Violence At UK Senseless

Nothing is more harmful to the traditions on which academic freedom is based or, indeed, to the principles of a free society than the use of lawlessness to impose some individual’s or some group’s view on others.

And that is precisely what the disgraceful episode was all about at the University of Kentucky Tuesday and Tuesday night.

The disruption of the UK Board of Trustees meeting, the burning of the barracks-type Air Force ROTC building and the window-breaking rampage are the kind of senseless things which cannot be tolerated.

It is long past time for an end to this kind of nonsense. There is room on every university campus for dissent and for criticism of government policies and politics. A campus without these elements is likely to stagnate and deserves to die.

But there is a place and time for dissent and for demonstration and there are limits on protests, whether by faculty or students.

Unfortunately, sincere protests over the Cambodian invasion and the fatal shootings at Ohio’s Kent State University became lost when a few vigorous anarchists, who somehow feel that no one’s rights matter but their own and that society must allow them to do their thing regardless of what it is or where they do it, began exploiting the genuine concern of the others.

Those who tried to force their way into the crowded UK Board of Trustees meeting after 35 students already had been permitted to enter to present their case to the trustees and those who were disruptive outside the chamber during the session deserve punishment just as surely as does the person who burned down the ROTC building.

These comparatively few young people who abdicate responsibility in favor of anarchy do great harm to their cause and do a disfavor to other students who seek to cope peacefully with the inequities and moral outrages that confront them — a view apparently shared by the great majority of UK students who were on hand at the fire early Wednesday morning.

Understandably, the invasion of Cambodia has an immediacy for college students that adults would be foolish to ignore. To them, it may mean the difference between life and death. The imminence of death tends to make young people reckless.

But violence is not the answer. Violence only begots violence. Neither is political puffery and name-calling. Both extremes only polarize concerned Americans everywhere. Perhaps, instead of calling youngsters “bums,” it would be wiser — and more conducive to law and order and loyalty — to try a little more rationality at all levels.
Cooperation Asked — Jeers Received

University of Kentucky students listen as UK president Otis Singletary asks for cooperation from protesters to ward off possible violence during a meeting at the University's Student Center yesterday afternoon. But most of the students — a total of about 1,000 were there responded to Dr. Singletary's plea with jeers. (Staff Photo By David Perry).
Too Slow

This unidentified UK protester, who didn’t get off campus fast enough after curfew time yesterday, found himself on the way to jail with the aid of two State Troopers. He was later released on bond. (Staff Photo).
At Transylvania

This was the scene at Transylvania University — in front of the Mitchell Fine Arts Building — where University of Kentucky students held a rally yesterday after being ousted from the UK campus. (Staff Photo).
UK Coed Faces Arson Charge; Others Held

By Gurney Johnson

A 21-year-old University of Kentucky coed has been charged with arson in connection with the burning of the Air Force ROTC building on the campus.

The fire erupted about 11:50 p.m. Tuesday night and destroyed the building which was located at Ewell and Harrison avenues.

The fire was apparently caused by a molotov cocktail or incendiary bomb which was placed at the rear of the building as policemen and firemen stood guard over the Buell Armory, the main ROTC building, in the center of the campus.

The fire culminated a day marked by student demonstrations in which at least three other persons, possibly four, were arrested—two for disorderly conduct and one for damaging school property.

Madisonville

Sue Anne Salmon, whose local address is listed as 241 Lexington Avenue and home address as Madisonville, a senior journalism major, was charged with arson. She was arrested by city police at the corner of Ewell and Lexington Avenue shortly after the fire erupted.

She is the daughter of a Madisonville doctor, James Salmon, who operates a clinic there. When contacted, Dr. Salmon said, “She’s our daughter. We still love her and we will do everything we can for her,” according to Associated Press dispatches.

The girl was released on $2,500 bond made by prominent Louisville attorney, John Y. Brown, about noon today. She was to appear in Police Court today for arraignment.

