

I. F. Stone, at Amherst, Praises Youth

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AMHERST, Mass., June 5—The graduating seniors of Amherst College heard I. F. Stone, the Washington journalist who has espoused various radical causes, applaud their generation and attack the American military establishment today.

"I think we are very fortunate to have a generation like the present one, ready to give up academic careers and advancement," he said of the new student concern with social and political reform.

One of the 288 graduates who did not hear Mr. Stone also denounced the Nixon Administration and praise President Eisenhower, was Mr. Nixon's 22-year-old son-in-law, Dwight David Eisenhower 2d, who was graduated with honors but who spent the day at his desk in Washington where he is temporarily employed by the Washington Senators baseball club to write player profiles and compile statistics.

Last month, Mr. Eisenhower said he would not attend because he was unhappy with the choice of Mr. Stone and feared demonstrations that would embarrass his guests. He and his wife, Julie Nixon, left the campus last month when classes were canceled after the movement of United States troops into Cambodia.

This morning, the other seniors and their guests gathered in the Indoor Athletic Field. Outside, a persistent rain washed the lush rolling hills of central Massachusetts and the leaden skies seemed almost to reflect the solemn mood of the class of 1970, many of whom wore blue armbands of protest.

By the end of the morning, Mr. Stone, who never graduated from college, had an honorary doctorate of humane letters and a lusty round of applause from the seniors. He is now the editor of I. F. Stone's Bi-Weekly, a Washington news letter, and a sharp critic of the Nixon Administration.

In his speech, which was low-key and urged moderation, Mr. Stone noted that the country's

"greatest generals," George Washington and Dwight D. Eisenhower, young David Eisenhower's grandfather, had warned of the dangers of large military establishments.

"When you have a large military establishment," he said "you're going to get into trouble. It will look for a military solution to complex economic and social problems."

Military Means Criticized

"In Southeast Asia we have gotten into troubles because we are confronted with a political problem that we tried to settle by military means."

He placed some of the blame for this problem on Mr. Nixon, saying he had urged military entry into Indochina as early as 1954. "He has been emotionally tied up in this war from the beginning," Mr. Stone said.

Nevertheless, he took hope from the younger generation which he said was "revolting against other people's oppression." Even so, he found fault in their approach.

"You don't mobilize the country by telling them it has been a monolithic monster in the world," he told the college's 149th graduating class. "There is no use in making things worse by slipshod analogies and metaphors."

He said that America was not fascist — it's a free country" and urged youth not to "do what we claim Spiro Agnew is doing and polarize the country."

After Mr. Stone spoke, the diplomas were handed out by Dr. Calvin H. Plimpton, the president of Amherst, who announced on Wednesday that he would resign next year.

Applause and Boos

When Mr. Eisenhower's name was called, a mixture of applause, boos and hisses filled the cavernous fieldhouse. His diploma will be mailed. His honors thesis was an analysis of "The Emerging Republican Majority."

Many of Mr. Eisenhower's classmates expressed irritation at his absence. "It is a snub to us as much as anyone else

that he did not want to come to our commencement," said Robert S. Nathan of St. Louis. "I know David and I like him. It hurts me. He should have been here. Nobody ever hassled him here."

This view was disputed, however, by Chris Greene of Buffalo, and his wife, Carol, who are close friends of the Eisenhower couple.

"I think it's too bad he was chased out of here," he said, adding that Mr. Eisenhower had been subjected to written and oral insults for some time at Amherst. "He wanted to come — he was very disappointed."

In his charge to the seniors, Dr. Plimpton issued an eloquent defense of the role of college. "Our disapproval of events in Cambodia and racism have led us to strike at the nearest and flimsiest of all institutions, a college," he said.

"I have been troubled by the inconsistency in our behavior. We have tried to throw away what we now have, however imperfect it may be, simply to express our outrage at what is happening elsewhere."