**Agnew chides national media**

By Pete Beckley and Joe Kashi

"Well, just in case you have forgotten, I would like to remind you a few things..."

Police and mounted police, John Krzywicki are already (UAP Bob Schulte and UAVP posts).

*Meeting in the Mezanine structure of student government. Meeting is scheduled to include a 'Purpose and structure of Viet Nam.'*

**Pass-fail to face evaluation**

By Alex Makowski

Attempts will soon be underway to evaluate both the pass-fail grading system, in particular and the whole first year in general.

The Faculty/student Committee on the Evaluation of Freshman Performance (CEFP) is beginning a discussion of the best way to evaluate the experimental grading mechanism, while the Educational Research Center (ERC) is preparing a survey that will touch the same pass-fail issue while examining "the more fundamental question," as staff member Chuck Stannard put it, "of the possibilities of pass-fail becoming a course work tool."

Even before the surveys begin, the ERC director informed Observer that "pass-fail will will always be a problem, regardless of what's dredged up from the research."

Students, administration, and faculty responded to an invitation to meet informally Thursday at Baker House to discuss their problems and those of the Institute in the hope that mutual understanding and appreciation of the viewpoints of each group would lead to solutions.

The faculty and administration seemed to have responded more enthusiastically than the students. For a few, the evening was apparently a duty to be suffered through, an attempt to keep the students happy by "showing their good intentions." For others, although it meant giving up an evening to do so...

**Baker forum probes MIT**

*By Joe Kashi*

Should former US command-er in Vietnam William Westmorland be tried as a war criminal because he failed to prevent atrocities and war crimes by men under his command?

Director of the Japanese military Yamashita, commander of occupation troops in the Philippines during World War II, speakers at the Harvard International Law Club's forum Friday concluded that valid grounds exist for investigating US commanders and tactics in Vietnam for possible war crimes after the Nuremberg precedent.

Professor of International Law Richard Baxter asserted that the cases of Westmoreland and Yamashita were very different.

"Westmoreland's case is probably the classic example of the responsibility of a commander to prevent or attempt to prevent the committing of atrocities by his troops. Moreover, he maintained that the Japanese inflicted the war crimes upon enemy nationals while occupying the Philippines.

Responsibility

In some cases, a commander may not be responsible for war crimes and forced to stand trial for them. International law, as defined by the Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes trials and the 1945 Geneva Convention, provides that the commander is responsible for the actions of his troops if they are the result of the logical implications of his orders; he knows or should know about crimes committed, or about to be committed. In any event, Baxter reiterated, war crimes law states that the commander is liable unless he takes all possible actions to know what his troops are doing and attempts to assert effective command and control over them.

In Vietnam, atrocities have been different than in World War II, concluded Baxter, and probably not prosecutable under present international law. While they have not been covered by actual, "legal acts" containing national laws, actions such as My Lai have been committed against all nationals (the South Viet namese) and thus covered by US and South Vietnamese rather than international laws of war. Although Yamashita was convicted (or not controlling his troops, Westmoreland did not attempt to find out what his troops had done and punish them. There is no evidence that he "tolerated or condoned mass murder.""

Baxter only mentioned the more substantive issue of culpability for international law tactics as free fire zones and search and destroy missions, saying that the laws were aimed at the broader sense of legality. The commander should be aware of the possibility of prosecution by the international community. The commander is responsible for the actions of his troops if they are the result of the logical implications of his orders. Yet, there is no evidence that he "tolerated or condoned mass murder."

Discussion in the group looked at a number of topics besides the question of responsibility. Yamashita's, he said, is the classic example of the responsibility of a commander to prevent or attempt to prevent the committing of atrocities by his troops.

A general goal for the CEFP will be discovering what role grades play in the life of the student. The key information will be feedback to the committee hopes to draw from the possible conclusions.

*Please turn to page 6*
MIT advances plans for on-the-job training

By Walter T. Middlebrook

MIT's contract plans for the formation of an on-the-job-type training program for the disadvantaged have now been authorized and approved by the U.S. Labor Department. This action was initiated by MIT last year. The only difference is that last year's program specifically worked on training the disadvantaged in technical skills—such as those required of draftsmen, machinists, and technicians; this year's program will deal mostly in office skills, like those of typists, stenographers, and file clerks. Because of the rapid development of new office skills, the amount of training required by the programs will increase in the future.

Technical program ended

The program, which began in April, is quite similar to the technical training program initiated by MIT last year. The only difference is that last year's program specifically worked on training the disadvantaged in technical skills—such as those required of draftsmen, machinists, and technicians; this year's program will deal mostly in office skills, like those of typists, stenographers, and file clerks. Because of the rapid development of new office skills, the amount of training required by the programs will increase in the future.