Others arrested were:

- Carl Michael Romano, 20, campus address listed as Kirwan Tower, disorderly conduct.
- James Bronson Roiter, 19, campus address Haggan Hall, for damaging school property.
- Mason Taylor, no address listed, for disorderly conduct.
- Roiter and Romano were arrested by city police while Taylor was arrested by state police. It was believed that state police had made several other arrests but no names were released.

The men were arrested in connection with the demonstration preceding the fire.

The fire started as between 300 and 500 students confronted police grouped around Buell Armory, near the Administration building.

A crowd which had been demonstrating at Buell Armory quickly dispersed and rushed to the fire. Approximately 1,000 persons were at the fire scene at one time.

How Stupid?

A city policeman at the armory said when the fire erupted an unidentified girl, who had been carrying a banner, threw the banner down saying, “How stupid can you get.”

Asst. Chief Epsy Hedgcock of the city police, who was stationed in a parking lot near the building, said “The whole rear of the building exploded and flames leaped high as though a molotov cocktail or incendiary bomb had been thrown.”

The one-story frame structure, which was used as a classroom building, quickly became a blazing inferno. Flames reached into the sky and firefighters battled the blaze with five fire units.

Crowd Driven Back

The crowd, which literally surrounded the burning building, was driven back by smoke and flying sparks carried by the wind several times.

One young boy and girl in “hippie” dress were observed literally jumping for joy as the building went up in flames. The girl embraced the boy and raised a clenched fist in the air.

The general attitude of the crowd was one of extreme anger, though, that the so-called peaceful demonstrations usually staged on the UK campus had erupted in the fiery holocaust.

Several students pushed a vehicle parked near the scene away from danger. Many of the male students from nearby dormitories went to the aid of firemen by acting as monitors or in any other way they could.

Total Loss

Early fire reports by the city fire department listed the building as a total loss with no dollar value yet estimated.

City firemen said the blaze spread to nearby Blazer Hall, a women’s dormitory. Several thousand dollars damage was listed for that building and its contents.

The residents of the nearby dorms were evacuated until the blaze was brought under control.

A spokesman for UK said the building was valued at $74,362 and was insured for $6,200.

The building housed 12 office spaces and an auditorium. He said Blazer Hall received an undetermined amount of damage from heat, smoke and water.

Twelve rooms were damaged on the second and third floors.

The heat in Blazer’s third floor rooms melted telephones some 15 feet from the window.

Two city firemen received hospital treatment from battling the blaze, Fireman Oscar Ellis received a sprained ankle and was treated and released at St. Joseph Hospital.

Chief Robert Spradlin was admitted to Good Samaritan Hospital for exhaustion.

At Transy

As an aftermath to the fire, a bomb scare was called in at Forrer Hall on the Transylvania University campus about 2:50 p.m.

The occupants of the girl’s dormitory were evacuated until the threat could be checked out.

The building destroyed at UK Tuesday was completed in 1948 and was used as a temporary quarters for the Guignol Theater before the new Fine Arts Building was completed. It was later used for the UK School of Journalism until the new Journalism Building was completed in 1931.

The old Guignol Theater was destroyed by fire in 1947.

The fire culminated a day of demonstrations which began about 1 p.m. when students gathered at the new UK Office Tower to protest an incident Monday at Kent State University in Ohio where four students were shot to death and Presi...
dent Nixon's decision to invade Cambodia.

Troopers Alerted
Col. Paul Smith of the Kentucky State Police said troopers were then alerted after this demonstration of possible trouble when it was learned a meeting was planned later by students to "discuss further plans."

Students gathered shortly after dark and formed a parade along Euclid Avenue in which four coffins were carried symbolizing the four dead Ohio students.

Not Downtown
City police prevented the parade from advancing down Lexington Avenue toward downtown Lexington and the students then congregated around the nearby ROTC headquarters, Duell Armory.

Campus police surrounded the building as state troopers dressed in riot gear stood ready in a nearby parking lot about 9:30 p.m.

