

## Powell Says Letter Is Personal Opinion

By DON CAMPBELL  
DTH Staff Writer

"The opinions I signed my name to are mine alone," Student Body President Bob Powell said yesterday, in discussing the open letter sent to President Johnson last week expressing concern about the Vietnam war.

The letter was signed by 100 student leaders from 100 colleges and universities throughout the United States.

"I didn't sign the letter on behalf of the University or of Student Government," Powell said, "I signed it for myself."

The letter, sent to the White House on Thursday, has received wide attention in newspapers and magazines throughout the country.

Powell said the letter was not intended to criticize or embarrass the president.

"The letter is basically a report of a growing feeling among students," he said.

Powell said, "I sincerely believe there is a growing disaffection with the war and especially with the draft."

The text of the student leaders' letter to President Johnson may be found on page 6.

The letter was simply an expression of growing concern with the war.

"There is not the onerous stigma attached to trying to avoid the draft today, that there was in previous wars," he continued, "I think this is because of the nature of this war."

The war just doesn't seem important enough to die for, Powell added.

The story behind the letter has been widely confused, according to Powell.

The idea of the letter arose during the conference of the National Student Association last summer at the University of Illinois.

There was a discussion at the meeting about "who is most effective in protesting the conduct of war, liberals or radicals?"

It was decided, Powell said, that "responsible action could be more effective than using the rhetoric of the New Left."

Al Lowenstein, a former president of the NSA and a



Bob Powell

graduate of UNC suggested the writing of the letter. Lowenstein is now a practicing lawyer and a Reform Democrat in Brooklyn, N. Y.

The delegates debated the suggestion, but could not agree on the wording of the letter. Some 200 of the delegates met after the general meeting, at 2 o'clock in the morning. They invited Lowenstein to attend and make suggestions.

Powell said the group stayed up "all night" drafting the letter and distributed it to the 200 delegates the next morning. The delegates were asked to sign the letter and mark a box indicating whether they would "sign seen or sign unseen" in case the letter was redrafted.

A steering committee, composed of student leaders in the Northeast, was picked to make further drafts of the letter during the fall.

Drafts were then sent out to the delegates, asking to them to make any corrections they wished.

By the 1st of November, Powell said, the final draft was made. Student leaders in different regions of the country were then asked to distribute the letter to student leaders in their region, giving them the opportunity to sign the letter.

By December 1st, 175 signatures had been received, 90 of them student body presidents.

The steering committee wished to have 100 student

body president signatures, and by Christmas that number had been reached.

"I was really surprised at the reaction in the South," Powell said. "Six people in this state signed the letter, four of them student body presidents."

"Some people may try to connect the letter with the NSA," Powell said, "But there's no connection."

"The letter was signed on an individual basis," he said, "Everyone who signed it had the chance to make any corrections in the letter to suit them."

"Furthermore, the letter is considerably more moderate, than the resolution on Vietnam passed at the NSA convention."

Does Powell expect an answer to the letter?

"We would like for the President to respond publicly," Powell said. "We tried to be honest in writing the letter and we certainly hope to hear from him."

"As we noted in the letter to the President," Powell continued, "In a speech to the student interns last year, the President said he recognized and discussed problems that have been troubling members of our generation."

"We took this opportunity to discuss some of our thoughts. This is a report to him on how we feel about the war."

### Photo Finish At

Wake Forest  
See Page 5



THE FIRST WEEKLY peace watch was held yesterday noon in the chilly drizzle that sprinkled the some 100 to 150 silent protesters that stood for the lunch hour in a line that stretched from the post office corner up Franklin Street

to Suttons Drug Store. The peace watch was sponsored by the Chapel Hill Friends and was open to anyone wishing to join in the silent protest to the war.

—DTH Photo by Jock Lauterer

## French Teachers Applaud Hardre For Long Service

Prof. Jacques Hardre, chairman of the Department of Romance Languages was singled out for special recognition at a meeting of the American Association of Teachers of French just concluded in New York.

Hardre was presented a silver tray for "distinguished services to the American Association of Teachers of French from 1949-1966."

The tray is inscribed with signatures of Hardre's collaborators over the past 17 years on the Executive Council of the Association.

Hardre is a past president of the Association. The Assembly of Delegates further honored him in voting to amend the Association's Constitution so that he might remain on the Executive Council for a two-year term.

Prof. David M. Dougherty of the University of Oregon, president of the Association, appointed Hardre chairman of a committee to review functions and structure of the Association and to make recommendations for changes and formulate plans for the future of the organization.

## Pep Rally

There will be a pep rally at noon on Saturday in front of Carmichael Auditorium before the team leaves for Duke. All the cheerleaders and the Pep Band will be present. The rally is sponsored by the junior class.

## State Offers

### 25 Student

### Internships

Twenty-five college juniors will be selected for this year's N. C. State Government Summer Internship Program.

They may attend college either within or outside the state, but must be N. C. residents.

The 11-week Internship Program is a blend of work and study.

After an orientation week, participants will combine a 40-hour week in a state department with two evening seminars a week on the N. C. State campus.

The seminars are led by state officials, agency heads, and university professors, and deal with the political, social, cultural, and economic facets of North Carolina.

