By Heather Preston

Residents evacuated Burton House after a bomb was phoned to the Burton House desk at 11:55 p.m. Saturday, according to Campus Police Chief James G. Olivieri.

"There is a bomb in Burton House set to go off in one hour," a male caller told the desk staffer, who immediately called the Campus Police. Following standard procedure, the C.P.'s activated the fire alarms and notified the Cambridge Fire Department.

The fire department and Campus Police conducted a 30-minute search and allowed residents to return to their dormitories when they could not find a bomb. The police remained in Burton House for another hour, without incident.

Dormitory residents rushed calmly to the news of the bomb scare. "This is the first one we had this term, but there were two last term," commented Lisa Ambrogi '83. A significant number of Burton House residents stayed in their rooms when the fire alarms sound unexpectedly, noted several residents.

"The people on my floor are pretty good about it on the whole, only about 20 percent stay in their rooms. Last term we were having problems almost every night for about a week: the fire alarms would go off, then they'd have to be tested and reset, so people just developed the habit of staying in their rooms during that week," explained Ambrogi.

"I wonder whether they (the Campus Police) know how many people stay inside during those things," said Mark DeCew '94 of Burton House. "Some people stuff socks in the alarm, others just shut their doors. You'd think if they were searching the dorm for a bomb they'd find all the people who stay in their rooms." Most of the people go outside for the regular fire drills, because they're posted, or they just make sure they're out of the dorm when a drill is scheduled," Ambrogi added.

The dormitory president, desk captain, and the desk staffers on duty when the bomb threat call was received were all unavailable for comment.