

EDITOR'S NOTE —

The events taking place on the campus between April 18 and 23 elicited strong reactions both in the United States and abroad. Similar concern is understandably present in the Cornell community. We therefore chose to devote most of this issue of "Cornell Reports" to reprinting word for word much of the text of the "Ithaca Journal's" coverage as it

appeared in that newspaper, with photographs from both the Journal and Cornell. The Journal's reporting was thorough and comprehensive. But what is most important—it represents an independent viewpoint.

We wish to thank the editors of "The Ithaca Journal" for permission to reprint their reports.

The Cornell University Board of Trustees adopted the following 10-point declaration on May 1.

"We hereby affirm that these are the governing standards of Cornell University:

1. That all students and faculty are guaranteed the right of free speech.

2. That the freedom to teach in accordance with the dictates of intellect and conscience is fundamental to the University, and that no one has any right to inhibit the rights of others to teach or to interfere with the freedom to learn.

3. That bigotry and racial discrimination have no place on the Cornell campus.

4. That every member of the Cornell community is to be judged individually as to his conduct and performance.

5. That the University is not a sanctuary from the law.

6. That duress, intimidation, violence and the threat of violence are inimical to the life of the University and unacceptable as expressions of dissent.

7. That disruption and the tactics of terror will be met by firm and appropriate response.

8. That orderly change is essential to the life and the growth of the University.

9. That Cornell encourages faculty and student ideas for adapting the structure, curricula and programs of the University to the changing needs of the times.

10. That all University policies must be consonant with the basic Cornell principle of freedom with responsibility.

The Trustees are determined to assure that peace, personal security and equal justice prevail at Cornell. President James A. Perkins and his administration have direct responsibility and full authority for the attainment of these goals. The Trustees expect the President to use his authority to the maximum extent necessary to discharge this responsibility."

The Trustees also confirmed the campus regulation previously announced by President Perkins on April 22 forbidding firearms on campus and prohibiting disruption of University operations.

The Scene, Dialogue Outside 'Occupied' Willard Straight

Cornell University



Crowd gathers outside Willard Straight Saturday morning.

By DALE LASHNITS

Journal Staff Writer

"I've got to see what is going on," one woman says as she moves closer to the picket line.

"They've got their trouble-makers here too," a man adds as he walks disgruntledly away from Willard Straight Hall.

A few people, clearly here for Cornell University's Parent's Weekend, fail to grasp what has happened. Finding that one door to the building is barred, they walk toward the side of the hall to unsuccessfully try another door.

It is Saturday morning. The black students are inside Willard Straight Hall. They have occupied the building, locked it

up, and closed it down.

The Students for a Democratic Society, SDS, is picketing in front of the building. Carrying signs reading "Why Reprimand" or "Justice Equals Amnesty," they march in circular fashion in the rain.

The black students inside the Straight stay away from the

windows. Only an occasional face peers out briefly.

Eventually three officious looking men in sportcoats and ties appear. After inspecting the building for a possible means of entry, University Counsel Neil Stamp addresses himself to the faceless stone front of the hall.

"May we speak with Mr. Whitfield, please," he asks several times.

Eventually a small second floor window opens and a face appears.

"Hi," the young man answers in a genuinely understated and friendly voice.

"What's the problem?" the man outside asks.

"We'll have a statement for you in about an hour," is the answer.

The seriousness of the situation is quickly apparent. About 20 white fraternity students break a side window and enter the occupied building.

Charles Marshall, Joe Kelly, and other leaders of SDS get between the window and the remaining fraternity men waiting to enter through the window. There is a scuffle and several punches are thrown at, over, and beyond heads.

"We're students... why do we have to break in?" the fraternity men yell.

Campus police are between the opponents and keep them apart.

Soon those students who entered the window are coming out the same way. One has a

Continued on page 2—

Cross-Burning, 11 False Alarms

Friday, April 18, 1969

Ithaca Journal

A wooden cross burning incident at the black woman's cooperative at 208 Dearborn Pl. and a series of 11 false fire alarms were reported on the Cornell University campus early this morning.

The person or persons responsible for the incidents are as yet unknown.

Whether there was any direct connection between the incidents and the announcement at 2 a.m. by the Student-Faculty Board on Student Conduct that three black students had been given reprimands could not be ascertained.

Detective Edward Trainer of the Ithaca Police Department said that he was at the corner of Triphammer Rd. and Dearborn Pl. shortly before 3 a.m. when he received a report of a fire at the black woman's cooperative Wari. House. He said that when

he arrived at the building he found the flaming cross propped on a porch at the front of the building. He kicked the cross off of the porch and extinguished it.

The cross, made of wooden slats like those used in floral arrangements and wrapped with cloth, was approximately four feet high and two feet wide.

A rock was also thrown through a window of the residence.

Cornell Division of Safety and Security officials said there were no injuries to the 12 coeds in the residence nor was there any fire damage to the building itself.

The residence houses members of the Cornell Committee on Special Educational Projects (COSEP) program.

Inside the three-story frame house, the girls were awakened

abruptly from their sleep.

Charisse A. Cannady, a New York City senior at the school and head resident at the house, had the girls lie on the floor in a rear kitchen until help arrived.

Black male students, told of the incident, rushed to the women's dormitory, but left soon afterwards, when campus police arrived.

"The girls are very upset about the whole thing because this is supposed to be the great state of New York and a great liberal campus," said Miss Cannady.

She said the house had received threats in the past when there was trouble on the campus.

"I think following this incident there will be quite a bit of polarization between black and white students," she said.

Wari House was set up by the administration after demands last spring by black women students, who said they felt ill at ease living in regular dorms.

The malicious false alarms

were reported between 1:43 and 5:08.

Fire engines made runs on all of them.

The chronology and locations of the false alarms follows:

—1:43 a.m., University Hall 4
—2:17 a.m., University Hall 4
—2:21 a.m., Goldwin Smith Hall
—2:57 a.m., Prudence Risley Hall
—2:58 a.m., Mary Donlon Hall
—2:59 a.m., Clara Dickson Hall
—3:19 a.m., University Hall 2
—3:22 a.m., University Hall 4
—3:54 a.m., McFaddin Hall
—4:25 a.m., Mary Donlon Hall
—5:08 a.m., University Hall 4

The University Halls and McFaddin are men's dormitories. Donlon, Risley and Dickson are women's dormitories. Goldwin Smith Hall is an academic building of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Fire Chief Charles M. Weaver suggested that because the alarm boxes were located in a variety of places inside the buildings—including those in the corridors of the women's residences which are locked at night—the incidents involved more than a series of college pranks.

Eugene Dymek, director of the Cornell Safety Division said that campus officials believed that the alarms were turned in by students living in the buildings.

'Premature To Speculate'

Cornell Director of Public Information Thomas L. Tobin late this morning issued the following statement:

"As yet the investigation of the incidents of early morning has produced neither witnesses nor suspects. As a consequence, it is premature to speculate on the possible motivation or purpose of the individual or individuals who turned in the alarms or placed the cross on the porch of the coed residence. The Cornell Division of Safety and Security and the Ithaca Police are cooperating in the investigation. All possible precautions are being taken to prevent a recurrence of the incidents."



Students leave the Straight the same way they entered.

Ithaca Journal

—Continued from page 1

bloody mouth. A second claims that acid has been thrown in his eyes and he can not see. He is rushed to Gannett Clinic adjacent to the occupied building. A third has a cut over his eye.

In front of the Straight, the SDS picketing goes on. Sidewalk debates begin; some of those involved in incident of violence talk of mobilizing the fraternities and "cleaning the place out."

Eventually the same young man who spoke before addresses the crowd. He says that some of the "campus clowns" broke in "swinging sticks and beating people."

"If any more whites come in...you're gonna die in here," he says. He promises that more attempts to oust the blacks will produce a "reign of terror."

"We took this building without hurting anybody and we're trying to hold it that way," he adds.

"Get your ass out of there," a young man wearing a Cornell football jacket shouts at him as he closes the window.

Some SDSers station guards at the exits to prevent further confrontations and violence. Others continue the picketing.

Some of the whites outside are there for social reasons. They have come to see their friends, to watch the girls, to stay where the action is. They lend a carnival air to the SDS's efforts.

