

# WHAT A JAO COMMENTARY—!!! Washington Merry-Go-Round

## Blacks Harass Schools Which Sought Reform

By DREW PEARSON and JACK ANDERSON

Washington — On Dec. 23, black students in several well-known liberal colleges made peremptory demands on their college presidents which had all the earmarks of a conspiracy.

The colleges selected were Swarthmore, outside Philadelphia; Brandeis University, outside Boston; and Pembroke College, outside Providence.

Meanwhile, Samuel R. Jordan, Jr., turned up to make trouble at Swarthmore although he is not a student there. He worked with Fania Davis, a Negro senior.

Jordan was convicted of carrying concealed weapons and incendiary materials on May 10 when the Selective Service System headquarters in Lancaster, Pa., was firebombed.

Jordan is free on bond, pending appeal on the claim that firebombs which he tossed into the Lancaster draft board office were not "explosive."

A letter submitted to the college presidents was signed at Swarthmore by Clinton Etheridge, a Negro senior who is head of the Swarthmore African-American Students. It warned that unless Swarthmore president Courtney Smith, accepted publicly and unequivocally certain "non-negotiable" demands by noon, Jan. 7, "we will take action to see that they are accepted."

### Plans Already Made

The demands to admit more Negroes, ironically, were similar to plans which a faculty committee on admissions had been formulating to encourage more Negro students to attend Swarthmore. However, when

Negro girl only to be outbid by the University of West Virginia, which offered the girl an overall 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 and the scarcity of qualified Negroes. They were told by the Black Power group in Swarthmore to look south and west.

### Few to Be Found

Bryn Mawr has sent 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, and that he has been seeking 400 Negro high school graduates for the Atlanta fire and police departments.

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

Most students at these colleges have not been in sympathy with the militant black minority and neither has a majority of the faculties.

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# Plans Already Made

The demands to admit more Negroes, ironically, were similar to plans which a faculty committee on admissions had been formulating to encourage more Negro students to attend Swarthmore. However, when the demands were presented in the form of non-negotiable threats, the ultimatum was turned down. One day after the deadline of noon, Jan. 7, the black militants at Swarthmore took over the admissions office completely.

Simultaneously, 15 members of the faculty received 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.

Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, Brandeis, Harvard, Haverford and many 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. But deans of admission have said there is no use admitting an unprepared Negro student who is likely to flunk out in his first year.

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

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