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## DISCONTENT FOUND HIGH ON CAMPUSES

Carnegie Report Warns of a  
Repeat of '70 Turmoil

By ANDREW H. MALCOLM

A report on the campus turmoil of May, 1970, warned yesterday that similar widespread student protests and disruption of education could easily occur again.

"The tinder of discontent on the campus remains dry," said the 177-page report prepared by two researchers for the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education.

All that is needed to spark new campus turmoil, the authors maintained, is "a calculated governmental action, or more tragically, an unintended consequence of an action," such as the shooting deaths of four Kent State University students by National Guardsmen during a antiwar demonstration at the Ohio school on May 4, 1970.

The Kent State incident, combined with the deaths of two students at Jackson State College in Mississippi and other campus protests against the American incursion into Cambodia, touched off scores of demonstrations that closed many colleges for varying periods in the spring.

### Confidence Eroded

The report released yesterday examined the impact of those events and found that, among other things, they eroded public confidence in and financial support for colleges, accelerated some educational reforms and revealed a "declining commitment to customary academic work" among many students and young faculty members.

The report also found that on "perhaps 100" of the nation's 2,500 campuses protests escalated into "excesses, violence and near-paralysis of the institution," that "at many more colleges the response was peaceful, resourceful and but briefly disruptive," and that at some 1,100 other schools the Cambodia incursion and student killings "made no appreciable impact at all."

The report is entitled "May 1970: The Campus Aftermath of Cambodia and Kent State." It is one of several dozen studies ordered by the Carnegie Commission as part of its five-year study of American higher education.

It was written by Richard E. Peterson, a research psychologist for the Educational Testing Service, and John A. Bilorusky, of the University of Cincinnati.

As part of their research, the authors surveyed all college presidents. Of the 1,064 who said that the events of May, 1970, affected their schools, 15.7 per cent said the most significant result was that the events increased student and staff concern about national and international problems.

Thirteen per cent said the events increased cooperation and mutual trust among students, faculty and administrators, while 6.3 per cent said they increased polarization between and within campus groups.

### Public Toleration

And 4.7 per cent said that the most significant results were loss of alumni and public support and decreased institutional receptivity to change.

The report said one lesson seemed to be that the public "will tolerate a large measure of dissent and nonconformism on the campus, but not coercive disruption and violence."

It also found that "educational-reform trends toward more student options and more personalized learning experiences, under way for some time, were greatly accelerated by the May upheaval." Twenty-seven per cent of the college presidents said that some specific academic changes were under way or planned as a direct result of the 1970 turmoil.

The researchers said they were impressed by the eagerness with which many students and faculty departed from their academic business. A quarter of the colleges canceled some classes, while a fifth (more than 500 schools) closed for a day or longer.

### Campus 'Revulsion'

Such events marked "the most massive expression ever of American college student discontent," the researchers said. Fifty-seven per cent of the schools experienced some form of protest, with the strongest reactions occurring in the Northeast and on the Pacific Coast. Hardest hit were nonsectarian private colleges and big public universities.

Because of continued campus "revulsion" to many national policies, "public aversion to radically politicized campuses," and "substantial tolerance on all sides for the use of force and violence," the Carnegie report warned, any new mass reaction by students could "escalate into a conflict that could leave both university and society in extremely serious disarray."

The researchers recommended that college leaders expand academic offerings and grading options to accommodate diverse learning styles and reward faculty members primarily for their teaching skills. They also suggested abolishing student government and conceiving of the campus as a total community, eliminating large lecture classes and holding a school's enrollment as close as possible to no more than 15,000.