After lying dormant for the better part of a year, the ROTC issue has, perhaps for the last time, once again found the spotlight.

The Academic Council, the University Senate, and the McGarry commission proposals (such procedural changes as staggering credit from courses taught by armed services instructors), undoubtedly some professor no doubt will claim that ROTC be booted off campus entirely.

The pro and cons of ROTC were well hashed-over last spring, and Nixon’s recent excesses in South Vietnam may provide somewhat new factors. The Tech urges the faculty to accept the McGarry proposals and keep ROTC on campus.

Last spring opposition to ROTC boiled down to two major arguments: 1.) ROTC programs, directed as they are by the Department of Defense, are inimicable to the academic interests of MIT; and 2.) by sanctioning ROTC, MIT helps promote an immoral Asian War.

The academic principles argument, though not resurrected by demonstrations this spring, has been fairly well settled by the McGarry commission. For all practical purposes, ROTC will assume the status of a well-run extra-curricular activity. The Army will still get its officers, and MIT is freed from the embarrassment of sponsoring military science courses.

So opponents have championed the second argument, sacrificing valuable long-term goals for the sake of a short-term gain. Should they succeed, the Army will still get its officers (somewhere), the war effort will continue (about a little less efficiently), and MIT and its students would have symbolically washed their hands of the War.

Only symbolically, of course, because few Americans can insist they do not contribute to the war effort. The simple act of paying taxes further the War more than a vote to keep ROTC on campus.

The long-term goals? No one can deny the value of maintaining a high percentage of civilian-trained officers in the Army. A leader corps generated entirely from military schools would only isolate the Army from the mainstream of American thought and morals.

The best way to extract ROTC officers from Vietnam is to end the War itself. Here is when effort should be channeled. Significant gains could be made. But MIT must not forgo the intrinsic value of ROTC for some ineffective, symbolic protest.

Princeton Plan

There has been considerable discussion both here and on the part of the campus as to your promotion be explained. For all practical purposes, ROTC will assume the status of a well-run extra-curricular activity. The Army will still get its officers, and MIT is freed from the embarrassment of sponsoring military science courses.

As an alternative, we would suggest a counter-action to the Princeton Plan. Essentially, it provides for a two-week exchange of correspondence between the President of the Tech and the President of Princeton University, in an attempt to obtain an understanding on the part of candidates of their choice.

Here at MIT, any similar would probably entail shifting a week or two from the January Independent Activities Period to the fall term. While we recognize the educational and political value of involving students in the election process, The Tech urges the faculty to reject such a proposal. The Princeton Plan is another body of an educational experience in its own right, which we would hate to see it contaminated by the introduction of political considerations.

The month of independent study is a valid feature of the case. Specifically, in approving your promotion, I offer you my congratulations.

It was kind of you to warn me that judicial proceedings against me might be brought against me by anyone else on the promotion committee. I wonder, however, whether you sent a similar letter as your advice. The letter that includes the names of individuals who are "highly offensive" to some of their colleagues; indeed, many people consider the word "themselves" to be criminal. It is quite conceivable that at a future date, some of them might have to account for their actions before Nuremberg-type tribunals. Did you send them letters of warning concerning judicial procedures?

Thank you, again, for your kind letter. I hope that being a full professor will make me more effective in trying to impress MIT with a better place: one dedicated to all the people. Rather than just those who rule. Surely you will want to join me and the other many other students who are working toward this end.

For your university in a free society,
Louis Kampf

The Wizard of Id: Mitt of the March

The Wizard of Id appears daily and Sunday in the Boston Herald Traveler.

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By Mindbend
Forget it. Knowing full well that the unenlightened cannot comprehend others, I have decided not to fake it this issue. The following item, from Liberation News Service, is probably as relevant as anything my mind in its present state could produce.

VAUNCOUVER, B.C. [LNS] — "in solidarity with the people of the United States and with white youth, we make this symbolic invasion into the United States. Of course we won't thrust into the US more than 22 miles, and will withdraw our forces by June 30."

In response to the opening of two new fronts in the war in Cambodia and Kent State, a group of Canadian revolutionaries have announced a symbolic invasion of the US-Canada border Saturday, May 9. The liberation army, which marched about a thousand and strong past the border guards and into the US Saturday afternoon, was led by the Northern Latin America Front of the International Youth International Party, the Vancouver Liberation Front, and the staff of Vancouver’s Yellow Journal.

Border guards made no attempt to repel the invasion, the "liberation army," which undefended border since 1812. The army attacked Blaine, Wash., a small border town, running en masse down the main street, chanting "Power to the People." In the process, various spontaneous slogans reating to Cambodia, Kent State, and America.

By Bruce Schwartz

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By Bruce Schwartz