Gagging the campus

LARRY SEIGLE

THE Nixon administration has launched a campaign to de-politicize US campuses. In an attempt to gag the overwhelmingly anti-Nixon student population, a set of political "guidelines" has been sent to colleges across the country, outlining severe restrictions on political organizations.

The guidelines from Washington to accom plish this are set forth in a statement from the American Council on Education, which counts as member institutions virtually all major colleges and universities in the country. The statement was prepared after a May 26 meeting between ACE, the United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and the Justice Department.

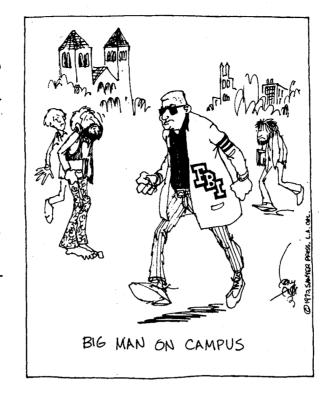
The guidelines are based on Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, which governs institutions run for "religious, charitable or educational purposes. "

ACE advises its members that they are in danger of losing their tax-exempt status if they fail to put the clamps on political activity by students, faculty and staff. According to the statement, academic recesses for political reasons (such as the "Princeton Plan" for a two-week break prior to the elections) would be forbidden unless the time was made up during some other vacation period. The same rule could, apparently, be applied to the closing of schools for student strikes.

But the heart of the new regulations is the provision that campus organizations which "inter of, or opposition to, any candidate for public vene in or campaign on behalf of candidates for public office, or permit non-members of the university community to avail themselves of university facilities or services" should no longer be allowed the use of campus facilities unless they pay for them at commercial rates. In addition, the ACE warns, "extraordinary or prolonged use of facilities, particularly by nonmembers of the university community, even with reimbursement, might raise questions."

The universities and colleges are told, in effect, to police themselves, with the threat of a loss of tax exemption if they fail to do so to the satisfaction of Internal Revenue. The ACE document has led some campus administrations to issue local versions of the restrictions.

The Militant



At Columbia University, a sweeping set of restrictions was announced Sept. 17 by President William McGill. These rules declare that activities of campus organizations "aimed off campus toward support of legislation or support office" may not be conducted on the Columbia campus. Moreover, any campus group that does engage in this proscribed political activity, even if it does so off campus, will then be billed for any campus activities it engages in, including those of a "non-political" nature.

One of the most ominous aspects of the guidelines is the fact that they open the door to censorship of student newspapers and radio stations. Several college editors in the New York area have been told that they cannot endorse candidates in the November elections.

These guidelines are a direct response by the Nixon administration to last May's student strike. They are part and parcel of Nixon's plan to bludgeon, threaten and intimidate the campuses into quiet acceptance of his policies.

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Non-discriminatory camps

THE House Internal Security Committee has voted to permit concentration camps in the United States, but with a provision barring detention "on account of race, color, or ancestry."

The committee voted 7-1 to report to the House a bill which would leave intact the key sections of title II of the Emergency Detention Act of 1950, which allows the President to round up suspected "subversives" and put them in detention camps.

Concern over the bill had risen since the Nixon administration took office, especially $after\ Asst.\ Attorney General\ R\ ichard\ Kleindienst$ was quoted in Atlantic as favoring their use for some radicals. the statement.

The Nixon administration recommended, and the Senate agreed, that the provisions establishing the detention camps should be repealed. However, HISC chairman Richard Ichord (D-Mo.), who feels radicals, especially the Black Panther Party, pose an imminent danger to the

> TRY A CLASSIFIED IN THE GAZETTE

U.S., first bottled up the bill and finally agreed to report out the new amendment only after considerable pressure form other committee

The non-discrimination clause was intended to assuage the fears of both blacks and Japanese-Americans, who were rounded up during World War II. However, it would still allow the

President to grab up radicals and throw them into camps.

