

# Student Dissent: When at A&M?

COLLEGE STATION—Texas A&M University's Executive Committee has ratified the Student Senate's recommendation that classes not be dismissed or excused absences granted for Moratorium Day Wednesday.

"The university's top administrative group also issued a reminder of the institution's regulation prohibiting unauthorized public speakers, meetings or other unauthorized functions on campus.

"No such permission has been approved for Wednesday, the committee noted, pointing out that violation of the regulations could result in suspension."

—University Information News Release  
October 13, 1969

When the trials of Moratorium Wednesday are past, the gnawing doubts in thoughtful minds here on campus will not likely be as concerned with the puzzle of war in Vietnam as with the question of dissent at A&M.

When may a student address a group of his peers on campus?

The recent actions of the Executive Committee would seem to indicate that he may not do so if what he has to say is addressed to too large a group and if it is too much in conflict with an administration stand on the same issue.

We hope that this is certainly not the case, but we wonder why the committee would in this instance invoke University Regulation No. 43, which, if not in fact, at least in practice formerly applied to speakers from off-campus and not to those within the campus community, namely students and faculty.

The regulation, after stating that all speakers on campus will be "of such caliber as to reflect credit on Texas A&M" and have no criminal proceedings pending against them, says this:

"Where the audience will consist of students from several colleges, speakers, lecturers and entertainers must be granted permission to appear on

campus by the Executive Committee of the university. . . . Permission is likewise required for the speakers at class functions and speakers before other campus-sponsored organizations. This ruling applies to all class functions and to campus sponsored organizations."

If the regulation was to have been enforced in the past as strictly as it has been this week, the Executive Committee would have been quite busy not only approving lists of off-campus speakers, but also lists of students and faculty members who give routine talks to the hundreds of campus clubs. Such, of course, has not been the case.

If the Executive Committee members had other reasons for turning down the Moratorium supporters, they should have made them known.

When may a student address a group of his peers on campus?

The senate side-stepped the issue Thursday; the Executive Committee cast a shadow over the question Monday.

It seems that from some combination of these two organizations a plan could emerge that would chart the boundaries of student rights and responsibilities concerning speech and assembly.

## CCOC PLAN

(Continued from page 1)

Times reported that "Organizers of the Oct. 15 'Vietnam Moratorium' student protest are hopeful that their action will be an 'ice-breaker' for renewed expressions of opposition to the war in Vietnam."

Syndicated columnists Robert E. Allen and John A. Goldsmith explained in a July 31 newspaper article that "Revolutionary Trotskyite communists are masterminding those grandiose plans of the SMC for a 'nationwide' student strike Nov. 14 and a 'giant' anti-war march on Wash-

ington the following day."

In its Sept. 28 news article, The Washington Post termed the Nov. 15 reaction, "March Against Death."

The SMC also sponsored the "Vietnam Week" demonstrations in April of 1967 during the term of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

In public hearings on Mar. 31, 1967, the House Committee on Un-American Activities (now the House Committee on Internal Security) affirmed that the "Vietnam Week" student strike was completely Communist in origin.

National sponsors of the SMC, as designated in one of their own mailings, "A Call to Vietnam Week," include officers of the

Students for a Democratic Society, the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, and the Young Socialist Alliance.

The House Committee report concludes that "the global publicity given to them (anti-war demonstrations) by the Communist propaganda machine will have the following effects:

—It will give aid and comfort to Communists everywhere, particularly in Vietnam.

—Among non-Communists, it will tend to create the false impression that a truly large segment of the U. S. population is vehemently opposed to this country's policy in Vietnam.

—U. S. leaders will be faced

## CADET SLOUCH

by Jim Earle



"I didn't forget to finish my sign—I just didn't have anything to say!"

with greater difficulties in convincing our allies of the correctness of this country's policy in Vietnam."

President Nixon recently added

a fourth point by noting that the anti-war dissent is self-defeating by setting back chances of a peaceful settlement at the Paris Peace Talks.

## Teachers Credit Union to be Discussed

Information about a teachers credit union will be explained to the College Station Education Association at College Hills Elementary School tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Credit Union, which has offices in Katy, will talk and answer questions. The union has members in many counties in this area and accepts individual teacher memberships.