Interns will be paid \$75 a week while gaining three semester hours of credit at N. C. State.

The Internship Program is not limited to those students definitely entering the field of public service.

It will begin June 6 and continue through August 18. The Institute of Government will again be responsible for the program, as it has been since 1962 at the program's start.

The program was begun to encourage an interest in state government in North Carolina college and university students.

It retains that objective, while adding the second of helping students to contribute to the various branches of state government.

Application forms for the Summer Internship Program may be obtained from college placement offices, departments of business, government, history, or political science in North Carolina colleges or universities, local offices of the N. C. Employment Security Commission, and the N. C. State Personnel Department.

## Vietnamese General Awaits Further Orders

By MIKE MCGEE  
Special To The DTH

General Nguyen Chanh Thi, former commander of I Corps, Army of the Republic of Vietnam, is living in an exclusive apartment house on Connecticut Avenue in Washington.

This is the man who has led his army in Central Vietnam to many victories against the Communist guerrillas.

This is also the man who played a large part in the unsuccessful struggle by army units and the Buddhist hierarchy against the Ky government last March.

The general's apartment is a comfortable one, but the walls are bare, the furniture simple. The only break from the military-like austerity is a portrait, on an end table, of the general in his uniform.

The forty-three-year-old Thi presents a very imposing appearance, in spite of his small stature. Though he speaks very good English his aide, a graduate of Baylor University, acts as translator.

When does Thi plan to return to Vietnam? "In August I received orders from my government to go to the United States for five months. Now I wait for orders to go back to Saigon after January." He doesn't know what he will be doing when he returns, but hopes to be able to serve in the military.

Does he have any ambitions for politics? "I have always been a soldier; I do not think about detailed political problems, but only about how to win in the field."

But the struggle against the government last March was surely a political problem, wasn't it?

He explained that as commander of I Corps he was naturally required to work very closely with the people and with the government. Because he always worked for the best interests of the people, they liked him.

Suddenly, in March, he received orders to report back to the Saigon government. The people didn't like his

being removed. When he returned to his headquarters after a meeting in Saigon, great crowds of people were there to receive him.

The people feared that the government of Premier Ky was becoming a dictatorship.

"The Vietnamese lived for one century under French rule, then for nine years under the oppression of Diem; there are

many Communists coming to Vietnam now.

"There are no strong political parties in Vietnam because all the leaders were killed over the years. The people were right in wanting to form a popular party against the Communists which would represent all the people. The people require a popular government."

The general insists that there was no organization to start the demonstrations against the Ky regime. It was a "spontaneous effort by the people," which he felt it was his duty to support.

The people wanted the government to be voted by the public, and still insist on this.

But he knew, and argued to this effect with the rebels, that any requirement upon the government by themselves should be quiet and disciplined, because disorder is good for the communists.

General Thi does not talk like a man who has participated in a struggle which was a failure. He speaks confidently about slow progress toward democracy in his country.

"We hope, step by step, with the help of America, to advance to a democracy.

"So far, we have a parliament elected by the people; finally we hope that the leadership in Vietnam should be useful. Those leaders who love their country should be used."

"As for me, I only hope to fight the Communists in the field. I am a soldier."

General Thi fought with the French Army in the years before the Geneva settlement. He was imprisoned by the Communists in 1946 and 1948, but escaped both times.



The General

## 120 Protest In Viet Vigil

By DON CAMPBELL  
DTH Staff Writer

More than 120 University students and Chapel Hill townspeople stood in silent vigil on the sidewalk in front of the Post Office yesterday to protest the war in Vietnam.

The vigil started at noon, with the protesters forming a single file line which gradually lengthened along the outside of the sidewalk towards the center of town.

For 60 minutes the protesters stood quietly, while television cameramen had a field day. At 1 o'clock, each protester shook hands with participants on either side and walked away.

All those asked said they would be back next Wednesday and every Wednesday thereafter until the fighting stops.

The idea of the peace vigil was first advanced by Dr. Charles Hubbel, a former graduate student here who now teaches at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

According to Professor Robert Gwyn, of the Radio, Television and Motion Picture Department, Hubbel wrote the Friends Meeting

## Sophomores Will Discuss New Major

Carolina's newest undergraduate major field of study, along with many of the traditional majors, will be discussed in the series of major seminars for sophomores which begin tonight.

The newest major is American Studies. Designed to eliminate departmental barriers, the new study deals with the interrelationships of the literature, science, history, sociology, economy and politics of the American culture.

American Studies will be discussed tonight with other social sciences — political science, economics, sociology, psychology, anthropology and geography.

Tonight's seminar and those which follow will begin with an introduction to the general field, and then the participants will divide into groups based on the various subjects to discuss requirements for a major in the field.

Dr. Richard Lyon will discuss the American Studies major. Other professors who will speak tonight are Dr. David Lapkin, economics; Dr. Frank Cloak, anthropology; Dr. David Basile, geography; Dr. Lewis Lipsitz, political science; Dr. Richard Cramer, sociology; Dr. Marcus Waller, psychology.

Each participant was handed a sheet with suggestions on conduct to be observed in the vigil.

It began simply: "Until Americans stop killing and being killed in Vietnam a silent vigil every Wednesday noon to express our sorrow and our protest."

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