

UNIVERSITY YM(?)A—5

Leaders Say Their Views Have Hurt

(Fifth of a series)

By JIMMY BANKS

Austin Bureau of The News

AUSTIN, Texas—Student leaders of the University of Texas YMCA and YWCA readily admit that some of their views have hurt the organization financially and brought them personal harassment.

But, contends Jim Neyland of Palestine, president of the YMCA, the Y "has become controversial perhaps without reason."

"It deals in controversy with-

out taking a stand," he said. "And the campus needs a scapegoat."

The organization's main purpose, he said, "is to bridge the gap between church, community and the University."

"We do not emphasize the Christian element as such," Neyland added. "This is a culturally-oriented group. The community is perhaps the most important idea."

NEYLAND SAID his attitude toward the House Committee on

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Neyland said he also favors disarmament but isn't "too clear on it."

"I favor unilateral nuclear disarmament but not total disarmament," he explained. "I don't see how total disarmament could take place, mainly because of economic reasons."

SUSAN REED of Austin, president of the University YWCA, echoed that view.

"I'm not a pacifist—but I'm leaning that way," she said. "I favor disarmament — or at least looking into it, although I don't think there is any one disarmament program that would solve the problem."

Miss Reed visited Poland last summer on a trip sponsored by an organization called the Experiment in International Living.

"I've been deemed a socialist ever since I returned," she complained. "The more you learn about the enemy the more some people seem to think you're going to be for them."

She feels that socialism has helped Poland, she said, but added quickly: "I'm not saying that socialism would help the United States."

Miss Reed said she is becoming more cautious in expressing her views because she has been harassed in recent months by anonymous telephone calls and nasty letters.

"I AM SYMPATHETIC with labor legislation and feel the Federal Government should intervene more in Texas," she said. "I think socialized medicine would work and would be a big benefit to the people but I don't think it ought to be rammed down the throats of Americans."

"I think the philosophical aims of communism sound good," she continued. "But I guess I am anti-Communist because communism pre-supposes an autocratic state and the freedoms you have to

history."

sacrifice aren't worth it. I just don't think it will work.

"What makes our system so good is that you can sit around and debate different political and economic systems. Really, I guess I'm pretty violently anti-Communist but I hate to use that phrase."

Miss Reed feels that America has put too much money and effort into developing nuclear weapons.

"WE COULD have created so much with the atom," she said. "The people don't realize the true impact of it. It's like discovering the wheel or fire. We're like a bunch of cave men playing with a large fire—we don't know what it will do."

"I'm not concerned about the Communist threat in this country," she added. "For one thing, we're not faced with the problems which confronted the countries that have gone Communist."

"But we could learn something from Russian history: If people don't give in to some liberal ideas, the radicals will take over. The United States will realize it has to change—because the world is going to change."

FRIDAY: The man who "runs" the University YMCA-YWCA.

UnAmerican Activities had caused him some trouble.

"I favor either abolition or altering it," he explained. "It is doing nothing but harm now but it could be a very effective committee of the House. Now it is a political tool."

"I introduced a resolution against it in the regional Y. The Christian Anti-Communist group in Dallas found out about it and blasted me. That caused some people to quit contributing to the Y and caused some of the Y's to get cut off from the United Fund."

"I was disappointed," he added, "that anyone in the United States would suspect someone of being disloyal because he is trying to improve the situation. One of the main tenets of democracy is that it can be criticized. I was just using my freedom of speech to criticize."

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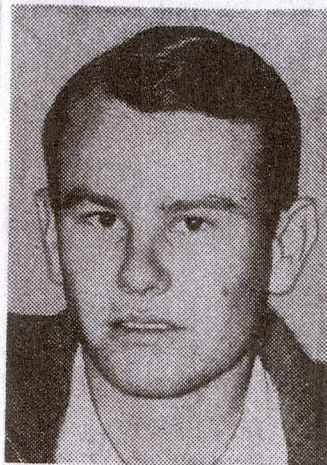
—Dallas News Staff Photos.

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