Residence Week

The Thursday Inscomm meeting brought many issues which had previously been avoided into the open. One of these, the major point of discussion, was the running of Rush Week.

Those of you who have read the article on the front page know that Inscomm passed a resolution calling for a change in the philosophy of Rush Week. This resolution would, effectively, make the minor changes. It would add one speaker to the Friday night meeting, send one more letter to the Freshmen, and change the name of the operation to "Residence Week."

Why, then, was everyone so upset over the meeting? There are a lot of reasons for this. The first may have been the current feelings at the meeting. Inscomm was undoubtedly feeling a personal attack, for when the EFC was told in February that the rush of Freshmen orientation week. The signature of the student body president on the letter along with the new name will, in all probability, remove any objections the parents of freshmen would have to attend as students. It seems likely that attendance at Rush Week will increase. And, as scientists and engineers, MIT students will realize that the only way to make the best decisions is to get the most data possible on a subject.

By allowing freshmen to visit the dormitories, the effective data inputs will be focused tremendously.

It is tragic that mistakes were made on both sides of the fence which have led to the situation as we stand. Inscomm's mistake was in not presenting the resolution as a recommendation. It is a debatable point whether or not this would have been accepted. The IFC's mistake was in not accepting it as such, and rather choosing to make a power struggle out of it. The Inscomm constitution is relatively clear on such matters. It covers anything it necessary to consult the administration to get the most data possible on a subject.

It appears now that the whole question is about to be kicked back to the Dean's office for a decision which is clearly within its domain. Inscomm feels it is necessary to consult the administration about this. Whatever the outcome, both sides that the resolution should have been in the form of a recommendation. There is no doubt that this would do much to calm the feelings on both sides.

Letters to the Tech

Tactical Weapons

To the Editor:

Posters appearing recently on the bulletin boards of MIT and on the front page of the student newspaper "The Tech" announce the formation of a "Service Resistance Action Center." It appears to the writer of this letter that "Service Resistance Action Center," ("In the support of American Vietnamese in Vietnam," and to "show the value of pacifism and the nonviolent means") a suitable entry might be entitled "Russell Student Peace Protectors." (It sounds like "Russell of Hearts," Cards.) However, it is probable that the sponsors (after a change in the deliberation over its "technical feasibility") would label the slogan as neither practical nor exceptional, upon election year (though not without redeeming social value). Judge its intent as to the purpose at hand, and assign it a rank of unimportance (rated purpose of avoiding the claim to a "greater re-aid"") this is not properly a slogan for a "Service Resistance Action Center," surely such an idea has already occurred to the sponsor, the only one it is possible to be inspired by the spirit of the New Frontier. Certainly American pacifism is close to an all-time low.

Kenneth Brechtm (Course VIII-G)

footnotes*

7. The Canadian tour of the MIT Concert Orchestra had some unexpected surprises for the musicians. Stopping in at Shaw's, the players were able to appreciate the difference between music played by students and professionals. The orchestra was on a roll and played an encore at Shaw's, much to the delight of the audience.

8. The Tech, Room W20-483, MIT Student Center, Sunday, February 11, 1968

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Why, then, was everyone so upset over the meeting? There are a lot of reasons for this. The first may have been the current feelings at the meeting. Inscomm was undoubtedly feeling a personal slash at the EFC, for it was also the point that this resolution was passed a resolution calling for a change, in the name of the operation to "Residence Week."

In Baker House, beds will always be filled; with a poorly run Rush Week, the same might not be true of many of the fraternities on campus.

There are also a few advantages to the changes. The freshmen who realize that this is not an attempt to force them into the operation of Residence Week. They have to attend an IFC function before the opening of Freshman orientation week. The signature of the student body president on the letter along with the new name will, in all probability, remove any objections the parents of freshmen would have to attend as students. It seems likely that attendance at Residence Week will improve. And, as scientists and engineers, MIT students will realize that the only way to make the best decisions is to get the most data possible on a subject.

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