

'Repression'

Nixon Youth Aide Resigns

Washington

The 25-year-old liaison man between the Nixon Administration and the Nation's students quit yesterday to protest what he called high officials' implied approval of "even the most vicious tactics" against legitimate dissent.

Anthony J. Moffett, appointed last September to head a new office of students and youth by education commissioner James E. Allen, said his resignation was prompted by "what I fear is a very dangerous attitude in our country."

"The recent remarks by the President concerning student protestors were most instrumental in my decision," Moffett said.

"For they confirmed what thousands of students have believed or suspected for some time: namely, that the President and his most trusted advisers do not view themselves as leaders of all the American people; that they do not have the best interests of youth in mind; and, most tragically, that they will sanction even the most vicious tactics against young people and other legitimate political dissenters."

Moffett said the "increasingly repressive character of this administration" continually undercut his efforts to convince young people to work for change through existing channels.

When Allen appointed him, the commissioner described his job as that of an "advocate for youth within the office of education."

But Moffett said "high ranking officials" of the department of Health, Education and Welfare were "often more concerned with protecting what they perceived to be the political interests of the President" and other administration officials than with problems of the young.

He did not name the officials, but made it clear he did not refer to either Allen or HEW Secretary Robert H. Finch. He said that in a conversation with Finch yesterday morning, "I sensed . . . as I had sensed before that he is very, very troubled indeed about what he is going to do."

A Syracuse University graduate from Suffolk, Conn., Moffett said he made his decision after the President's move into Cambodia and after Mr. Nixon referred to student protestors as "bums."

He said it was a "very personal kind of decision" and that none of the other 11 members of his staff planned to resign, although the entire staff "has been doing a great deal of reflecting" about the effectiveness of their efforts.

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AP Wirephoto

ANTHONY J. MOFFETT
'Vicious tactics against dissent'