[MS-0087-002-014-001]

Meeting April 21 - St. Paul Methodist Church 31st & L St.
Called by Metro to provide the opportunity to hear the black and brown side of the Lincoln school problem.

ROUGH NOTES!

Jose Becerra talking about the Chicanos position

It is a non-violent revolution - a social revolution to effect the status of the Chicano.

The students had not had their demands listened to and had planned to walk out on Mon. 7/14. The Fri. incident at Lincoln caused them to jump the gun. The black and brown students ARE working together, something that sometimes the adults only give lip service to.

The students planned to meet in the patio at Lincoln on Mon. They asked the parents to be there for protection. No violence was planned. They met. Parents spoke for and against the walkout. Dr. Hall read the statement and instructed them to disperse. The police were then called and they were given 20 mins. to leave. The police arrived in 5 mins. (plain clothes men 75 or 80) and closed ranks. They ordered everyone to "Sit down and offer no resistance". They shoved the students back. Jose Becerra swa 3 police on one kid and the 4th was punching the student, and he saw another incident where two police were holding a student and the 3rd was hitting him. There were incidents going on all around, but these two he was able to follow and view for himself. The police were very open in their actions and didn't care who saw the rough treatment they were using. Then some order was established. 4 were arrested and said the reamained (26) that were detained would be released. Many community people were getting the students off the school ground and encouraging them to go to Ocean View Park.

Tues. the Chicanos walked off - 12 demands. The Principal wouldn't meet with the students (or listen to their demands?) They were wearing buttons with Chicano syaings and he said they couldn't wear the buttons. 33 students walked off with no consultation with their parents.

The students wanted relavents mex/am history, dress code changes, improvement in cafeteria food, free campus hour (have this in school regulations, but didn't have it in practice), right to speak Spanish on campus. Said the education ~~xhxx~~ they're getting is not good and needs total revamping of the school program.

Community people (200 parents and students) met at 6:00 p.m. The students wanted help. They had a 3 hr meeting with the administration and they said yes on most of the points and needed some negotiation on other points. Students and community met with the administration Fri. Will meet again with administration tomorrow. The students are moving the community. People in the community wish they'd done this 10 years ago and then they wouldn't have the trouble now. Students couldn't get adults to listen to them in the past. The students have 2 problems: L. the parents and school administration don't know what the students are saying. The protest and walkout gained the attention to get the com/admin to listen to their problems. They really wants an education that means something to them. Want an attitudinal change of

school system to recognize them (black & brown). Don't want to come out middle class white. Want to be themselves. They want an education not an indoctrination.

Caroll Waymon - Lincoln and black position:

Memorial - the administration worked out some good solutions.

Lincoln Fri 4/11 1st day met from 1-4 p.m. with faculty and students. and related how many meetings throughout the crisis he has attended. Today (Mon. 4/21) Lincoln looked cool, no trouble
Tomorrow at 9:15 a.m. Hornback will have a student assembly at San Diego High. He is trying to keep open the lines of communication. Hornback is reasonable - he's a man and meets with the poeple. His first reply and reaction to demands presented a month ago was "let's meet with them".

1964 & 1969 the same things are being said at Lincoln. There has been no change in the problem. The Lindsley report says all the same things Nothing is knew and everyone knew what were the problems. The kids are now saying they're going to put an end to it and now. They're leading and others are following them. The kids are telling us they're not treated as human beings. 61 teachers at Lincoln (1 balck a year ago) (9 or 11 black this year). They taught the kids to be waitresses and waiters - the only school that taught this subject (culinary arts) and then when they completed the course they couldn't get jobs cause no one would hire blacks to these jobs in San Diego. All other schools have courses in golf, swimming but not Lincoln. The statements that Lincoln received more scholarships than any other is false. Less than 45 one year and 7 another year went on to a 4 year college. Most kids have to ge their own scholarships.

San Diego Union Sat. editorial:

~~Poison~~ Poison - lies - inciting a whole black & brown community. The Union is supported by school board and citizens. The ~~xx~~ editorial was read. Editorial among other things stated the school problem — No was started by outside agitators. CWW said there was not one act of violence in the entire episode -- The kind of poison contained in the editorial should not be supported by the Board of Education and the community.....They are outright lies. Caroll was involved in the settling of the school problem and was called in by the administration.

The demands had been presented on 3/25. Nothing had been done about them. A walkout was planned for Mon 4/14. If grievances aren't settled then the democractic alternative is to use strike and boycott. They did this in a peaceful way and the police swooped down on them. The students were using legitimate means. One kids needs a leg operation and three others went to the hospital. The police observed the school through telescopes and power glasses from the hills. The city manger has stopped this practice. The kids weren't creating any disturbance. They were milling and sitting around. This peaceful demonstration has never happened in any other city before. According to the police if the students had been assulting them they couldn't have controlled the situation. The editorial should have complimented the administration, students and community for peacefully working out a crisis situation (which hasn't happened in other cities). We should be proud of our students.

Henry Lawrence through community pressure handled the situation rationally. These should be commended.

The Lincoln factulty prior to Sept. agreed there was a problem. CIC produced a moving "No Body Knows the Trouble...." Lincoln faculty members involved in the film agreed to produce the film and put their careers on the line. After production the film was destroyed.

School opened Mon. Jack Hornback ~~hx~~ addressed an assembly of the student body. There will be student/faculty dialogue all week and probably no regular classes.

Additional concerns:

If there were a community wide boycott, will the ministers allow the churches to give support. When there is a need at the school there is a need for parents to listen to the students. Look at the total system of black and brown students and come up with total change. Not band aid change.

Rufus Dewitt: The basic feeling is that something is wrong. There are problems in the community and there are different ways to express these feelings.

Other school incidents:

Crawford High - "nigger nigeer"written on the wall - could have no dialogues

Kearny - students attending official meeting for students' grievances - students got F's for entire course. Castigated nigger lovers that encourage anarchy in our schools. what entire course? by whom?

Horace Mann - petition in support of the Lincoln students was torn up

Earl Saunders art teacher at Lincoln spoke:

It was the most grueling week of his entire life. He agrees with some of the problems and attitudes.need to change. Scotty Miller the teacher represented the students and presented the demands to the Board of Education on Thurs. Mon. the teachers realized they should meet and it was time for them to do something about the problem. They wanted to be involved in correction. By Wed. they had considered the demands and realized how all attitudes needed change. On Wed. the teachers voted not to open the schools because they still had to deal with the student grievances. A very ~~xxxxxly~~ unusual thing happened. They found they were supporting the students and not the Board of Education as they had in the past. In one of their meetings they were reviewing recommendations for problem solution dated 4/18/68 and this was 4/18/69 and nothing had been done. The school had ignored these recommendations. They realized the board had to changed its attitudes too. It wasn't just a matter of opening the doors -- school opens when the students return. They had to deal with student grievances.

2nd Mon. the fackulty/students & Hornback met - (there was still

some hangup on the Chicano visa punishment demand)

Hornback said that changes could be made to the school structures and implementation of the demands. There was student dialogue in the morning and no classes in the afternoon. The teachers were meeting to see how they can work for and with the students. Not all the problems are the teachers' fault, but in many intances they are.

If this Lincoln plan of talking things out works it could do something for the the educational process on even the national level. This has not been done before.

Students/teachers dailogued all day Tues & Wed. by Thurs. the students said "we trust you to present the demands to the board of education." The teachers can't violate that trust.

There were no police on the second Mon. when the kids returned to school.

He doesn't know where they're going, but one of their responsiblities is to help the school board to face its responsiblity to educate its constituents.

They do need more black and browns on the faculty. The white faculty needs to be educated.