Evaluation forthcoming for freshman education

(Continued from page 1)

The ERC survey, due to be sent out soon, will both supplement the CEPP studies and present some of the findings raised within the ERC itself. "The real innovation," explained Stannard, who designed the questionnaire, "is to ask an awful lot about the courses the freshmen took." Information on how diversified their choices were, how the courses were structured, and what teaching methods their professors used will also be gathered.

Also of interest are such "totally unexpected consequences of pass/fail" as the overall of the freshman core calculus program. To design his questionnaire, Stannard drew from talks with his colleagues, time spent talking with students at the Freshman courtyard, and contact with William Bowers, a Northwestern University sociologist, who conducted a similar survey seven years ago.

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Engineer critical to consumer protection

By Lee Giguere

The cause of consumer protection was an early item on the agenda of the MIT Wednesday evening forum "Defense for the Consumer," sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

A three-man panel discussed the need for corporate responsibility in product design before an audience of some 100 ASME members in 18-225.

The discussion focused on several critical areas: engineering responsibility, manufacturer's liability, and the consumer's right to know.

Engineering responsibility

Howard Brehm, Director of Corporate Product Safety, Whirlpool Corporation, spoke at length as the responsibility of a design engineer for the "performance, safety and reliability" of his products. Brehm argued that "the engineer can and must accept 100% responsibility.

He called for the addition of a "product safety" section to the responsibility of all manufacturers and also emphasized the importance of testing failures of all manufactured products.

Brehm said, "must exhaust every possibility before he yields to outside influence."

The engineering level is the place where "product safety must be controlled." Heading his list of guidelines for product safety and reliability was a thorough understanding of the product: "its response to use, misuse and abuse." Brehm called on manufacturers to document their testing both to install repetition mistakes and for protection in case of litigation. He also emphasized the importance of studying field performance, and communication with the consumer, in particular through clear instructions. Finally, Brehm held that the engineering department must "guard against misleading advertising.

Source of a wealth of information

Clark, speaking as a private citizen, argued for more information for consumers. He called on both government and industry to provide consumers with more facts, while he emphasized that the buyer must ask "many more" questions. He also placed a great deal of emphasis on computerizing product statistics for quick referral by buyers.

Consumer testing

Colin Warner, National Director of Consumers' Union, characterized the growth of consumer testing as "taking a look at the world from the standpoint of the consumer."

He explained that frequently he sees a dichotomy in a manufacturer's "character." The sales group, he said, is "eager to accent" the favorable points of their product while playing down its faults. A company's engineering people, he claimed, are more likely to look at the "innocent workman" of the engineers, and the "sales thrust" of the marketing people.

The ombudsman would not be able to attend any committee meeting, unlimited privileges." As an example, Smith described the position of the product safety officer at Whirlpool, where the officer would also direct consumer testing and that the officer would also direct the selection of the person or group of secretaries who have the knowledge of the corporation to handle small complaints; whether the officer would also designate the staff of the secretaries to answer telephone calls; and that the officer would have the right to know.

Gregory Smith, the idea was well received by those in attendance. He publicized the importance of whether MIT needs an ombudsman and discussed the question of whether the liability results for faulty product design. At the present, he estimated that the consumer pays approximately 90% of the costs stemming from faulty products. In the area of medical costs due to "injuries," the person injured pays about 50% of the bill, while the manufacturer pays only 5%. The government, he said, covers another 30%, while uninjured consumers, through their insurance costs, pay the remaining 15%.

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INVITATION

Mr. Richard Roy, Founder and Director of the Paris American Academy cordially invites you and your friends to a meeting at the Hotel Sheraton Boston, Prudential Center, Friday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m.

He will show slides and talk on "The Summer in France Program" along with Interim Study Programs for Winter.

Write for Catalogue

Paris American Academy
9, rue des Ursulines
PARIS 5, FRANCE
PHONE: 272-10-09
Tonight the General Assembly meets for the first time this term, and a major item of business must be discussion of proposals for reorganization. The pressures for change that are building are too large to be ignored.

The present government structure was developed two years ago when forces for change were also considerable. The demon then was Inscomm, a close-knit knit group with little claim to being representative of their fellow undergraduates. Steve Curhart and Carson Agnew, two The Tech editors, and SCEP chairman Peter Harris offered their constitution as an alternative that might both better represent students and more effectively carry out the business of government. In a referendum held that spring the proposal drew 829 votes, easily outdistancing other options.

Why is this cease-popular notion now universally damned? Somewhere the three designers failed to incorporate within their constitution the means for matching students' needs and interests; as the level of political consciousness dropped, so did involvement in the General Assembly.

Certainly it would be inappropriate tonight to take a final vote on a form for student government. The Tech suggests, however, that all delegates remember a few important points: student government must reflect and provide for the real needs undergraduates today share; student government must provide some forum for expressing student interests; and a lot of thinking has to be done about how much representation is necessary to insure credibility.

