

EDITORIAL

The Road From North Hall

ISSUE: What can be learned from the occupation of North Hall last Monday by the BSU?

opening; they were puzzled, and we were too.

Now that everyone has had a chance to sit back and think about what happened, we think that there are some important facts to be noted.

It is extremely important to note that the blacks who took over the Computer Center did so out of a sense of frustration and desperation. As they stated, it was the only way they felt they could bring their grievances to the attention of the administration.

Whether this is true or not is a moot question. The important thing to realize is that they felt this was so. It takes some sensitivity to begin to realize how they could have felt this way, and perhaps sensitivity may be one of the positive results of the incident.

It is also noteworthy that violence, as such, never occurred. There was always the threat of violence (several times from the white students massed in support outside), but after the initial occupation, the processes were calm and orderly.

When the knowledge that twelve black students had occupied North Hall had spread over campus, the reactions were swift and (mostly) irrational. People could not really figure out what was hap-

The blacks demanded amnesty. They did not get it, but instead the A.S. Judicial Committee recommended suspended suspensions. The blacks came out and waited in the Chancellor's office for his decision.

We think that the students of this campus must also recognize the courage of the blacks. They must see that there are times in a man's life when he realizes that he cannot logically justify an act, and yet he goes ahead and does it anyway, because something inside him tells him to. Call it black pride, call it black solidarity--the fact remains that these men were together because they were brothers.

It is hard to support the occupation of a building and the resultant educational disruption. We cannot do so. It is even harder for most people to understand and accept this act, but we feel that we can.

The Free Campus organization can extol apathy and non-involvement all it wants. We recognize that their educational rights were infringed upon, and we dislike this fact intensely.

What we are asking for is a recognition of the forces present in this situation. If more people had been willing to see the situation as the Governor did (one of illegal disruption and that's that), then this campus would have suffered a blow from which it might never have recovered.

Mestizaje

By JOSEPH NAVARRO

About 80 per cent of all Mexicans are mestizo (half-breeds): one half Indian and one half white European. A mestizo is physically more Indian since Indian (red) genes are dominant over European (white) genes. A Mexican is culturally more Spanish since the Spaniards conquered the Indians and forced Spanish culture on them. The heritage of Chicanos (Mexican-Americans) is both Spanish and Amerindian.

All human history can be traced back to man's womb in the Fertile Crescent. The ancestors of the "Indian" crossed Asia and the Bering Strait and spread through all parts of America in chase of animals. Cautious study of the skulls reveal that these original Americans did indeed discover America and came from Europe, Asia, and Africa; they were not Asiatic for the Asiatics that we know today did not exist in those days.

As time wore on, climatic changes wiped out the animals and the original Americans were forced to live off plants. Today, half of the world's provender consists of foods discovered and developed by the so-called "Indian." So great was the adjustment to living off plants that it would take many volumes to relate the details of this tremendously creative period.

It seems to me that in order to understand Chicano civilization, one has to consider the history of our soul brothers in the reservations--the history of all the Indians that the Spaniards came in contact with and intermarried, not merely the famous civilizations of Central America.

Spaniards are the product of a long process of ethnic and cultural mixing (mestizaje). Beginning with prehistoric man, the Celts, Iberians, Phoenicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Visigoths, Moors, and Castilians all dominated Spain at one time or other.

Spanish civilization was greatly enhanced by the Romans, Moors, and Jews; at one time, Spain was more Roman than the Romans. The contribution of the Arabs and Jews equals, nay, surpasses that of the Romans--for after the Spaniards kicked the Jews and Arabs out, Spain fell rapidly from world power.

Next time I shall gallop somewhat cavalierly over the arrival of Spaniards, generalize about their dirty deeds, and focus on the colonization of the Southwest.

LETTERS

B.S.U. Blackmail

The capture of North Hall by the Black Students Union accomplished two things.

1. It showed the students of UCSB how to get preferential treatment.

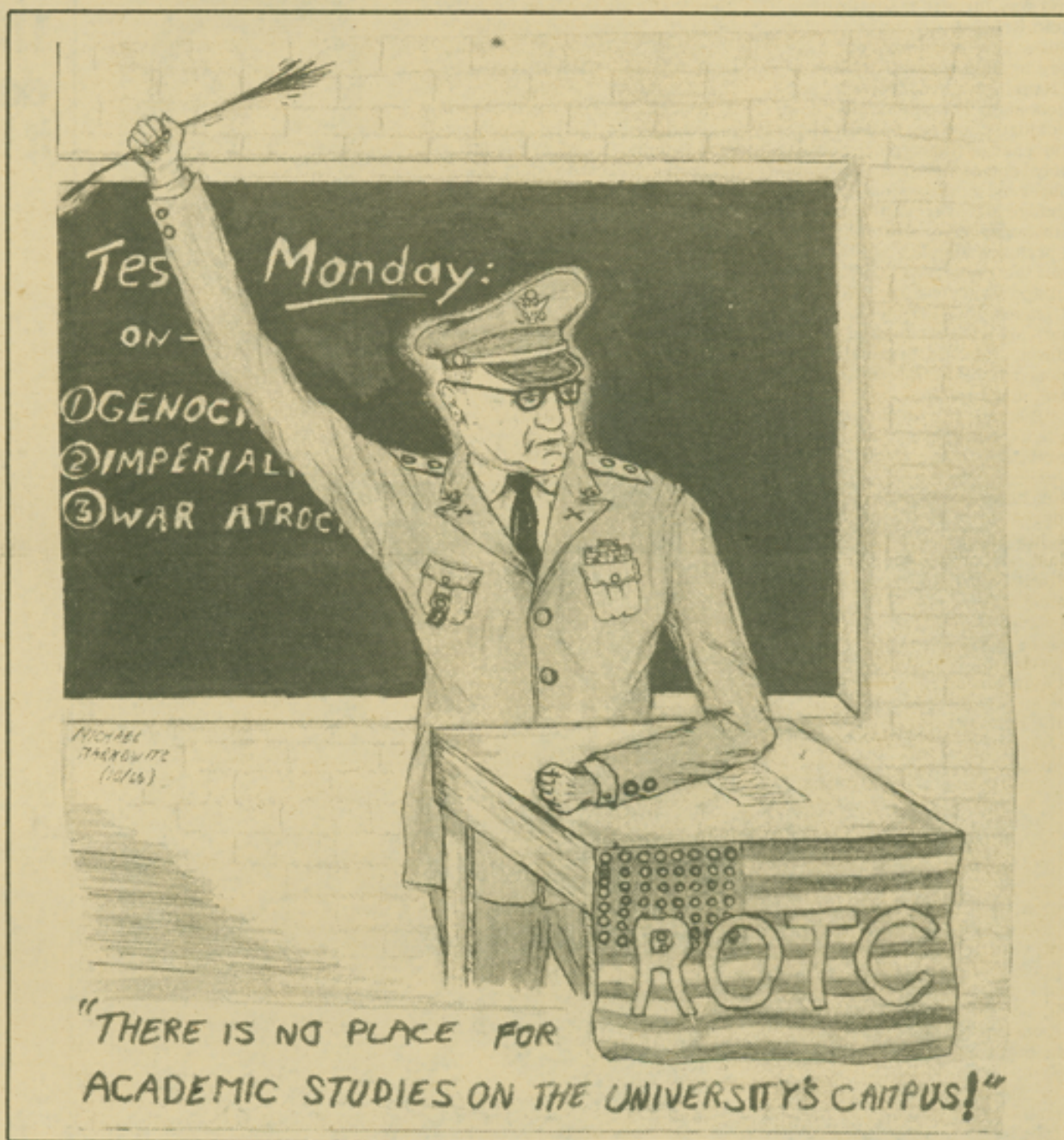
2. It helped win votes for George Wallace, Max Rafferty, and defeat of the University school bond.

The great shame of it all is that it was unnecessary. This is my sixth year at UCSB and during this time I have found the administration to be very fair and responsive to grievances of the students. The BSU could have secured the fruits of their "demonstration" by other means--at most a rally on the administration steps.

The method they chose did not achieve the justice they professed to seek, for justice would be to suspend all students who participated. Surely when 124 classes are cancelled because 20 or 30 students are too impatient and unwilling to use legal channels provided for such grievances, that is not justice and that is not equality. The BSU lacked the courage and commitment to their cause to accept a suspension and spent the afternoon demanding amnesty.

The BSU blackmailed the administration to obtain their demands, but they expect the other 11,000 plus students to treat them equally. I will find it harder in the future to believe that the BSU and its supporters actually want equality and justice when making charges and demands. It seems that these students want to impose their will on the students and administration of UCSB.

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Inexcusable Means

The dying liberal cause in this state has been buried beneath yet another layer of irresponsibility. The actions of the Black Student Union in North Hall were inexcusable if we are to believe the maxim that ends never justify the means.

BSU demands for such things as a Black EOP counselor, a college of Black Studies, and more Black professors and coaches are totally justified and legitimate, and therefore, they can be achieved through legitimate means. Going through channels is always a slow and exasperating process, but it works! This is especially true on this campus where we have a considerably better than average administration who has a history of activating responsible, student demands for reforms.

It is argued that this incident, irresponsible or not, worked faster than going through the proper channels. This is obviously and unfortunately true, but the means by which BSU chose to achieve their demands had harmful side effects which did unnecessary damage to their cause (Will "liberating" classrooms really obliterate racism in America? Would not such activities as Harambee's Black History Week do more towards alleviating this problem?) and to the University. For example, it further endangered the school bond issue which benefits those of all colors, and it certainly didn't hurt Max Rafferty's campaign any.

Black America, your cause is just, and for that reason alone you must fight for it responsibly--for this is the way any just cause must be fought. Any other way only gives ammunition to the Ronald Reagans and Max Raffertys of our society.

Would it not be better to amend the words of Brother Huey Newton so that they read--Words are beautiful, but RESPONSIBLE action is supreme? Is it not possible that more of your goals could be achieved through this kind of action?

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(Continued on p. 5, col. 1)

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