"In the past we have had roughly 60 percent cooperation of the people who consented to have their apartment sprayed," said Ashdown. She added, "There are a lot of reasons why there was not effective cooperation." The reasons range from "It is harmful to I would rather not be bothered," explained Woodbury.

"Nobody claims that the spray is not toxic," said Ashdown. She stressed, however, "We have contacted knowledgeable people all over the country and have determined that it [the spray] is safe. The chemicals have no long-term harmful effects," Woodbury said that the Cal-Mar Pest Control Company, which does the spraying and the MIT Medical Department, are among the sources that assured the ECA that the spray is safe.

Some Eastgate tenants expressed their concern about the effects of the spray on their children. Specific concerns were that there are a lot of newborns, and that children should not be around objects in their mouths. "We have been assured that the spray will be safe for children," reported Woodbury. Ashdown said that among the precautions publicized is that children's toys be contained in plastic garbage bags during the spraying.

After two ECA meetings concerning the cockroach problem, one of which the president of Cal-Mar Pest Control attended, and after various information sheets were distributed throughout Eastgate, the ECA has gotten the tenants to spray the apartments. "We managed to show the tenants that it is important," said Ashdown. "We have done an effective job."

This Friday an information sheet will be distributed among the tenants on which gives general information about cockroaches, tells them what precautions to take during and after the spraying, and gives advice on how to keep the cockroach infestation in the future. The apartments will be sprayed next week and then sprayed again the first week in December.

Stahl continued to defend the station's policy of press handling of the news during the question and answer period following the 40-minute lecture. She admitted, however, that she was one of the "bad guys" in the Carter press corps.

Television supplies headlines. Stahl said, because stories cannot be covered fully during 75 seconds of air time. Issues are not elucidated by the network, she continued, they merely follow the lead of gossip rags after public outrage has become sufficiently voluminous.