

# DR. ALLEN OPPOSES NIXON WAR POLICY

President's Education Aide  
Cites Impact on Young

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WASHINGTON, May 21—Dr. James E. Allen Jr., the United States Commissioner of Education, who was appointed by President Nixon, disagreed today with the Administration over the Indochina war.

"I find it very difficult to understand the rationale of going into Cambodia and continuing the war in Vietnam," Dr. Allen told 400 applauding employes of the Office of Education.

"We must withdraw from there as rapidly as we can," he continued. "The war is having a disastrous effect on the young people of this country."

He said his opinion was "a personal one, like that of most other citizens."

Dr. Allen convened the meeting at the headquarters of the

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Department of Health, Education and Welfare, of which the Office of Education is a part, to discuss the causes of discontent in his office.

Today's meeting differed sharply from a gathering Monday in the same auditorium, at which departmental staff members hissed and booed a statement of Robert H. Finch, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, supporting the Cambodian invasion.

Ninety minutes before that session was supposed to have begun, Mr. Finch entered Walter Reed Army Hospital for treatment of what he described as a numbness in his left arm. Mr. Finch was reported to be improved today but still undergoing diagnostic tests.

In his opening remarks today, Dr. Allen said he meant to push school desegregation as forcefully as he possibly could because "we are committed to ending racial segregation in educational institutions."

He acknowledged that there had been "differences of opinion on certain matters involving school desegregation" within the Administration but added that "I intend to keep fighting as long as I think there is hope."

Dr. Allen gave his opinion of the Cambodian invasion in answer to a question.

The commissioner was also asked why he had not repudiated attacks on dissident students by the President and by Vice President Agnew.

"I don't get the attention that some Cabinet mem-

bers get," Dr. Allen replied, alluding to Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel, who again today supported the rights of students to differ with the Administration on Cambodia and Vietnam.

Dr. Allen said he did not condone violence but added that the Government must get at the roots of social unrest.

## Shortcomings Cited

The commissioner said there were shortcomings in the Office of Education that he traced to the inability to recruit high-level policy makers for what are known as Schedule C positions. These are non-civil service jobs that require political clearance procedures.

"I find it difficult to get [appointees] cleared [by Republican recruiters], Dr. Allen said. "I came here thinking I could get the best people I could find."

"There is the reality that the Administration in power, both the Democrats and the Republicans," said Dr. Allen, who is a Democrat, "wants to insist as much as possible on taking in people who have the philosophy of that party. I accept this reasoning, but I don't like it."

Dr. Allen said half a dozen key policy-making positions remained open in the Office of Education, but he added that he hoped to announce next week that two or three of them would be filled.