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EOP TAKE-OVER

May 21, 1980 twenty University of Washington EOP students occupied the offices of EOP Vice-President, Herman Lujan, demanding an end to the new admissions program.

This new EOP policy is being used to limit the number of minority and poor students allowed to enter the University. Despite broad opposition from the students and their communities the University administration is determined to keep the new policy.

Lujan is making in-coming students take a 6 to 8 hour test to get into school. Students would also have to sign mandatory contracts with their EOP counselors. Applicants would also be interviewed by OMA staff before being allowed to enter the University.

The take-over is to let the public know that EOP is being destroyed by the new plan. MECHA (a Mexican student organization) has called for Lujan's resignation as a way to stop the plan. Mexican and Asian organizations are leading the occupation and demonstration to focus attention on their demand for equal opportunity in education. The students are demanding a new commitment to support EOP.

Many EOP workers have called in sick or walked off their jobs to support the student action.

BEFORE THE TAKE-OVER

March 28, 1980, the new EOP test was given to students from the Yakima Valley. Many people organized to ask students not to take the test in protest. Only a few took the test.

April 18, 1980, students force Lujan to meet with them after he tried to go around them and divide the people. At that meeting he was found guilty of lying and the nearly 100 students and community popularly voted to end the new policy Lujan is paid to carry out. Lujan said only 1,700 out of 17,000 students make it through EOP. This is a lie. Out of 17,000 students, 10,300 have graduated; more than half of the EOP students.

Lujan was later interviewed by NRO (a community employment program) on Radio Cadena, a Mexican radio program in the Yakima Valley. In spite of Lujan's incorrect figures and his lies, Mexican parents were educated as to the war against EOP.

Since Lujan's arrival last year, 25 staff and counselors have quit because of the new policy. Over the past eight years counselors and staff have been fired or have resigned because they were against EOP "reorganization" and destruction.

Lujan has said the plan cannot be stopped or changed this year, but this is another lie. The take-over is hoped to bring intervention from U.W. President Gerberding or the Board of Regents. Call and protest to Gerberding: 543-5010.

Send letters of support to the Coalition for Equal Educational Opportunity, 4034 12th NE, Seattle, 98105.

STRATEGY

The University and the state legislature in Olympia have a clear strategy. It is that EOP was supposed to fail. EOP was supposed to be a short-term concession to the 'upheaval of the 60's and NOT A BASIC CHANGE IN THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSITY.

It is the students who do not have a strategy. We decide actions from day-to-day. We will lose if we do not have a strategy. We must also have principles around which to rally people.

Because of the total and reactionary failure of the University, our demands should be:

1. Stop the new OMA policy.
2. Lujan resign.
3. Students and Workers elect the new OMA director.
4. Double EOP funding; no cut-backs.
5. Begin an open admissions policy for all.

These demands are based on the principle of equal education for all and the elimination of a privileged-class University.

For this reason, THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE STRUGGLE TO CHANGE THE NEW POLICY IS THE STRIKE BY THE EOP WORKERS. It is because the ruling bosses of this country are facing an economic depression, that they must attack democratic programs like EOP. Without a grow-

(STRATEGY continued)

ing-strike by University workers, the students can be ignored (as in the 1970's) or arrested and beaten (as in the 1960's).

All our efforts should be directed at broad worker-student support for the complete democratization of the University. We should not compromise with the enemy nor go through the courts that are controlled by them. We do not want "advisory" power, we want the power, to hire and fire in our programs. This must be the strategy, if we are to prepare to sacrifice everything.

EOP: A MEXICAN VIEW of the class conflict

The Chicano Division of EOP was occupied in 1978 to protest the re-organization of EOP. MECHA organized a counselor sick-out to expose the destruction of the program. That action only delayed re-organization plans. Since 1973, the University has wanted to get rid of EOP. The four different directors of OMA have each taken a step to this end. Sam Kelly, Bill Baker, Ewaugh Fields and now H. Lujan have been the successive directors to the present.

When Sam Kelly turned against the program he founded, African students had a hard time opposing him because he was black. BSU (an African student organization) learned from this and criticized the next three directors for their re-organization plans. Ewaugh Fields (1977) made the class allegiance of administrators with the famous words: "I am a Huskie first, a Black second and a woman third."

The decay and end of EOP is due to the racism of the University; it is not the fault of the students as Lujan says. This is why Mexican, Indian, African and Asian students have led the fight for equality in education.

After ten years of EOP (with eight years of administrative sabotage) the University continues its racist policies and higher education is still the privilege of a few.

LETS MAKE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION THE RIGHT OF ALL AND NOT THE PRIVILEGE OF A FEW

The reason students have demanded the resignation of Lujan, Baker, Fields and Kelly is because these neo-colonial administrators follow the policy of oppression set by the University. Lujan says EOP students are not "qualified", but the fact is that in 1979, only 2% of all EOP students

left the U.W. because of grade or academic problems; the other 98% WERE DROPPED FOR FINANCIAL & POLITICAL REASONS.

EOP and other low-income students are being pushed out by higher rents, higher tuition. Child-care for low-income students is suffering continually from budget-cuts.

We must see the action of Lujan in particular, and the administration in general, as policy of fascism in the United States. This philosophy calls for racism and oppression of the workers at "home" and wars abroad to exploit other nations.

There is generally an over-all increase in the U.S. military budget. This is one place our exploiters do not mind hiring "minorities"; in the military.



*Tú,
¿que has hecho
por defender las
conquistas por
las que nosotros
damos la vida?*

*What have you done
to defend the gains
for which we gave
our lives?*

For Mexican students it is important to remember Chicano Division director, Juan Sanchez. In 1975, Sanchez was fired for supporting sit-ins and student protests. Sanchez dis-obeyed University policy and would not cooperate with ROTC recruiters. The OMA director at that time, Sam Kelly fired Juan Sanchez, which led to the largest demonstration at the University of Washington. Sanchez was fired because he opposed racism and because he was against the fascist and undemocratic nature of the University. Juan Sanchez called the University's policy of Affirmative Action, then, what it continues to be today: 'deformative action.'