Still, some are there because they believe that white America in general and Cornell in particular has not lived up to its promises to its black brothers, has cheated the blacks, has degraded them.

Eventually a spokesman for SDS, C. David Burak, mounts the painted remains of a tree stump to speak to the demonstrators. He describes black America as a "colonized people" and says that they have been "exploited culturally and financially for 300 years." He says that the problem is that people "don't want to listen" and describes

those students who attempted to get into the building as "victims of a racist society."

SDS is demonstrating "in support of self-determination," he says "and promises that they will stay there until the university cedes to black demands."

Many in the audience wonder what right he has to speak for the blacks, especially since the Afro-American organization has avoided all but the most transient political union with SDS. Still, for the moment, SDS people are closer to those students inside the building than anyone else. Most people listen as he continues speaking.

He says that black America has a right to demand privileges now on the grounds that historically they have been denied an equal opportunity with whites. In answer to a question from the audience, Burak says that not all of the campus' black support the action of those inside the building because, as there is among white, a black bourgeois exists with a very important interest in the status quo.

Those blacks, he adds, "don't realize what's best for them."

While he is speaking, the same young man appears at the window of the Straight.

"Express my sympathy...we can not be responsible for the health of people who try and break into this room violently," he adds before disappearing again.

In the afternoon, SDS leaves a representative contingent to demonstrate in the snow and adjourns for a well attended meeting to determine strategy.

"The university is applying student conduct codes to a political act," someone says.

A young man who has helped to word an SDS leaflet on the day's events summarizes the group's underlying position: "The fundamental question is that when blacks are trying to change the structure, the structure doesn't have the legitimacy to try them."

— 1:43 a.m. Friday: Ithaca firemen responded to a malicious false alarm at University Hall 4, the first of 11 malicious false alarms reported on campus between 1:43 a.m. and 5:08 a.m.

— 2 a.m. Friday: The Cornell Student Faculty Board on Student Conduct announced that reprimands were issued to three Cornell black students for "harrassment and intimidation of members of the community" in connection with a series of demonstrations and incidents by black students Dec. 12 throughout the campus following a six-hour hearing.

— 3 a.m. Friday: A flaming cross constructed by two-by-fours and wrapped in cloth was kicked off the front porch of Wari House by Ithaca Police Department Detective Edward Traynor after he received a report of a fire at the black womens' co-op.

— 8:14 p.m. Friday: Ithaca firemen answered a malicious false alarm at Caldwell Hall, the first of five malicious false alarms turned in from the Cornell campus overnight.

— 6:03 a.m. Saturday: An announcement was made over radio station WVBR, the Cornell student station whose studios are located in the basement of Willard Straight Hall, that the building had been taken over by black students. The announcement, by Edward Whitfield, chairman of the AAS, said that the action was being taken because of the racism of the University and the lack of substantial progress on a Black Studies program.

Black students apparently entered Willard Straight between 5 and 6 a.m. Saturday and ordered about 40 employees of the student union and about 30 parents being housed there for Parents' Weekend to leave immediately. Members of Students for a Democratic Society set up a picket line outside the building in support of the blacks.

— 6:22 a.m. Saturday: Radio station WVBR signed off the air after its studios were taken over by black students.

— 9:30 a.m. Saturday: Cornell University Safety Division Director Eugene Dymek, speaking through a megaphone, addressed the occupying students. "I am here to demand you leave the Willard Straight building immediately," he said.

— 9:40 a.m. Saturday: Four persons suffered minor injuries when a group of approximately 20 white fraternity members, about 10 of whom gained entrance to Willard Straight through a window of the WVBR studios, were repulsed by AAS members inside after a fight in the Ivy Room. The fraternity members said they entered the building hoping to throw open the doors and end the occupation.

Treated at Gannett Clinic, adjacent to Willard Straight, and released were Santo Loquatro, Barry Stacer, Rowen Snyder and an unidentified black student. All three white students were members of Delta Upsilon fraternity.

A scuffle broke out outside the building when SDS members, picketing in front of the Straight, ran around the side and engaged the fraternity members to prevent more of them from entering through the studios of WVBR.

— 10 a.m. Saturday: Zachary W. Carter, vice chairman of the AAS, leaned out a front window of Willard Straight and told a crowd which had gathered that some "white crackers" had broken in and had assaulted and injured an "innocent" black student. He said anyone who attempted to enter the building would be killed and promised "a reign of terror like you've never seen," a statement that brought jeers from students in the crowd.

— 10:45 a.m. Saturday: A group of white students, largely fraternity members, met on the third floor of Noyes Center to consider alternative courses of action, voted to send Edward MacLeod as their representative to a meeting of a faculty council scheduled for 11 a.m. and agreed to request that the faculty ask for an injunction against the black students occupying Willard Straight.

The principal alternative considered was a request for direct police action. Harry Kisker, assistant dean of students, told the group that one of the University's contingency plans called for use of a State Police tactical squad of about 250 men which, he said, could be mobilized in between two and four hours.

Public Affairs Vice President Muller said that direct communications had been established by the University administration with members of the AAS occupying Willard Straight. He said no time limit had been set for vacation of the union.

Ithaca Journal

Monday, April 21, 1969

— 11 a.m. Saturday: Cornell President James A. Perkins, members of the executive staff, the University faculty council, junior faculty members, and students began deliberating on the occupation.

— Noon Saturday: SDS circulated a statement which it said came from the AAS and which demanded that judicial action against the three black students brought before the Student Conduct Board be nullified, that the "University shall reopen housing negotiations so that Black students can discuss ways to make it beneficial to Black people," and that a full investigation of the cross-burning should be made.

1 p.m. Saturday: SDS held a meeting at Anabel Taylor Hall at which plans to seize Day Hall, the administration building, were discussed.

2 p.m. Saturday: The Interfraternity Council issued a statement condemning the use of either injunctions or the intervention of civil authorities.

4 p.m. Saturday: The administration-faculty council meeting resumed deliberations without reaching any conclusions.

7 p.m. Saturday: The administration-faculty council adjourned without decision and agreed to reconvene Sunday.

8:30 p.m. Saturday: A teach-in sponsored by the IFC and SDS began at Bailey Hall. SDS continued meeting after the break-up of the teach-in. Approximately 300 SDS members and sympathizers remained at Anabel Taylor Hall overnight picketing the Straight in rotation.

10:35 p.m. Saturday: One rifle equipped with telescopic sights, several gun cases and hatchets were brought into Willard Straight.

7:30 a.m. Sunday: SDS began an organization meeting at Anabel Taylor, planning a rally for the morning.

11 a.m. Sunday: Members of the administration-faculty council resumed deliberations at Myron Taylor Law School as SDS began a rally outside.

At the same time Muller and Vice Provost Keith Kennedy made direct personal contact with AAS members in Willard Straight and began the negotiations which led eventually to the evacuation of the building.

1:30 p.m. Sunday: Two more guns were reported brought into Willard Straight through a rear door as Cornell Safety Division patrolmen watched. Safety Division personnel were reportedly under orders to allow any black student through any police lines.

3 p.m. Sunday: Muller returned to Willard Straight Hall to continue negotiations with the black students.

3:30 p.m. Sunday: Safety Division patrolmen gathered in front of Willard Straight and an announcement was made by SDS member Alan Snitow that the black students would be leaving.

4:10 p.m. Sunday: The front doors of Willard Straight swung open and 120 black students exited, with weapons at the ready, through the waiting crowd and began the march across campus.

4:40 p.m. Sunday: After concluding negotiations with the AAS inside 320 Wait Ave., Muller and Kennedy for the University and Whitfield and Carter for the AAS signed a seven-point agreement on the front steps of 320 Wait Ave.

12,000 Hear Address

Ithaca Journal

Tuesday, April 22, 1969

Without making any direct reference to the activities of the Afro-American Society this past weekend, Cornell President James A. Perkins spoke on the need for humanity to 12,000 attending a special convocation Monday afternoon at Bart Hall.

"The question before the house today, and in the immediate days to come, is whether we have the collective wisdom and sensitivity in sufficient measure to deal with what I am certain future historians will doubtless call one of the great testing points in that peculiar institution we call the university."

"The pressure of new priorities" and "the pressure of decentralized decision making were at the route of Cornell's current problems," he said.

