

Rivers Says College Defense Work Needed

(Continued from page one)

contracts from the Department of Defense. Are we now talking about a military-industrial-university complex?

"It is simply not true that the Department of Defense dominates Federal support of the academic domain. Defense's contribution to academic science and engineering work is only 17 per cent of the total Federal support. Furthermore, universities are far down the list in participation in Defense research and development. Universities receive only 3.7 per cent of the Department of Defense's research, development, test, and evaluation funds. The government in-house laboratories receive 27 per cent and industry received 64 per cent.

"Therefore, there is no extreme dependence of universities on Defense funds, nor is the university involvement in the overall Defense program unreasonable."

To what extent is a community of interest created between the Defense Department, which provides research and support funds, and the scholars working under such grants?

"The typical Defense sponsored research project at a university originates at the university through the motivation and initiative of the individual scholar. With the approval of his own university's central administration, an unsolicited proposal of the work planned is volunteered to a research office or laboratory of the Defense Department. The proposed work is reviewed for its merit, promise, and relevance to Defense requirements within Defense by qualified scientists and engineers.

"Only when the proposed work is found to be completely acceptable as to its merit, promise, and its firm relation to Defense needs, and when resource availability permits, is a contract or grant entered into. Presently, more than six proposals are volunteered by universities to Defense for each research project award made."

"The research work underway within universities sponsored by Defense therefore represents that conceived and planned by scholars, approved by their university administrators, and found acceptable by the Department of Defense. Thus, I view the work as mutually compatible and in the good interests of both the universities and Defense."

Would there be a danger to national security if universities discontinued defense—and especially classified defense—research?

"Definitely, national security would be prejudiced if universities discontinued defense research. However, I view the question as being somewhat hypothetical since I am doubtful that an institution would take such an extreme

position. The Defense Department is being requested by universities to sponsor far more research than Defense's finite resources permit. For any one that may choose to drop out, there are many anxious to participate more significantly."

Could defense research be just as efficiently carried out in special institutes devoted to just that purpose?

"Special institutes possess unique and highly professional qualifications for performing the more applied studies and engineering development. Because of their competitive status, they hold proprietary information relatively close. Furthermore, they do not fulfill a graduate education function. They are presently responsible performers of Defense work of a somewhat different nature than that done by universities.

"Therefore, I believe both universities and the special institutes are needed in the Defense activities. The special institutes would not be as effective in doing the more basic research that typically is done within universities."

Council To Sponsor Discussion Day To Increase Faculty-Student Relations

By JIM WIGGINS
Collegian Staff Writer

As part of its program to increase faculty-student interaction, the Liberal Arts Student Council has scheduled a "discussion day" on which students will meet and talk with Liberal Arts faculty representatives of the University Senate.

The discussions, which will take place from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. Thursday in the Hetzel Union Building Reading Room, are aimed at "enabling Liberal Arts faculty and students to meet and talk to each other on a personal level," Pete O'Donnell, president of the Liberal Arts Student Council, said.

O'Donnell said he hopes that through this discussion day, enough interest will be generated among students to allow for a general restructuring of the Liberal Arts Student Council.

"The Liberal Arts faculty is amaz-

ingly receptive to change," O'Donnell said, "and they want and are looking for help from students in deciding curriculum and general policy within the college."

"We are working for improvement from inside the establishment and are in the position to change things if we can generate enough student interest," he said.

In restructuring the council, O'Donnell said he would like to see student committees formed at the departmental level. "These committees would meet weekly with faculty members to help determine policy within their departments," he said.

Under O'Donnell's plan, one student from each committee would represent the department in the council, which would have a core membership of 15.

Study Abroad Programs To Expand, Get New Name

The University Study Abroad Programs are being broadened to provide additional opportunities for independent study.

In keeping with the change, the Office of Study Abroad Programs will be redesignated as the Office of Foreign Studies. Dagobert DeLevie will continue as director of the office.

When the study abroad program began in 1962, it provided only for groups of students to study at the Universities of Strasbourg and Cologne, with the University of Salamanca, the University of Florence and the Slade School of Fine Art in London later added later to the program.

Although several programs of independent study have been approved in the past, they have arranged on an informal, individual basis. The study has taken the form of enrollment in foreign universities, in field work for graduate students, or in combination of the two.

As in the past, prior approval of the academic department is required for study abroad.

Students or faculty desiring information about foreign studies for academic credit at the University should contact the Office of Foreign Studies, 211-212 Engineering C.

Officials Refuse Laos Comments

SAIGON — Officials are under orders not to talk about Laos or drop tidbits about "Country X." But questions specifically about the ground war in the country next door frequently are met by a smile, a wink and "no comment."

The "no comments" have been unvarying in Saigon for years, although practically all secret U.S. communications concerning Laos move through the U.S. Embassy in Saigon or the headquarters of Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam.

American involvement in the air war over Vietnam's neighboring state has been less easy to disguise. The official reply to queries about it goes like this:

"At the request of the royal Laotian government, the United States does fly reconnaissance flights over Laos, escorted by armed aircraft. These missions are frequently fired upon by Communist ground forces. By agreement with the royal Laotian government, these escort aircraft may return the fire."

The fact is that several hundred American planes make daily bombing raids in Laos, and no one believes that all of them are fired upon first, especially when many of the planes are B52 bombers that fly at an altitude of 10 miles or so and can be neither seen nor heard.

The nominal ruler of Laos, Prince Souvanna Phouma, said in Washington recently that there was not a single American soldier in Laos.

"There must be an awful lot of Green Berets retired over there," commented a diplomat who had recently returned from Vientiane.

Actually, there are several thousand Americans there, but nobody outside official circles knows exactly how many. They include Army, Navy, Air Force and Central Intelligence Agency people. Communist China has a larger force in Laos' northern provinces, and the North Vietnamese have still more guarding the Ho Chi Minh trail.

Lesser Drug Penalty Urged

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the hope that it will lead to better law enforcement and better respect for the law, the Nixon administration proposed yesterday that the penalty for possessing narcotics and possessing drugs be reduced to misdemeanor size.


This would mean that first offenders convicted of possession of marijuana or other narcotics would no longer be branded felons subject to maximum penalties of 1 to 10 years imprisonment and \$20,000 fine.

John E. Ingersoll, director of the Justice Department's Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, said a more flexible penalty structure is needed to "make the punishment fit the person" and the crime.

Testifying before the Senate subcommittee on juvenile delinquency, Ingersoll said: "All too often, because of the present penalty structure, there is a real hesitancy on the part of prosecutors in courts to handle possession cases because of the potential high penalties involved."

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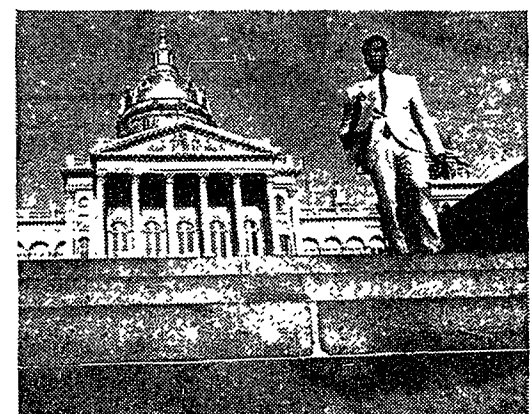
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