

as an answer to "a clear-cut case of the university's existence being threatened by Professor Franklin's presence."

Among the people I'd discussed the case with, William Chace told me that he was reading the report and that he had "for the first time a genuine sense of admiration for the intellectual power of the group." He went on, "I had a sense once that Bruce was our conscience, that while we were drinking our martinis and living in the lap of luxury he was carrying on the fight. I guess I've gotten over that."

Alan Dershowitz, the visiting Harvard professor, was seriously disturbed. He reported that although the A.C.L.U. had yet to take an official stand, speaking for himself, he found in the report a "lack of sensitivity about free speech." He went on, "I regard the decision as a frightening one in the sense that it will clearly have a chilling and deterrent effect on what professors think they can say to mass audiences in situations that may be inflammatory. In general, it's going to make professors think twice about speaking out. For Stanford, that could be a disaster because they aren't accustomed to speaking out anyway."

**T**WO days after the verdict, the reaction on campus was described to me by one person as "mild" and by another as "apathetic." There had been a rally attended by several hundred people and a march on the president's house by about 60 people. There were rumors of planned "trashings" but nothing much happened. The proverbial sigh of relief was almost audible.

In the midst of this general silence could be heard the diminishing echoes of two voices that had spoken up in a way that it was hard for even Stanford to ignore. These were the voices of Donald Kennedy, the panel's chairman, and Robert McAfee Brown, a theologian, who had dissented from the majority recommendation and asked for further suspension as the maximum penalty. They spoke of the "substantial costs in

Professor Franklin's loss to the institution . . . in the form of corrosive effects on academic freedom, and . . . in terms of lost challenge and the subtle inhibition of dissent."

Brown described his misgivings with considerable eloquence: "However much I and many of my colleagues may disagree with what Professor Franklin says or how he says it, I fear we may do untold harm to ourselves and the cause of higher education unless, by imposing a penalty short of dismissal, we seek to keep him as a very uncomfortable but very important part of what this university or any university is meant to be." ■