Continued on page 3—

CORNELL REPORTS

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Says Suspensions on Future Gun, Takeover Incidents

President Perkins Declares Emergency at Cornell

Cornell President James A. Perkins this afternoon declared an "emergency situation" on the campus in the wake of weekend seizure of Willard Straight Hall by black students and their accumulation of arms before leaving the student union building Sunday afternoon.

He also called for a convocation of the Cornell community later in the afternoon at Barton Hall.

Perkins said in his statement at 12:15 p.m.:

"I am hereby declaring a situation of emergency on the Cornell University campus as of this moment, to extend until further notice.

"Accordingly, I am establishing an emergency advisory board which I shall chair. The advisory board, to be appointed by me, will be composed of three members of the faculty, three students, and three members of the administration. The Mayor or his designated representative will sit with this board for purposes of liaison.

"For the duration of the present emergency, I, as president, have assumed full authority and responsibility, in cooperation with other authorities, for the maintenance of the safety and security of the Ithaca campus.

"I am acting on the authority vested in me as president of the university and with the explicit support of the chairman of the University Board of Trustees.

"I have been in constant contact with Mayor Kiely, District Attorney McHugh and representatives of local and state law enforcement agencies. While it is my judgment that the present situation on campus does not justify my requesting Mayor Kiely to declare a limited state of emergency, as he is authorized to do by law, I am taking these emergency actions in the hope and expectation that

more drastic action may be avoided.

"...Appropriate regulations are being drafted to control the possession or use of fire arms on Campus and to control demonstrations including such unlawful acts as the occupation of University buildings....

"I earnestly call upon all members of the Cornell community to cooperate to the utmost in restoring conditions of safety and civility on our campus."

In the morning Perkins issued a statement saying that campus students and non-students will not be allowed to carry a gun outside his room or he will face suspension or arrest, respectively.

The same provisions were

Ithaca Journal

Monday, April 21, 1969

announced for the seizure of buildings for coercive purposes.

Any organization that promotes occupation of a building as a coercive measure will be disbanded.

Cornell University 1968-69 residence regulations for undergraduate men "strictly prohibits... storage of fire arms," according to the Dean of Men's office.

The text of Perkins announcement:

"This is President James A. Perkins speaking. I have an important message for the Cornell community. My message has to do with the events of the last 48 hours.

"It is clear that we will have to take some emergency action in order to make sure that the

campus is able to continue in peace, quiet, and safety. The presence of weapons and guns on campus yesterday was a shattering experience for those who were exposed to it. This incident cannot be repeated.

"As chief executive officer and chief education officer of the university I am now declaring that on the campus students and non-students will not be allowed to carry a gun. Any student who is found carrying a gun outside his own room will be automatically suspended and any non-student seen or carrying a gun will be arrested. I take this action with the full understanding and approval of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Robert Purcell.

"I have a second announcement that the business of occupying buildings must now cease as a way of conducting university business. Any student, who enters a building for the purpose of occupying it for coercive purposes, will also be automatically suspended and any non-student who enters a building for the same purpose is liable to arrest. Any organization that prompts any such move for coercive purposes will be liable to have their group disbanded.

"In order to make sure that the community understands that these rules will be enforced I have, this morning, made arrangements with the Safety Division, the city, the town and the State Police, who have representatives on the campus, as I give this message, to make sure these rules shall be enforced.

"I expect every member of the community to obey these rules during the rest of this week until we have had a chance to understand how we can best reestablish law and order and stability on the Cornell campus. I ask every member of the community to observe these rules...."

Campus Police: Manpower Lack

By PETE WALSH
Journal Staff Writer

Cornell University campus police were essentially powerless to act because of a lack of manpower once Willard Straight Hall had been occupied and secured from the inside. Cornell Safety Division Director Eugene Dymek said this morning.

"The first we knew about the takeover was when our office received a call from one of the employees at the Straight about quarter of six (Saturday morning) who said black students had ordered them to leave the building.

"We responded immediately with all the men available, but the blacks had secured the building."

With a total strength on campus of about eight men at the time of the take-over and the doors of the student union chained and locked and all the ground floor windows barricaded with furniture, there was little for the Safety Division to do, Dymek said.

"You remember Harvard where it took 400 policemen to evict 200 students; we just don't have the manpower."

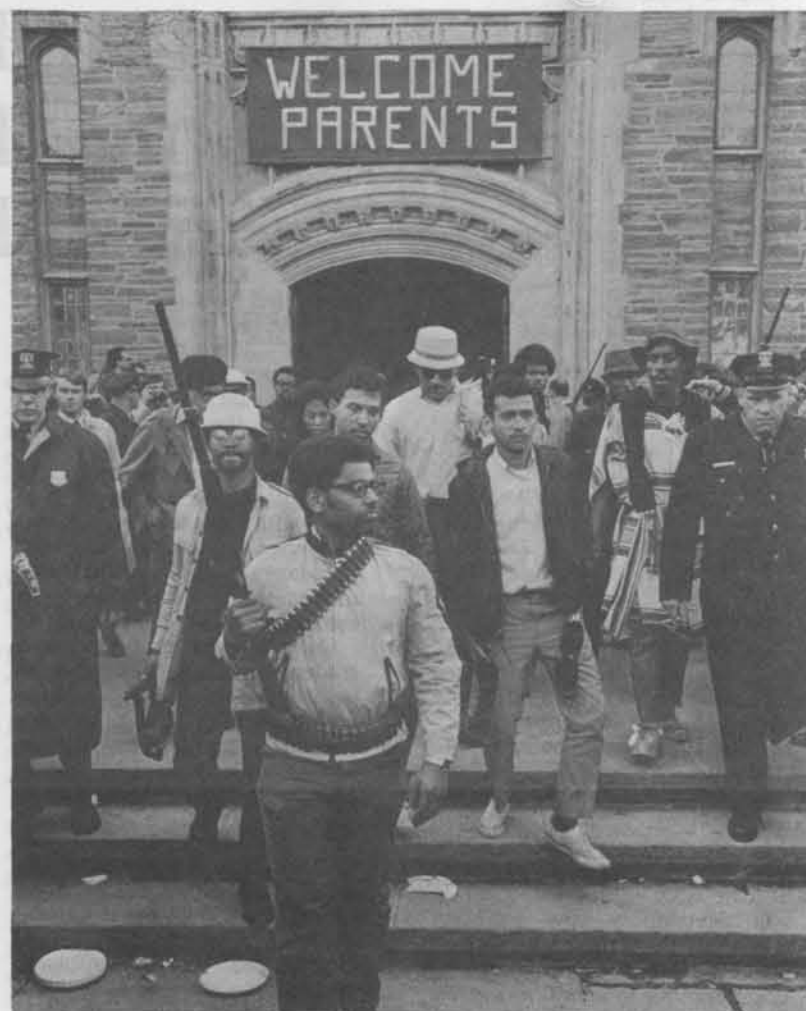
University officials were aware that "several times" during Saturday night firearms were brought into Willard Straight Hall by occupying black students, according to Lowell T. George, supervisor of public safety.

He said there was little that could be done by a single officer directing traffic when a carload of black students drove up to the rear of the student union, the students jumped out, and ran inside with guns.

George said he expected "some action" would be taken with regard to the question of firearms although he could not say what.

Witnesses have reported that black students were seen driving in Ithaca Sunday night displaying firearms.

George said the last information he had with regard to the firearms carried by Afro-American Society members as they exited from Willard Straight Hall Sunday afternoon was that small groups of black students had left 320 Wait Ave. about 11 p.m. Sunday, some with weapons and went to 208 Dearborn Pl., the black women's co-op. He said the Safety Division understood the black students were dispersing and intended to place the weapons in their rooms and apartments.



4:10 p.m. Sunday: occupiers leave the Straight.

Cornell University

Straight

Occupation Is Over

By PETE WALSH
Journal Staff Writer

At 4:10 p.m. Sunday about 120 black students, some of them armed marched from the front entrance of Willard Straight Hall across the Arts Quadrangle and Triphammer Bridge to the Afro-American Society building at 320 Wait Ave., ending 34 tense hours of occupation of Cornell's student union.

The evacuation came after Cornell's Administration bowed to an Afro-American Society demand for immunity for those participating in the occupation and agreed to recommend to the faculty which meets today that judicial prodecures—reprimands—taken against three black students involved in incidents Dec. 12 be nullified.

