

SDS Totalitarianism

The totalitarian action taken by the three student chapters of the Students for a Democratic Society Wednesday night is a direct contradiction of the very principles inherent in their name.

President Hester's decision to suspend the students involved in this fascistic attempt to destroy freedom of speech is just and necessary. A university no longer exists when the free interchange of dissenting, and sometimes unpopular, ideas is no longer allowed to flow.

Denying South Vietnamese Ambassador Nguyen Huu Chi his right, also violated the rights of the 600 people gathered to hear him speak. We recognize SDS' dislike of Ambassador Chi for his participation in the Washington- Saigon government and his opposition to the National Liberation Front, but their infantile emotionalism did not save one Vietnamese life. It was only a mindless, anti-intellectual, and Hitlerian destruction of precious liberty.

But the absurd move of the night by this misguided group was the action taken against The New York Times in the person of James Reston, columnist and executive editor. Reston is a liberal, however hateful that word has come to be, and The New York Times, Establishment that it is, is still the fairest paper around in its treatment of the radical movement.