

Conspiracy Pattern To Black Demands

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WASHINGTON — On December 23, black students in several well known liberal colleges issued peremptory demands on their college presidents which had all the earmarks of a revolutionary conspiracy.

The colleges selected were Swarthmore, outside Philadelphia; Brandeis University, outside Boston; and Pembroke College, outside Providence. The letters were similar to the unreasonable demands made at San Francisco State College, and followed the general revolutionary pattern set last year by Berlin students when they stormed the offices of Axel Springer, the anti-communist publisher.

Simultaneously Samuel R. Jordan Jr., convicted of carrying and possession of bombs or explosives at Lancaster Pa., and well known as a black revolutionary, turned up at Swarthmore, though not a student there, to inspire trouble. He worked with Fania Davis, a Negro senior, who has publicly stated she intends to foment revolution after she graduates in February.

Jordan is out on bond, pending appeal on the interesting claim that Molotov cocktails are not "explosive."

SET JAN. 7 DEMANDS

The letter submitted to the college presidents was signed at Swarthmore by Clinton Ethridge, a Negro senior who is head of the Swarthmore African-American Students, and it began with a salute to President Courtney Smith: "Merry Christmas!" It then warned that unless Smith accepted publicly and unequivocally certain "non-negotiable" demands by noon, January 7, "we will take action to see that they are accepted."

The demands to admit more Negroes, ironically, were quite similar to plans which a faculty committee on admissions had been formulating in order to encourage more Negro students to attend. However, when the demands were presented in the form of non-negotiable threats, the ultimatum was turned down, and one day after the deadline of noon, January 7, passed, the black militants at Swarthmore chainlocked the door on the administration building and took over the administrative offices of the college.

USE TALENT SCOUTS

Talent scouts have gone out, as in the days when Ivy League colleges were recruiting football players, to try to enlist qualified Negroes. Last year, Ohio Wesleyan offered a scholarship to a well qualified Negro girl only to be outbid by the University of West Virginia, which offered the girl an over-all expense allowance of \$4,500 annually.

Swarthmore, a year ago, spotted a well qualified Negro boy only to have him taken away by Harvard, which offered him a more liberal scholarship.

Following the ultimatums handed to colleges before Christmas, authorities sat down with black power leaders to explain their hope of admitting more Negroes, but also the scarcity of qualified Negroes. They were told by the black power group in Swarthmore to look South and West.

Actually Bryn Mawr has sent some talent scouts to the West Coast, only to find that Reed College in Oregon, and Occidental and Pomona Colleges in California are also recruiting Negro students. Few are to be found. In the South, Atlanta University and other institutions are also on the alert for qualified Negroes. Mayor Ivan Allen of Atlanta has stated that Negro graduates have ample opportunities available, and that he has been seeking 400 Negro high school graduates for the Atlanta fire and police departments.

PEREMPTORY DEMANDS

Despite this, the African-American students at Swarthmore peremptorily demanded the dismissal of Dean of Admissions Frederick Hargadon for failure to admit more Negroes.

The great majority of students at these colleges has been out of sympathy with the militant black minority; likewise, the majority of the faculties. Clinton Ethridge, the black power leader at Swarthmore, is certain to flunk, and also certain to claim he's being discriminated against. Real reason he is cer-

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15 TELEGRAMS

Simultaneously, members of the faculty received 15 telegrams from Bayard Rustin, the Negro leader, all in identical language, asking for acceptance of the demands. Rustin, a former member of the Young Communist League, has of late been one of the more moderate Negro leaders.

Ironically, Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, Brandeis, Harvard, Haverford and a long list of other colleges have been doing their best to encourage Negro enrollment. However, the problem has been to secure Negroes who can meet scholastic requirements. Generous scholarships are available for Negro students. In fact, Negroes occupy a privileged position when it comes to entering Ivy League colleges, and have far more economic opportunity than white students. However, deans of admission have taken the position that there is no use admitting an unprepared Negro student who is likely to flunk out

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