

February 18, 1969

Triton Times

Rush to Judgment

The decision of Chancellor McGill to "extend the courtesy of allowing the Regents to review his decision" to rehire Professor Herbert Marcuse has been criticized by several groups as a failure to exercise his delegated authority as Chancellor. Some students have charged that McGill has "needlessly surrendered a vital prerogative of the academic community" in his failure to resolutely present Marcuse's signed contract to the Regents.

Chancellor McGill had several possible alternatives with respect to the question of Marcuse's reappointment. One such alternative was to terminate his contract. This approach would have been highly satisfactory to the political forces presently in control of the Board of Regents. Secondly, McGill could have presented a signed contract as part of his announcement on Sunday. This would have essentially dared the Regents to reverse his decision. He also could have stated at the press conference that he would resign in the event that his decision was overturned. Such actions would have left McGill open to charges of "railroading the decision in defiance of the people of California," thereby provoking a violent reaction on the part of the Regents. It is highly likely in this case that the Regents would have reacted by firing both the Chancellor and Professor Marcuse.

The results of the action that he did take are that the Regents are relatively free from overwhelming pressure and may either ignore the Chancellor's invitation to consider his decision, accept his recommendation, or else reverse the recommendation. In the event that his decision is overturned, McGill is left with the option of resigning in support of the interests of the university, or accepting the Regents' decision, at which time we the students will be free to react accordingly. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT OUR JUDGMENT OF THE CHANCELLOR'S ACTIONS BE WITHHELD UNTIL THE REGENTS' MEETING THIS FRIDAY, at which time we will be able to evaluate the ultimate wisdom of his policy.

As has been frequently observed by many eminent historians, the real forces behind any event in society are often hidden from immediate view. This belief is surely applicable to the present controversy in which it is certain that all the relevant facts have not yet been divulged. In light of this, it seems senseless to act now. Rather we should wait until such time as we are addressing ourselves to facts, rather than mere speculation.

Stull Wires Congratulations

Editor's Note: The following is the text of a telegram sent by Assemblyman John Stull to Chancellor McGill and members of the Board of Regents regarding the reappointment of Dr. Marcuse.

With the rehiring of Marcuse, UCSD Chancellor William McGill has openly placed himself on the side of those elements which seek to destroy our society and turn the University of California into a battleground.

Marcuse has issued a call to arms to all students to engage in guerilla warfare and sabotage as steps toward a left wing dictatorship. In his support of

Marcuse, McGill has proven he is unqualified to hold his position and must take a full share of responsibility for underwriting campus disorder and attempting to destroy the university system.

As it is your duty to preserve and protect this system I ask your immediate dismissal of William McGill as Chancellor of UCSD. With this irresponsible action, McGill has proven he is unfit for the high trust placed in him.

John Stull, Assemblyman 80th District unquote.

Copies to all Regents, copy to Dr. William McGill.

John Stull, Assemblyman 80th District

Marcuse Rehired

Chancellor William McGill announced Sunday his intention to rehire Dr. Marcuse for the 69-70 academic year. He revealed that the report of the secret Ad Hoc faculty committee of five members had, after five months study, found Marcuse to be "one of the leading philosophers in the world, and a teacher of remarkable ability."

McGill has since come under fire from several quarters, and the finality of his statement seems to still be in doubt. McGill said that he has not yet signed Marcuse's contract for he wished to extend the Regents the "courtesy" of reviewing his decision.

Several campus groups have since released statements con-

AS Senate Supports McGill

The following resolution was passed by the ASUCSD Senate during last Monday's meeting. It was introduced by AS President Tom Shepard and passed by a vote of five to zero, with one abstention.

Whereas the Associated Students, University of California, San Diego recognizes the political pressures which Chancellor William McGill resisted in his reappointment of Dr. Herbert Marcuse; and

Whereas Chancellor McGill's decision to reappoint Dr. Marcuse seems to us to be based on the strongest possible academic grounds; and

Whereas the Chancellor's decision has resulted in increased political harassment by individuals whose interests in the university are antithetical to the principle of free intellectual inquiry;

Therefore be it resolved that the ASUCSD, as representatives of the students of the University of California, San Diego, supports Chancellor McGill's decision to reappoint Dr. Marcuse.



McGill announces Marcuse decision at Sunday press conference. (Photo by Jeff Benjamin)

demning McGill for this delay. They also expressed dissatisfaction with McGill's announcement that in the future a mandatory retirement age would be established to avoid further confusion.

Other reaction to the Marcuse decision came from Assemblyman John Stull, who called for McGill's dismissal in a telegram sent to all the Regents.

Harry Foster, American Legion Judge Advocate, declared that his post will watch and report Marcuse's every move, and would demand that the Legislature cut \$25,000 from UCSD's budget, the amount of Marcuse's salary. Foster expressed regret that McGill "didn't have the stamina to resist student and faculty pressure."

Dr. Marcuse released a statement yesterday expressing his satisfaction that McGill had made his decision on the basis of academic merit. He also voiced some disappointment in the delay of his formal rehiring, but vowed to resist any further pressure brought to bear upon him.

The Marcuse decision should be settled once and for all at the Regents' meeting this week. McGill does not intend to, nor can he, bring the matter up at the meeting, but it is almost certain that the Regents will.

Funds for this special edition of the Triton Times were appropriated by the AS Senate Monday night. The Times will publish Friday, as usual, with further developments in the Marcuse matter.