

From the Office of Public Relations  
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RELEASE ON RECEIPT

Twenty-nine persons have been ordered to appear in Cambridge District Court February 11 to plead to charges growing out of the January 15-16 forcible occupation of the offices of the president and the chairman of the corporation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Twenty-two of the persons are each charged with two counts of trespass, one count for each day of the occupation. Another seven are charged with one count of trespass covering a single day of the take over.

In addition, one of the 29 is charged with one count of assault and battery and two are charged with two counts each of disrupting classes.

The 56 complaints--51 for trespass, one for assault and battery and four for disrupting classes--were ordered issued by Judge Harold E. Magnuson of the Third District Court of Eastern Middlesex (Cambridge) Wednesday (January 21) following a hearing on applications filed by counsel for M.I.T. M.I.T. had sought complaints against 31 persons, but in two cases the court denied the request for lack of sufficient evidence.

Of the 29 persons charged, 13 are students, four are on the staff, four are former students and eight have no connection with the Institute.

The occupation began at about noon Thursday (January 15). A group of approximately 150 held a rally in the lobby of the M.I.T. Rogers Building at 11:30 a. m. to demand, among other things, that disciplinary action against certain students be rescinded and that the Institute's student-faculty committee on discipline be abolished. The group marched to a hallway outside the second-floor offices of Howard W. Johnson, M.I.T. president, and James R. Killian, Jr., chairman of the M.I.T. corporation. Both were away from their offices at the time.

While Institute officials were engaging the group in conversation at the main door to a reception room joining the two offices, four masked men carrying a homemade battering

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ram emerged from the crowd ranks and smashed in a little-used side door from the hallway leading into Mr. Johnson's office. The crowd surged through the broken door and from Mr. Johnson's office gained entry to the reception area and to Mr. Killian's office.

The occupation was ended voluntarily 34 hours later. Walls, floors, carpets, desks, furniture, typewriters and files had been damaged.

After leaving the offices, the group marched to the home of the president to read a series of demands on the university. There, a campus patrolman, James F. Baker, Jr., complained that he was kicked in the face by a student he was attempting to remove from a first floor balcony. That incident formed the basis for the charge of assault and battery.

During the occupation, two students allegedly went together to two classrooms in an effort to persuade students attending lectures to join in the protest. One lecture was being presented by Professor Emeritus John Wulff of the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science and the other by Professor Edwin Bransome of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science. In both cases, the intruders were ejected. The incidents form the basis for the charges of class disruption.

Immediately after the intruders left, Mr. Johnson issued a statement saying:

"The group of students and non-students who battered their way into my office have gone. They went in with an ultimatum of non-negotiable demands. They left with nothing.

"The reason they left is because M.I.T.'s faculty and students refused to support threats and violence as a way to accomplish change in this institution. The faculty showed this by its overwhelming vote Thursday condemning the occupation.

"Had the occupation continued, we were ready to call in the civil authorities. We had no alternative. Let there be no misunderstanding about this. We shall move promptly to seek legal action against every one of the trespassers we can identify."

M.I.T. applied to the district court on Monday for complaints against 31 persons. At Wednesday's hearing on the applications, eyewitness testimony was presented by 11 Institute officials: Paul E. Gray, Associate Provost; Kenneth R. Wadleigh, Vice President; J. Daniel Nyhart, Dean for Student Affairs; Richard Sorenson, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs; Daniel Creasy, assistant to the vice president for organizational systems; Constantine B. Simonides, assistant to the president; Walter L. Milne, assistant to the chairman of

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the corporation; James Olivieri, captain of the campus patrol; and by Professors Wulff and Bransome and by Officer Baker.

Two complaints for trespass and one complaint for assault and battery were issued against Frank Taylor, 20, Class of 1970, a physics major from (16750 Charmel Lane) Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Two complaints for trespass and two complaints for disrupting classes were issued against a former student and a current student--Peter G. Bohmer, 25, formerly a graduate student in economics of (38A Orchard St.) Cambridge and George N. Katsiaficas, 20, Class of 1970, a management major from (903 Belgian Ave.) Baltimore, Md.

Complaints against staff members included one charge of trespass against Louis Kampf, 40, associate professor of literature, of (141 Oxford St.) Cambridge; two counts of trespass against Lillian S. Robinson, 27, (43 Grove St.) Boston, an instructor in literature, two counts of trespass against Virginia Valian, (336 Harvard St.) Cambridge, a research affiliate in the Department of Foreign Languages and Linguistics who works with the Linguistics Group in the Research Laboratory of Electronics; and one count of trespass against William M. Saidel, 22, (1 Jean Circle) Randolph, Mass., a 1969 graduate of M.I.T. in Life Sciences and now a technical assistant trainee in RLE.

Students against whom two complaints of trespass were issued are: Richard W. Edleman, 21, '70, Humanities and Engineering, of (7010 N. Yates Rd.) Milwaukee, Wis.; Thomas J. Goreau, 20, '71, Earth and Planetary Sciences, of (4 College Common) Mona Kingston, Jamaica; Gregory G. Habeeb, 19, '71, Management, of (100 Marine Ave.) Brooklyn, N. Y.; Peggy A. Hopper, 20, '71, Architecture, of (95 Columbia Ave.) Cliffside Park, N. J.; Peter B. Kramer, 21, '70, Physics, of (40 Ogden Road) Scarsdale, N. Y.; David N. Krebs, 19, '72, of (84 Harbor Ave.) Marblehead, Mass.; Jeffrey J. Mermelstein, 19, '72, Humanities, of (42-65 Kissena Blvd.) Flushing, N. Y.; F. Charles Simmons, 19, '72, Physics, of (40 Balsam Lane) Princeton, N. J.; Aaron Tovish, 20, '71, Humanities and Science, of (164 Rawson Road) Brookline, Mass., and Donald E. Wolman, 20, '71, Aeronautics and Astronautics, of (2748 Hyde Park St.) Sarasota, Fla.

Two charges of trespass also were lodged against three former students, Michael A. Albert, 22, ex-'69, Mathematics, of (3 Nob Court) New Rochelle, N. Y., Stephen Shalom,

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ex-'70, Mathematics, of (975 Ocean Parkway) Brooklyn, N. Y. ; and Lawrence G. White, 21, ex-'69, Mathematics, of (90 Jordan Place) Palo Alto, Calif.

Non-students against whom two complaints of trespass were issued include: Michael Ansara (377 Norfolk St.) Cambridge; William Murray, (59 Mozart St.) Jamaica Plain, Boston; J. Michael O'Conner, no address given; Susan Orchard, Roslyn Heights, N. Y.

One complaint of trespass was issued against a student, Meryl J. Nass, 19, '72, Humanities, of (6 Wychwood Way) Warren, N.J., and against four non-students: Robin Hahnel, (40 Market St.) Cambridge; James Kilpatrick, (12 Prince St.) Cambridge; Miles Rapoport, a Harvard student; and Lenny Weeks of (Homestead St.) Roxbury, Mass.

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January 23, 1970