State to fraternities: use smoke detectors

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member of the exact date the IFC was notified about the regulation. The IFC bought the smoke detectors from Gem Peerless Electric, Inc., according to Nicoli. "Roughly 20 fraternities were involved," he said. "Most of these are not involved anywhere else; they do not have them."

All Cambridge fraternities, Nicoli said, have met the requirement. The Boston Fire Department may not have checked MIT fraternities in the Buck Bay area, he added.

Some fraternities still have not installed smoke detectors, Fera- zani claimed. "They have been working on it for a rather long time. If they refuse to comply with the law," he continued, "the fire department will take legal action.

In any city or town which accepts this section, hotels, board- ing or lodging houses, or family hotels ... shall be equipped with an automatic smoke or heat de- tector in each sleeping area, the regulation states.

"The law is a matter of interpre- tation," Diaz explained. He said he is fairly certain both Bos- ton and Cambridge laws consider fraternities to be boarding houses.

"The law includes fraternities in its definitions of housing," Fer- azani confirmed.

First black astronaut talks at MIT

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knowledge African scientific achievements, he said. The map- ping during the 11th century of the orbit of the star Sirius B, invisible to the naked eye — and the building of the Egyptian civil- ization are specific achievements, he continued.

Africans visited the western hemisphere before Christopher Columbus, Van Sertima claimed. There are plants in South Amer- ica identical to those in Africa, he said. It is only possible that Africans brought the plants from one continent to another, he con- cluded. Certain Mayan statues in South America have negroid fea- tures, he pointed out.

The study of ancient African civilizations is not "entering the educational system" because edu- cators study only the "primitive" Africans and not their civilization centers, Van Sertima said.

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs notified the fra- ternities of the regulation, con- firmed Walter G. Diaz, safety as- sistant of the MIT Safety Office. "Many have compiled, but some have not," he said. "The Cam- bridge Fire Department will con- tinue to check on the fraterni- ties."

The Cambridge Fire Depar- tment checks every building in the city, including the fraternities on Memorial Drive, for possible violations of the regulation, ac- cording to Ferazani.

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