Questions Police
Col. Smith said a youth, who has not yet been identified, approached several plainclothes state policemen on the parking lot and demanded to see their identification.

The youth was asked to leave twice and then when the youth shouted several obscenities at the policemen, they gave pursuit, Col. Smith said.

An unidentified UK football player then ran the youth down for police, Col. Smith said.

He was charged with disorderly conduct.

A few of the students, at the Armory engaged in group singing and some of those in the rear of the crowd began gathering rocks and bricks from a nearby construction project.

Addresses Students
Dean of Students Jack Hall addressed the students twice and begged them to disperse. He promised that President Otis Singletary would talk with them later today.

Student Government President Steve Bright, who took office Tuesday, also asked the students to disperse. He asked the crowd if they would leave if police left the scene first. Many of the students in the crowd still responded that they would not go.

Col. Smith said state troopers were then called to the armory about 11 p.m. when several students began throwing rocks and breaking the windows in the building.

Other Officers
About 75 members of the city police emergency duty platoon were also called to the scene at this time and several members of this group formed around the armory along with state police and campus police.

Colonel Smith said "only one rock was thrown after we formed." He said the youth was arrested by city police.

Colonel Smith observed that the group, which numbered about 500 persons, most of the persons were only spectators. He said one unidentified youth stated "it's exam week and spring and I might as well be here as someplace else."

He said some of the most vocal students were trying to get the group to disperse.

He said the group "didn't appear to be well-organized and if it was organized at all it was only a small core."

The Guns
He said a few members of the group were chanting "get the guns off campus." The students seemed to be concerned with the fact that guns used in connection with the ROTC program were kept in the building. Students had previously demanded that campus police be unarmed.

Several of the group also chanted "we are people" and "stay, stay, stay."

One unidentified demonstrator screamed, "This is final exam week for God's sake. Don't shoot us."

One of the leaders screamed, "We don't have to win this. We just want to be heard."

A man in a green jacket yelled, "They don't want to be heard. They want blood."
Gov. Nunn Delays Trip In Light Of UK Crisis

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Governor Louie B. Nunn delayed his scheduled trip to Chicago today to search for prospective new industry in light of the crisis at the University of Kentucky.

The governor's office said it did not know when he would take up his schedule for the remainder of this week calling for such trips.

An aide said Nunn is standing by and watching the developments in the wake of the burning of an Air Force ROTC building on the campus at Lexington.

Nunn talked earlier today with UK President Otis Singletary and indicated he supports the president's action in asking for state assistance.

The governor also has contacted almost all members of the university board of trustees.

The aide said word to the governor's office is that the burning of the building has created shock around the campus, and consequently a calm may follow.

Nunn reacted swiftly to the incident.

"The unprovoked, premeditated, senseless action which has occurred on the University of Kentucky campus within the last few hours will not be tolerated," Nunn said early today.

"Lives of students were endangered and public property was destroyed without any reason or provocation. I have ordered a full investigation of these criminal acts and those responsible for the wanton destruction of property and other violations of the law will be prosecuted."

The governor also said he has assured university officials that State Police, the National Guard and other such authorities "as may be required have been placed on alert and are at their disposal if needed."

Nunn then reiterated his position on campus violence and disruption:

"When governing officials at the University of Kentucky or any other state university request assistance, then assistance will be given in sufficient numbers and under direct orders to use force as is necessary to put down violence and stop disruption as quickly as possible. The amount of force that will be used will be determined by those who provoke the violence."
Hostility Marks Trustees Meeting

By PAMELA BOWEN

The student demonstration that ended in ashes Tuesday night began early in the afternoon as four protesters frolicked in an abstract art fountain, splashing water 30 feet out onto fellow students below.

Their gaiety seemed somewhat out of place to the more serious students, gathered outside the University of Kentucky Office Tower to plan a confrontation with the Board of Trustees to urge a condemnation of the killing of four students at Kent State University and of the expanded conflict in Cambodia.