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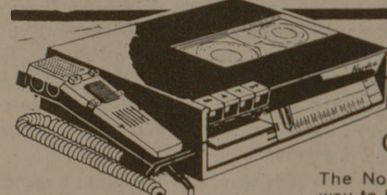
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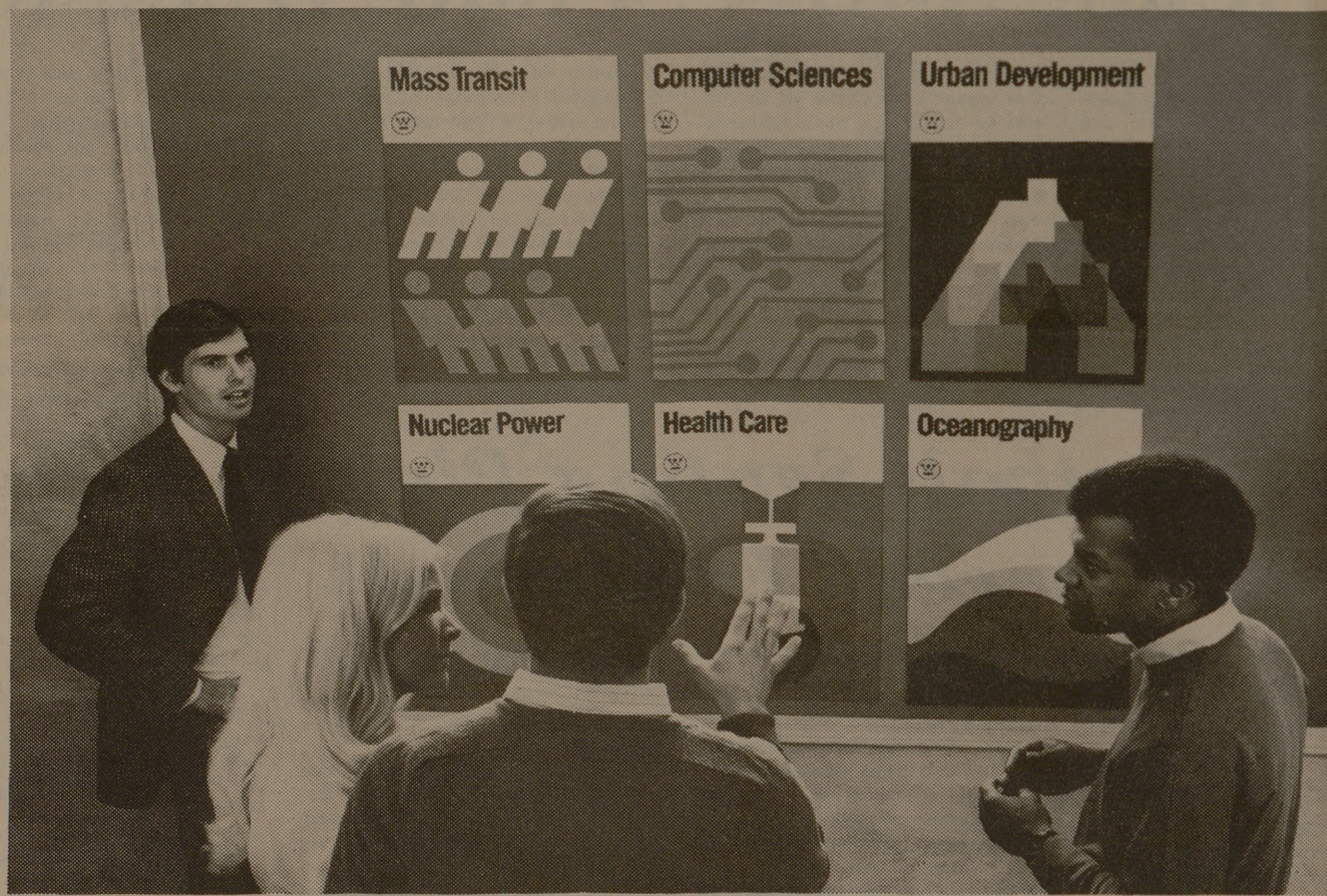
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OCTOBER 20, 1969

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Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced, and must be no more than 300 words in length. They must be signed, although the writer's name will be withheld by arrangement with the editor. Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

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## PEANUTS



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