



By Jim McNamara—The Washington Post  
**MASKED PICKETS**—Members of the Iranian Students Assn., wearing skull masks, picket at Central Intelligence Agency in Langley, Va. They were protesting the upcoming visit by the Shah on Tuesday.

## Iran Students Picket CIA's Headquarters

By James T. Yenckel  
Washington Post Staff Writer

About 60 Iranian students stilled by CIA," Fairfax County Police at the scene reported no disturbance.

The Shah is scheduled to arrive in Washington Tuesday for a three-day informal visit. The President and Mrs. Johnson have planned a dinner at the White House that night.

A spokesman for the pickets said they were members of the Iranian Students Association protesting what they claimed was CIA involvement in the coup by the Shah's supporters that toppled then-Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadegh on Aug. 19, 1953.

Khosro Kalantari, president of the Association that is meeting in a four-day convention here, said the masks were worn to protect the pickets from identification.

A CIA official contacted at home said he was aware of the group's presence, and said "I wonder why they picked Sunday? We're closed; there's no one working out there."

The pickets paraded along the two-block roadway between Rte. 123 and the gates of the CIA compound carrying signs, one reading "Shah, In-

terfering with the Shah's visit."

Kalantari, a graduate student at San Francisco State College, said the Iranian students also are planning to demonstrate against the Shah in front of the White House about 4 p.m. Tuesday following a march from Dupont Circle, set to begin at 3 p.m.

The pickets chartered a D.C. Transit bus to CIA headquarters from the Roger Smith Hotel, site of their convention. They paraded from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

# Gen. James Gavin As the Alternative?

By Marquis Childs

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Gen James M. Gavin walked out and slammed the door the other day. The reverberation brought an astonishing response. It was a small door—Gavin resigned from the Massachusetts Democratic Advisory Council, an organization with little influence and less power, saying he could not support President Johnson for reelection in 1968. But his resignation came as the climax to what has been perhaps the best-informed attack, from the military, diplomatic and political view, on the expanding war in Vietnam.

Hundreds, it must be thousands by now since the flow continues, of letters and telegrams are pouring in on Gavin. In a sampling of this response a high percentage urge him to run for President next year. One thing the letters show above all else is the great desire of citizens of high and low rank to find an alternative not only to the Johnson war policy but to the President himself. Many of the writers urging Gavin to put himself forward as a candidate scarcely heard of him before he slammed the door.

HERE, chosen at random, are what some of the letters and telegrams show. From Denver: the writer wants to start at once a Gavin-for-President club either with or without the general's sanction. A woman in a small town in New York encloses a dollar bill promising she will try to send more if only Gavin will take his case to the country.

A prominent politician in Arkansas writes to say that while he has been a life-long Democrat and managed several statewide campaigns, he would switch his allegiance to vote for Gavin on the Republican ticket. Many of the writers say they are Democrats or independents who voted for Johnson in 1964 but will never vote for him again.

Others pay their respects in most uncomplimentary terms to all the Republican prospects. They want a new face. A woman in New Hampshire sends a check for \$15 in the hope it will help to get a Gavin-for-President movement going. A Bostonian with a prominent name writes, "Just give me a go sign."

No one could be more astonished by this response than Gavin himself. Naturally it is flattering. And since he, too, has a most urgent sense of the need to present an alternative next year he can-

not ignore it.

As clearly as he sees the perils of sinking deeper and deeper into the trap of the escalating war, with the overhanging threat of Chinese intervention, Gavin realizes that getting out of the war will be perilous. He is convinced that only a Republican with a moderate, middle-of-the-road identity can bring it off. The danger Gavin sees is that the country will be torn apart with charges of appeasement, sell-out, the sacrifice of thousands of American lives in vain.

Appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Feb. 21, Gavin gave testimony that reads today like a prophecy of what was to come. He was not recommending, as any critic of Vietnam is immediately accused of doing, cutting and running. With 275,000 American troops in Vietnam, as he testified a year before, it would be possible to extend the task of pacification from centers of strength enlisting the full support of the South Vietnamese.

BUT in warning of the neglect of domestic needs with spending on the war constantly spiraling, the note of prophecy was strongest. "A small part of what we have spent in Vietnam in the last 10 years," Gavin testified, "if applied to our own problems here at home would have improved tremendously the conditions in our own country while at the same time we would today be in a much better condition to help others."

Because he feels a deep responsibility to do what he can to help present a clear alternative in 1968, Gavin is talking to potential Republican candidates. To say that he himself could be a candidate sounds as fantastic to him as it does to any objective observer of the confused political scene. Yet it is no more fantastic than his own career.

Born in the coal-mining area of Pennsylvania, he was orphaned at the age of two and brought up by adopted parents. Working throughout his teens he never had a formal high school education. Enlisting in the Army as a private he was admitted to West Point on merit in 1924. He rose rapidly to lieutenant general and in 1955 became the Army's chief of research and development. Following his retirement in a dispute over "massive retaliation" in the Eisenhower Administration, President John F. Kennedy named him Ambassador to France. He is today head of Arthur D. Little, a management consulting firm with an annual business of \$35,000,000 a year. Into that record have gone remarkable intellect, stamina and sureness of judgment.