A wide window ledge prevented the Trustees on the 18th floor from seeing the demonstrators around the fountain below, but they were made aware of the students' presence when about 150 of them climbed to the top of the Office Tower in an attempt to attend the meeting.

Only 35 of the demonstrators were allowed inside the Board Room, and these students remained quiet and respectful at all times, in contrast to those outside whose chants and yells visibly shook the board members who were making an unsuccessful attempt to ignore the noise.

So many students crammed into the elevators for the 18-floor trip that the elevator relays burned out, rendering them inoperable for some time.

Unaware of the mechanical failure, former Gov. A. B. Chandler encountered hostility as he tried to reach the elevators after the meeting. When one student grabbed him by the tie and coat, the 71-year-old politician-trustee socked the youth in the nose.

During the scuffle, UK policemen had their "riot sticks" ready and the sight of these intensified an already-tense situation as a student leader called for the arrest of Chandler for assault and battery.

The altercation has started when a coed, Judy Schroeder, 19, of Louisville, asked the governor why he wouldn't listen to the students.

Mr. Chandler replied, "Honey, I'd stop the war in Vietnam tomorrow if I could."

A student standing near grabbed Mr. Chandler, apparently to turn him around. Mr. Chandler said the youth had grabbed his necktie as if to choke him.

The 71-year-old former governor grabbed the student by his long hair and hit him.

"It was a one-punch fight."

(See Col. 3, Back Page, This Section)
After the trustees had left the building, the students stayed for several more hours, chanting "We Wanna Talk" and "No More Guns On Campus."

**Meet With Group**

However, Dr. Singletary did meet with a representative group of demonstrators and later addressed the whole crowd. He told them that he and the trustees had "no sizable interest in taking away firearms from campus police."

He pointed out, however, that the University flag was flown at half-staff and the names of the four dead Ohio students were placed at the flagpole.

He said that he regretted the piled-up administrative work that had kept him from close contact with students and that he intended to open better channels to dialogue.

Dr. Singletary told the demonstrators that he personally deplored the Cambodian invasion and intended to write to the President about it. This brought cheers and applause from the students.

During the board meeting, the trustees voted to name the new Office Tower the Patterson Office Tower in honor of former University President James K. Patterson. The new Classroom Building will be renamed the White Hall Classroom Building, for Dr. James G. White, acting UK president from 1910-11.

The 1970-71 operating budget of $102.5 million was also approved. Dr. Singletary said the budget "will strengthen several existing institutional and academic support areas" but warned that the school faces "limiting available resources."

**Fee Schedules**

The trustees approved a confirmation of fee schedules which raises in-state tuition to $350 a year for main campus students and to $400 a year for Community College students. Dr. Singletary commented that for the first time, the Community College tuition is at the level of regional universities and that the tuition rates will go up less dramatically at the Community Colleges than anywhere else.
Singletary Hits UK Violence; Exam Boycott On Campus Fails

University of Kentucky President Otis Singletary today called the fire and violence on the UK campus "irrational and meaningless."

In a statement issued this afternoon at a meeting at the UK Student Center, Dr. Singletary cited the gravity of the situation and said that more than 100 students' lives had been threatened by the fire which destroyed the Air Force ROTC Building at Euclid and Harrison avenues.

Approximately 1,000 students heard the president say that the administration would prohibit gatherings on campus after 5 p.m. for the remainder of the semester. (The semester ends Friday, commencement is Monday.)

His remark was greeted by both applause and boos.

He said that five UK students had been arrested and that the university is cooperating in an investigation of the incidents.

His statement came after a boycott of final exams at UK this morning did not take place, as unorganized groups of students could not rally enough support.

Students seeking to attend a debate on the Cambodian situation in the Student Center Grand Ballroom found the doors locked and the room empty. After milling around about a half hour, several students decided to negotiate for the patio and try to locate sound equipment. But apparently this did not come off either, as the main body of students went trotting over to another section of the campus to act as cheerleaders for some State Police who were playing basketball to relax after a tense and fiery night of demonstrations.

