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U.S. role in Grenada invasion prompts lively forum discussion

By Jeff Goodwin

A forum on the U.S. invasion of Grenada sparked a lively discussion Tuesday afternoon in Oldfather Hall.

The forum, sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta, the history honorary, featured three panelists from UNL — Dane Kennedy, assistant professor of history; David P. Forsythe, political science professor, and Capt. Ed Menard of the U.S. Army, an assistant professor of military science.

Kennedy, whose prime area of interest is the British Commonwealth, said the legal justification for the U.S. invasion is in doubt.

Kennedy, noting the Reagan administration's claims that Sir Paul Scoon, the governor general of Grenada, had asked the United States to invade, said the governor general's role precluded the right to ask for such an incursion.

"Under normal circumstances, the governor general plays a symbolic role in the government," Kennedy said. "He

doesn't have any genuine powers.

Menard said the invasion was motivated by concern for the 1,100 Americans on the island and fears that a situation similar to the Iranian hostage crisis might develop.

"The election of President Reagan signaled to the military of this country that we would never suffer through another hostage crisis," Menard said.

The Grenadian invasion was the first employment of the Delta Force, part of the new Special Operations Command formed after the Iranian hostage crisis, Menard said.

"It was the first successful testing of that concept," Menard said.

Menard said the invasion was successful because the political and military objectives were clear.

He contrasted Grenada to the situation in Lebanon where, he said, U.S. objectives aren't clear at all.

Forsythe said the situation has increased the feeling among people that Reagan acts rashly and is too quick to

rely on military action.

He said the action has weakened support of the United States among its NATO allies.

"Not a single NATO ally stood with the U.S. on this question in the U.N.," he said. "You can't dismiss this by simply saying that the U.N. always votes against the U.S. because it just isn't true."

Forsythe and Menard disagreed about the role of the 2,800 American troops still on Grenada.

Menard said the troops essentially are acting as a civil government — preserving order and paving the way for clear elections.

Forsythe disagreed. He said the U.S. forces determine who will be allowed to take part in the elections.

"I don't think there's any doubt that they (the American troops) are having an influence," he said.

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Daub proposes remedy to educational dilemma

By Kris Mullen

Nebraska 2nd District Rep. Hal Daub proposed a five-point program to address America's educational problems at a meeting of the UNL College Republicans Tuesday night.

Daub credited President Reagan for attempting to solve the problem of the public education system. He said education will be a "hot potato" in the 1984 election, "as it should be."

Daub's five point program includes:

- development of greater parental responsibility in the education process of their children.

"Parents have a key role to play," he said. He said parents should assume more responsibility in terms of discipline, attitude, attendance and homework.

- increasing salaries to get better teachers.

"We've got to make that profession more attractive, financially rewarding," he said.

- improvement of the training of

administrators so they can do a more professional job of assisting teachers.

- establishment of admission standards for admittance to teachers college and requiring teachers to pass a general exam to assure better instructors.

For example, Daub said he was required to take an exam to get into law school. He had to take another exam after he earned his degree.

"If you have tests and standards, the people are much more willing to pay more," he said.

- development of an in-profession financial incentive program for teachers.

Daub said mediocre performances may be built into the system because unequal teachers are paid equally.

An in-profession incentive is not the same as merit pay, he said. But good teachers need an incentive to be better and to excel.

Marines vow to return fire; U.S. war with Syria near?

From The Reuter News Report

BEIRUT — U.S. Marines destroyed a fortified position east of their posts at Beirut International Airport Tuesday after they took sustained machine-gun fire from it, a Marine spokesman said.

The Marines suffered no casualties, he said.

The spokesman, Maj. Dennis Brooks, said a U.S. tank was among the weapons that blasted the position. He explained that the marines could not respond merely with machine guns since the hostile post was fortified against such fire.

"This should indicate we are prepared to return fire if we take fire," he said.

In other developments Tuesday, the Beirut press voiced fears that the United States was heading into full-scale war with Syria over Lebanon.

Beirut's respected daily An-Nahar

said that Syria, Moscow's major ally in the region, now considered itself at war with the United States.

The leftist daily As-Safir commented: "So now it's war — perhaps the most violent of the wars we have seen."

Syrian Defense Minister Maj. Gen. Mustafa Has, commenting on the U.S. Navy's first air strike against Syrian targets on Sunday, said Monday that Damascus was waging a "just war" against the United States and Israel.

The U.S. Navy Sunday sent waves of warplanes to bomb Syrian anti-aircraft positions in the central Lebanese mountains in what it said was a response to the Syrians firing on their reconnaissance planes the previous day. Two U.S. planes were shot down.

The United States has pledged to continue reconnaissance flights over the mountains. Syria asserts it has a right to fire on them.



Staff photo by Craig Anderson

Let it bleed

Kim Brockhaus, a sophomore English-Journalism major donates blood at the Bloodmobile Tuesday afternoon. The blood drive being held in the Nebraska Union Ballroom is sponsored by the Red Cross and the Lincoln Community Blood Bank. The drive will continue today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.