

Southern U. Stays Closed Until January

BATON ROUGE (La.) — (AP) — Southern University, the scene of a clash last week between students and police which left two young blacks dead, has been ordered closed through the first of the year.

The announcement came yesterday from Gov. Edwin Edwards, who said he had agreed with a recommendation from the school's president, Dr. G. Leon Metterville.

Classes suspended in the wake of last Thursday's violence had been scheduled to resume Nov. 27, but Metterville told the governor more time — until Jan. 3 — is needed to let tensions subside.

The administrative decision brought an immediate protest from the state attorney general's office.

Black Inquiry

Meanwhile, a Black People's Committee of Inquiry reported that 14 social and political leaders, including Georgia State Rep. Julian Bond, would begin its investigation into the campus violence the same day state Attorney General William Guste's 12-member biracial commission starts a probe.

Etta May Hearn, a Baton Rouge attorney who made

the announcement, said the Black People's Committee would report its findings to "appropriate state, federal and university officials as well as to the public at large."

Two 20 year old students, Denver A. Smith of New Roads, La., and Leonard Douglas Brown of Gilbert, La., were killed by buckshot as sheriff's deputies and state police chased students from the university's administration building. Both died of head wounds.

Holiday Closing

Southern's 2500-student New Orleans branch was closed for the Thanksgiving holidays in the wake of the violence at Baton Rouge. The extension of the closing, however, apparently will apply only to the 9100-student main campus.

The extension was sought by Metterville, who has been a figure of controversy in the month-long campus turmoil. Students have sought his ouster and more of a voice in the running of the nation's largest black university. Metterville is black.

Since the violence, about 120 state troopers and deputy sheriffs have patrolled the campus. About 700 National Guardsmen were sent home over the weekend.