DuBois Club Here Has No Plans
To Fight Communist Front Charge

7 March 1966

Members of the Columbus W.E.B. DuBois Club apparently formulated no plans to counteract the charge that the group is a Communist front organization.

Julia Carr Sherman, local member of WEVD, said: "I haven't talked to any of the members yet. We're under quite a shock from all this," in reference to the indictment charge.

IN REACTION to the Sunday bombing of WEVD national headquarters in San Francisco, she declared: "I think this is outrageous. So many things have been happening so quickly that it's hard to adjust!"

At first, Miss Sherman blamed the bombings on "some cranks." But she did not rule out possibility the bombings could have been "organized by a radical right wing group."

Miss Sherman of 390 W. Woodruff Ave. is a sophomore in the Ohio State University College of Education. She is from Cleveland Heights.

SHE CITED only one instance so far of harassment of a member. She related that a member was being chided by another student Sunday night in a University District restaurant. She claimed the WEVD member was aided by a U.S. Marine.

Miss Sherman said the Marine came up to the pair and told the non-member, "Why don't you leave this guy alone?" referring to the WEVD member.

Miss Sherman said none of the estimated 10 local members are Communists. She said none are card carrying members of the Communist party nor do any, in her opinion, consider themselves to be Communists.

COLUMBUS CHAPTER of WEVD was formed by a small group of OSU students and their friends last November. At that time spokesmen claimed to have about 20 members.

Miss Sherman reported the WEVD no longer has a re-
Leftist DuBois Club Forms OSU Chapter

By CHARLES G. FENTON

An activist left-wing student organization, known nationally as the W.E.B. DuBois Clubs of America, has established a chapter at Ohio State.

Members of an 18-person organizing committee met Wednesday at an apartment off-campus to elect temporary officers.

The W.E. DuBois Clubs of America were named in honor of William E. B. DuBois, an American Negro historian who helped found the NAACP. At the age of 93, DuBois joined the Communist Party.

Edmond J. Hay Jr., a freshman in education, was elected chairman of the group. Julia Sherman, also a freshman in education, was named secretary.

Theodore Cohen, the Midwest regional coordinator for the DuBois Clubs in Columbus to help the local group organize—said, "We are a socialist-oriented youth organization.

Activist Group

"The DuBois Clubs take in a broad spectrum of political thinking on the left. We have liberal democrats, pacifists, members of Students for a Democratic Society and Marxists, for example.

"We are primarily an activist rather than a discussion group. We want to do, not talk."

The DuBois Clubs first appeared in California in 1962. They were established nationally in June, 1964. There are chapters at colleges across the country.

"There are 58 chapters with about 2,000 members," Cohen said.

The DuBois Clubs have been called a "youth organization of the Communist Party" by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Cohen and Miss Sherman denied the charge. "We are not now "and have never been connected in anyway with the Communist Party," Cohen said.

"There may be Communists in the DuBois Clubs," Cohen said. "But we will not purge anyone because of his beliefs.

Anyone Can Join

"Anyone who is willing to act with us is welcome in our organization." Hoover is a very old man and should be replaced.

"Hoover's statements about us may be the first step in a national campaign against the anti-war movement.

"The whole thing smells of McCarthyism," Miss Sherman said. The Ohio State group was not Communist-inspired.

"We want to improve conditions for Negroes and working-class people," she said.

"Our object is to get things done. We don't have time to fear what other people think of us," Miss Sherman said.

No Planned Program

The Ohio State group has not planned a program of action. "We are still organizing and trying to find members," Miss Sherman said.

About 35 persons are involved in forming the local chapter. There are no Ohio State faculty members in the group, Miss Sherman said.

John Cotter, a former student in the Arts College who is a member of the group, said, "We do not plan to purchase additional power needed for new facilities.

A new public utility substation for electric power is to be established west of the Olentangy River. It would supply three campus distribution substations, at McCracken Power Plant, the Medical Center area, and one to be constructed in the General College area.

