

# U of M helps HUAC

On August 4th the Office of Student Affairs received a letter from the House Un-American Activities Committee. The letter demanded, under penalty of subpoena, that Vice-President Cutler send HUAC the membership records of certain U of M student organizations which have been involved in protesting the war in Vietnam.

Until August 15th, the people implicated by the records knew nothing of this. On that date, Vice-President Cutler sent a letter to 65 students and faculty informing them that he had complied with HUAC's demand, and that it was possible they would now be subpoenaed to testify before the committee. The letter reaffirmed the fact that the documents are considered confidential by the OSA, but that Cutler had capitulated "in the face of the subpoena."

One of the organizations implicated by the University's action was VOICE - the U.M. chapter of Students for a Democratic Society. VOICE is today holding a sit-in in the office of Vice-President for Academic Affairs Allen Smith. His office has been chosen because, (1) Vice President Smith was involved in the decision and was responsible for not consulting the faculty members involved, and (2) since President Hatcher is "in a mountain cabin with no phone," Vice-President Cutler is "unavailable and cannot be reached," and Executive Vice-President Niehuss is "on vacation," Vice President Smith is the acting top administrator of the University.

WE INTEND TO SIT-IN UNTIL VICE\*PRESIDENT SMITH ANSWERS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1.) Why were these faculty and students whose lives and careers stand to be violently disrupted by HUAC's witch-hunt not notified nor given a voice in the University's decision?
- 2.) Why were normal channels of procedure not followed and the Regents not notified?
- 3.) Why did the administration wait to announce its decision for ten days until classes were over and the Daily was no longer publishing?
- 4.) What is the U of M's position on HUAC's current attempt to stifle anti-war dissent?

(OVER)