THE BATTALION

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# Shots fired on U.S. forces in Kuwait

United States.

This is a reminder of

how dangerous the world

can be if al-Qaida are

free to roam.

Kuwait came under gunfire Monday for the second time in a week, this time without any casualties.

Shots were fired from two civilian vehicles on U.S. Army soldiers near a northern Kuwait training area, U.S. officials said. Nobody was injured and the soldiers did not return fire, according to a U.S. Embassy statement and a U.S. military spokesman at Camp Doha in Kuwait.

Within a few hours, Kuwaiti officials began privately suggesting the targets may have been pigeons, not American forces. Bird hunters start heading out this time of year as temperatures drop below 100

degrees.
The U.S. military official, however, said the troops involved had "no doubt" the shots were meant for them. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

The shooting came six days after two Kuwaiti assailants opened fire on Marines taking a break from war games on an island off Kuwait. One Marine was killed and another wounded before the assailants were shot dead. The following day, a U.S. Army soldier fired a shot at a civilian vehicle overtaking a military Humvee. U.S. officials said the civilian vehicle's occupant had pointed a gun.

President Bush said Monday the attacks on

KUWAIT (AP) - U.S. military forces in U.S. troops in Kuwait, as well as a deadly how ing in Bali and the bombing of a French tanker in Yemen point to Osama bin Laden's Oaida terror network and the need for a glob coalition to fight it.

"This is a reminder of how dangerous world can be if these al-Qaida are free to roar Bush said, adding the attacks raised concerns Qaida is on the move again and could strike

> Kuwaiti Defense Mini Sheik Jaber Mubarak Al Sal said it was too early to say Monday's shooting was a ter ror attack.

But he said Kuwaitis ar Americans are re-examin security measures near tra ing areas because such inc dents "affect not only the friendly military forces, - George W. Bush also Kuwait as a state." He did United States president not say what new measur

Despite the attacks, the U.S. military spokesm said troops remain comfortable in Kuwait and denied they've come to feel like targets.

Fifteen Kuwaitis, many of them cousins o nephews, have been arrested in last week's fala attack. Of them, Islamic Affairs and Justice Minister Ahmed Bager said "five or 10" are affiliated with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network The rest were involved in selling weapons, he said, but had no al-Qaida connections.

### Research

Continued from page 1

National Academy members. Faculty members received 21 awards and are ranked 27th among public universities.

"The more research the faculty does, the more it gets transformed into the classroom and labs and students get to interact," Perry said.

The Center's ranking is only one of the factors considered in bench marking for A&M's Vision 2020 plan, Perry said. This report is different from the U.S. News & World Report, which bases its rankings on peer assessment, graduate and

retention rates, and faculty and make things in our house that will

The University follows the U.S. News &World Report as well as The Center's report when eyeing the progress A&M is making toward reaching the goals of Vision 2020, Perry said.

A&M has the capacity to become a great university, but the rankings are more of a numbers game than a real evaluation of schools, said Dr. Peter McIntyre, professor of physics.

"If you call a physicist, an economist or Pulitzer prize winning author and ask that person to name the 12 universities that come to mind in their game, A&M will probably not come to mind, but we have to strive to

make us great," McIntyre said.

The Vision 2020 advisor changes in The Center's and the U.S. News & World Report rankings annually. "It is important to look at a

lot of different perspectives of the University and ask yourse if there is a change, w means," Perry said.

The numbers have changed significantly over last year, Perry said.

"We don't plan things hype ratings," Perry said. improve academics for resea programs and if we do that no we can pursue excellent rati that reflect that."

Senate

Continued from page 1

is the only complaint in this resolution, and it completely changes the tone.

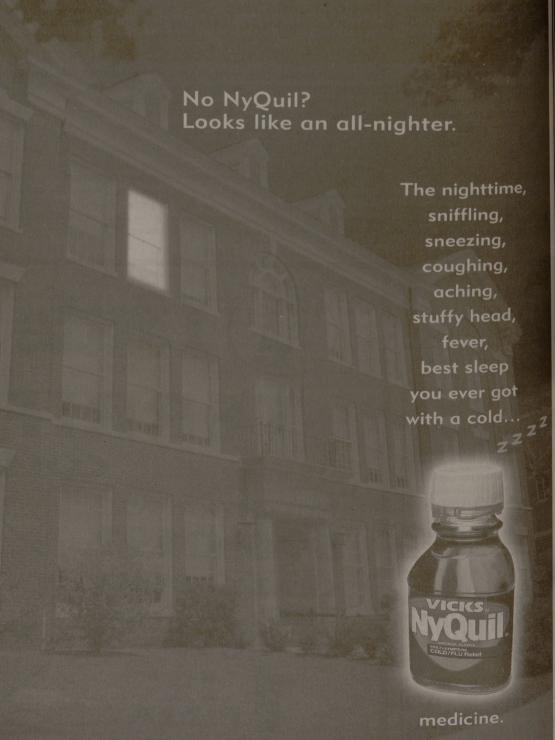
After the Senate had voted down the report last month, Strawser said Ruth Schaeffer, a sociology professor, resigned her position on the committee and refused to participate in to pass by a vote of 41 to 15.

any redrafting of the proposal.

Minority faculty had an extremely negative read tion to the failure of the report to pass, Strawser sail "People are frustrated," said Dr. Jonath

Smith, a geography professor. "It is the job of the body to criticize where they see fit. Any bro beating of the Senate would be out of order.

Clark's proposal to strike the paragraph failed



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&M football tea aking the Big 1.

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