

Preluding Moratorium, Teach-in Attracts Many

By BILL SCHUR

A "Teach-in on Survival" presented as a prelude to today's Vietnam moratorium drew a capacity audience last night at the Top of the Hop. A slate of 16 speakers ranging from a housewife to an ecologist discussed the "Vietnamization" of American society.

J. Kendrick Avent, assistant business manager of the Hopkins Center, opened the evening with an address on Army life. Avent, who spent a year in Vietnam as an infantryman, said the service man is subjected to a propaganda campaign which styles the enemy in Vietnam as "a thing that threatens the American way of life and kills innocent children."

"The Army trains men to perform their task well. The job of the infantry is killing," he said.

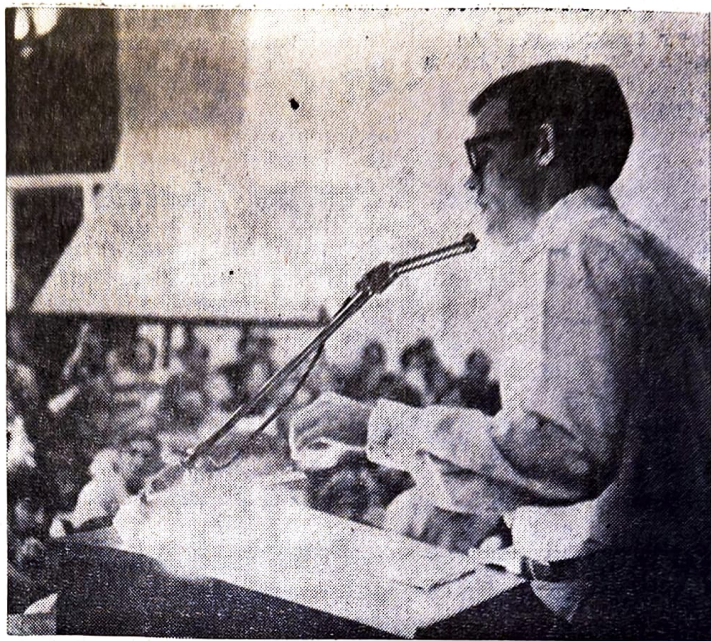
Robert McGuire, co-ordinator of the Black Studies Program at the College, referred to "ethnocentricities" that result in a sense of racial superiority in this country. He linked the Vietnam conflict to racism, and claimed that "the violence in Vietnam reflects the violence in our society."

Theirs to Settle

Assistant Professor of Chinese Jonathan Mirsky told the audience that "what is critical is that the war is theirs to settle (referring to the Vietnamese), not ours." Mirsky said the U.S. must forsake political and territorial ambitions and recognize the "depth of nationalism" in Indochina.

English Professor Peter Bien explained his reluctance to become involved with the Vietnam question, saying that his primary interests in life are aesthetic. Yet, he said, the war has intruded upon aesthetics, causing him to take a stand.

"I am involved to earn the right to become completely irrelevant," Bien emphasized. He



A Teach-in speaker addresses large crowd in the Top of the Hop. The Teach-in, held last night, set the stage for today's Moratorium.

said, "We do not find it so easy anymore to take our positions for granted."

The decline in the national health service was the subject of an address by Dean Carlton Chapman of the medical school. Chapman said the federal government has been following "a progressively restrictive policy on persons entering biomedics." He said health services are "a right, not a privilege," and that the Vietnam war was only a part of the cause of the decline.

Nuclear Threat

The construction of nuclear power plants constitute a threat to our environment, said Dr. Irving Lyon, biology professor at Bennington College. Lyon said there exists "no safe dose of radiation" and that the Atomic Energy Commission had set

arbitrary estimates on the maximum permissible concentration of radiation. Calling the nuclear power program an "absolute failure," he said the bulk of the power produced was "part of the military-industrial complex."

"If we can halt the nuclear power program on ecological grounds, we can also stop the 'Pax Americana'," he concluded.

Professor of Government Henry W. Ehrmann discussed the conflict in the context of international law. He said the South Vietnamese government is subject to the Geneva accords as successors to the French government, and consequently is obligated like the North Vietnamese, to conduct free elections.

He called the conflict "a civil war abetted by external powers," and rejected the 1966 justification of the war based on the South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) pact. He said the treaty had never been offered as a justification for any diplomatic or military action prior to the Vietnamese war.

"This justification was even attacked then by a known congressional hawk—Melvin Laird, the present Secretary of Defense," Ehrmann stated.

Two films on the war, "The Time of the Locust," and "Hanoi 13" were also shown. The first depicted various acts allegedly committed by American and South Vietnamese troops, and the second film presented a view of North Vietnam produced by Cubans.

dy, McGovern and Muskie New England Observance

ern will speak to the crowd an address a gathering tonight at the University of Maine.

Kennedy will speak before a World Affairs Council luncheon in Boston while Muskie will deliver what his office says will be his most important speech on Vietnam to date at Bates College, his alma mater.

Other top speakers include Senator Harold Hughes, (D-Iowa) at Westport, Conn., author Pearl Buck at Windham College in Vermont, and two defendants in the Dr. Spock anti-

added "the rights of individuals—teachers, students, staff—to follow the dictates of their own consciences in these deeply troubling days will, of course, be fully respected."

Mayor A. Edgar Lussier of Woonsocket, R.I., asked all churches in the city to ring their bells at noon in observance of the Moratorium. He also asked that all flags in the city be flown at half-staff beginning at noon.