This morning, a Moratorium on Cambodia was supposed to feature Dr. Fred Pfeiffer, political science lecturer, and Dr. W. S. Kroghdahl, professor of astronomy, but students were unable to obtain sound equipment.

Steve Bright, UK Student Government president, issued a statement after the burning of the ROTC building, calling the action "the result of suppressive action and lack of patience on the part of UK and police officials."

He said the rally in front of Bull Armory was about to break up when police were brought in.

"If some type of violence was likely as a result of such an overwhelming show of force, the course taken . . . was certainly preferable to any injuries to individuals," he said.

The Student Mobilization Committee also issued a statement urging people to "look beyond the mere building of a worthless building . . . We must be intelligent and foresighted enough to analyze the cause of this incident, rather than the incident itself."

The Mobe statement continued: "We strongly feel that all the buildings on this campus are not worth one student's life. Buildings can be replaced, but human life can never be replaced."

The SMC said the ROTC building was "a blatant symbol of all the things we deplore—complicity with Nixon's war, firearms on campus and misplaced values and national priorities."

Here is the text of Dr. Singletary's statement issued this afternoon:

"The deplorable acts of violence committed last night on the University of Kentucky campus were irrational and meaningless, and I am personally grieved at the senseless destruction that has occurred."

"In addition to the loss of physical property, the lives of more than 100 students were threatened when fire spread to their living quarters."

"In view of the gravity of the incidents which have occurred,
I would like to make the following information known:

"A meeting sponsored by a registered student organization (the Student Mobilization Committee) began at 7:45 p.m. with about 300 persons in attendance.

"At 8:25 p.m., a peaceful march developed and the procession began moving about the campus.

"At 9:40 p.m., some members of the group started throwing rocks at the ROTC building and at campus security officers stationed at the entrance to the building.

"At this time, after observing the commission of unlawful acts, and determining that property and life were threatened and that the campus security force could not contain the crowd, our director of safety and security requested assistance from the Kentucky State Police and the Lexington Police Department.

"Both police units responded to the request. Prior to their arrival, however, efforts were made by several students and our dean of students to persuade the students to disperse.

"Upon the arrival of the local and state police, the assembly was ordered to disperse. Almost at the same time, a fire erupted in the building which was lost.

"According to the latest information available to me, five students have been arrested on various charges.

"The University is cooperating fully in an investigation now being conducted by law enforcement agencies.

"Local and state police remain on the campus and are prepared to deal with any further incident which threatens violence to persons or property.

"In view of the state of limited emergency on our campus, and after consultation with our senate council, members of my administrative staff and our campus security officers, I have determined that further student meetings after 5 p.m. must be prohibited.

"It is our intention to keep the University open for those thousands of students who were not involved in the demonstration and who want to complete their semester's work.

"I urge all students and faculty on our campus to join me in maintaining reason and peace during this trying time.

"I also want to commend the thousands of students who behaved responsibly last night, and express my appreciation to
As The Fire Started...

Two policemen stare at the explosion which touched off a fire at the University of Kentucky ROTC Building, Euclid and Harrison avenues, Tuesday night. This photo was made about 30 seconds after the initial blast. Blazer Hall, women's dormitory is at right.

(Staff Photo by Frank Anderson)
...And When It Ended

Blackened framework and debris was all that remained today of the UK ROTC Building. Dark area and broken windows in Blazer Hall (background) indicated where the dormitory was damaged by the flames. An alleyway separated the dorm from the ROTC Building. (Staff Photo).
Growing Number Of Students Respond To Call For Strike

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students at a growing number of campuses across America today responded to calls for a nationwide strike against President Nixon's Cambodian policy and the Kent State killings.

Some universities shut down altogether, others held rallies, prayer meetings or vigils. There were clashes with police on some campuses. On some others, there were indications of support or the move into Cambodia.

National Guardsmen patrolled at the University of Wisconsin in Madison after, police said, more than 35 persons were arrested in two days of window smashing and firebomb vandalism.

