

Orangeburg Riots

Negro Leaders Decree White Store Boycott

ORANGE, S.C. (CPS)—While National Guardsmen, bayonets fixed on their rifles, blocked entry to South Carolina State College nearby, the black bourgeoisie of this divided town met at a church Sunday to consider how they would react to Thursday's slaying of three black students.

The black bourgeoisie, led by local and state NAACP officials, drew up a long list of demands and then voted to back them with a boycott of white stores.

Their objectives including having the National guard leave town, getting Black people in government posts at all levels, integrating the county hospital, reforming the local news media, and setting up a community relations task force.

Yet even as the group met reminders of Thursday were still much in evidence.

In addition to the National Guard detachment at the S.C. State campus, National Guard forces are posted at various points around the city. A 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. curfew is in force. A state of emergency exists for the entire county. And the Holiday Inn parking lot is jammed with state police cars. In addition, South Carolina State is closing down and neighboring Clafin, like S.C. State a predominantly Black school, is all but shut down.

Tension has been building between the South Carolina State students and white people in Orangeburg for some time. It reached a new pitch last Tuesday, however, when a large group of the students attempted to integrate a bowling alley in a downtown shopping center. Their efforts left to a clash between police and students and the arrest of 17 demonstrators.

On Thursday the state police, backed by detachments of the 100 National Guardsmen who were called up after Tuesday's incident, blocked off the front of the campus to keep students from going downtown. A group of students—estimates of the

number range from 75 to 200—gathered near the front entrance to the college. After some of them had made a bonfire beside the highway that runs in front of the campus, state troopers moved forward to give city firemen a chance to extinguish the blaze.

Shortly thereafter, one of the troopers was hit in the face by a piece of wood thrown by a student. After he was carried off, a group of the troopers, who had lined up along an embankment beside the highway, opened fire on the assembled students.

When the troopers opened fire, the students ran for cover. Some of them dropped to the ground, many, including some of the wounded, made it to the dorms. Three students were slain.

Only one arrest has been made so far. Cleveland Sellers, Orangeburg representative of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), was taken in after the Thursday incident. He was charged with inciting to riot and arson and is now being held in the state

penitentiary in Columbia on \$15,000 bond.

State officials, including Gov. Robert E. Macnair, have said that "Black Power militants" were responsible for Thursday's shooting and that Sellers is the principle trouble-maker.

According to two young members of the S.C. State faculty, however, Sellers had a very limited following on campus. They also said that relationships were not very good between SNCC and the Black Awareness Coordinating Committee, S.C. State's small Black militant organization.

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Panhellenic Chooses Officers by Election

For the first time in the history of the University's Council, the offices of president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer will be elective. Previously these offices had been filled through a rotational system.

Petitions for offices must be received by the dean of women's office no later than Wednesday, Feb. 14. Applicants will be interviewed on Thursday by a panel including Panhellenic ad-

viser, Mrs. Nosler, and retiring officers.

Elections will be held at the annual Panhellenic retreat, Feb. 16-17, at the Eugene Hotel. Each sorority will have one vote cast by their Panhellenic delegate.

New council members will be selected from applicants for the open positions during the next week.

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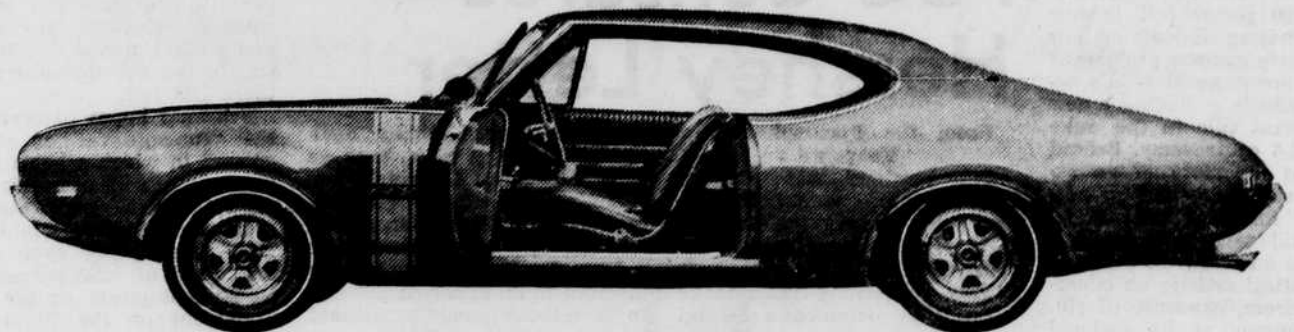
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