Other Action

Other action by the Board of Trustees includes:

- Permission to negotiate with a Cleveland firm for design and construction of a parking garage on campus.
- Approval of the names of "Abraham Lincoln Tower" and "Justine S. Morrill Tower" for the two 24-story twin tower dormitories under construction southeast of the Stadium.
- Announcement of a $250,000 Air Force research contract to Ohio State's Human Performance Center, currently doing research on man's military decision-making abilities.
- Awarding of emeritus titles to Dr. William K. Kapper, associate professor of dentistry; Dr. Oscar P. Snyder, assistant professor of dentistry, and Estelle B. Franks, instructor, Cooperative Extension Service.
- Announcement of grants and gifts totaling $1,192,355-38 presented through the Office of Business and Finance and the Development Fund.
DuBois Group Hears
New Left Spokesman

By NED STOUT
Of The Dispatch Staff
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Mike Myerson, an articulate spokesman of the New Left, told of the nobility of the North Vietnamese and the bestiality of U.S. soldiers in a lengthy speech Thursday night in the Unitarian Universalist Campus Center.

About 50 persons attended the meeting, sponsored by the newly organized Columbus chapter of the Marxist-line-following W. F. B. DuBois Club. Myerson, who spent two weeks in North Viet Nam last September, is international peace secretary for the national W E B D organization.

A QUESTIONED regarding FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover’s assertion that W E B D is a Communist front organization, Myerson corrected a reporter, “He said Communist spawns.” As to that, I regard Hoover as the most notorious liar in the country.

“We are spawned by the conditions we see: racism, a country geared for war. We allow Communists, Young Democrats, pacifists, Catholics—all enemies of our organization,” Myerson declared.

Myerson, 25-year-old journalism graduate from the University of California, has been taking part in Viet Nam protest marches and supporting himself by a lecture tour since his return from North Viet Nam. He said he is aiming to reach New York where he intends writing a book—“probably a polemic”—regarding his views of the war.

MYERSON sports a thin, dull silver-colored ring which he acknowledged is made from metal taken from a downed U.S. jet plane. He said it was given to him by a Vietnamese dancer one night in Hanoi but he would not discuss it further. “It’s an article of jewelry, I like to wear it,” Myerson snapped, and refused to permit a photographer to make a close-up picture of the ring.

In charge of the meeting were Julie Sherman, an OSU freshman in education from Cleveland and chairman of the local WEBD chapter, and identified himself as regional coordinator for WEBD from Cleveland.

Miss Sherman admonished Philip Schneider, 21, who was a Dispatch photographer against taking pictures of the audience which included several persons active in earlier Viet Nam protests and Oscar Smilack of Columbus, once identified as a contributor to the Communist party in Franklin County.

MYERSON identified himself as “an independent socialist and a small ‘d’ democrat,” and added to the questioner, “which doesn’t tell you anything.”

A member of the 12-man WEBD national executive committee, Myerson went to Hanoi as the result of an invitation he had received some time earlier while attending the World Peace Conference in Helsinki, Finland. Since he went to North Viet Nam from Europe, Myerson said, he had no passport problems but he said the U.S. government may be preparing some charges against him.

Myerson said that he met with high government officials and was free to move wherever he wished during his visit.

HE CALLED the conflict a continuation of an 1100 year history of the Vietnamese fighting off aggression and attempting to win freedom.

Myerson asserted the South Vietnamese government is completely the creature of the United States and that the Viet Cong forces are composed “overwhelmingly of South Vietnamese.”

The highest number of North Vietnamese troops ever involved in the war was 14,000 . . . while we have 200,000 troops, 10,000 miles from home, raping, looting and napalming,” Myerson said.

MYERSON TOLD of taking part in a celebration in Hanoi held “for the battalion credited with shooting down 500 American planes.”

He spoke laughingly of the materials furnished in a U.S. Navy Intelligence survival kit booklet “Things to Say on Capture.”

And he verbally chastised a USAF Capt. Robert Daugherty of Eagle Pass, Tex., a prisoner of the North Vietnamese whom Myerson met in Hanoi. Daugherty, with both arms in splints, told Myerson he was not tortured by his captors and said he was well treated. But the flyer, Myerson said, was “a typical soldier . . . with no sense of social responsibility and no political allegiance. He’d just as soon napalm the Vietnamese population as look at it.”

MYERSON said U.S. bombing raids were ineffectual against military targets although he asserted several clearly marked hospitals had been destroyed and women and children strafed in rice fields.

“The American people are getting a snow job from the government and the press,” said Myerson who, although classified 1-A, has never had military service.

He forecast that continued defeats, world opinion and American opinion will force the U.S. out of Viet Nam.

NORTH VIETNAMESE officials told him, Myerson said, that they are willing to negotiate a peace if four conditions are fulfilled:

- Cease aerial bombings.
- Recognize the National Liberation Front of South Viet Nam.
- Recognize, in principle,