

Coffin: Exercise Rights When Most Offensive

William Sloane Coffin Jr. made a series of appearances on the SA campus Tuesday: an after-supper talk, an evening public address, and a post-lecture question and answer period in Kings Mountain Hall.

Coffin responded to a question on military recruitment following Tuesday night's dinner. "There is a distinction between right of free speech on academic grounds and privilege of recruitment for the convenience of students." He went on to say that military recruiters have no right to be on campus; that their function is not to educate but to provide a service. If the majority of students do not desire the privilege and convenience of a military recruiter on campus, then the recruiter has no choice but to go elsewhere. But if a recruiter were invited to speak on the relative merits of the army by a group of students on campus, then this would be an exercise of rights.

This distinction between rights and privileges does much to justify Coffin's actions in his own mind. His motto, so to speak, is that the exercise of inalienable rights is most effective when they are most offensive. Underlying his concept of rights is his freedom to exercise his rights. "If you believe what you are doing is morally right," tactily, if you are free from the fear of the consequences that may befall you for actions, "then you are free to act upon your rights." Hence Coffin began his efforts to resist what he described as the violence done to the integrity of the individual. This effort took many different forms. In terms of draft resistance he, along with Benjamin Spock and Marcus Ruskin, among others, decided that non-violent protest against the draft could be demonstrated through the return of draft cards to the Department of Justice. Once the

draft resisters had made up their minds to disobey the law on mandatory possession of draft cards, then Coffin felt justified in acting as a representative of them, and a bearer of the consequences of his and their actions.

William Coffin pursued another aspect of violence due to the integrity of the individual in his public address in Avinget Auditorium. The role of orthodox Christianity in the framework of the political society is ultimate, Coffin described orthodox Christianity thusly: "This is a new world in a new time. What we need to do is renew a frontier religion in terms of time. Orthodox Christianity is a religion of hope, which is neither optimistic nor pessimistic, but a driving force to do what you think is morally good. It stresses the integrity of love . . . The ethics of perfection are the ethics of survival in this society which orthodox Christianity must begin to oversee."

Rev. Coffin drew upon the analogy of Exodus to portray where man and this nation are today.

Within this analogy, Coffin made several observations on the state of man today. Fundamental to his ideas is his concept of the free individual. "Most people are not free and have no expectation of being

YOUR QUESTIONS ON ABORTION CAN ONLY BE FULLY ANSWERED BY PROFESSIONALS
 CALL (215) 878-5800
 24 hours 7 days
 FOR TOTALLY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.
 Legal Abortions Without Delay

free. When a person appears to be free, the response to him is to stifle his expression of freedom, not to achieve his type of freedom." "The opposite of love is not hatred but fear. Love seeks the truth; fear seeks safety." "What we fear is not the evil in us, but we fear the good in us because it demands so much of us to take advantage of it." "We hate evil and injustice more than we love the good and just." "Don't feel guilty when you do not know what to do. What you do when you don't know what to do is most important."

Following his lecture, Coffin attempted to answer questions from the floor. In response to a question regarding the disillusionment of to-

day's youth and of people generally, he said, "who the hell gave you the right to have those illusions about society? The US has lost a generation in the sixties due to disillusionment and frustration." "You do what you think is right, irregardless of the consequences involving you, and of what is going to be effective." Coffin did not think that he would affect what is happening in Viet Nam. "I want to bear witness to the evil of it."

Retiring to Dick Prust's apartment to continue discussion, Coffin responded to a number of questions. He spoke very highly of the Berrigan brothers, who are currently serving sentences for bloody-

ing draft records at a local draft board, for their non-violent demonstration of conscience against the war.

He also spoke very sympathetically toward the Black Panthers whom he feels are being blatantly persecuted; he does not support the violent crimes of the Black Panthers, but does understand their frustrations and fears toward police. "When 40 High Point police are sent to pick up 4 Black Panthers whose ages range only from 14 to 19 years, then they have the right to be scared."

William Coffin carried on most of the evening in his own inimitable way. His humor and strong personality left an imprint on this college which will long be remembered.

Rodgers ABC Store

FINE WINES

OPEN SUNUP TO SUNDOWN

Liebfraumilch Glockenspiel

Tinta Ruby Port

Tina Tawny Port

Almaden Wines

Cold Duck

Rhineskeller

Taylor Wines

Mogen David

Christian Brothers

Chianti

Champagne

Swiss Up

Cocktail Sherry

Lejon

Swiss Colony

McColl, S. C. **PHONE 523-5841**

GIBSON

This One Is Really For The Birds!

BREWSTER MC CLOUD




SEE "BM" TODAY!
 Rated "R" Color Shows 3-5-7-9

276-2244 • DOWNTOWN LAURINBURG
 Starts Wed. "Little Fauss & Big Halsey" In Color

CENTER

THEY AIMED HIM AT CORDOBA'S FORTRESS,
 AND PULLED THE TRIGGER!
 The Army Followed To Pick Up The Pieces!

"CANNON FOR CORDOBA"



GEORGE PEPPARD • DON GORDON
 ACTION STARTS TOMORROW!
 RATED "GP" SHOWS 1-3-5-7-9 IN COLOR

276-2935 • DOWNTOWN LAURINBURG
 NOW LAST DAY "ROSEMARY'S BABY" In Color!!

A happy kind of taste!



When the occasion calls for something special. Or when there's no occasion at all, treat yourself to a Pizza Inn pizza. It's a happy kind of taste.

Carefully prepared from a secret recipe and heaped high with your favorite cheeses, olives, mushrooms, meats and sausages. That's Pizza Inn pizza. That's a happy kind of taste.

Put Pizza Inn your fun.

Your Favorite Beverage



ROCKINGHAM — ON U.S. 74
 Across from Richmond Plaza Shopping Center