

Colleges Should Solve Unrest, Pentagon Says

Defense Official Tells Panel U.S. Action Against Dissidents Would Be Ineffective

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Defense Department urged Congress Wednesday to let colleges solve their own campus unrest problems.

"Punitive action by the federal government probably would not be helpful," Dr. John S. Foster Jr., director of defense research and engineering, told the Senate investigations subcommittee.

Foster testified particularly about student demonstrations protesting "war-related" research under Defense Department contracts. He said that issue was involved in demonstrations at the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, Stanford, George Washington University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

No Exposure

In none of the demonstrations, he said, has there been any exposure of classified information, although that possibility remains.

In some cases, Foster said, universities have canceled classified work after student protests.

"Our view has been that each university must decide for itself the appropriateness of any particular research work," he said.

Last year, Foster said, the department made 5,000 research grants and contracts with 250 universities totaling \$248 million. Only 4% of the work was classified.

'No Place'

"I regard some of the current turmoil as irresponsible action, for violence has absolutely no place in the process of constructive change," Foster said.

"But I still have con-

monstrations — including an eight-day sit-in at the Applied Electronics Laboratory in April.

The sit-in, Rambo said, was well planned and was not unpopular on the campus and in the outside community but an attempt two weeks later to seize the university administration building found a changed mood and was broken up in six hours with the help of outside police.

Charles A. Anderson, president of the Stanford Research Institute, said several attempts to disrupt activities of the off-campus research contractor were unsuccessful because of advance arrangements with Menlo Park and Palo Alto police.

Anderson said the institute made it clear in the beginning that it would not tolerate disruptions.

Opposes Withdrawal

Rambo opposed the idea of federal withdrawal of higher education aid funds to schools failing to file a riot-control plan.

"Plans," he said, "must continually evolve and change. I do not think it is possible to conceive of a plan for all circumstances."

Furthermore, he said, a federal antiriot law could divert university efforts from strengthening internal control machinery into a battle against the threat of outside interference in academic business.

Rambo urged the subcommittee, headed by Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ark.), to help assure community support for control of disruptions by college administrations through a congressional expression of confidence in college administrators to deal with the problem.

in the ability of the academic community, in the aggregate, to cope ultimately with the situation."

A Stanford University professor earlier expressed confidence that the colleges can control their disruptive elements without federal intervention.

Prof. William R. Rambo of Stanford said all schools should plan to handle the problem through internal discipline and resort to police aid in complex situations.

Rambo said Stanford recently demonstrated the success of such a blend after several student de-

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