There will be an attempt to amend the bill to bar all concentration camps when the bill reaches the floor of the House. If that fails, attempts will be made to find a "compromise" between the Senate and House versions in conference committees. (LNS)

Forked tongues in the Bay State

A WAMPANOAG Indian, chosen to be state orator for the 350th anniversary celebrations of the landing of the Pilgrims said state officials not only speak with forked tongue but tried to make him do the same. Frank James, 46, said the speech he wrote, critical of the Pilgrims' treatment of the Indians and the treatment Indians have received ever since, was rejected by the Massachusetts State Department of Commerce and Development. A speech was written for him to deliver at a governor's banquet, but James rejected it. "This is childish and untrue," he told state officials.

He then refused to deliver any speech. James, who is president of the Federated Eastern Indian League, had originally accused the Pilgrims of stealing from Indian graves, and stealing Indian wheat and bean supplies for the winter; other settlers he accused of selling Indian "slaves" for 20 shillings. The Department of Commerce objected to the speech because it didn't discuss the good relations between the Pilgrims and Indians. The reason for this ommission, according to James, was that "there weren't any" good relations.

Earnest A. Lucci, deputy commissioner,

said "I never took exception to the speech's historical accuracy, but only that it deviated from the function of a state orator, and besides, it was inflammatory. I mean you can't go around calling people grave robbers."

Lucci especially took exception to one part of James' speech, where he'd written: "We are uniting. We're not standing in our wigwams but in your concrete tent. We stand tall and proud, and before too many moons pass we'll right the wrongs we have allowed to happen to us. "

'Now I interpret that as a threat, " said Lucci. "What is the world coming to, in these days of discord, when we can't even have a speech calling for unity at a function such as this? Some of my best friends are Indians!"

James told the press: "I wired the governor to tell him I felt my right to free speech had just been restricted. This was a celebration to commemorate the start of white civilization in America, but it also marked the destruction of the Indians."

He then asked, "Why is my son serving on aircraft carrier in the Mideast when back home you can't say the things you want to say?"

(LNS)

FLOTSAM & JETSAM

SAM SMITH

AN YONE who says he doesn't condone violence is either a lier or a saint. Nearly all Americans condone violence at some point; our disagreement is over time, place and weapons. Attacks on violence lead inexorably to hypocracy: the President criticizes disorder and snuggles up to student-bashing trade unionists; the liberal decries the use of military might in Vietnam and encourages it in the Middle East; the radical berates the violence of the system and counters it with his own; a grand jury in Ohio finds one form of violence indictable, another not

The suppression of violence is the nation's prime business of the moment, but since we differ sharply as to the types of violence that most need suppressing and since there is a growing common disposition to use maximum force to end whatever violence we find distasteful, we achieve precisely the opposite of our articulated goal. Over and over, we seek an end to aggression through some alternative form of violence: capital punishment discourages murder, war brings peace, bombings are but a prelude to a humanistic revolution, the repression of civil liberties secures democracy. None of this is so, of course, but the more we speak of the threat of violence the more we are driven to it.

Neither right nor left is well equipped to justify violence by its results. Two years of Nixonian aggressiveness have not made the streets "safe." Counter-violence has spread from the urban ghetto to the most secure corners of white America. And the violent radical's vision of confrontation followed by repression and then revolution, seems increasingly likely to stop at the second step.

That this presumptious theory may produce counter-revolutionary results is made all the more probable by the reaction of liberals who, when faced with a choice between anarchism and repression, veer towards the latter. The liberal has deep doubts about this political virility that comes out in times of stress. He begins recants at the click of the safety. It's happening all over America this campaign, as liberal can didates trade in Roosevelt and Jefferson for Scammon and Wattenburg. The frightened libe all is a dangerous man: witness Hubert Humphre or Pierre Trudeau. They will sell democracy for security.





