

## Strong Words For the Grads



The split in student concerns was evident among the Stanford

# Stanford Speakers Blast

By Robert Bartlett

Both Richard W. Lyman, Stanford's president, and the principal speaker at the university's 83rd commencement yesterday sharply attacked the Nixon administration on Watergate and the continued bombing of Cambodia.

Some 2400 graduating seniors and post-graduate students interrupted the speakers frequently with applause during the two-hour, outdoor ceremony at the Laurence Frost Amphitheater on the Stanford campus in Palo Alto.

The audience of 10,000 parents, alumni and friends was attentive, polite but far less enthusiastic about markedly blunt speeches than the cheering graduates.

Every available seat was taken in the outdoor amphitheater, warmed by a bril-

liant sun. Graduates, happy but obviously uncomfortable in their heavy, rented caps and gowns, occupied rows of folding chairs nearest the speakers' podium.

Behind the graduates sat their proud, usually conservatively-dressed parents. Only a few small children were restless, fleeing their seats to find shade in the tree-lined entrances to the graduation ceremony.

The guest speaker, John U. Monro — director of freshman studies at Miles College, a black institution in Birmingham, Ala. — noted that yesterday was the first anniversary of the Watergate burglary.

The scale of the Watergate scandal, Monro asserted, is educating the American public about a 40-year drift away from a republican form of government to "an elective form of monarchy

— or, if you will, a modified dictatorship."

"Certain greedy and unscrupulous individuals Monro said, are trying "to establish control over our government, over the greatest profit-making machine of all time — USA, Inc. . . ."

He urged the graduates to begin a "great revolutionary effort" to return the control of the American government to "the people."

### POLICE

Otherwise, Monro warned, Stanford's class of 1973 would live "under a form of monarchy, propped up by a fat, determined, military-

industrial establishment, protected by an in-house Justice Department and by the world's most formidable apparatus of secret police, and sold to us all daily by an overpowered and manipulated press . . ."

Much of Monro's speech emphasized the gains made by America's black minority during the past ten years. Stanford's graduates, he said, must make the same intense, skillful efforts as black people to return America's government to the public.

Monro, a white man, left a Harvard deanship in 1967 to



grads— from political protest to ape masks to bubble-blowing  
*Photos by Vincent Maggiora*

# Nixon on Scandal

move to Miles College and help that school improve its educational program for poor, southern blacks.

"No educator of any similar stature," Stanford's President Lyman said, "ever before had put his money where his mouth was. . ."

## DISCLOSURES

Lyman's talk concentrated on his concern over the Watergate disclosures.

"Neither venality nor cynicism are exactly new phenomena," Lyman said, "though our present circumstances do suggest a high

tide of both that surpasses all previous high watermarks in the history of this Republic."

But the educator cautioned that Stanford graduates, and the rest of the American public, "should concentrate on institutional reforms, rather than allowing our energies to become totally absorbed in the cops-and-robbers aspects of the case."

## ETHICS

He urged the graduates to work for reform, to "create circumstances in which it is vastly more difficult to be unethical."

"The political process as it now functions," Lyman said, quoting John Gardner of Common Cause, "invites corruption — makes it easy, and makes it pay. This must be changed."

Both Lyman and Monro also excoriated the Nixon administration for continued use of the U.S. Air Force to bomb military targets in Cambodia. Lyman departed from his prepared text to term the bombings "immoral."

Stanford awarded 4325 bachelor's and advanced degrees yesterday.