with tyranny by words," she said.



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