Former U.S. Senator Beams Into Lecture Hall

McGovern Discusses Vietnam Involvement
From D.C. Satellite

By Brooke Nelson
Staff Writer

Voting for the Tonkin Gulf Resolution was George McGovern's biggest regret in 18 years as a legislator, the former senator and one-time presidential candidate told a Campbell Hall Class Tuesday.

In the first live satellite interview in UC history, McGovern discussed where American policies went wrong during the Vietnam War, stressing that the resolution authorizing limited use of force in the region was never meant to be a declaration of war.

"We don't want to end the war," McGovern told the packed Religious Studies 155 classroom. The renowned class, taught by religious studies Professor Walter Capps, studies the religious impact of the Vietnam War.

"We were told it was not a declaration of war and would not lead to an escalation of the war. I didn't see the resolution as a blank check to escalate the war, but that's the way it was used," he said.

Capps joined McGovern and a group of UCSB students in a Washington, D.C., television studio, while students in Campbell Hall questioned the former senator from a telephone hook-up.

"We couldn't have found anyone more qualified to speak about Vietnam than George McGovern," Capps told the class. McGovern, now director of the Middle East Policy Council in the nation's capital, ran against Richard Nixon in the 1972 presidential election.

Because the Vietnam conflict was never officially declared a war, the 1964 Tonkin Gulf Resolution was often interpreted by policymakers as Congress' approval of the war, McGovern said.

"Cheadle 200"

First Stage of Protesters' Sit-in Trials Almost Over

By Ross French
Staff Writer

The "Cheadle 200" has just become the Cheadle One. When defendant Helen Meloy pleaded no contest to a charge of disturbing the peace in Municipal Court Tuesday, rather than fight the charges of 188 other left graduate Kate Lundquist only the remaining member of the initial 186 arrests who hasn't resolved her case.

However, Lundquist will also take part in the trial, according to her attorney, Claire Curtice.

The Cheadle Four, from a peace demonstration on the eve of the Persian Gulf War last year, when hundreds of students staged a sit-in at Cheadle Hall.

Tuesday's proceedings brought the first phase of the case to a close. Of the original 186 arrests, 12 were found guilty of trespassing and 181 pleaded no contest to the lesser charge. All but one, however, are still waiting for the appeal.

Four protesters have failed to appear and are being sought on warrants.

Judge Harry Lobeg told prosecutor Jeff Gitter that he owed the defense attorneys and their clients "a great deal of thanks" for not pursuing a jury trial. Thus far, the court has cost the county around $100,000.

Focus now shifts to the appeal of 11 of the initial convictions. Under an agreement presented by Judge Lobeg, if any of those convictions are overturned, all of the 186 cases will be thrown out.

If the verdicts are upheld, then the protesters will be hit with a $100 fine, which they can either pay or work off by 16 hours of community service. They will serve no actual probation, and the infraction will only stay on their record for three years.

"It's just like a traffic ticket," explained Lobeg during the proceedings.

The paperwork for the appeal should be turned over to the Superior Court in about a week, with a ruling expected anywhere from one to six months down the road.

Despite accepting the plea bargain, the entire case struck a disappointing chord with Meloy.

"I think it's a fraud," she said. "I had to plead guilty to disturbing the peace when what we were doing was just a political demonstration for peace," Meloy said. "What this says to me is that the cost of speaking out is very high."
Public Education Head- on Campus
This Month to Meet With Students

By Don Frances
Reporter

The nation's schools are struggling to stand out while politicians and the public
stand by and watch, a leader in public edu-
cation said Tuesday at the MultiCultural
Center
Ernest Boyer, president of the Carnegie
Foundation for the Advancement of
Teaching, will be in residence at the de-
partment of education throughout the
month pondering on his knowledge and out-
spoken views to faculty and students.
"You can't have an island of excellence in
a sea of indifference," he said at the
Tuesday press conference.

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SENATOR
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When McGovern real-
ized that American policy-
makers had no intention
of withdrawing troops from
Vietnam he began to critic-
ze the war in 1965. He said
the Cold War blinded many
politicians to the history of
the Vietnamese conflict, and
that the Ho Chi Minh,
North Vietnam's Commu-
nist leader, was primarily a
nationalist.
"We bought the line that
the Vietnamese were
stools of Red China," Mc-
Govern said. "We failed
to realize that we were bumping
up against the George
Washington of Vietnam."
McGovern said Vietnam
has been a "burning experi-
cence" in the American con-
science. "The leading super-
power was defeated by a
country with one-third the
resources of the United
States," he said.
McGovern added that
the Persian Gulf War was
generally seen as a cure for
the "Vietnam Syndrome," but
expressed concern about
such an attitude.
"Once again, we don't
have to exercise the caution
and restraint of the Vietnam
War," he said.
McGovern emphasized
the importance of organiza-
tions such as the United Na-
tions in ensuring that uni-
ternational actions are restrai-
ned by international consensus.
The U.S. can avoid future
conflicts like Vietnam if stu-
dents become more politi-
cally active, McGovern
said. He noted the role of
public opinion in ending
the Vietnam War, and
agreed with a student that
many anti-war protesters
altered the public by at-
tacking soldiers.
"It was a civilian-planned
war. The officials were
elected and appointed," he
said. "It was a costly mistake
to attack the soldiers who
were, in some sense, victi-
mans."
"It's important for people
to realize that their votes,
and their knowledge, are
important in determining
what kinds of leaders we
have," McGovern said.
Students in the class en-
joyed the lecture, saying it
was an informative and
entertaining way to present
the class.
"I've never heard from
anyone in the political
realm who felt the way I feel
about the Vietnam War," said
Loi Shapiro, a senior sociol-
ogy major. "This gives us a chance to talk to
people who are more directly
related to the policies."

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