

## Double Bomb Blast Shakes Campus At Orchard Ridge

### Explosion Interrupts Provost Press Session

By KATHY MORAN

Two bombs exploded at 12:15 p.m. Friday, in the empty biology lab in Building C of the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College. No one was injured.

The force of the explosion broke two large windows and sent a bomb through a narrow

window next to the laboratory door and into the hallway. Estimates of damage to the lab equipment were not immediately available.

Farmington Township police were quickly called to the campus, and at 1:15 p.m. the campus was closed and buildings evacuated.

FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP Police Chief Irving Yakes said that one student was entering the lab when he heard a "hissing noise" and ran out just prior to the explosion. No one was in the lab at the time.

Yakes said the bombs apparently had been planted in the laboratory and then a fuse was lit. It was reported that nails were used as shrapnel. A State Police bomb squad was called to the campus, Yakes said.

Yakes said police "have some witnesses and have some suspects."

Orchard Ridge Provost S. James Manilla said the Federal Bureau of Investigation was also on the campus to investigate the bombings. He added that the investigators for North Central Association, an accrediting agency, had left the campus prior to the explosions.

TWO FRESHMAN students, Pete Martens and Frank Roebuck, said that as they were leaving the student activities (J) building, when they saw what they thought was a bomb in the fire extinguisher case which they reported to the police. Police were checking reports that other bombs were planted on the campus.

It was not known whether Friday's trouble was related to incidents that took place on the campus earlier in the week.

More than 20 black students and administrators from Oakland Community College's three campuses charged police harassment and took action on 12 student demands Wednesday.

In a five-hour meeting Wednesday, administrative provosts and representatives patched differences with the leadership of the Association of Black Students and arrived at "workable solutions" to the black student demands.

During the session, black students brought up recent incidents where they said the police had searched their cars and took their names and pictures on the previous day.

"EVERY CAR with two or more blacks coming off campus was stopped. The police searched the cars and went through the trunks," Henry Fry, member of the ABS, said after the meeting.

Fry said police told them they were investigating rumors that blacks were coming on campus with weapons.

"But the hang-up is that they (the blacks) were leaving campus" when the cars were searched, he said.

Farmington Township Police Chief Irving Yakes denied that police searched any of the vehicles. But he said police did ask the occupants for identification.

"Our department had received reports of persons coming onto the campus with chains and concealed weapons, but we did not search the cars," he said.

Township police took license plate numbers of cars leaving after Monday's disturbance, Yakes said. On Monday, an estimated 16 black students toppled cafeteria tables and six white students were injured.

One student, Thomas Pickens, 20, was hospitalized with a fractured jaw.

WHEN SOME of the same cars returned to campus Tuesday, they were stopped by police "to see if the persons involved in Monday's activities were students attending the Orchard Ridge campus or outsiders," Yakes said.

Fry said that a few black people that he could not identify as students were among the 16 involved in the trouble.

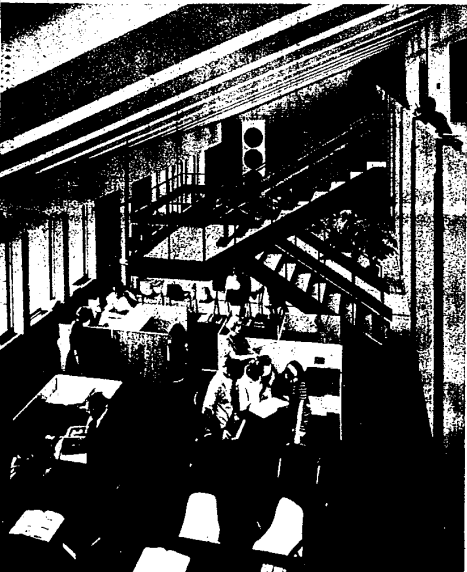
Black students also charged that the ignition wires in four of their cars were disconnected Tuesday by the police. Yakes denied the charge.

Tentative solutions to the black students' demands were arrived at Wednesday including plans to replace black faculty members with other qual-

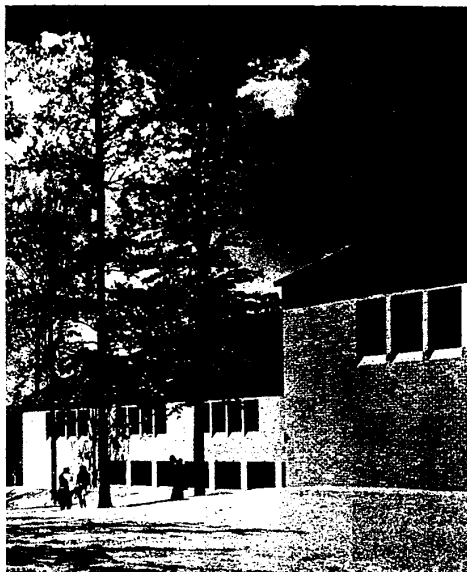
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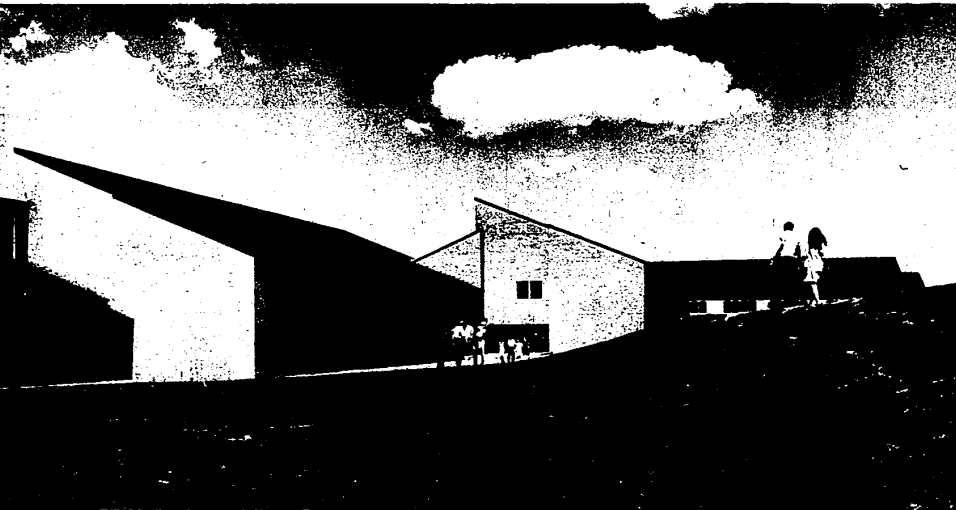
S. JAMES MANILLA, new provost of the Orchard Ridge campus, was in the midst of a press conference discussing the student unrest when the two bombs exploded. (Photos by Ralph Evert)



STUDY AND DISCUSSION sessions such as this were disrupted and all students ordered off the campus immediately after the bombs ripped through a biology lab.



CAMPUS OFFICIALS didn't identify the building hit by the bombing but it is believed to be one of this group. All was quiet and then came the big boom.



This peaceful scene was taken last fall when everything was serene and quiet...before anyone thought of campus unrest and trouble.