Letters to The Tech

Raising the cost

To the editor:

Enclosed is an open letter which I wrote to President Johnson. Jerome Wiesner, The Tech’s managing editor and I, as well as President Johnson, I am not doing this as a protest to his policies, but rather to make him realize that if he continues in this direction, the situation will escalate to the point where people and buildings are torn up, as is already happening at other campuses. We have not been able to find a non-radical group as an example of which politically motivated. It is my opinion that if meaningful solutions to many of the student problems are not found, then the situation which is currently escalating, will continue to escalate until those who are unhappy are brought to the point where they will have to choose between themselves and the country. A situation where people are hurt and killed seems to me more likely than the possibility of a future in which we can all flourish and live together in peace and prosperity.

An open letter to President Howard Johnson

Dear President Johnson:

The incidence of assault, vandalism, and more sophisticated forms of intimidation by those who would turn this institution and its people exclusively to their own ends has reached a point where we can no longer continue to tolerate it. We are a community who are seriously concerned with the safety of those in authority and those in subordination to them. Our people who work to make this a safe environment must move from disapproval to action. Last spring I was one of a group of people in this community who spoke at an emergency meeting called by the students. At that point, I made a commitment to remain involved in the effort to prevent this situation from escalating further.

I have little doubt that the radicals who are seeking to use this situation will push the government into taking any action, either through the courts, to secure our civil or constitutional rights. The Administration, as we understand it, is to close down the Institute for "taking it to the streets" at least once in October, two in November, etc. This will work, Mike Albert has told me personally that he would like to see the Institute close down for the duration of the Vietnam War. I have little doubt that the radicals will pursue this goal so matter how many of them are killed. The Administration in its reponse, as I understand it, is to close down the Institute for "taking it to the streets" again. I know Albert is concerned about the safety of those students who have been hurt by the radicals, and I am urging others who can do so in good conscience to do likewise.

I am sorry, very, Dr. Johnson, to have to write to you in this fashion. I have great personal respect for you and am on the whole very proud of MIT. However, as an educator, I feel that I must write to you in this manner. I am, therefore, personally paying tuition, I will sue the administration if they refuse to take any action, either through the courts, to secure our civil or constitutional rights. The Administration, as we understand it, is to close down the Institute for "taking it to the streets" again. I know Albert is concerned about the safety of those students who have been hurt by the radicals, and I am urging others who can do so in good conscience to do likewise.

Richard W. Klimek
Chemical Engineering Dep't.

Traffic problem

To the editor:

I have witnessed many accidents on or near Harvard Bridge in the town where I have attended MIT. I think that such a great density of accidents in this small area warrants a look at the possible changes that might end this slaughter.

The first fact to the traffic must be slowed. Slow means would be a traffic sign or a road and pavement change. This would reduce traffic flow sufficiently to avoid the accidents, which occur from excesses from Memorial Drive. Superhighways, such as I-89 in Vermont, U-Turns, a common means of saving time and causing accidents. A second example is that engaged at toll booths on many turnpikes. A special place is to be found that effective, it could travel faster than the speed limit. They do not cause less control and do incur slower speeds. Perhaps the most important factor is the area is needed, and certainly worse. It is my opinion that action should be taken to stop the insane activities that have been taking place at this exit.

Richard W. Klimek
Chemical Engineering Dep't.

Perspective

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