Finally, it seems likely that the General Assembly at this time will have to go the way of Inscomm. We consider it doubtful that the structure is worth the trouble of the massive repairs that would be needed.

Admission list

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MIT Orchestra received warmly

By Susan G. Elmer

It is a tremendous credit to the MIT Symphony Orchestra that its concerts are so wonderfully attended. Saturday evening's performance drew a more-than-capacity crowd to the Kresge Auditorium. One would hope that such an orchestra would never dwindled; it places a noble responsibility on the orchestra as a whole to perform and to play at its very best.

Members of the MIT community are not only fortunate to be able to listen to the concerts which an orchestra of this calibre presents, but also to have the rather unique opportunity, at their fingertips, to see this collection of players and instruments in their element, as a working body. The orchestra holds open rehearsals:

One had but to sit in on the first hour of rehearsal to know that the concert itself was not an easily explained phenomenon. The conductor and the players had spent long weeks preparing, practicing, refining, and, still at the last rehearsal, things were clearly not right.

Fate has it that the rather unique opportunity, to be able to listen to the concerts which an orchestra of this calibre presents, but also to have the rather unique opportunity, at their fingertips, to see this collection of players and instruments in their element, as a working body. The orchestra holds open rehearsals:

When contacted by phone, Mr. Schindler, whose task is to lead the orchestra, made the understatement of the year: "With more time we could have done better." It seems that The Wild Duck was presented this week, over numerous problems, to the contrary. There is no question that both the acting and the orchestral playing were marginal at best.

Anyone capable of calling Iben's message out of this performance would have to marvel at the man's ability to disguise it in the point of disapp\n
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Mr. Epstein's own composition, "The Center," was given a rather unique opportunity. The ensemble was not perfect but, still, the music and the orchestral playing were marginal at best.

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Agnew assails CBS special

(Continued from page 1)
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Agnew commenced his speech by observing that "in recent years, the rules have been amended to allow Vice-Presidents to talk so long as they are careful to say absolutely nothing". This privilege was heavily exercised and used to a high degree during the last Administration. The VP expected to say, "From an anxious view as between the wands of easy chair existence and the whipping post." And he explained that he "found it an unpleasant experience when the Administration were under his command and he was forced to Mass. Ave. Street were forced to Mass. Ave. to Dalton Street. However most stayed, being influenced by shouts of "Stay away!" from a small band standing by the Cheri theatres on Scotia Street. It started a slow march of the streets at about 7:15 pm. The police made a sudden violent foray down Scotia Street, clubbing several people and making about 15 arrests. Most of the demonstrators along Dalton Street were stopped before they could reach police cars, which were parked along the street.

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The Admissions Office develops student role

Once again, this year the MIT Admissions Office will be releasing a list of all students offered admission to the class of 1975. Set for noon this Thursday, the release is timed so students will have the names available before they get home for spring break.

The Admissions Office designates the females to contact between MIT undergraduate and prospective students. The hope is that a face-to-face meeting will help dispel some of the current myths about MIT that pervade the country.

Decline in applications

The move comes in a year when MIT, along with many other major independent universities, has suffered an appreciable decline in the number of students received. "General economic conditions and the reputed decrease in career openings in engineering and the hard sciences" may well have contributed to the decline, speculates the Admissions Office. Other factors mentioned include "apparent dissatisfaction with upper urban institutions which have been 'in the limelight' and not possibly the general increase in application fees."

The list will be distributed to the living groups in a format that will facilitate the identification of admitted candidates by geographical location.

Fraternity

Particular use of the list will probably be made by fraternities. The houses that emphasize contact with incoming freshmen over the summer are likely to use the spring break as a chance for a first visit. Interfraternity Conference (IFC) rules are set up to regulate the spring visits.

Additionally, several alumni members of the Educational Council are planning get-togethers for MIT students and high school seniors in several areas. Locations in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Georgia, among other states, have been selected for these gatherings. The Educational Council is a group of fifty MIT alumni that each year, from their homes across the country and the world, interview applicants to MIT.

Admissions process

This spring contact is only a part of the whole admissions picture. The first step in the selection process is the applicant's decision of where to apply. "General reputation, atmosphere, curricula, geography, information from parents, alumni, teachers, and guidance counselors, and costs and financial aid" all these, explained the Admissions Office, are important factors during this initial phase. Once an applicant has contacted MIT, a second stage begins. Both the Admissions staff and an Educational Council member review the application and decide whether or not the student should be offered admission.

The third step in the total selection process is the decision of the student. Current MIT students can exert a major influence on the student who has received multiple offers. "We believe that the applicant tends to respond rather significantly to college student contacts during the period when he is choosing among real alternatives," an admissions staff member noted. "If he is given a cynical or undesirable picture of MIT he is likely to go elsewhere. If the MIT student whom he talks to seems enthusiastic and his liking, he is likely to choose MIT. That contact will thus be very important to him."

