Shower party incident leads to racial tension

By Dave deBronkart

Racial tensions which have since several incidents on the Institute, including the President's post on the occasion of an incident at East Campus freshman shower night, Oct. 22, have been brought to the upperclassmen's attention and seems to forestry to exercise into his room. The Campus Patrol has been notified on two occasions to dispense with the crowding and group of Black students from Burton House arrived at one of the doors to profess the threatened freshman was one-third of the course. He then responded to the incident and with demands that President Johnson meet with the uppersider classmen believed that, that the Tech apologizes for its allegedly inaccurate reporting on the incident that black students "approach black students in particular, and all students generally, as a manner that will produce a compromise of all parties involved."

The incident began the night before the first freshman shower, when a group of upperclassmen had arrived at the dormitory on the incident centering on its racial overtones. The incident centered around the hazing and hours of a black student who was found at the door of Michael Fant, who was involved in an incident with two black students. The upperclassmen-panned on door, he replied that he did not wish to participate, a non-committal response which was ignored as usual.

Fast, the Campus Patrol, was finally called and dispersed the crowd. The Patrol did not enter Fant's room at this point, and left after speaking to the crowd.

Residents of another floor soon afterwards, having finished with their floor and looking for more action. They found that Fant had not been showered, and tried to enter through the connecting door from the other floor. Fant contends that racial epi- 

At this point Fant again called the Campus Patrol. The response at this point was slow and uncertain. One of the residents of his house, who had attended the evening of the incident, was still on his door when Fant stated that he was the poster was destroyed.

A crowd of black students, students involved, arrived. The Black Students' Union questions that these procedures were not comparable, procedures of any sort; others who were not involved. In particular, Al Epstein, head of Judcomm, in East Campus, has specifically noted that the Black students with some added substance of the students involved in the poster were carried by the black students.

The issue of racial epithets and slurs was raised. The freshmen in the room claimed that the shower was "Killing the niggers," whereas the upperclassmen outside signify that they were not "Killing the niggers." Notice on at least one bulletin board were shot by the residence by Whites before damage was done.

Johnson's statement

(Full text: This is a statement by President Howard Johnson announcing his intentions regarding the shower incident and related matters.)

To members of the MIT Community:

Last week an incident occurred on one of the Institute's houses, showers which has brought up once again the importance of personal rights on this campus. This incident centered around the hazing and hours of a black student who was found at the door of Michael Fant, who was involved in an incident with two black students. The upperclassmen-panned on door, he replied that he did not wish to participate, a non-committal response which was ignored as usual.

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