The university also agreed to assume responsibility for damage done to Willard Straight.

Flanked by 15 of their members who balanced the butts of rifles and shotguns on their hips and carried bandoliers of ammunition and accompanied by patrolmen of the Cornell University Safety Division, the blacks, some of whom carried spears made of knives fastened to sticks and clubs made from the butts of shattered pool cues taken from the billiard room of the Straight, exited from the building through a crowd estimated at 2,000 persons, demonstrators and onlookers.

This was believed the first time ever that college students occupying a university building had carried firearms.

Continued on page 4—

Cornell University



Kennedy and Muller listen as Whitfield reads agreement in front of 320 Wait Avenue.

—Continued from page 3

Spokesmen for the blacks said the guns were for self-defense.

Cornell Vice President for Public Affairs Steven Muller said the weapons were not loaded and that the bolts were open, though at least one Carcano carbine in the hands of a black student was observed to have a shell in the breech ready to be forced into the chamber when the bolt was closed.

In an agreement between the Afro-American Society and the University signed at 4:43 p.m. on the front steps of 320 Wait Ave., the University agreed to provide 24-hour protection for the black coeds co-op 208 Dearborn Place, Wari House, and at 320 Wait Ave., and to investigate police activities in connection with the burning of a cross on the porch of the Wari House early Friday and an assault on the occupied Straight by a group of white students Saturday morning.

The University also agreed to help the AAS and their members secure legal assistance to defend themselves against any civil actions arising as a result of the occupation of Willard Straight.

The AAS agreed to cooperate in devising a new judiciary system for the University's student body.

Reacting to what "appeared to be a growing and imminent threat to life, both black and white," the University acceded to the demands of the black students in light of "a realistic appraisal of the

resources available to the University," according to Muller, speaking at a press conference after the evacuation. He said the University did not have the strength to protect life and property without recourse to the civil authorities.

Muller and University Vice Provost Keith W. Kennedy negotiated the agreement with the AAS in meetings held in Willard Straight during the occupation.

Muller said the University was aware of the consequences in other areas of bringing in civil authorities when the university had not the resources to deal itself with a situation on campus. "We had as of this morning (Sunday) a situation that was increasingly difficult, an escalating situation," he said.

Guns brought in to the black students in the Straight and the publication and public knowledge of this had heightened tension not only on the campus and in Willard Straight, but in the City of Ithaca, according to Muller.

In a statement issued by the Afro-American Society after the end of the occupation, the black students said they had occupied Willard Straight Hall to demonstrate their continued objection to the judgement of black students by University judicial councils and to protest the cross-burning at Wari House.

Willard Straight Hall was closed today to repair damage and to clean up.

Rationale Is Outlined

Ithaca Journal

Monday, April 21, 1969

The rationale behind the Cornell Administration's actions Sunday afternoon which in effect granted the blacks amnesty in return for their leaving Willard Straight Hall was public safety, according to a spokesman.

Vice President for Public Affairs Steven Muller said in a press conference:

"What we had Sunday morning was an escalating situation.

"We were aware that guns were brought into the Straight, that the black students brought them in for self protection, and that the public was aware they had the guns and that the tension was mounting considerably ...

"What we were confronted with was a situation where we did not have the resources to assure that life was not endangered.

"Because of what had occurred elsewhere, we were aware of the results of having civil authorities come in, and we began to operate within very limited options.

"Civil authorities have the options to bring judicial action, not only immediate police action.

"If they did not leave, the situation was growing more dangerous by the hour and we would need civil authorities. More likely the local authorities, in view of their knowledge of the guns, might not wait, might proceed alone.

"The university prefers judicial to police action. The university's actions do not preclude civil action, nor will the university act as a buffer.

"Both actions and penalties involved were relatively minor. If there were principles involved, they were over relatively minor issues and not worth risking the university and

life and limb of both black and white.

"During the past week a high degree of attachment to principle on both sides on an issue that is a little frail to support so much principle.

"It was a relatively new judicial system. (Adopted in the Spring 1968 and put in to use in the Fall 1968) A new system has bugs to be worked out.

"It was being tested on the single most difficult issue that it could be tested on.

Speaking on how guns got into the building and why the black students were allowed guns after they left:

"To cordon off that building would have occupied virtually the whole safety division and we would have had to use people who do not have a profound understanding of the campus situation.

"Well, I think if you are going to try to understand what happened in the context in which it happened, you have to recognize that, whereas there may have been no foundation for fears whatsoever, there is a real fear on the part of a large part of black students that they are not safe.

"It is regrettable, but true, that unhappy circumstances feed the fears including anonymous phone calls, the burning cross, and attempts, totally unauthorized by us, to take instant action and violent action after the sit-in took place.

"Recreating a climate on campus where no one, black or white, feels that kind of threat is the goal to work for.

"The blacks are very much afraid. It is not up to me to say they have reason. What is important is that they think they have reason.

"It is not a situation with which all of us will have to live very long."

Afro-Americans Express Anger On Prior Judicial Procedures

Ithaca Journal

By SUE STRANDBERG
Journal Staff Writer

Armed with toy guns, seven black students ran around the Cornell University campus for about one hour Dec. 12, disrupting traffic and turning over several waste baskets and a vending machine during visits to the President's office in Day Hall, a library, and the Willard Straight student union.

Armed with 15 real guns and other weapons, more than 100 black students walked across campus Sunday afternoon after a weekend siege of Willard Straight Hall.

The threads which tie the first scene to the second were knotted early Friday morning when three of those involved in the toy gun incident received reprimands by the Student-Faculty Board on Student Conduct in which the Afro-American Society has been demanding changes for more than six weeks.

The incident Dec. 12 was followed the next day by similar but larger dramatizations of black student's demands concerning the black studies program, which was then proposed and is now launched with \$240,000 for the first year. None of the 30 or more students involved in the second day were asked to appear before the conduct board by the university which did cite the seven on misconduct charges for the toy gun incident and another involving alleged theft of pillows from a dormitory.

After the black students failed twice to appear, the conduct board threatened automatic suspension if they did not appear at the third scheduling of their cases March 13.

Unnoticed by the board, until a week ago, was a new regulation permitting cases to be decided without the defendants' appearance.

Black students replied that the seven, later reduced to five as two left school, were "singled out as scapegoats ... to intimidate black people struggling to bring about change in the university."

The board said members of a community could not willfully ignore the sanctions of a community they voluntarily joined.

The Afro-American Society responded that the "university has a right and indeed a

responsibility to maintain the integrity of its procedures," however, there will "inevitably" arise situations when the needs of black people conflict with established procedure due to the racism inherent in society.

When this happens, as in December, the university which was one of the two parties in the dispute could not be the judge, but must turn over the dispute to an impartial third party, according to AAS statements.

The black students also said that the all-white board denied them the right to a jury by peers and accused the university of pressing the charges to appease segments of the university which opposed the AAS.

On the basis of these objections, both the AAS and the Students for a Democratic Society called for a re-evaluation of the judicial system to find ways to deal with political actions by black people.

The students charged in connection with the demonstrations did not appear the third time; 150 AAS members appeared instead, saying that the charges resulted from a program of action AAS took as a group and therefore the group should be the defendant.

Ithaca Journal

Monday, April 21, 1969

The board dropped the threat of suspending the individual students, and said that the charges would be held in abeyance until the faculty discussed the issues with the blacks.

But the faculty, which issued a 45-page report disagreeing in essence with all the points made by the blacks, never met with the Afro-Americans.

AAS had asked that the group's name be substituted for the individuals in the cases which were to be held in abeyance while discussions were held. The

faculty declined, saying the question of whether the group or the individuals should be charged was one of the issues to be discussed. AAS then asked that all charges be dropped before discussions began. The faculty declined the request, and no discussions were held.

The report recommended that the existing conduct board should try the cases.

The blacks responded to the faculty report Wednesday saying that the faculty "had failed to recognize that legitimate issues exist."

"We are attempting and will continue in good faith to press for basic necessary reforms utilizing the procedures ... the established procedures open to us," AAS said.

"But if this smug, nearsighted inflexible and ultimately foolish resistance to change is to be characteristic of the university's attitude, then there is clearly no point in our continuing this way."

