

Student Demands Rejected; Blacks Plan To Quit WSU



NEAR MISS — Frank A. Fowler, a Washington State University student, narrowly missed injury Friday when someone in a throng of protesting students threw a board through the windshield of his car. Fowler was unhurt but was slightly injured during an altercation after he emerged from the vehicle. The incident occurred near the administration building on the Pullman campus.

Driver Escapes Injury When Student Hurls Timber Through Windshield; Campus Quieter

PULLMAN — A two-by-four timber was hurled Friday through the windshield of an automobile driven by a Washington State University student, Frank A. Fowler, during a student sit-in which blocked admittance and exit to the administration building on the campus here.

Fowler emerged from his car unhurt, but was slightly injured during an altercation that followed. He had attempted to drive at high speed through a blockade of picketing students. Several of the students complained of being brushed aside by the car before Fowler halted. Witnesses said the timber was thrown by a student in the crowd, but no arrest was made.

Crowd Uneasy

The incident was almost the only one verging on violence during the day-long demonstration, even though it appeared at several times that the crowd of students would explode into disorder. At nightfall, the campus was relatively quiet.

A rally at the mall on campus drew a crowd of about 2,000—most of them students. Proponents of the Third World, one of the dissident groups, issued a challenge to the crowd to join

black students in their decision to withdraw from the university. About 150 black students are registered at WSU. A total of 26 students did withdraw from the university Friday.

Students belonging to dissident groups harangued the crowd with fiery speeches during the rally.

Tyler Fleeson, who introduced himself to the crowd as "an agitator and a rebel" told the throng in the mall, "There's no need to go down in a mob to the Ad building and hassle. . . This doesn't look like a riot to me."

About 1,000 in the crowd then walked from the mall to the administration building, where militants and conservatives debated for about two hours.

One student who announced her intention to withdraw from the university at that time was Barbara Braga, who later said, "I can no longer be a part of racism by staying and supporting this university. I'm not leaving the community. I will stay and work to combat racism."

Another student — one who did not withdraw — said privately, "I've filled out my withdrawal slip, but I can't make myself hand it in. I'm 19 years old — a baby. I don't even have

any hair on my goddam face. And I think about this whole year going down the drain, just a week and a half from the end of the year. I'm just chicken to withdraw."

The sit-in at the administration building lasted for more than an hour. It dissolved when a meeting at 7 p.m. at the Compton Union Building was announced.

Orderly Session

The evening session at the CUB was peaceful and orderly. Students participating agreed to boycott all Pullman merchants, including the CUB, and to set up transportation pools to take students to Moscow for their shopping. They agreed to provide "Green Dot" markers for distribution to student hitchhikers and to motorists willing to give rides to protesting students.

The group also decided to establish an informational picket line around the administration building all day Monday. A mass meeting is scheduled for Monday night. A steering committee was formed to coordinate strike activities, and representatives from various living groups on the campus were selected.

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — Black students, charging "institutional racism," are withdrawing from Washington State University, a student rally was told Friday shortly before some students had an unscheduled meeting with WSU President Glenn Terrell.

Near the end of the class day Friday university officials reported 26 enrollment termination cards had been turned in, none from black students.

A WSU spokesman said at least one card, signed at a hastily set-up table to handle withdrawals, was from a non-student.

Plans for a "mass student withdrawal" to support blacks were drawn up at a pre-noon rally—generally unattended by blacks—called to discuss an open letter from Terrell.

Rally speakers explained that blacks stayed away because "their lives had been threatened."

The letter, distributed campus wide, was Terrell's response to eleven demands made earlier in the week by representatives of six student groups described as "Third World" organizations.

"It's going to take a 'superman' to be a black and stay on this campus," said student body president-elect Carlton Lewis of Tacoma. Lewis is a Negro.

Won't 'Cop Out'

"However, we're not going to fight this racism by copping out (withdrawing from school)," Lewis said.

A statement read at the rally by Tyler Fleeson, a non-black, said the university's black student union "is committed to a gradual withdrawal of all black students, faculty and staff from this campus."

The statement continued. "We (the BSU) will systematically place black students in other colleges and universities. Also, we will seek every opportunity to discourage further recruitment of black students, faculty and staff."

In the letter, Terrell turned down demands that the university disarm campus police, eliminate all plainclothes and undercover agents, abolish the discipline board and conduct a 10-day racism workshop.

Terrell said he agrees "fully that we must relentlessly fight racial discrimination in American society in general and on

(Continued on page 10)