University spokesmen estimated 10,000 persons attended a campus rally Tuesday night to protest the President’s deployment of troops in Cambodia and to hear a “people’s petition” against the Kent deaths. The rally was peaceful but there was vandalism afterward.

The current wave of protests were brought off Monday when National Guardsmen called out by Ohio Gov. James A. Rhodes to control antiwar demonstrations at Kent State fired into a crowd. Four students were killed.

The Faculty Senate Tuesday blamed Rhodes and his adjutant general, S. T. Del Corso, for the deaths.

“We hold the guardsmen, acting under orders and under severe psychological pressures, less responsible for the massacre than our Gov. Rhodes and Gen. Del Corso, whose inflammatory indoctrination produced those pressures,” the 350-member senate said in a resolution.

Fifteen persons were injured early today when helmeted police armed with clubs and tear gas routed some 500 Seton Hall University students in South Orange, N.J. The students had camped around a street bonfire to protest the war.

Buffalo, N.Y., police fired tear gas and battled students on the campus of Buffalo State University and nearby streets Tuesday night. The incident involving about 500 students followed similar encounters during the day.

Police also used tear gas and clubs in the state Capitol building in Austin, Tex., to break up a demonstration by several hundred protesters who had marched from the University of Texas campus six blocks away.

Princeton University faculty voted to suspend classes for the remainder of the semester and took a stand as a group condemning the war in Southeast Asia. They also approved a two-week recess prior to the November election so students can work in political campaigns.

Boston University canceled final examinations and its scheduled May 17 commencement exercises at which Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., was to have been the principal speaker.

The call for a nationwide student strike was made by Charles Gonzales, president of the 110,000-member Student National Education Association. There appeared to be a wide response.

President Nixon’s daughter Julie, and her husband, David Eisenhower, remained at their Northampton, Mass., apartment as students at both Smith where she attends, and Amherst, where David is enrolled, voted to strike.

There was also a strike by students at fashionable Finch College, a girl’s school in New York from which Tricia Nixon was graduated in 1968.

In Washington, Mrs. Nixon canceled her scheduled trip to Fredericksburg, Va., today because of planned antiwar demonstrations at Mary Washington University there.

At Haverford College, in Philadelphia, everyone from the administrators to the maintenance men will go by bus to Washington Thursday to protest the war.

“It is neither a strike nor business as usual,” said Dr. John R. Coleman, president of the liberal, Quaker liberal arts college which has about 600 students. “I feel reasonably certain that the school will show that these are not ‘bums’ but concerned students who are expressing their opinions in a positive way.”

There were some indications of support for the President’s Cambodian intervention.

At the Mormon Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, the student newspaper Daily Universe said: “We understand the rationale behind Mr. Nixon’s decision and support him in it.”

At the University of Kentucky, A.B. “Happy” Chandler, a trustee and former Kentucky governor, denounced an antiwar protest as an “outrage” and said it was “with a crisp right hand right on his nose.”

The Iowa College Young Republican Federation executive board announced support of the President’s Cambodian policy.

The Harvard School of Business Administration voted 700-885 not to strike but did adopt a resolution condemning Nixon’s policy.

The law schools at Harvard, Columbia, Chicago and Boston universities voted to strike.

“It would be callous for us to go on with our daily study of law as if nothing has happened when in truth fundamental and rudimentary elements of law are being daily abrogated by the Nixon administration,” said a statement for Chicago strikers.
FAST BURNING — Fire which started before midnight Tuesday in the Air Force ROTC building at the University of Kentucky quickly engulfed the frame structure. The structure, located at Euclid and Harrison avenues, was destroyed. The fire came during a student demonstration.

SURVIVING—A shell was all that remained today of the University of Kentucky's Air Force ROTC building, Euclid and Harrison avenues. Fire destroyed the building Tuesday night during a student demonstration. The UK Office Tower is in the right background. (Story and other pictures are on Page 1).