

Administration has failed to enforce civil rights laws, commission says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Nixon administration has failed to take a firm and continuing interest in the enforcement of civil rights laws, the Civil Rights Commission said in a report released Tuesday.

In addition, the commission said, only a few federal agencies have made any real effort to upgrade the hiring or promotion of blacks, Indians, orientals or Spanish-speaking Americans.

A bulky 217-page report entitled, "The Federal Civil Rights Enforcement Effort: One Year Later" concluded:

"Unless the bureaucracy is given to understand that civil rights is a matter of personal concern to the President, it is unlikely to alter the status quo."

The commission cited remarks

on various civil rights issues by President Nixon over the past several months as doing little to provide optimism for minorities. The President has opposed enforcement of busing to achieve integration and has said he is against an active federal role in the courts to integrate the suburbs.

"The net effect of the President's statements has not been to provide a clear policy direction necessary to encourage the federal bureaucracy to step up its efforts to enforce civil rights laws," the report said.

"Chief among the inadequacies is the failure to develop and to communicate to the public a sense of urgency over the need to end discrimination.

"The President's posture, as gleaned from actions over the

last six months has not been such as to provide the clear affirmative policy direction necessary to assure that the full weight of the federal government will be behind the fight to secure equal rights for all minorities."

While acknowledging that a presidential statement on housing emphasized the need to correct past patterns of discrimination, the commission criticized a distinction Nixon made between segregation resulting from income and segregation resulting from deliberate discrimination.

The net effect may "serve to reinforce the racially exclusionary policies and practices of many suburban communities," the report added.

Much of the report is devoted to an evaluation of how well the

government is carrying out Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act which outlaws discrimination in any federally funded project whether the money is spent by private or public agencies.

Decorations given to A&M grads

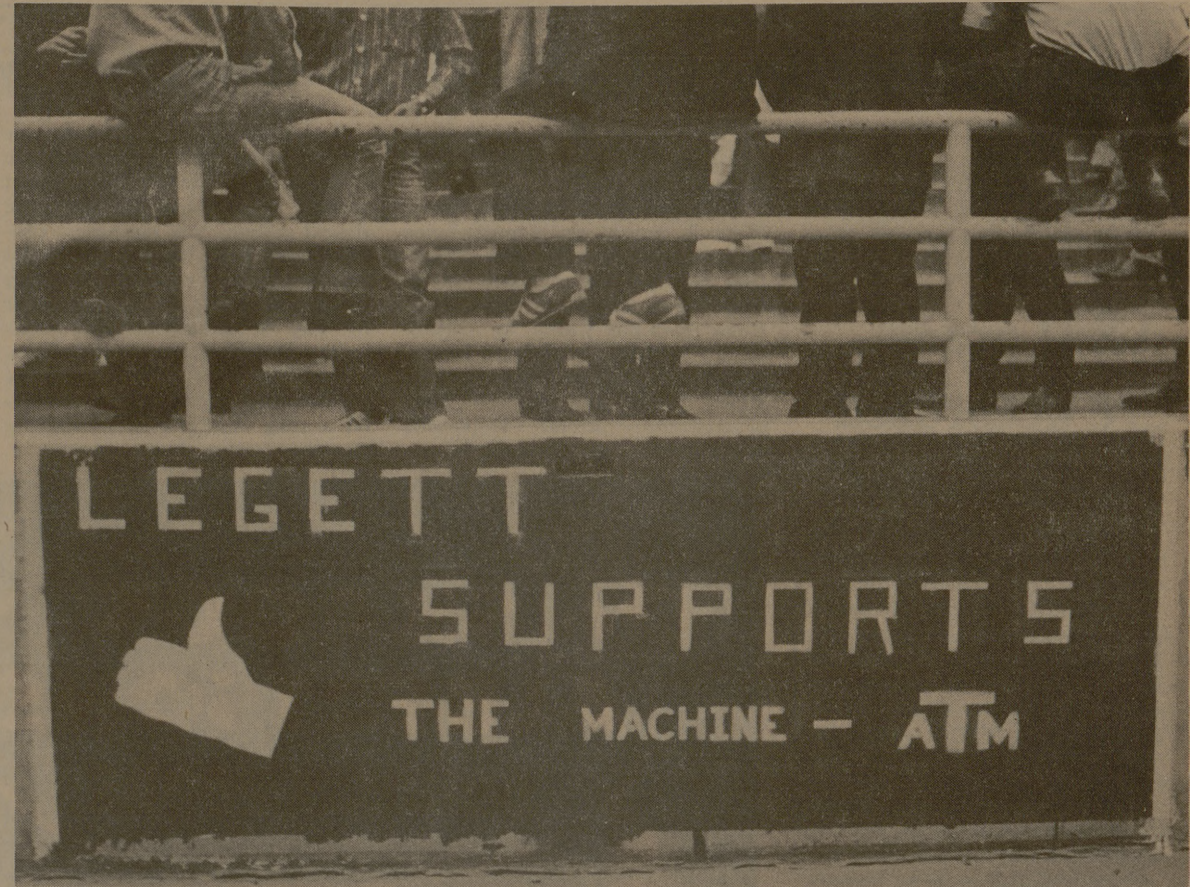
Decorations have been awarded A&M graduates for Air Force service in advanced communications-electronics instruction supervision, flying and aircraft command.

Receiving Commendation and Air Medals were Maj. Donald E. Hicks, 1957 graduate of Fort Worth; Maj. Harry C. Hamby, '59 of Waco, and Capt. Arturo Esquivel, '67 of Eagle Pass.

Hicks earned a second Commendation Medal for service in the Communication - Electronics Officer Department at Keesler AFB, Miss. An industrial technology major and First Group Staff adjutant at A&M, he is now at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

Hamby's decorations include two awards of the Air Medal and his second Commendation Medal, for service as a B-52 Stratofort commander at Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico. The former Squadron 19 cadet and civil engineering major is now a Strategic Air Command instructor pilot at Castle AFB, Calif.

Six awards of the Air Medal went to Esquivel, who majored in management and was in Squadron 2. Now at Dyess AFB near Abilene, he was cited for C-7A Caribou tactical airlift missions in Vietnam.



LEGETT HALL SUPPORTS THE MACHINE that is digging a 20-foot deep trench directly in front of their dormitory. The trench is for steam pipes, electrical conduits, etc. that will run underneath the mall when it is finished. (Photo by Joe Matthews)

House rejects resolution to continue federal programs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The legally penniless foreign aid, defense and antipoverty programs were kept in limbo Tuesday night when the House rejected a Senate continuing resolution for them and insisted on a House-Senate compromise conference.

House leaders tried to accept the Senate resolution to extend temporary spending authority until Dec. 1 to put the programs legally back into business immediately. But this required a unanimous consent and two House members refused to go along.

The House finally decided by voice vote to send the Senate Dec. 1 date into a House-Senate conference with the original House resolution to continue the programs until the end of this year's session of Congress.

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Spending authority for de-

fense, foreign aid, antipoverty and the District of Columbia legally expired at midnight Monday and the Senate approved the Dec. 1 extension Tuesday afternoon.

Thus far there has been no appreciable effect on the operations of the affected agencies where employes are continuing to work on the assumption that Congress will work out something in the near future.

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