To proceed with actions against our members will have "no other effect but to reinforce the frowning disillusionment that many of us feel on the possibility of obtaining reasonable and just settlement of legitimate inequities through acceptable channels," AAS said.

Upon a directive by the faculty, the conduct board, comprised of five students and four faculty, tried the cases without the appearance of the defendants, giving reprimands—a light penalty to three and no penalties to two.

An hour after the decision was made a flaming cross was propped on the porch of the black woman's cooperative at 208 Dearborn Pl. and a stone was thrown through a window.

None of the 12 coeds were injured, nor was there any fire damage to the building.

Three hours after the cross burning the blacks were in Willard Straight Hall, and shortly before noon issued a statement saying:

"The attitude and actions of this Administration force Cornell Black students to assume that only through continuous confrontation with the University can we gain even our most minimal demands."

McHugh Is Investigating

Ithaca Journal

Monday, April 21, 1969

District Attorney Matthew McHugh this morning said his office was investigating the weekend's events at Willard Straight Hall and Cornell University.

He issued the following statement:

"I have received numerous inquiries during the past 24 hours concerning what steps the District Attorney's office will be taking relative to the seizure of Willard Straight Hall on the Cornell University campus.

"This office, in conjunction with the local law enforcement

agencies, is thoroughly investigating all of the circumstances surrounding the incident. In this connection the University has pledged its complete cooperation and will provide whatever information it has regarding the events of the past weekend.

"Naturally, we are gratified that Cornell was able to negotiate the evacuation of the building before any substantial damage or serious personal injuries were sustained. In reaching its settlement the University was necessarily concerned with safeguarding the interests of its own community. While we fully appreciate this

concern, it should be understood that our responsibility is to the larger community and cannot be defined or limited by the agreement reached on campus.

"Serious criminal conduct on the part of any person, student or non-student, is the legitimate concern of this office. The purpose of our investigation, therefore, will be to determine whether or not there was such conduct in this case, and if so, whether there is sufficient evidence to secure a conviction of the individuals involved.

"No decision as to formal proceedings can be made until this investigation has been concluded."

Doesn't Nullify Reprimands

Faculty Condemns Straight Seizure, Weapons

Ithaca Journal

The Cornell Faculty, in an overwhelming vote Monday night, condemned the black students' weekend seizure of Willard Straight Hall and in effect their carrying of guns, refused to take action to dismiss controversial reprimands issued last week by the Student-Faculty Board on Student Conduct to three blacks, and supported President Perkins' emergency statements earlier in the day.

Students for a Democratic Society and Afro-American Society members were critical of the results.

Robert D. Miller, dean of the faculty, who presented a portion of the Administration's agreement with the Afro-American Society which recommended that the reprimands be dropped, offered his resignation during the closed meeting.

The reprimand matter is regarded as pivotal by the blacks, who believe the SFBSC is not the proper judicial authority.

More than 1,000 faculty attended the four-hour session at Bailey Hall.

The Faculty directed the Faculty Council, a 15-member steering unit, to meet today with representatives of the Afro-American Society to review political issues behind the AAS complaints, and to report back to the Faculty by 4 p.m. Friday.

Whether this means the reprimand question will be brought up later is not clear.

The faculty resolution said that due to the present atmosphere on the campus it was impossible for the Faculty "at this meeting" to dismiss the penalties. No clarification has been forthcoming.

The text of the Faculty resolution:

"The Faculty expresses its sympathy for the problems of the black students in adjusting



Faculty members enter Bailey Hall Monday for week's first meeting.

themselves to life at Cornell.

"The Faculty condemns the seizure of Willard Straight Hall.

"The Faculty condemns the carrying and use of weapons by anyone except those officially responsible for maintaining law and order on the campus.

"The presence of arms and the seizure of Willard Straight Hall makes it impossible for the Faculty to agree at this meeting to dismiss the penalties imposed on the three students.

Ithaca Journal

Tuesday, April 22, 1969

"The Faculty is prepared under secure and non-pressurized circumstances to review the political issues behind the Afro-American complaints.

"Therefore, the Faculty directs the Faculty Council to

meet with representatives of the Afro-American Society tomorrow and to report to the Faculty by Friday at 4 p.m.

"The Faculty supports, in principle, the President's action taken today to preserve law and order on the campus."

The Faculty also went on record as follows:

"We condemn the despicable attack on the Wari Co-operative by the burning of a cross. We affirm our support of protection by campus police of black students' quarters and of proper punishment of those responsible for the incident."

The Miller resignation offer came over his opposition to the third point listed above of turning the matter over to the Faculty Council to discuss with the Afro-American society today.

The Faculty Council, which met for three hours Saturday and as long Sunday, supported the Miller resolution for the full faculty to nullify the reprimands.

Continued on page 6—

Faculty Dean To Resign

Ithaca Journal

Tuesday, April 22, 1969

Robert D. Miller, dean of the university faculty, told The Journal today that he is submitting his resignation as dean of the university faculty to the Board of Trustees, effective immediately. He is in his second year as dean.

He said he will continue on the faculty as professor of soil physics.

Ernest F. Roberts Jr., professor of law, is now acting dean of the faculty.

"My resignation was an act of faith and not an act of pique," said Miller, after reviewing his reasons.

"The original dispute between the faculty and the Afro-American students was a procedural question relating to the judicial system. But when the occupation of Willard Straight began, one of the students' demands that the faculty proceed on a relatively minor offense — which had resulted in reprimands on three black students and no action on two others — had escalated into an extraordinarily dangerous confrontation.

"Since I felt that the original principle, on which the two sides differed, was dwarfed by the seriousness of the new situation, I conveyed to (Edward) Mr. Whitfield, president of the Afro-American Society, the message that if the society would back off from their demand, the judicial action would be nullified as a condition of their departure from the building, and that I would call a meeting of the faculty and ask them to back off from their insistence that the judicial action stand."

Miller continued:

"I said I would recommend to the faculty that they do this if, and only if, the building was evacuated as soon as possible, dissipating the threat to personal safety which was involved and which was so greatly increased by the presence of firearms in the building.

"All evidence available to me indicated that those arms had been introduced to the building as a defensive measure, following the earlier attempt at a counter-occupation that had



Miller talks to press after tendering resignation as dean of the faculty.

taken place Saturday morning and a widely reported rumor — and it was only a rumor — that a new counter-occupation was in the offing.

"Because my offer to Mr. Whitfield was no more than a commitment to ask the faculty to nullify the judicial actions against the students after the occupation had ended, I could see there was no assurance to him that I could make a serious recommendation to the faculty on this question. I therefore told Mr. Whitfield that if the faculty failed to act as I recommended, I would submit my resignation as dean of the university faculty to the Board of Trustees."

"In making my recommendation to the faculty, I did not explain that, if they failed to approve my recommendation, I would resign, since I wished them to confront the issue on its own merits. However, the faculty proceeded to a resolution, other than the one that I had introduced, which in effect in one of its eight points was contrary to the sense of my recommendation. I then informed them of my pledge and my intention to offer my resignation to the trustees, effective immediately. My resignation was an act of faith, not of pique."

(On both Monday and Wednesday the faculty asked Miller to reconsider. Advised that the Trustees would reject his resignation, Miller agreed to resume office. The editors.)

Barton 'Occupied,' but Open Occupation

Ithaca Journal

By DALE LASHNITS
Journal Staff Writer

Wednesday, April 23, 1969

Some are dressed conservatively in slacks, button-down shirts and sweaters; some wear the traditional leftist garb of work shoes, blue-jeans and old army jackets.

The hair cuts range from the closely cropped fraternity look to the long frizzled hippie hair.

"We're gonna be here all night so if you want to go home and get your tooth brushes, birth-control pills, or whatever...please do," an SDS leader tells the audience at the beginning of the all-night vigil Tuesday in Barton Hall.

Some sit cross-legged in groups of four and five; others stand; still others move continually about the large bright room looking for friends, or merely looking.

Nearly everyone is talking, "discussing the issues."

"Why aren't there channels for student participation and political action within this university?"

"You haven't seen Beckie or Jackie have you?"

"Our issue as students..."

"Jack Kiefer (a professor) can only seize a building for 12 hours at a time...That's all right, people move at different rates," SDS regional chairman Chip Marshall says.

Marshall and other SDS leaders take responsibility for the all-night demonstration in Barton Hall. From the podium on the stage they direct the protest.

