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Two black men lying dead on campus of Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., as policemen moved in yesterday

## 2 Die in Clash With Police On Baton Rouge Campus

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BATON ROUGE, Nov. 16—Two young blacks were killed and one was wounded today in a day of violence that led Gov. Edwin W. Edwards to close the Southern University campus here.

The Governor acted tonight after, he said, students set fire to two buildings this afternoon and exploded a bomb at a third.

He said that the school would not be reopened at least until after Thanksgiving Day, next Thursday, and he ordered resident Louisiana students to leave immediately for home.

One hundred National Guardsmen were on the campus with state policemen and sheriff's officers, and 400 other National Guardsmen were at Ryan Air Force Base ready to assist if need to back up the Governor's order.

The Governor declared a

state of emergency, and Sheriff Al Amiss ordered that no guns or ammunition be sold in the Baton Rouge vicinity. The sheriff said he acted after receiving reports that 10 students had banded together to try to kill the Governor.

There was some mystery about how the two young black men had died. Both had wounds in the head and arms, and the Governor said that a preliminary autopsy report showed the wounds appeared to have been caused by No. 3 buckshot.

However, he said that both Sheriff Amiss and Capt. Rudolph Ratcliff, commander of the state police at the scene, had told him that no policeman had fired any shots in the confrontation on campus this morning.

The violence that erupted to-

Continued on Page 52, Column 2



Associated Press

Louisiana state troopers, wearing gas masks, guarding a doorway to the administration building of Southern University, Baton Rouge, La., where two men were killed.

Mr. Edwards said that he had not paid any attention to reports that 10 students had banded together to try to assassinate him.

"You get reports like that all the time if you're in public life," he said.

#### Wounded Man Unidentified

The wounded man was not identified. He said he would have been hit in the army by a tear-gas canister.

The Governor said that his order for the campus to be cleared would not be enforced against out-of-state students or foreign students who had no place to go and would remain in the dormitory area.

The Governor said that damage to the two buildings that were set afire—the registrar's office and a cafeteria—would total about \$50,000. He said that he had no further information on the reported bomb explosion, which took place shortly before he began his news conference.

The East Baton Rouge Parish coroner, Hypolite Landry, said

day followed weeks of student protest on the Southern University main campus here and at a branch in New Orleans. Militant students have seized buildings, staged mass marches and boycotted classes to support demands for better living conditions, a greater voice in university policy and the resignation of the school's president, G. Leon Netterville.

The violence broke out, the authorities said, after several hundred students seized the main administration building and took over the office of the president.

Sheriff's deputies and state policemen, who were alerted last night that the students would attempt to seize the administration building, advanced on the building and ordered the students to leave.

"About 300 students stayed, and gathered in front of the building," the Governor said at

a news conference in his office tonight.

Other students were in the building, the Governor added, but the number was not known.

#### Smoke-Bombing Alleged

The Governor said it was "perfectly clear" that, before the police took any action other than to advance toward the building, someone inside the building or in the crowd of students fired a smoke bomb at the police. He said that three such bombs may have been thrown.

"The students spoke in very vile language and said they would not move," Governor Edwards said.

At that point, he said, the police fired tear gas into the crowd "and the students began to scramble, leaving two bodies in their wake."

The Governor said that one of the dead men had been identified as Denver A. Smith, 20 years old, of New Roads, La.

The Governor said that the victim was a student and that his body had been claimed by his parents.

Tonight, the other body had not been identified. "We are at a loss as to why not," the Governor said.

College officials have contended in recent days that "outsiders" were involved in urging the 9,000 students at Southern University's main campus here to make demands for a change in administration and curriculum.

The Governor said it was entirely possible that the unidentified dead man was an "outsider." He said that he had been told by a man who identified himself as the defense minister for the New African Republic that members of the Mississippi-based group and members of the Black Panther party were on the main campus and at branch campuses in New Orleans and Shreveport.

that the wounds that killed the two men could have been caused by "shrapnel." He said that both men had several holes in the heads and numerous arm wounds that could have been made by pellets.

Governor Edwards told the State Board of Education at a special meeting this morning that he had been very patient with students here and at the New Orleans branch. He said that if students continued to be unreasonable and refused to give him enough time to remedy legitimate complaints, he might ask that the main campus and the New Orleans branch be permanently closed.

"For two weeks, I have withstood criticism that I have been too lenient with the students," Mr. Edwards said.

He said that he had acted as he did to try to prevent any violence. He said that the death and destruction on the Southern campus here today "is a clear example of what happens in a violent confrontation."

The Governor made it clear that he considered the police blameless. He said that he had viewed television films made on the campus this morning and that it was "perfectly clear" the first violent act had come from the area where the students had been and not from the police.

#### **Football Game Canceled**

Even if it should develop that the two dead men were wounded by the police, the Governor said, he would not blame them.

One casualty of the state of emergency was the cancellation of the Grambling-Southern University football game scheduled for 2 P.M. Saturday. This game is the high spot of the schedule of each school.

The confrontation that exploded into violence today had been building up for weeks on Southern's main campus here and at the New Orleans campus, where there are 2,700 students.

An undercurrent of student unrest arose over what militant leaders called poor living and studying conditions, poor food and medical service, and a lack of student influence in university decision-making. It broke into open protest last month after the resignation of a psychology professor here.

#### **Boycotts Are Spurred**

In resigning, Dr. Charles Wydell, the young black chairman of the psychology department, charged that Southern's president, Dr. Netterville, had not shown him proper respect and had not given him authority to do his job.

His departure appeared to dramatize and crystallize student complaints that the university was thwarting "black awakening." It generated effective class boycotts and protest marches at both campuses and the seizure of an administration building on the New Orleans campus.

The protesting students demanded improved living conditions, better food, broader programs of black studies, and the resignations of Dr. Netterville and Dr. Emmett W. Bashful, the university's vice president in charge of the New Orleans campus. Both men are black.

Governor Edwards, who pledged support for the administrators, activated 500 National Guardsmen on Nov. 1 to assist campus security guards at Baton Rouge during a march by 1,000 students. Then he ordered the school closed for five days.

On Nov. 9, reacting to reports that guns had been smuggled into the student-held administration building at New Orleans, the Governor issued an ultimatum to the students to evacuate the building voluntarily by the next day. He ordered that policemen, National Guardsmen and state troopers be assembled to prepare for an eviction if necessary.