

Editorial Opinion

Return to Responsibility

All-University Cabinet's vote against recommending a voluntary ROTC program at the University has left two important questions decidedly up in the air.

The first, of course, is the fate of the ROTC program itself. Despite the Cabinet vote, ROTC will remain a very prominent question, merely because of the presence of the Senate committee report asking compulsory ROTC for women and placement of the whole program in a School of Military Science and Civilian Defense in the College of the Liberal Arts.

And discussion on the value of compulsory ROTC should become quite a bit hotter again as the report nears Senate consideration. As was so obvious on the student level, powerful forces in the administration already have lined up on opposite sides of the ROTC issue.

A committee of the Liberal Arts Student Council is still studying the issue. Need for further study by the Senate and the Board of Trustees is indicated even by the pending sketchily-prepared Senate report.

A second and equally important question raised by the Cabinet vote concerns student government itself.

Cabinet's vote on voluntary ROTC was obviously largely premeditated. Robert Nurock, who introduced the resolution for a voluntary program, and the editor of this newspaper, which supported the move, were committed to vote for it.

Of the remaining Cabinet members, two—Michael Walker and Russell Beatty—are members of advanced Army ROTC. They voted for a compulsory program, which campus military chiefs supported. So did Cabinet's six coeds, all of whom took a seemingly disinterested attitude in the whole affair, and some of whom apparently relied on private talks with other members to decide their vote.

The six voting members who belong to Lion's Paw (secret senior society)—John Rhodes, Joseph Boehret, Thomas Hollander, James Hart, John Morgan and Robert Stroup—led the fight against voluntary ROTC. They spoke and voted as a block. Whether they arrived at their decisions individually or through collaboration—and if the latter, why—undoubtedly will never be publicly revealed.

Steven Ott and George Thompson, who rode the coat-tails of the ROTC explosion to campus election victories in the fall, turned their backs on their party platform. Whether they voted against voluntary ROTC by conscience or pressure, they violated a clear mandate from the student body and dealt a blow to the political party system which will be hard to explain to the students.

Jere Fridy, who missed much of the ROTC debate through Cabinet absences, and Charles Ruslavage also voted against voluntary ROTC. Neither spoke on the issue.

John Johnston, who did not speak; Carroll McDonnell, George Sellers, chairman of the short-lived Cabinet committee to report facts on the issue; and an alternate for James Stratton all voted for voluntary ROTC.

When students begin making themselves heard through voting for platforms in elections and through bringing action in student councils and advisory boards to such an extent as they have on the ROTC, rotation and holiday and vacation issues, we can only conclude that they are beginning to rely more on these agencies than on Cabinet.

No representative student government can long hold the confidence of its constituents if a large segment of it continually ignores students' wishes.

Perhaps a system of referendum and recall is needed. Perhaps new, interested groups dedicated to integrity in student government is needed. A combination of both might be desirable.

But something is needed. Perhaps, best of all, it is a return to responsibility by All-University Cabinet.

Editorials are written by the editors and staff members of The Daily Collegian and do not necessarily represent the views of the University or of the student body.

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Mt. Everest Conqueror Dem Goals Completes Antarctic Trek In Congress Set Forth

AUCKLAND, Jan. 3 (AP)—Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Mt. Everest, reached the South Pole today with gasoline to spare for only 20 more miles. He camped near the polar station of 17 Americans.

The rangy 38-year-old New Zealander, knighted for climbing to the top of the world's tallest peak in 1953, announced he had reached the bottom of the earth in a radio message to Scott Base in Antarctica.

His 1200-mile trek across glaciers and crevasse-ridden snow-fields with tractors was the third in history and the first in 46 years to reach the pole by land. With him were four other New Zealanders. Dr. Vivian Fuchs of Britain, heading a party from the opposite, or South American, side of the pole, was believed still to be 200 miles away.

Fuchs and Hillary originally planned a British Commonwealth transantarctic trek via the pole—the first in history. Hillary was to establish a depot for Fuchs 500 miles on the New Zealand side of the pole and wait for him.

But Fuchs, leader of the co-operative effort, ran into unexpected difficulties and on Dec. 26 Hillary sent his now famous message to Scott Base: "I am hell bent for the South Pole—God willing and crevasses permitting."

His message on arriving, relayed from Scott Base by the New Zealand Press Assn. correspondent there, was equally dramatic. "Steering by the sun from earlier fixes we came bang on the base," he said.

Diplomats said today the United States may decide this year whether to drop its long held policy that no nation can stake a valid claim to antarctic territory.

