

STERLING HALL

UW Sterling Hall
One Year After the Blast ...

... Away From Violence, *Bombing* Death

The blast that wakened Madison, wrecked Sterling Hall, and destroyed a young life early one Monday morning a year ago is still reverberating in many places . . .

In one home where a courageous young widow finds shelter from the public gaze and tries to raise her small children alone . . .

In another where middle-aged parents wait for word of sons who don't come home anymore . . .

In University offices and laboratories where work s a v a g e l y interrupted is underway again . . .

In conferences of public officials and lawmen responsible for protecting life and property against terrorism . . .

In the endless r a p s e s s i o n s of young people, as opposed to the war as they ever were, but speaking now in more rational terms having discovered that exciting talk of violence and revolution can lead not to revolution but to violence and blood and the death of a young man like themselves.

The bomb on the University of Wisconsin campus cruelly wiped out a youthful and useful life. It will never be forgotten. But — whatever its perpetrators expected, whoever

they were — it failed to change the course of history.

And yet the course of history has been changed.

No one can pretend that anything good has risen from the shambles of Sterling Hall. But no one can pretend that this is the same world where the bomb went off.

In the 12 months that followed there has been a constant re-shaping of our times by n o n - v i o l e n t means.

— The vote for 18-year-olds.

Rapprochement with China.

Steady winding-down of the war in Vietnam.

Reevaluation of priorities in education and government and urban life and industry.

A fresh look at the economy, domestic and international.

Constant assessment of social values and life styles.

People of all ages thinking earnestly about profound and abstract issues.

Our life indeed is changing. But it is not to be transformed by a callous and impatient few in moments of flame and destruction but by the steady, p a t i e n t, day-in, day-out weight of the individual choices and decisions of all of us.

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