



GENERAL MEETING of more than 3,000 students Tuesday voted against housing Jericho hostel residents in SUB. Hostel is set to shut down Friday noon. Meetings

today at 9:30 a.m. in the SUB clubs lounge and noon on SUB plaza will decide student support for planned occupation of Jericho when it comes down.

JERICHO CLOSES DOWN

Campus rallies, occupation plans

The federal government has served eviction notice on the 350 Jericho hostel residents, effective by noon Friday.

Staff members received a letter Wednesday night from the federal justice department, informing them of the closure and warning that any disturbances could jeopardize plans for a permanent hostel system. (Complete text of the letter is reprinted below.) However, hostel residents Wednesday night voted unanimously to occupy the building.

A number of groups supporting the hostel residents will hold an open strategy meeting at 9:30 this morning in the SUB clubs lounge

to decide what further action will be taken.

It will be followed by an informational meeting at noon in SUB plaza.

Organizers have urged everyone concerned with the situation to attend one or both of the meetings.

A number of the hostel residents will establish booths in the main foyer of SUB, where names will be taken of people willing to donate alternate housing and food.

"A lot of people are trying to help, but they're duplicating each others efforts," said acting Alma Mater Society vice-president

Meetings

These are the meetings being held today to determine the action to be taken regarding the Jericho hostel closure.

9:30 a.m.—Clubs Lounge, policy preparation and discussion for meeting at noon.

12:30 noon—General meeting to discuss student action and a decision on whether to participate in the proposed 5:00 p.m. rally at Jericho Hostel.

5:00 p.m.—Tri-university rally proposed for Jericho hostel.

Christine Krawczyk.

"The meetings tomorrow will be for the purpose of getting together and really helping the hostel people without screwing them unknowingly."

The sudden closure of the hostel comes two days ahead of the Oct. 5 deadline the government gave to hostel organizers when the transients

were transferred to Jericho Sept. 11.

"They just don't want the people to have a chance to organize anything," said hostel staffer Rev. Ted Mahood.

In a statement released Wednesday night, the management committee at the hostel expressed disappointment at the government's decision to

end the summer hostel program "at a time when the need for such a program is as great as ever."

"We can't accept the logic that the summer hostel program should end simply because the summer is over," the statement said. "This is a serious and chronic problem which all levels of government must share the responsibility for."

Staff receives letter Ottawa says move out

Following is the text of a letter received Wednesday by the members of the Jericho hostel management committee:

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of the secretary of state, I have been asked to convey to you the following message.

The federal government operated, for the summer only, 21 transient youth centres across Canada to meet the temporary problems of summer travel by youth.

All other hostels in Canada have now closed, but because of the particular problem in Vancouver a three week extension

of our program was provided at army facilities in Jericho to allow alternative plans and accommodations to be arranged.

The Jericho hostel will close effective Friday morning, Oct. 2, 1970. The federal government remains willing to help finance alternative action and services through such programs as the Canada assistance plan.

This summer's emergency program has been an overwhelming national success. The management committee reports and assessments confirmed this for Vancouver.

Unless the hostel is closed in an orderly fashion, any plans for a

permanent future program will be seriously jeopardized.

We are deeply distressed that we have been forced to close this hostel without alternative accommodation. However, to ensure the formulation of future programming, we ask for the co-operation of those currently benefitting from the facility.

Please convey the contents of this message to the occupants of the Jericho hostel immediately and post notice of closure in a prominent place in the hostel.

Your truly,
T. E. Jackson
Vancouver regional office
Department of justice.