At the moment they intend to take "no militant action at this time". They will instead proceed with the business of occupying the building for the night.

There is a contradiction inherent in the demonstration.

At times it seems that many of the nearly 5,000 students who sat-in, taught-in, and finally slept-in at Barton Hall are there for social rather than political reasons.

However, when Tom Jones, a representative of the Afro-American Society, announced that the AAS "will not move at this time," the demonstrators clapped in a unanimous and thunderous approval.

"But let me say that this is the last time," he warns ominously

as the demonstrators return to the business of killing time in the long night's vigil.

Some of the demonstrators are less interested in the discussion of the issues. One girl sits on the floor absently knitting a green sweater. In the rear of the building, some bearded students begin a basketball game on one of the hall's practice courts.

A strangely friendly low-key tone of the demonstration is deceptive.

Many of the students there are actively prepared to resist what they consider to be the university's unjustified responses. They are serious and determined.

"It's no good to fight racism unless you become a revolutionary," a student says to a small group of listeners.

Two cherry-bombs explode behind the stage; the crowd is quieted briefly.

At the podium a parade of speakers continue to address the sometimes attentive, sometimes uninterested audience.

"The university is not entirely irrelevant," one speaker shouts

emotionally. "The university has demonstrated that it is prepared to go very far...."

"There is no way that the blacks can have freedom and justice at this university unless there is freedom and justice for all students at this university," another speaker says.

Eventually the microphone at the podium is turned off as SDS leaders call for small discussion groups on the floor.

Occasional motions and announcements filter down from the podium.

"We just received a report that Barton Hall is now under armed siege..." a speaker announced as the demonstrators snicker. It is a rumor; they seem to know that it is not true.

Some of the proposals are frivolous.

"I love politics, but we're

gonna be here for a long time — so let's have some music." At first the proposal from the podium is met with cheers, but SDS leader C. David Burak quickly reminds the demonstrators of the seriousness of their intent, and the motion is overwhelmingly defeated.

Some beer is brought in, but in general SDS leaders attempt to prevent the importation of alcohol.

While the degree of interest and seriousness of the demonstration varies from student to student, the crowd remains large through the night.

They may have been "just kids" or "long haired freaks" or only "student radicals" as many people prefer to believe, an SDS leader said, but he added:

"There is no way in hell that they can ignore this many people."

Faculty

Reprimands Nullified

The Cornell Faculty, in a meeting this afternoon, nullified reprimands issued three black students last week, a key issue in the black crisis which hit the Cornell campus during the weekend and resulted in a 35-hour seizure of Willard Straight Hall by 100 blacks, their accumulation of weapons, and an agreement ending the occupation Sunday reached by the Administration and the Afro-American Society which the Faculty did not ratify — due to the atmosphere of pressure and violence — at its session Monday.

Both the Afro-American Society and the Students for a Democratic Society had threatened action of an undetermined nature if the reprimands were not nullified. The reprimands were issued by the Student-Faculty Board on Student Conduct for harassment incidents on campus Dec. 12. The AAS said the acts were political and that the SFBSC was not the proper judicial body, and that the judicial system should be restructured to account for past and present injustices suffered by the blacks.

Whether the faculty action removed the threat of violence on the campus is now known, but many observers believe it will, at least temporarily, though the ramifications in other directions — such as those who opposed the Administration agreement Sunday was capitulation, and those in the Faculty who feel they were coerced in today's vote — will take days, weeks, and months to ascertain.

Earlier story follows.

By SUE STRANDBERG
Journal Staff Writer

About 2,000 Cornell University students and 45 faculty spent the night in Barton Hall in support of the Afro-American Society's demand that the university faculty nullify reprimands issued last week against three black students and immediately set up a new judicial system.

President James A. Perkins cancelled classes this afternoon and scheduled a teach-in at Barton Hall. Spokesmen from the Afro-American Society, Students for a Democratic Society, the faculty, and Administration spoke.

Nullification of the judicial actions was a key demand of the 100 Afro-American students who took over Willard Straight Hall for 35 hours this weekend. The blacks left carrying 15 rifles, which they said were for self-defense, after drafting with the Administration a seven-point agreement which included amnesty for those who took the Straight and a recommendation that the general faculty nullify the judicial actions. The faculty refused Monday to act on the black demand under the threat they said they saw in black possession of arms, but asked its 15-member Faculty Council to

meet Tuesday with the Afro-American Society on the political ramifications of AAS matters and report to the Faculty no later than 4 p.m. Friday. The Faculty Council and AAS didn't meet Tuesday, but the Faculty Council voted to recommend the reprimands — for a series of minor harassments Dec. 12 — be nullified.

Perkins, who Monday promised suspension or arrest for any student or non-student who enters a building with the intent of occupying it for coercive purposes, gave the students meeting in Barton Hall permission to occupy it, two hours after the majority of 5,000 voted to defy his regulation en masse until the black students demands were met.

AAS member Tom Jones, who had said earlier that the Society "would act" unless the faculty changed its mind by 9 p.m. Tuesday, announced at about midnight that the Society had voted unanimously not to act until after the faculty reconsidered its position today.

If the faculty failed to meet, "the university has three hours to live," Jones threatened in a radio interview at 6 p.m.

discussed.

The cases have twice been put in abeyance while black complaints were discussed on the faculty level and were essentially denied prior to the Willard Straight take over.

Roberts said, supporting a similar position made by the faculty a month ago, that the faculty thinks that the judicial system is valid but is willing to review the black complaints.

Roberts said the faculty position should not be read as either supporting or opposing the administration's actions during the weekend.

"We all realized that the administration had solved an almost impossible problem without bloodshed. We did not condemn nor with a rash of enthusiasm support what the administration had done. We accepted it."

—Continued from page 5

"We are making the hopeful and necessary assumption that the Afro-Americans will talk further and we will solve the problem," said Ernest Roberts, law professor and secretary to the faculty, at a press conference Monday night.

Roberts said there was no guarantee that the faculty will consider nullifying the reprimands at the meeting scheduled Friday.

Deciding the question of nullification of the reprimands Monday night would have involved reviewing the merits of the cases, which the full faculty did not want to do then, he said.

One faculty member said the faculty considered possibly putting the cases in abeyance while the black complaints on the judicial system are



President Perkins tells Barton Hall audience "the most constructive possible forces have been set in motion in history of Cornell."

He said the Afro-Americans had taken that position because they valued human life and because the students in Barton Hall represented a new coalition of black and white students who were going to move together to change the university.

The more than 2,000 spending the night were among 5,000 who came to a SDS meeting at 9:30 p.m. which moved from Bailey Hall to Barton due to the overflow.

The SDS meeting was called to decide how to implement the Monday night pledge of some 2,000 students to "act until the black demands were met."

More than two-thirds of the estimated 5,000 at Barton stood up and cheered when Jones asked how many were willing to support what the Afro-American Society decided to do Tuesday night "non-violently according to us."

"I haven't said move with weapons," he said. "We are not planning to attack anyone, but will use weapons when attacked. I am not going to die alone."

The feeling of the audience shifted from readiness to act immediately to delaying action moments after Jones' speech, when a list of nine faculty groups who said they were prepared to support black demands was read to the group.

Discussion about immediate action quickly broke down as anti-AAS speakers received

strong support.

Some SDS leaders prepared to move the SDS and AAS supporters who wanted immediate action back to Bailey Hall.

Then, as the audience began dividing itself and as moderate students wavered with indecision, SDS speaker C. David Burak said:

"I think we have just taken Barton Hall. How many are prepared to stay in Barton Hall until the demands are met?"

About three-quarters of the audience answered with applause and cheers.

Ithaca Journal

Wednesday, April 23, 1969

Later when it was learned that President James A. Perkins sanctioned their use of the building in response to a request by Benjamin Nichols, engineering professor, the crowd booed.

Jones was angry:

"If there were three to four thousand black students here, Perkins would have his pigs here and they would all be in

Tompkins County jail," he said.

"When five thousand white people decide to spend the night in Barton Hall, Perkins decides to change the law that he made yesterday for the black people. Boy does that turn my guts."

"Now do you see the racism in this institution we are fighting about for the last four months?"

The Barton Hall sit-in came after several faculty groups voted to recommend nullification of the reprimands and an immediate revision of the judicial system.

