November Action planned

By Lee Giguere

A coalition of radical groups at MIT is planning for "massive action" aimed at closing the Instrumentation Labs November 4.

While no definite plans have been made, the group is talking about "a day of massive action," an attempt to enforce the number of demands that people at MIT have been making. Mike Ansara, editor of the Old Mole and one of the organizers of "November Action," along with Mike Albert '69, feels that this could be done with "just a thousand demonstrators linking around with arms."

Area-wide effort

The November 4 action is part of an area wide effort to educate people about the aims of the coalition. While the I-Lab demonstration will be organized primarily by MIT groups, support is expected from people outside the Institute community.

MIT groups already involved in the coalition are the RLSDS, SACC, the New University Conference, and the recently formed secretaries' group. The NUC is a national association of radical "faculty, graduate students, independent intellectuals, and university employees." The secretaries' group was formed last week with the immediate aim of guaranteeing their right to take part in the Moratorium.

Support for NLF

According to both Albert and Ansara, the coalition's political line is the "immediate withdrawal of US troops and support for the National Liberation Front." Within this there is to be room for groups whose goals go beyond this immediate effort.

Attempt to gain support

For the first three days of November, present plans call for teach-ins, local rallies, and campus demonstrations. These will culminate in the I-Lab demonstrations on the fourth. The sixth and seventh are to be filled with local demonstrations in New Bedford, Fall River, and Lowell, along with demonstrations organized by high school students.

The hope of the coalition is to generate anti-war sentiment among working class high school and college students. The belief is that since these people are fighting the war, it is from them that support can best be gained for the anti-war movement.

Anti-draft protest

Finally, on November 5, there is to be a demonstration at a local draft board as yet unspecified. However, it is most likely to be either the area board in the Kennedy Building or an active local board.

A meeting was held last night to begin planning the week, but for the most part, demonstrations will not be carefully organized in advance. The emphasis is on letting those involved determine just what action is appropriate at each point.

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Hoffman says people must know the commission really intends to come up with a plan. They must not think that there is nothing they can do to change things. The temporary office of the commission is in 39-625. Members of the community are encouraged to write or drop in with their views.

The commission meets today from 3 to 5 in 26-110, which will be its regular meeting place. Meetings will be open to the public, excluding exceptional cases. Permanent office headquarters will be set up closer to 26-110.

Johnson statement

President Howard Johnson, in an address to the commission,

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Commission favors action

By Ted Lichtenstein

"The Commission will be known not by what it says, but by what it does," summed up Professor Ken Hoffman, chairman of the newly-appointed MIT Commission, previously called the Commission on the Nature and Purposes of MIT Education.

Outlined at the first meeting last Tuesday, the Commission's goals are ambitious and far-reaching, yet include action on short-term issues facing the Institute.

A comprehensive up-dating and re-evaluation of MIT's educational purpose will be undertaken over the next two years. The commission plans exploration of methods of education research, and administration relating to society, and self-regulating arrangements.

The commission will emphasize long-range solutions, programs worked out over a period of time in twenty years. Yet the group recognizes the relevancy of work for short-range solutions. By considering problems in a broader context, piecemeal effort should be avoidable. The commission's ability to act on short-term issues, emphasized Hoffman, will be an important test of its effectiveness.

Advisory group

The commission is an advisory group with no direct power, which Hoffman considers an advantage to careful thought. He intends to keep from getting involved in crisis situations. Hoffman expects this to be different from what's been going on at other universities; "Why? Watch and see."

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