

Sit-In Aftermath: Action & Reaction

CPYRGHT

by CARL S. SMITH

The drama beginning with Tuesday's confrontation at the University's Placement Office between a CIA recruiter and student sitters-in moved quickly toward a climax yesterday as University Hall decided to handle the matter of disciplinary procedure by offering the students judgment by the University Council on Student Affairs.

Eight male undergraduates and four graduate students received virtually identical letters yesterday informing them they were "charged with interfering with the normal educational function of the University" in obstructing the entry of Michael J. Brennan, Dean of the Graduate School, and CIA recruiter James W. Gurl to the Placement Office interview room at 90 Waterman St.

The letters to the male undergraduates were signed by Benjamin D. Roman, Assistant Dean of the College for Student Affairs. The graduate students involved received notification from Graduate School Dean Brennan. At least one Pembroke was also notified. However, Anne S. Dewart, Assistant Dean of Pembroke, refused to state the exact number of Pembrokers who received such letters.

The letters said the sitters-in were given a clear warning from Dean Brennan that such a form of protest would make the offender subject to dismissal from the University. Noting that "a preliminary decision has been made that the alleged offense is serious enough to warrant possible dismissal," the letter informed each student that he could elect to have his case heard by the University Council on Student Affairs or by his dean.

Recipients were told to have a letter in their dean's office by 5 p.m. Friday choosing which course disciplinary action should take. They were informed that if they if they chose to be heard before the University Council they could request that its student members not

participate in the case. The letter also indicated that regardless of means, the cases would be heard in the latter part of the week of November 6.

Dean Brennan, questioned by the HERALD stated that the sending of letters follows the procedure prescribed in the Magrath Report and President Heffner's September 18 letter to all students. He added that he sent letters to those whose names he took down if at Tuesday's confrontation "they touched me or showed they were willing to touch me to show they were physically obstructing."

Commenting on the fact that more than the dozen or so people who received letters were present at the sit-in, Dean Brennan said "A student who wished to obstruct had full opportunity to do so. Anyone could have touched me if they very positively wished to."

One demonstrator who touched Dean Brennan but did not receive a letter was Scot M. Blue, assistant professor of psychology. Mr. Blue, who received a Ph.D. from Brown in psychology last June and whose duties include teaching an extension course in elementary psychology and supervising Hunter Laboratory, said the UCSA's province was limited to students.

He added, "They have older and less formal techniques for faculty members who infringe on rules." As yet no action in his case has been taken.

At a Campus Action Council meeting last night, the main order of business was an assess-

ment of the demonstration (which CAC sponsored) and a decision on how to react to the University's determined course of action.

Arnold E. Strasser, first year doctoral candidate and one of the demonstrators who received a letter, said the demonstrators should be proud of "handling themselves and the issues well." Other participants stressed they had explored every possible channel of seeking rational discussion on whether the CIA representative should be permitted to recruit on campus. Stanley N. Griffith '68, who also got a letter, added, "We did not want to settle it in the halls of the placement office."

Most of the discussion was centered on the problems of how to word and present these ideas and the CAC membership's reaction to the University's choice of procedure.

The council voted to take action on three separate grounds: to let the students involved draft their own statement, to draft and circulate a petition supporting the ideological basis of the sit in, and to give support for a non-CAC petition for those who may or may not agree with the protesters principles but who believe that the demonstrators should not be dismissed from the University for their actions. It also voted to hold a rally on the College Green tomorrow.

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