

Susan

March 16, 1989

The attack on the Palestinian shanty Monday night was an attempt to stifle free speech on this campus. It is also an unfortunate sign of the University's hostile environment towards Arab-Americans.

The Palestinian shanty was constructed last March by the Muslim Students Association to symbolize the struggle and oppression of the Palestinian people. The Israeli government subjects the Palestinians to brutal and inhumane conditions. Palestinian's in the Israeli occupied territories are regularly denied water, proper sewage facilities, and electricity. The Israeli army also tears down Palestinian homes in an effort to subdue the population. In the place of the ruins, shanties are erected to shelter the now homeless families. The shanty in the diag is a reminder to our community of Israel's denial of human rights to the Palestinians.

The burning is an attack upon the effort to raise awareness of the Palestinian struggle and an attack upon the Palestinians. It silences a much needed voice on the Palestinian issue, and destroys a structure symbolizing solidarity with the Palestinian people. We condemn the anti-Palestinian motivations behind the attack and the encroachment of the right to free speech.

This will appear ~~to~~ as a letter in the Mich. Daily signed by a host of progressive groups. Please consider adding your own organiz. to the list. Thanks.

Call Mr. 930-0927

W. B. J.