The faculty meeting at noon today was called by the Faculty Council in recognition of "a growing inclination on the part of the University faculty to reconsider its action".

The Council, the faculty's steering committee, recommended that the University faculty declare null and void all judiciary procedures concerning the black students.

The Faculty Council, the majority of whose 15 members originally did not support nullification in its seven hours of closed weekend meetings, Tuesday passed a resolution to "declare" the judicial actions against the black students null and void. This resolution was reversed by one "recommending" such action after consultation with President Perkins. (The Journal was misinformed previously that the majority of the Council favored nullification during the weekend).

Another key faculty group, the Faculty Committee on Student Conduct which is directly responsible for the Student-Faculty Board on Student Conduct, reversed its long standing opposition Tuesday nullifying the judicial action.

The conduct board's action reprimanding three students precipitated the Willard Straight take-over.

suspend teaching if the original vote of faculty to go along with the truce between blacks and the administration were ratified.

The original faculty vote was against ratification, but the subsequent one, Wednesday, reversed the original faculty position.

Sindler declined to elaborate on his reasons this morning, but said the decision is final.

Ithaca Journal



ALLAN P. SINDLER

Professor Sindler Resigns

Thursday, April 24, 1969

Cornell Government Department Chairman Allan P. Sindler has resigned from the university altogether, he confirmed today.

His resignation was submitted to President James Perkins Thursday afternoon, and would take effect, as far as employment by Cornell is concerned, after his delayed leave ends next year.

Sindler's department had been one of the first to act during the Straight-takeover incident, decrying the presence of guns on campus and proposing to

Student Participation in Cornell 'Restructuring' or 'Reform'

By SUE STRANDBERG
Journal Staff Writer

The more than 9,000 students packed into Barton Hall met with a roar of cheers the announcement Wednesday afternoon that the Faculty had reversed its position and nullified the judicial proceedings against five black students.

The Faculty and Cornell President James A. Perkins won a vote of confidence from the students who stood up and applauded both for several minutes.

In speeches that followed the announcement, students were told by faculty, administration, and black students that the faculty decision opened the way for a reform of the university, not only with respect to black students, but with respect to student participation in decisions.

Max Black, philosophy professor, said of the faculty decision:

"At least 1,000 faculty unanimously declared 'we hear you, we care, we are trying to understand you, and we want together with you to do something.'

"Today we were not deciding whether or not five people had been wrong in public ... We were deciding if this university is going to remain as a place that self-respecting men and women can remain.

"Monday, I was among those who voted against rescinding the reprimands because, rightly or wrongly, we felt that we were being asked under duress, with no time to consider the merits of

the case, to ratify a conditional agreement.

"The reasons we voted as we did is because all of us want, if possible, to expunge the past and start new."

Perkins said he saluted those responsible for the Barton Hall meeting (SDS and Interfraternity Council) and said he considered those in the hall representative of the total university community.

"I think probably the most constructive possible forces have been set in motion in the history of Cornell," he said.

Perkins said the emergency measures he had taken Monday — including a ban on carrying guns — were necessary to achieve a situation where a "non-coercive meeting of the faculty could be held.

"We cannot prevent acts of violence from occurring unless we believe in each other," he said.

Tom Jones, the member of the Afro-American Society who said Tuesday that the university had until 9 p.m. to live, said his prediction "came true."

"Last night you stood up and said you would deal with your own destiny, and an old order ended and this (the students in the hall) is the university community.

(At 9 p.m. Wednesday a majority of the 5,000 students attending an SDS meeting in Barton Hall had cheered in support of the suggestion that they stay in the hall until the black demands were met. More than 2,000 students spent the

night there).

"Let's not miss the point (of the faculty decision to nullify)," Jones said. "That decision was made right here. They didn't make any decision; they were told from this room what to do."

"The time for violence has passed. There never should have been a time for violence. The time for seizing buildings has passed if the Faculty's vote means that for the first time the university is going to deal with the whole educational community in making a decision.

"If it doesn't mean that, it's not settled because this university has got to be restructured." Students rose to their feet, fists in the air.

"If we are a member of the university community, that means we are not going to be dictated to," he continued.

Ithaca Journal

Thursday, April 24, 1969

"The community here has to begin to discuss exactly what restructure means, exactly what student participation means. When the community here decides what it wants, it will be carried out by the force of the community."

Edward Whitfield, chairman of the Afro-American Society, said:

"The administration and faculty just gave us a very interesting message; they said they met with coercion."

The audience laughed. "As much as people like to forget the past and look to the future, there are some very important lessons to be learned from the past," he continued.

Whitfield recounted the parable of the mule who would move if you just talked to him, but first you have to hit him on the nose to catch his attention.

"Now we know we have the university's attention. It has been sufficiently whacked across the nose. ... It is time the university as a whole should stop and take a look at itself and its role in society.

"Progress does not stop with one step," it is a continuing process. We must leave here with it firmly in our mind that the battle is not over, that there are important things to be done for the good of all.

Eric Evans, vice chairman of the Afro-American Society, was reviewing the history of the black students' experience with Cornell when Perkins came onto the stage.

Perkins put his arm around Evans shoulder. SDS leader C. David Burak put his arm around Perkins' shoulder. Evans laughed.

"You know what Perkins just said after putting his arm around my shoulder, paternally, 'sit down I want to talk.'

Perkins however, sat down, and Evans began speaking again as the students cheered.

Some Start Turning in Guns

Ithaca Journal
Friday, April 25, 1969

The Negro president of a Cornell University fraternity today handed over two rifles and a shotgun to university officials, saying he did so "as an act of good faith."

The weapons were the first to be surrendered since a Sunday incident when the Cornell Afro-American Society (AAS) shocked Cornell by a show of 15 rifles and two shotguns as they gave up a seized campus building.

Otis Sprow, 20, of Baltimore, Md., president of Chi Psi fraternity, said he was not a member of the Cornell AAS but had attended some meetings. He said he was not among those who took over Willard Straight Hall Saturday in a seizure that was peaceful at first.

Sprow said the weapons belonged to his fraternity members. They included a 16-gauge shotgun and two .22 caliber rifles.

Sprow told a reporter: "We are doing this as an act of good faith toward the community as a whole. We feel we can trust the community. We don't need the weapons."

Thomas Jones, an official of the AAS, today reiterated that his group will not disarm immediately.

"Chi Psi is only one fraternity. As long as a state of racist oppression exists we cannot afford to disarm," Jones said.

Say Picture at Cornell Is Difficult to Simplify

'People..Never Involved..Are Involved Today'

Ithaca Journal



Hotel School students, like others across campus, held week-long classroom discussions.

Cornell University

By RANDALL E. SHEW
Journal Managing Editor
Friday, April 25, 1969

"Neither one picture (of blacks emerging from Willard Straight with arms) nor a thousand words can paint a full picture of everything that happened at Cornell University in the past few days."

That statement by Prof. Raymond Bowers on the NBC-

TV Today show this morning is the jist of the Cornell message as it was carried by Bowers and Steven Muller, vice president for public affairs at the university.

Both spoke of the complexities the university faced in the situation, and the difficulties in explaining it to persons across the country who are confused by the sequence of events.

"The county still doesn't understand," Muller said.

Moderator Hugh Downs confessed as he opened the interview that he was confused by what seemed to him to be the university making a pledge to the blacks Sunday, the faculty repudiating the pledge Monday, then the faculty reversing itself and upholding the pledge Wednesday. He then flashed the picture of the blacks emerging from the building.

Muller said the Sunday

agreement was made to avoid bloodshed. He emphasized that the pledge made to the blacks Sunday was only that the dean of the faculty would recommend that the faculty vote to nullify the penalties, and that that pledge was carried out.

"We knew the administration could not commit the faculty," Muller said.

Professor Bowers said his vote on Monday, when he voted against nullifying the penalties to the blacks (along with some 700 of his colleagues who were in the majority that day) was based "on the need to maintain the judiciary structure at Cornell. I thought this was what my students would have wanted me to do." He noted that the judiciary at Cornell is under faculty control, and that he changed his vote Wednesday.

Downs called attention to a headline in this morning's New York Times that referred to a "faculty revolt" at Cornell, and asked if that was true.

