USAF art draws sharp reaction

By Gary Engelson

An ROTC-sponsored exhibit of “Air Force Art” was removed from Lobby 7 last Thursday after a hundred demonstrators drapped the exhibit with banners covered with anti-war statements and drawings. Although only one or two of the 34 paintings in the exhibit might be irreparably damaged, the Air Force decided to close off the exhibit’s scheduled three day run. (See Box right)

The exhibit, consisting of paintings of Air Force history around the world, is part of an Air Force collection of over 4,000 paintings, most of which are exhibited at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base aerospace museum in Dayton, Ohio. The non-violent protest, which did not damage the exhibited works, began around 3:30pm when about five architecture students from studios near Lobby 7 began circulating petitions against “the use of major U.S. public space for an exhibit strongly promoting the advertisement for military purposes.” Shortly thereafter, the protesters appeared with a roll of brown wrapping paper, as well as a protest speech heavily laced with black bloc, “Is this the best we do with the money we’re spending? Is this the best we do with the resources we have? Is this the best we do with the people we have?”

“We object to the use of MIT public space for a commodity designed for military purposes,” maintained Frank Miller G, one of the students circulating the petition. Miller described the ensuing demonstration as “spontaneous, ambiguous, not intended to encourage dialogue, and avoid other than verbal confrontations.” Miller inferred the view of the paintings, or damaged the structure,” he added.

Yesterday’s protest was notable for the total lack of chanted slogans, picket signs, leaflets, and other paraphernalia usually associated with organized demonstrations. Protestors mixed freely with visitors to the exhibit, and spectators, making an accurate count of the demonstrators difficult. The main activity of the protest was the pointing of personal statements such as “Air Force Art” and “Where is the art in artistic images of destruction?” on the wall of the lobby. The non-violent protest, which did not damage the exhibited works, began around 3:30pm when about five architecture students

Protestors wrapped banners around the Air Force art exhibit in Lobby 7. (Photo by Gary S. Engelson)

EXCERPTS

Weathers

Cloudy this morning but clearing later in the day. Highs in the upper fifties. Cool tonight with a 10% chance of rain. Mostly sunny and cool Saturday with a 20% chance of rain. Cool again Sunday night with a 50% chance of rain. Cool daytime for the weekend. Cool tonight and through the week.

EXCERPTS

THESE

In the News

USAF art draws sharp reaction

By Gary Engelson

An ROTC-sponsored exhibit of “Air Force Art” was removed from Lobby 7 last Thursday after a hundred demonstrators drapped the exhibit with banners covered with anti-war statements and drawings. Although only one or two of the 34 paintings in the exhibit might be irreparably damaged, the Air Force decided to close off the exhibit’s scheduled three day run. (See Box right)

The exhibit, consisting of paintings of Air Force history around the world, is part of an Air Force collection of over 4,000 paintings, most of which are exhibited at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base aerospace museum in Dayton, Ohio. The non-violent protest, which did not damage the exhibited works, began around 3:30pm when about five architecture students

Protestors wrapped banners around the Air Force art exhibit in Lobby 7. (Photo by Gary S. Engelson)

EXCERPTS

Weathers

Cloudy this morning but clearing later in the day. Highs in the upper fifties. Cool tonight with a 10% chance of rain. Mostly sunny and cool Saturday with a 20% chance of rain. Cool again Sunday night with a 50% chance of rain. Cool daytime for the weekend. Cool tonight and through the week.

EXCERPTS

THESE

In the News

USAF art draws sharp reaction

By Gary Engelson

An ROTC-sponsored exhibit of “Air Force Art” was removed from Lobby 7 last Thursday after a hundred demonstrators drapped the exhibit with banners covered with anti-war statements and drawings. Although only one or two of the 34 paintings in the exhibit might be irreparably damaged, the Air Force decided to close off the exhibit’s scheduled three day run. (See Box right)

The exhibit, consisting of paintings of Air Force history around the world, is part of an Air Force collection of over 4,000 paintings, most of which are exhibited at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base aerospace museum in Dayton, Ohio. The non-violent protest, which did not damage the exhibited works, began around 3:30pm when about five architecture students

Protestors wrapped banners around the Air Force art exhibit in Lobby 7. (Photo by Gary S. Engelson)

EXCERPTS

Weathers

Cloudy this morning but clearing later in the day. Highs in the upper fifties. Cool tonight with a 10% chance of rain. Mostly sunny and cool Saturday with a 20% chance of rain. Cool again Sunday night with a 50% chance of rain. Cool daytime for the weekend. Cool tonight and through the week.

EXCERPTS

THESE

In the News

USAF art draws sharp reaction

By Gary Engelson

An ROTC-sponsored exhibit of “Air Force Art” was removed from Lobby 7 last Thursday after a hundred demonstrators drapped the exhibit with banners covered with anti-war statements and drawings. Although only one or two of the 34 paintings in the exhibit might be irreparably damaged, the Air Force decided to close off the exhibit’s scheduled three day run. (See Box right)

The exhibit, consisting of paintings of Air Force history around the world, is part of an Air Force collection of over 4,000 paintings, most of which are exhibited at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base aerospace museum in Dayton, Ohio. The non-violent protest, which did not damage the exhibited works, began around 3:30pm when about five architecture students

Protestors wrapped banners around the Air Force art exhibit in Lobby 7. (Photo by Gary S. Engelson)

EXCERPTS

Weathers

Cloudy this morning but clearing later in the day. Highs in the upper fifties. Cool tonight with a 10% chance of rain. Mostly sunny and cool Saturday with a 20% chance of rain. Cool again Sunday night with a 50% chance of rain. Cool daytime for the weekend. Cool tonight and through the week.