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Baseball looks to opener

By Joe Garavoli

The 1970 spring baseball season was a year of firsts. It was the first winning season in eight years; it was the first time MIT had two Greater Boston League All-Stars; and it was the first time in New England to cancel its remaining schedule in em- pathy with the Cambodias strike. The team had but one senior, so it looked as if the Bonnie Bea- vers would be strong in '71 too. But as the grass of Briggs Field would have it, only five of last year's basic eleven are out this spring.

So what's the outlook? Big Al Doppelfel '72 (1-0 with a 3.91 earned run average last year) returns to lead the beaver pitching staff. He is considered by many to be the Bob Gibson of the GBL, and his success could determine the success of the team. Right beside Al is Chuck "Dizz" Holcum. Dizzy's perfor- mance in the fall guaranteed the junior leftfielder a spot in the starting rotation. After Dizzy, it looks like sophomore Gary Wil- liams, rookie Steve Reber, and John "J.P." Peterson '73 will round out the staff.

The hitting attack should be led by Bob "Dibby" DiBenedetto. In- making the GBL all-star team last year, Dresser hit .341 and scored an average of a run per game. When he wasn't hitting three triples a game, he was playing errorless centerfield. A- nother leading hitter will be Ken Weisshaar '72. As last year's lead-off hitter he got on base almost 50% of the time and led the team in runs batted in. Up there with Dresser and Weisshaar will be a slew of rookies. When Reber isn't pitching, he'll be playing outfield (his best posi- tion) and hitting up a storm. Another rookie, Joe DeAngelo, may well be able to hit the college curve ball, and if he does he will be dangerous. Finally, Dennis Biedrzycki '72 should be in freshman form and really help the squad.

Just behind these players come veterans Doppelfel and Rich "Pepper" Roy '72. Doppelfel hit .300 last year, breaking the ball with power, but striking out 20% of the time. If he can cut his strike-out rate, he could be a significant asset to the attack. Pepper, on the other hand, is known as a defensive ace (isn't that what all weak hitters are?), but he has hit well this spring and hopes are high that he will hit better than last year.

So what have you got? Biedrzycki catching with Hol- cum on the mound. DeAngelo at first, Weisshaar at second, Roy at short, and Reber, Doppelfel, and Dresser in the outfield. Hey, where's the third baseman? Old pro Tom Pipal '71 or rookie Dave Tirrell could fill that spot. Or, if you're a gambling man, you might bet on Kevin Raw- land '74.

This writer doesn't know for sure who's going to fill the holes, but if they are filled with reason- able performances, the season could be successful. The hitting could be as good as last year's (.252 team average). The fielding will be about the same; and the pitching a lot stronger in the big games, but a lot weaker on occasion. So, the predicted re- cord ought to be 11-11.

But there's something dif- ferent about this year's squad. There are a lot of rookies and a few old pros who don't know what the word quit means. They hustle in practice, and they play a real loose brand of ball. The seniors call themselves old-timers and try to lead, while the team openly refers to itself as a bunch of turkeys. It's this kind of attitude that makes a "team," something that MIT sports often lack, and it's this kind of attitude that could well lead the beavers to a more successful season.

Road trips highlight early spring action

The opening of the spring sports season will see five of the MIT varsity squads on the road, all of them heading south during the spring break. The tennis, baseball, golf, and lacrosse teams have extended trips, while the sailing squad will play in a weekend event at the Naval Academy.

The varsity sailors open the new season with a dinghy invita- tional at Boston University on March 31, and on the following weekend, they will compete for the Owen Trophy at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Also on the 3rd and 4th of April, the mariners square off in invitational races at Tufts and Yale respectively, with an additional freshman regatta at Tufts on the 4th.

The Tech varsity tennis con- tent is headed for North Ca-rolina, with their first match scheduled against UNC at Chapel Hill on Monday, March 29, fol- lowed by contests with David- son, North Carolina State, and Wake Forest. On the way home, the team will stop off in Washington, D.C., to meet the squad from Georgetown Univer- sity.

Both the varsity baseball and golf teams are looking forward to trips to sunny Florida during vacation. On March 29 and 30, the baseball squad play back-to-back games against Flori- da Presbyterian in St. Peters- burg, followed by a game versus Amherst at Tampa. To conclude the journey, they will meet South Florida in two consecu- tive games in Tampa on April 2 and 3.

MIT's golf squad is scheduled to play in the Gulf American Classic Intercollegiate Invita- tional at Cape Coral, Florida, from March 29 through April 3, while the lacrosse team travels to Long Island and the Baltimore area.

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