Bowers said the headline was "inflammatory," that he had talked to some 200 hundred of his colleagues before leaving Ithaca late last night, and denied that there was any "faculty revolt."

Muller said of the picture of the blacks leaving the building:

"I would only hope we don't get what I can only call a gut

reaction to that picture ... It is not easy to put it in context ... Remember that they exited from the building of their own free will ... They were frightened, and they were still afraid when they came out ... that they might be walking into a retaliatory ambush."

Muller praised the members of the press who covered the situation at Cornell as "honest and conscientious." He said, though, that "they were covering a crisis, and unfortunately in a crisis there just isn't time to find out all the things that contributed to it."

Muller reviewed the blacks' major points of protest against the judicial system, citing the lack of black representation in the judiciary and their contention that the misbehavior that was being dealt with was a political demonstration against the university, and the university could not deal fairly in punishing for an act against itself.

Concluding, Muller said: "The overwhelming majority of the students and faculty at Cornell University today are shocked and concerned. People who have never been involved before are involved today, and are concerned about the future of their university. And, they don't have blood on their hands. They do have something to build on."

Classes Resume at Cornell; Attendance Near Normal

Classes at Cornell University resumed this morning after nearly a week of no regular instruction.

Attendance was reported close to normal.

President James A. Perkins, in a related move Sunday night, lifted the "State of Emergency" he had invoked five days earlier.

Professors attempted to pick up the pieces following the hectic week — which included occupation of Willard Straight Hall by about 120 blacks, about 15 of which got guns during the 1½-day seizure, apparent support by thousands of students for Faculty nullification of judicial procedures against five blacks for a series of Dec. 12

attended by 8,000 Friday, 5,000 Saturday, and 2,000 Sunday aimed at restructuring the university — and one said privately:

"You can't just teach thermo-dynamics as if nothing has happened, in a vacuum. We'll have to discuss the overall situation and relate to it also."

The Faculty is scheduled to meet late this afternoon in Bailey Hall to consider a Faculty Council proposal for a provisional assembly — study restructuring the university — to be comprised of students and faculty.

Perkins, in a statement Sunday, said regulations banning firearms and building-seizures and similar demonstrations remain in effect.

He added:

"To the best of my belief — and it is an informed belief — there are now no unauthorized guns on the Cornell campus."

Officials of the Cornell Safety Division said today they had received 32 firearms, including two pistols, since the collection began Friday.

The firearms regulations, which were announced Tuesday, prohibit "the possession, carrying, use or threatened use of firearms" on campus by other than authorized law enforcement personnel.

Eric Evans, spokesman for the Black Liberation Front, (formerly known as Afro-American Society), said Sunday the society had granted Cornell permission to search its facility at 320 Wait Ave. for weapons.

Perkins emphasized the University's concern with the subject:

"I am lending Cornell's support to legislation now being considered by the New York State Legislature to limit the



Discussions continued in Barton Hall through Sunday afternoon.

Cornell University

traffic of guns in this state."

Perkins condemned the "intimidation" of black students and said that "It is difficult for anyone who is white to appreciate fully what it is to grow up black in the United States."

"I have no reason to doubt that our black students have been subjected at times to threats, insults, and intimidation here at Cornell that no white persons would tolerate if he were in their place."

"But the story of racial tensions at Cornell is not completely one-sided."

"As a white Cornellian, I have watched with great distress as

our common efforts to achieve a sense of community here have been resisted and on occasion undermined by a small group of our black students."

When "communication between blacks and whites at Cornell" take the "form of demands and threats traded off in confrontations by a tightly organized unit of black students demanding black separatism," the university loses the possibility of one-to-one relations between blacks and whites and "the easy communication that makes a community truly humane," Perkins said.

University Board Chairman

Robert W. Purcell said Sunday that the trustees supported Perkins' regulations regarding firearms on campus and the occupation of University buildings and said the board "is determined that there shall be no recurrence of these or similar events."

"It is literally fantastic how an allegation of minor misconduct by six black students last December, the subsequent handling of the matter by the faculty-student judiciary committee and the response by black students could escalate into a crisis which threatens the very system of the university," he said.

Ithaca Journal

Friday, April 25, 1969

incidents, the faculty reversing itself and nullifying the procedures Wednesday (whether it was due to threats against the university stability or the Faculty, or due to the massive teach-in and sleep-in the preceding night at Barton Hall, or due to the Faculty now believing there were wider implications to the judicial procedures than it originally thought is debatable), and Barton Hall convocations

Forty-One Cornell Professors Say They Will Stay, if...

By JANE MARCHAM
Journal Staff Writer

Forty-one Cornell professors who are among the most prominent members of the faculty have announced their intention to stay with the

university, but warned they may leave as a group unless "essential conditions" of teaching and scholarly work are maintained.

Spokesmen for the group at a Sunday night press conference were Cushing Strout, Meyer Abrams, Douglas Ashford, Hans Bethe, Max Black and Clinton Rossiter.

They spoke of widespread "demoralization" of the faculty in the current crisis. Their hope, they said, was that their unified stand would forestall further faculty resignations at this time.

Professor Strout said the group believes the campus may be approaching another severe crisis, that the chief danger, as they see it, is the "intimidation" of teachers and students by blacks or whites, and that they may use their influence to urge specific action if trouble arises again.

The signers of the group's declaration come from "all ages, ranks and branches" of the university faculty, said Strout, a professor of English.

Their statement said:

"We intend to stand together in the present crisis, to stay at Cornell and to remain in contact with our students, as teachers and friends, whether in formal classes or otherwise. We call upon students and colleagues to join with us."

"We recognize the need for many substantial changes. There are, however, essential conditions for preserving our integrity as teachers and fulfilling our responsibilities to students. For the sake of both teachers and students we must have freedom to inquire, to teach, and to learn without intimidation. We must maintain standards of professional judgment and scholarly achievement."

"If these conditions are no longer met, a decision to stop teaching or leave Cornell will be a necessity. At such a time which may be dangerously near, we propose to act together."

The six professors said they could easily have gotten more than 41 to sign their statement, but "since we want to act in concert, a larger group would have been unwieldy."

They said, in response to questions, they are not identified

with faculty factions rumored to be seeking the resignation of Cornell President James A. Perkins.

Professor Bethe said, "It would be wrong to ask him to resign. That would add another calamity to the calamities we already have." He praised Perkins as an "innovator," and added that Cornell "more than any other university" has responded to the wishes of students, black and white.

Rossiter said, "We have not felt intimidated, but some of our colleagues have." Rossiter, who is one of those labeled by an Afro-American Society spokesman as a "racist" who would "be dealt with," said he signed the declaration "not in a spirit of bravado but just as a statement of fact."

Although the groups stands together, any decisions to leave Cornell must ultimately be made by individuals, Rossiter said.

Black stressed that universities must be places where "a man can speak his mind, and the question of the consequences simply doesn't come up." But under current conditions, if issues about blacks arise, "anything I say might have

serious consequences," he said.

Strout commented, "The use of the word racist has become so extended, it is hard for anyone to get out from under this charge. Inflation of the term is something we should resist very strongly."

The Cornell crisis reveals "the fragility not only of educational institutions but of a civilization," said Abrams. "The university was designed as an open forum, and was not designed to cope with violence."

"The first few faculty resignations served as a warning, but after that, the tide has come to get together," Abrams said.

The 41:

Abrams, Meyer H., Ashford, Douglas E., Buttermann, Boris W., Bethe, Hans A., Black, Max, Carlin, Herbert J., Cline, Martin G., Comar, Cyril L., Cranch, Edmund T., Devereux, Edward C., Jr., Eberts, Paul R., Einaudi, Mario, Gellay, Alexander, Grossvogel, David I., Guerlac, Henry, Hacker, Andrew, Keeton, William T., Kiefer, Jack C., Konvitz, Milton R., Kretzmann, Norman, Lutwak, Leo, MacLeod, Robert B., McAdams, Alan K., Meinwald, Jerrold, Mineka, Francis E., Mizener, Arthur M., Morrison, Robert S., Neufeld, Maurice F., Olam, Paul, Polson, Robert A., Reps, John, Rossiter, Clinton, Seley, Jason, Seligman, M.E.P., Seznec, Alain, Silverman, Albert, Staller, George J., Strout, Cushing, Tierney, Brian, Winter, George, Young, Martie W.