The policy was laid down in 1924, when there were no atom bombs and no intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Reds to Release British Airliner

LONDON, Jan. 3 (AP)—Communist Albania told Britain tonight it has ordered the release tomorrow of the British cargo airliner and six-member crew forced down by jet fighters over Red territory three days ago.

A Foreign Office spokesman here said: "The Albanian legation in Belgrade (Yugoslavia) has informed the British Embassy there that the Skymaster detained in Albania will be released tomorrow."

Britain has no diplomatic relations with the Albanian Red regime and has asked France to intervene.

Albanian jets forced the plane to land while it was en route to Damascus, Syria, from Duesseldorf, Germany, carrying machinery for delivery in the Far East.

McClelland to Tell Of Election Plans

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 3 (AP)—Dr. William D. McClelland, who yesterday was sworn in for an unprecedented fifth term as Allegheny County coroner, said today he expects to announce within two weeks whether he will be a candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

McClelland, a dental surgeon who ran without organization support four years ago and lost the nomination to Gov. Leader, made the announcement following a conference with John J. Kane, chairman of the Allegheny County Board of Commissioners.

Bulganin Predicts End Of 1st Soviet Satellite

MOSCOW, Jan. 3 (AP)—Premier Nikolai Bulganin told reporters tonight the first Soviet satellite will burn out next Sunday or Monday "if not before."

"For all I know it may have burned out already," he said at a Burmese reception here.

Gazette

TOMORROW Hillel TV Film Forum, 7 p.m., Foundation Newman Club general meeting, 7 p.m., 215 HUB Protestant Service, 9 a.m., Chapel

Bulganin Cites Proof of Ease In Syria Crisis

MOSCOW, Jan. 3 (AP)—Soviet Premier Bulganin said tonight the return of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky from his transcaucasian command was proof that the crisis over Syria had eased.

Rokossovsky, former defense minister in Poland, took over the Soviet command bordering Turkey on Oct. 23 at the height of Soviet charges that the United States was trying to induce Turkey to attack Syria.

He has now returned to his post as deputy defense minister in Moscow, it was announced yesterday. The shift was interpreted by Western diplomats here as meaning that the artificial war scare allegedly created by the Russians was now over.

A reporter asked Bulganin at a reception on Burma's National day if Rokossovsky's return to Moscow meant the situation over Syria had eased.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3 (AP)—Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) said today the approaching session of the Democratic controlled Congress will drive for speedier missile development and "a foreign policy that will bring peace to this world."

Johnson, the Senate Democratic leader, told a news conference the No. 1 problem before the session will be to instill in the Eisenhower administration an "urgency" in missile and satellite production.

But he said Congress is not going to overlook what he called "the pressing domestic problems" of the farmer's economic plight, unemployment, small business failures, conservation of national resources and the cost of living.

"We must not forget that our objective is a strong country—not just a strong military force," he said in a statement he read to reporters.

Johnson said efforts will be continued to pry loose from the White House the so-called Gaither report on the state of U.S. defenses.

Prepared by a committee originally headed by H. Rowan Gaither, the report has been made a top secret document of the National Security Council. Published reports have indicated that the committee concluded the country has been placed in its greatest danger in history by Russian missile and satellite advances.

Polish Escapee-Scientist Granted Political Asylum

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3 (AP)—The government disclosed today it has granted asylum to a renowned Polish scientist who said he found living under the Communists a "difficult problem."

Dr. Jerzy Leon Nowinski, 52, said he found a strong "feeling of freedom" in this country when he came here last fall to lecture at Johns Hopkins University. He asked and received permission to remain.

As a specialist in thermoelasticity, Dr. Nowinski could be expected to make a contribution to the U.S. missile program, now being speeded up.

He told a news conference at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore that he was "not too keen" on missiles and satellites but would be willing to help if asked.

Thermoelasticity is a field of mathematical theory dealing with stresses and strains on metals and other materials under varying temperature conditions.

This would make him valuable in dealing with problems of air friction heat encountered in jet aviation, rocketry, and in handling the extreme temperatures of nuclear reactions.

But Dr. Nowinski said: "I never saw a missile or a rocket in Poland."

In deciding to quit Poland for good, he said he was disappointed with the political, moral and religious conditions there under the Reds.

"Also," he said, "our child had to attend school and my wife and I decided she must attend a school with better religious and moral conditions."

Atty. Gen. Rogers, who announced Nowinski's defection to this country, said the scientist's wife and 7-year-old daughter, now in England, also will be granted asylum here.

Rogers made the announcement during a speech at the National Press Club.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler

