

MAR 25 1969

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Liberation Coalition Information Center
131 Collins Street
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis Minnesota

TO PRESIDENTS, EXECUTIVE STAFF, AND CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS:

Enclosed are copies of the non-biased fact sheet of events leading up to the Morris Hall sit-in and the indictments of Rosemary Freeman, Jerome Rustly, Warren Tucker, Jane Fox, Richard Fox, et al., as they were presented in various periodicals and news articles. Also contained are the structure of the Liberation Coalition and a cover letter by R. Peyer.

We have also used a leaflet not necessarily the opinion of any organization in the coalition or the coalition itself. It is being presented by an individual to whom one might be a radical interpretation of the situation and is not shared by the Liberation Coalition. We are sending this to you to explain some peoples political views of what has taken place and for your own interest nothing more. It is not intended to convey any message to you or to sway your decisions should you make them.

Please read the fact sheet very carefully and should you have any comments or questions please call the former WIA office, which is now the Liberation Coalition Information Center, (373-2414) immediately. We are here to serve you in any way we possible and to pass on information as well as receive it. We have a speakers pool also for your use as a group, please call us if you need someone to address your group privately.

We sincerely appreciate any help or donations you might give us.

The future of not only these three named individuals, but yours also depends on your decision.

Yours Truly,
Liberation Coalition
Information
and Publicity Committees

MAR 25 1969
D-2

A Chronicle of Events from April 4, 1968 to March 7, 1969 Which Occurred
in and about the University of Minnesota
Fact Sheet of the Liberation Coalition

- April 4 The Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated.
- April 5 The Minnesota Student Association held a rally and announced a student fund drive to aid poor students. An ad hoc faculty group organized to set up a Memorial fund.
- April 7 The ad hoc faculty group sent letters to University faculty to solicit funds.
- April 8 A second faculty group drew up a proposal asking for free tuition for poor people. President Moos asked Vice President Cashman to organize a Task Force on human rights.
- April 11 The Afro-American Action Committee presented "Seven Demands"
 1. We want the establishment of at least 200 full scholarships made available to the graduating class of black Minnesota high school students this year.
 2. We want full consideration of the proposal to eliminate tuition for underprivileged black high school students.
 3. We want establishment of guidance counseling and recruitment agencies especially geared to the needs of black students.
 4. We want the establishment of a board to review the policies of the Athletic Department towards black athletes.
 5. We want serious consideration of the possibility of using Martin Luther King's name for the new West Bank library.
 6. We want representation of black students on all major university policy determining groups.
 7. We want the educational curriculum at the university to reflect the contributions of black people to the commonwealth and culture of America.

The Task Force was asked to discuss the "Seven Demands."
- April 19 The Task Force decided to concentrate on those demands surrounding a recruitment program.
- May 15 The Task Force recommended that the university make available 200 full-term financial awards for disadvantaged students, begin a recruitment program, provide staff cooperation for a campaign to obtain funds in conjunction with efforts by those who had set up the Martin Luther King Fund, and that counseling and tutorial programs be provided.
- May 23 The University of Minnesota Commission on Campus Demonstrations presented its report to the University Senate. The report stated in part:
"To this end the process of investigation and complaint must be divorced, insofar as is possible, from the process of hearing and adjudication."
- End of Spring Quarter The Task Force decided to recess.
Organized recruitment of black students occurred in three St. Paul schools. However, recruitment during the summer was informed and lacked coordination.

The Martin Luther King Board decided to supplement the 1/3 grant fund from the university thereby providing the disadvantaged students with full grant assistance.

~~Fall Quarter~~ The Task Force sensed that there would be little or no progress toward a degree program in Afro-American Studies during the academic year 1968-69. They resumed sessions but found that previous lines of communication absent.

Late October The AAAC decided to hold a black conference at the University of Minnesota from Feb. 12 through Feb. 16, 1969.

Dec. 5 Black students approached President Moos and the university staff for financial support for the conference. President Moos said public funds could not be used, but he would help search for funds from private sources. Up to January 13, 1969 only \$1500. had been raised.

Dec. 11 Black students received notice at the time they were to pick up their grants that, because the Martin Luther King Fund lacked funds, outright grants were not available and that loans would therefore have to be taken out.

Jan. 9 The Minnesota Daily published the first article on university efforts to develop further programs in the area of racial and ethnic studies. The article emphasized a graduate program in comparative racial and ethnic studies rather than Afro-American studies.

Monday
Jan. 13 During the noon hour seven black representatives of the Afro-American Activities Committee (AAAC) entered the office of President Malcolm Moos with three demands to be met by 1pm the following day. The demands were:

1. Establishment of a department of Afro-American Studies by the fall of 1969, with the AAAC controlling the planning of the program.
2. Contribution by the university of one-half the expenses of the proposed national conference of black students to be held on the campus.
3. Placing the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund in the hands of an agency of the black community.

The black students felt that the studies program must present the historical concept of the black man and his cultural and political contribution to the development of human society. They felt that only an autonomous Afro-American Studies Department, drawing from and expanding existing staff and resources, could achieve this well-rounded presentation of Black People to the university and society at large.

President Moos was out of town. Paul Cashman, vice-president for student affairs, met with the students. Mr. Cashman replied that the university could not use state funds and that private funds would have to be elicited and that plans were being formulated for a new graduate program in comparative racial and ethnic studies, which would include Afro-American studies. Briggs and Donald Zander, director of student unions, had been working with AAAC on plans for the conference after AAAC approached President Moos for some money in December.

At 3 p.m. Moos called. The students said they would come back at 1 p.m. the next day.

Tuesday
Jan. 14 At 1 p.m. President Moos met with 70 black students in the regents room in Morrill Hall. Administration officials attempted to explain their problems in meeting the demands. By 1:30 p.m. the black students felt they were not getting any answers because the university seemed fully unaware of what the blacks were after. They moved downstairs to the offices of the bursar and admissions and records. They said they were occupying it. Black students guarded the doors. Students in the building were allowed to leave. No students could enter the building. The staff was permitted to stay and continue working.

At 3 p.m. a committee of faculty and students met to determine if the university demonstration policy had been violated. The talks changed to negotiations. About six black students discussed the black demands with the committee for 45 minutes, then left. The committee broke up at 8 p.m.

In the late afternoon a white student broke through the front doors of Morrill Hall. He fell backwards and injured his back. He was taken to the University Health Service, treated for a bruise of the back, and released.

At the request of the university police, Minneapolis Police Chief Donald Dwyer put the Minneapolis Police Flying Squad on alert.

After 9 p.m. the black students were joined by members of Students for a Democratic Society and other white students. The three central doors of Morrill Hall were barricaded with desks and filing cabinets.

By 10:30 p.m. administrators and faculty members had drawn up a proposal in answer to black demands. Negotiations broke up at 1 a.m. over difficulties with all three of the university proposals.

Wednesday University employees returning to Morrill Hall found locked doors. Only Jan. 15 people scheduled to attend a meeting between dissidents and the administration were permitted entrance.

Students began gathering in front of Morrill Hall. A number complained that their right to enter the building was being violated.

About 10:30 am talks between university representatives and AAAC representatives resumed.

At an 11am Faculty Senate meeting Pres. Moos said no new action against the students was considered because negotiations were continuing.

An agreement was reached about 1pm. The university agreed to:

1. Support development of an academic program leading to a bachelor's degree in subjects reflecting "the experience of black people in America."
2. Establish a committee of four students, four faculty and two other individuals to develop recommendations for the program.
3. Agree to give AAAC \$5,260 from non-public university funds to pay half the cost of a proposed Black Conference.
4. Add seven community members to the 14-member board controlling the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund. The AAAC is to select four of the community members and name 4 of 7 student representatives to the board.

Black students were evacuated from Morrill Hall through tunnels.

At a 2pm press conference Pres. Moos said the agreement prevented the university from "becoming turned into a violent social battlefield."

A negotiator told the Faculty Senate that the terms were "defensible on their merits."

Thursday Cleanup work began in Morrill Hall. There appeared to be little physical Jan. 16 damage to either building or equipment, but papers which had been left on desks had been moved to the floor. It wasn't immediately clear whether any records had been destroyed. Damage was estimated at approximately \$11,000.

Sen. Donald Sinclair, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Rep. Richard Fitzsimmons, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, indicated that any decision by university officials not to discipline black students responsible for property damage at Morrill Hall would not sit kindly with them or other legislators.

In the afternoon the Faculty Senate was informed that there had never been an officially proclaimed violation of the university policy on demonstrations.

President Moos announced that he was starting investigation machinery to determine possible disciplinary action against demonstrators. Two faculty members and the president of MSA were asked to help name members of the committee. President Moos raised the possibility that civil action might be taken against some non-students who participated in the sit-in.

Governor Levander served notice that disruptions in the University of Minnesota administration "cannot be tolerated in the future," disciplinary action is a university matter and that the "nature and extent" of any concessions made by the university to student demands is a matter of judgment.

Friday Pres. Moos and three top aides met for 1½ hours with eight house conserva- Jan. 17 tives. "We attempted to tell them...why we took the action we did take, and where we go from here."

House speaker Lloyd Duxbury said, "I was concerned about the procedures for handling acts of violence. The university is on top of it and pursuing it through customary channels."

Rep. Warren Chaffin introduced a bill which would deny state financial aid to any student involved in "any" demonstration or disturbance that interfered in "any" way with the administration of a college or university or with local, state or federal laws. A group of students calling themselves the Student Committee for Peaceful Dissent collected signatures in a petition which called for the expulsion or suspension of all students who took part in the sit-in.

Monday Jan. 20 Pres. Moos revealed he was about to call Minneapolis Police on Wednesday, Jan. 15 to oust the demonstrating students. He hoped a newfound sense of student-faculty responsibility—not the beefing up of campus police—would be the best "corrective measure" against a repeat incident. . . violence was averted, communication with black students and the black community was improved, no classes were disrupted and most students "behaved admirably."

Charles Stenvig, president of the Minneapolis Police Officers Federation, said that he planned to write to the Chief Judge of the Hennepin District Court, Judge Rolf Fosseen, asking him to convene a grand jury to make an investigation of the Morrill Hall incident.

Tuesday Jan. 21 A 12-member committee of faculty, students, administrators and community members was named by Pres. Moos to investigate the takeover of Morrill Hall. They were to:

1. Pull together a factual account of the "Morrill Hall occupation" and "the events which led to it."
2. To draw up a report that will "facilitate making a determination whether charges, and, if so, what charges should be brought against individuals and groups for misconduct and violations."
3. To make a report at "the earliest possible time consistent with thorough exploration."

Wednesday Jan. 22 Hennepin County Atty. George Scott asked Pres. Moos to provide the Hennepin County Grand Jury with information relating to the recent student takeover of Morrill Hall. Scott's letter said information received may not necessarily be for criminal action unless evidence shows criminal proceedings should be instituted.

Thursday Jan. 23 Estimate of the damage to Morrill Hall was reduced from \$ 11,000 to \$ 7,300. The figure did not include personnel costs associated with putting records back in order. Pres. Moos emphasized that all "basic records" were intact. Most services in the Office of Admissions and Records were to be near normal by Monday, Jan. 27.

Tuesday Feb. 11 At a hearing before the House Appropriations Committee the University Board of Regents backed Pres. Moos' handling of the Morrill Hall incident. Regent Fred Hughes said, "There is unanimous approval of the action of President Moos, and we are thankful that we have Mac Moos as president."

Monday March 3 The Hennepin County Grand Jury returned an indictment against "Horace Huntley, Rosa Mary Freeman, Warren Tucker Jr., Ricjard Roe and Jane Doe, and other persons whose identity are to the Grand Jury unknown" for aggravated criminal damage to property—"mutilating, defacing, breaking, destroying, tearing, smashing, littering, scattering, piling and barricading" equipment, supplies and the building itself—for riot—destruction of property and taking possession of Morrill Hall by "threats of unlawful force, acts, and unauthorized commands. . ."—and for two counts of unlawful assembly.

Wednesday Horace Huntley, CLA sophomore, and Warren Tucker Jr., G.C. sophomore, were
March 5 arrested about 6:30 a.m. at their homes. Rose Mary Freeman, G.C. sophomore,
was arrested shortly after 1 p.m. at the Citizens Community Center.

Huntley and Tucker were arraigned before Judge Douglas Amdahl. The attorneys for the three, Kenneth Tilsen and Joyce A. Hughes, requested, and were granted, a continuance until April 3.

A spontaneous demonstration which started in the history class of associate professor Allan Spear grew to 300 students as it moved first to the office of Pres. Moos and then to the fourth floor courtrooms area of City Hall. Student leaders saw Hennepin County Atty. George Scott and protested the grand jury indictments as "ill timed, ill conceived, and without regard to the sensitivity of the situation on the campus."

The university officials were publicly non-committal but privately dismayed at the grand jury's action. The report of the university-established committee was expected on Monday, March 10. The MSA and diverse student groups agreed on a resolution "condemning" the action of the Grand Jury.

Thursday About 500 students met on campus at noon and marched to the courthouse to
March 6 present a petition with some 700 signatures to George Scott. Mr. Scott was
"cut to lunch". Ninety minutes later the petition was presented to Alderman Gerald Hegstr-
cm.

The Faculty Senate voted to deplore the "grand jury's use of its acknowledged powers" in such a way as to interfere with university proceedings.

Friday From the Minnesota Daily editorial:
March 7

The Grand Jury has decided to take direct legal action. . . That is the county's legal privilege, but its action is politically stupid, morally outrageous, and a direct thoughtless, public insult to the administration of this university. . . The Grand Jury's indictments come as ill-considered, ill-timed, blind reactions. . . and its action is a direct threat to the University's integrity and authority.

From the Minneapolis Tribune editorial:

The Hennepin County Grand Jury has ill served the community and the University of Minnesota. . .
The grand jury action was a traditional response to an incident too sensitive to be treated in traditional fashion.

STRUCTURE OF THE LIBERATION COALITION

As a result of the indictment of the three black students Wednesday, March 5, a meeting of representatives from all concerned organizations was held to determine an outline of action in support of the black students. Out of this meeting emerged the Liberation Coalition consisting of concerned organizations on the college, community and state level.

In a mass meeting Sunday, March 9, the structure of the Liberation Coalition was determined and various committees were formed to work towards the goal of having the indictments dropped. The structure of the Liberation Coalition is as follows:

1. **Steering Committee:** the purpose of this committee is to organize actions, to call mass meetings and to make proposals to these meetings when major strategy or policy must be made. Representation on this committee consists of the following:
 - three representatives from the radical organizations--Students for a Democratic Society, Resistance, and Young Socialists Alliance.
 - two representatives from the Minnesota Student Association
 - two representatives from the Afro-American Action Committee
 - two representatives from the Greek organizations--pan-Hellenic Council and Inter-Fraternity Council
 - two representatives from the University faculty to be elected by a faculty caucus
 - two representatives from religious groups
 - two representatives from the Minnesota Student Union (high school)
 - two representatives representing all dormitories on campus
 - two representatives representing the three student unions at the University
 - one representative from each community organization showing ability to mobilize a significant number of people. To date, Citizen's Community Center, The Way, Black Coalition and Inter-city Youth are represented on the steering committee
 - one representative from each college showing considerable interest
 - one representative from each of the work committees
2. **Work Committees:**
 - a. **Information Center Committee--chairman Sharon Kemnitz:**
This committee operates out of 213 Coffman, telephone 373-2414; its job is to 'keep tabs' on all that's going on. The information center is open from 8am to 11pm and can be called for any information on what's going on.
 - b. **Publicity Committee--chairman Barb Roberts:** function is to get the students and the community informed and mobilize support.
 - c. **Program Committee--chairman Peer Nyberg:** function is planning for programs and workshops during Liberation Week, March 31 through April 3, the day the three students are to be arraigned.
 - d. **April 3rd Committee--chairman Darrel Meyer:** function is to plan for the mass rally and march to city hall on April 3.

- e. Fund Raising Committee-chairman Bill Tilton; function to raise funds for the defence of three students and materials and services being used in preparation for Liberation Week and April 3. Contributions for the defence fund are under MSA account # 107-26; all checks made out to this fund should be made to the order of MSA Account 107-26. Contributions for Liberation Week are under MSA Account 107-25 and all checks should be made out to the order of MSA Account 107-25

POLICY STATEMENT OF THE LIBERATION COALITION

passed unanimously at its meeting of 3/9/69

WE OPPOSE THE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED INDICTMENTS OF THREE BLACK STUDENTS BY THE MENNEPIN COUNTY GRAND JURY

WE DEMAND THAT ALL CHARGES AGAINST ROSEMARY FREEMAN, WARREN TUCKER, HORACE HUNTLEY, JANE DOE, RICHARD ROE, ET AL BE DROPPED.

WE WILL TAKE ACTION TO MOBILIZE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE SUPPORT TO OPPOSE THE INDICTMENTS

If you or your group endorses this statement, contact the information center of the Liberation Coalition. 373-2414, room 213, Coffman Union.