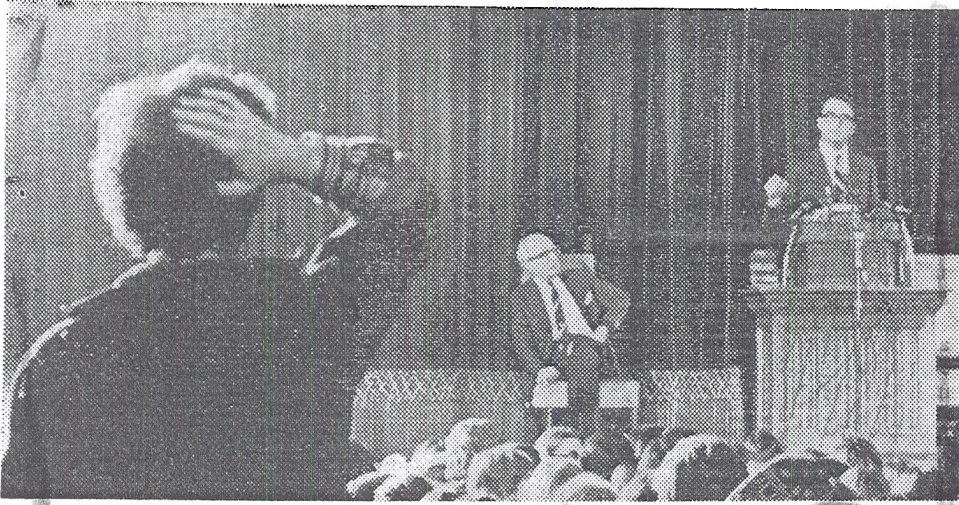


Students Hostile to Justice Official



Joyce Dopkeen for The New York Times

Assistant Attorney General William D. Ruckelshaus responding to question from the audience in Chapin Auditorium at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Mass.

By ROBERT REINHOLD
Special to The New York Times

SOUTH HADLEY, Mass., Oct. 20 — "Toward what constructive end did the Justice Department request 1,000 more F.B.I. agents," a student asked in an accusing tone, suggesting that they were mainly intended for use on college campuses.

On the stage of Chapin Auditorium at Mount Holyoke College, William D. Ruckelshaus, the tall, 38-year-old Assistant Attorney General, gazed tight-lipped through television lights over a largely hostile and skeptical audience of 1,200 students from five central Massachusetts colleges.

"The vast majority will be used against organized crime and airline hijacking" the Federal official responded. He added that the rest of the additional Federal Bureau of Investigation agents sought by President Nixon would be employed in all the various areas of law enforcement, not just campus problems.

The exchange occurred last night during the first of 51 campus meetings designed "to improve communications" between the Justice Department and an increasingly antagonistic student population. The result was an hour and a half of free-wheeling — if sometimes confused — debate on issues that included civil rights, law enforcement & drugs, academic freedom and women's rights.

Two Months of Touring

The project will take top Justice Department officials to colleges and universities throughout the country during October and November. Eleven sessions have already been scheduled and the rest are being arranged.

Except for some mild heckling, Mr. Ruckelshaus, who heads the department's Civil Division, was received politely here by the students, who came from Mount Holyoke, Amherst, Hampshire, Smith and the University of Massachusetts. In fact, he was given a good round of applause at the end.

Still, he conceded to newsmen later, "it wasn't exactly a standing ovation." He added that "a good many there said nothing and listened — I hope we would reach the rational people who are in the large majority."

The students went away with mixed feelings. Michael Nazar, a freshman at Amherst, left feeling "very unsatisfied" because of the "rhetoric" on both sides. "He evaded every issue," the student said of Mr. Ruckelshaus.

But most people, especially Mount Holyoke's president, David B. Truman, seemed to be grateful that the Princeton and Harvard educated lawyer was not shouted off the stage, as some had feared.

The session began after a 10-minute skit in which the Justice Department was "indicted" and "tried" in a mock ceremony. Mr. Ruckelshaus, who ran unsuccessfully as a Republican for the Senate in 1968 against Senator Birch Bayh of Indiana, went directly into questions.

He was questioned at length about civil rights. Asked to explain the recent resignations of some lawyers in the department's civil rights division, Mr. Ruckelshaus said there was "no more than the usual attrition" in the department and added that there were "differences of opinion" in every department.

When pressed on the suit filed yesterday by civil rights forces charging the Government with "calculated default" in enforcing school integration, Mr. Ruckelshaus said he believed the Justice Department was making "every effort" to enforce the laws and said that 800 school districts had been integrated this year.

This brought shouts of "It's called the Southern strategy."

Preventive Detention Query

A youth in a yellow shirt asked for the difference between the preventive detention clause of the President's new crime bill and the bills of attainder outlawed by the Constitution.

Mr. Ruckelshaus explained that under the preventive detention measure a man could be detained for 60 days before trial only if a judge through due process determined he was dangerous.

The youth persisted; he said, "The Constitution says he is innocent until proven guilty." To this, Mr. Ruckelshaus answered that the accused was entitled to a full hearing and in some cases, such as drug addiction. It is certain he will commit more crime if released.

Still unsatisfied, the student said, "It seems to me that concludes he is guilty of the first crime."

Mr. Ruckelshaus was accused of evasiveness when he

pleaded ignorance on a number of legal cases the students said they had read about in The New York Times. After the newspaper was referred to several times, he said, "I don't believe The New York Times is the final repository of all wisdom." This prompted a rousing cheer, and tensions seemed to ebb a bit.

Later, a student with a large mustache, declared that "everybody's turning on" and charged that the Government was cracking down on marijuana while doing little to stop the importation of hard drugs, like heroin.

At this point, someone lit up a "joint" of marijuana and started to pass it around. A haze of sweet smoke wafted over the front of the audience beneath Mr. Ruckelshaus's eyes. He replied that those who believe marijuana is harmless should attempt to convince a special Government commis-

sion that is studying the problem.

After some discussion of the legalities of the "no knock" provision of the anticrime bill, a youth in a denim shirt said: "I expected you to answer in a legalistic way, but it is divorced from the reality of how the tools are used. I find it hard to believe the threat of evidence being destroyed supercedes the right of privacy."

After hearty applause, the lawyer said, "You may have put your finger on the problem here. You believe giving power to any police officer is a big mistake because it will be misused. I'm not going to deny power will be misused—this is always true. The question is does this kind of power make sense."

Then followed shouts charging a conspiracy against the Black Panther party. Mr. Ruckelshaus denied it flatly.

One-hour tape broadcast by KPFA 5 Feb 71:

11:00
BENDING OVER
BACKWARDS:
THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
ON TOUR

The Justice Dept. decided it needed to improve relations with students. So Assistant Attorney General William Ruckelshaus was dispatched to Mt. Holyoke. This program, provided by WFCR in Amherst, a Pacifica affiliate, illustrates why the project was called off after one performance.

Earlier stories filed
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3, 30 Sep 70. ~ x ~