

Thursday night's violence was unnecessary and deplorable. The Old Union sit-in was a peaceful, sincere but misdirected attempt to change the ROTC decision. The group had agreed to leave the building if the police arrived. The police, once they were on campus, determined their own tactics and rushed the demonstrators without allowing them the opportunity to leave. The raid precipitated a senseless and destructive reaction resulting in tremendous damage throughout the University.

The catalysts for this escalating round of violence were two: the exacerbation of feelings over the ROTC issue and the decision to call the police on campus.

We offer these alternative actions for students seriously concerned about these problems:

(1) One focus of effort concerning the ROTC issue should be the Committee on Undergraduate Studies. This committee will determine whether ROTC classes should receive academic credit. The members of this committee must be presented with the arguments against academic credit.

(2) On Tuesday the partially reconstituted Advisory Committee on ROTC will begin the examination of the future status of ROTC at this University. The ROTC Committee's previous recommendations to the President and to the Academic Senate were based upon the assumption that the best possible terms for the contract had been negotiated. We now know that other institutions have negotiated NO CREDIT contracts. The Advisory Committee on ROTC must be presented with information on the proper relationship that ROTC should have with the University--especially with regard to academic credit and punitive clauses.

(3) The members of the Academic Senate must be presented--on an individual basis--with these same arguments before the Senate makes any final decision on the status of ROTC.

(4) Any future decision to call police on campus must be made by a joint administration, faculty, and student group. We believe Thursday night's violence could have been avoided if such a group had existed. The COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS will meet with President Pitzer on Monday morning in an attempt to form this committee. We will also request the Academic Senate to contribute to the formation of this group.

Once police are brought on campus, they are beyond control of the University. The autonomy and safety of the University are at stake in this serious issue. If the University cannot resolve its conflicts internally, police have the power to come on campus independent of any University invitation. We are committed to the autonomy of Stanford and the peaceful resolution of its conflicts. We urge all students to commit themselves to these same goals and to work for the alternatives offered above.

There will be a meeting SUNDAY NIGHT at TMU LARGE LOUNGE (7:30) to discuss means of achieving these goals and to organize effective student influence on the decisions to be made.

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