to wonder whether some of the awful things conservatives say about him might not be true. Could he be a latent appeaser? A closet commie? The next thing one knows, he's voting for legislation to send troops into Indochina, putting dissenters to the rack and generally behaving in pathetic parody of the reactionary. That's how some of the McCarthyite legislation of the '50s got passed; that's how the unconstitutional crime legislation of this year was approved; that's one reason why it's taken us so long to get out of Vietnam. Put a liberal up against the wall and he recants at the click of the safety. It's happening all over America this campaign, as liberal candidates trade in Roosevelt and Jefferson for Scammon and Wattenburg. The frightened liberal is a dangerous man; witness Hubert Humphrey

Since the middle has joined the violent left and right in the trap of escalating violence in the name of ending violence, it is difficult to see how the spiral can be broken. Certainly, the currently popular sport of pompously decrying violence is not going to change things much. It will probably be as successful as the National Safety Council's holiday preachments. The people who listen aren't the people who bomb buildings or drive recklessly on Labor Day. There is a repulsive streak in the American character that encourages affirmation by negatives. You reach the zenith of freedom through anti-communism, heaven by abstinence, harmony through anti-defamation, and tranquility through anti-violence. This creates employment for an excruiatingly boring pack of minis ters, politicians, teachers and journalists, but it doesn't do much for the quality of life.

The cult of violence thrives of fear, frustration and rage. Since we live in a time when paranoia might better be described as a major voting bloc rather than an illness, our environment is particularly ripe for aggression. But its present endemic nature can also be ascribed to the absence of alternatives, the lack of a movement that is stronger, better and wiser than that of anarchism or repression and which, coincidentally, is also non-violent.

It is small wonder that Bobby Seale has wide appeal when placed along side Hubert Humphrey. Who has more to tell America? The Weathermen or Richard Nixon? If it has to be a choice between bastards, why not opt for the ones that are right at least thirty per cent of the time?

But we don't have to have such an unbalanced race. There could be other alternatives. And those of us who are not anarchists or potential recruits for the secret police had better start finding them.

One way of doing so would be to build a <u>political</u> coalition on the left. The refusal of much of the left to engage in pragmatic politics is extreme myopia. The right has never made this

error and as a result of the John Birch Society and the Klan have made themselves felt from the street to Congress. One can affect government without politics (usually in a highly random and erratic fashion), but one cannot govern without politics. The anti-political mysticism of the New Left is just tripe passing for theory.

The para-nationalization of passenger train service and the changing attitudes towards socialized medicine are but two indications America, even as it bitterly tries to retain the old myths, is ready for a major political and economic change. We can either seize the time to begin building a new political or economic order, or the monopolists, the statists and the military will seize it for themselves.

This will require more work than Dr. Spock and his followers seem ready to expend. His "New Party" platform of ending the war, racism and poverty seems hollow when placed against the demands of planning a new future for the nation. The earnest efforts of young reformers on behalf of peace candidates, while commendable in itself, is but the barest beginning of what must be done.

We need to sit down and plan a new and more just economic and political structure for the country that will revive democracy, decentralize power, provide for human needs and replace capitalistic greed with a cooperative ethos. Our proper goal was perhaps best encapsuled years ago when Populist Henry Lloyd spoke of the need for a "cooperative commonwealth."

In all the protest and the fray of the past decade, this has yet to be done. We have absorbed ourselves with the present and, not surprisingly, the future continues to elude us. We isolate ourselves into cliques and peer groups, ideologically pure but politically impotent, and power, not surprisingly, continues to pass us

It is one of the most extraordinary aspects of the current situation that no significant third party on the left has developed. And efforts to build non-party coalitions, say, along the lines of a radical Americans for Democratic Action, have been meagre at best. We continue to get our thing together and, when we look up from our work, we find we are pretty much alone.

If we are to build such a new party or coalition, it must be for more than college students and Panthers. It needs constituents more than enemies, organizing more than rhetoric, and issues more than nemises. The elitist snobbery of the left must be overcome and replaced with atmosphere that welcomes participation rather than screens it.

The making of such a coalition is the most important task we have. And if we set ourselves to it, one of the beneficial by-products will be a reduction in the national paranoia and violence, for once again we shall have a future worth facing.