

For Disciplined Dissent

To the Editor:

As student dissenters we must conduct ourselves in totally disciplined and irreproachable ways. Violence as a justifiable means in a movement to end violence is insanity.

How can we seriously condemn oppression, bombings in Vietnam, inhumane treatment of fellow human beings, political tyranny—how can we make a stand and not reek of hypocrisy when we bomb buildings, scream obscenities at those dissenting from our views, intimidate our fellow students into taking up our cause, close our minds dogmatically? When we assume violent means to achieve peaceful ends, how will we ever achieve credibility?

As student dissenters we must not allow ourselves to deal with the glaring problems of ignorance, violence, and oppression in kind. We must never sink so low as to adopt the tactics of the opposition.

DEBORAH POND
President, Class of 1971
Connecticut College
New London, May 7, 1970

Discipline Needed

To the Editor:

Your recent editorials on the Vietnam situation imply that our legally elected President, Richard Nixon, can do no right and our illegally protesting students can do no wrong. With what inside information available to your masterminds James Reston and Tom Wicker are these fortune tellers able to tell us in advance how a situation like the one in Cambodia will turn out before it even begins?

As for the students, it stands to reason no one wants bloodshed on or off the campus. But let me ask why these innocent rock-throwing dissenters got themselves into the direct line of fire after being warned? Should they not have been studying in their dormitories? What do they go to college for? Besides you speak for only the disruptive students who make it difficult for the serious ones to get their hard earned education.

A letter from my nephew at Texas U states "if more stu-

dents had to work all day and study at night in order to stay in college they would find no time left for protesting."

If our enemies are looking for aid and comfort at this time they need go no further than to read the editorials of *The Times*. You have had fun tearing to pieces the image of Richard Nixon whom you did your best to defeat in the last election. And your lofty philosophers will perhaps learn that Spiro Agnew can "take it and give it back four-fold," for he is the stern voice of the overwhelming "silent majority."

What this country needs is discipline.

[Lieut. Col.] JAMES W. KIRK
White Plains, N. Y., May 8, 1970
The writer served with the O.S.S. under General Donovan during World War II.