



Student protesters block the entrance to Mexico City's National University, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, on Jan. 25. Mexican police ended the strike Sunday, raiding the campus and arresting 632 students.

Photo By Wesley Boxcie/NewsMakers

## Mexican police end strike with 632 arrests at university

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Thousands of Mexican police ended the nine-month occupation of Latin America's largest university Sunday, raiding the main campus and arresting 632 students Sunday.

The police appeared to have full control of the campus of the 260,000-student National Autonomous University of Mexico after the 6 a.m. raid. Among those arrested were eight strike leaders.

"A democratic society cannot allow the kidnapping of the national university," Interior Secretary Diodoro Carrasco told reporters.

Striking students — some attending a meeting, others sleeping — offered no resistance and there were no reports of injuries.

The raid, authorized by a court order, was led by 2,500 federal police officers armed with batons and backed by city police.

It appeared to mark the end of the lengthy strike, though some strikers said the conflict isn't over.

"We're thinking of retaking the installations," said Alberto Gonzalez Camacho, 27, a law student who escaped the raid by running into hills behind the university. "The government isn't going to defeat us."

*"We're thinking of retaking the installations. The government isn't going to defeat us."*

**Alberto Gonzalez-Camacho**  
student

The strike, directed by a small core of radical students, has been a frustrating dilemma for the government.

Efforts to negotiate a resolution had repeatedly failed. But officials were reluctant to take the campus by force because of fears of violence. One of the darkest moments in modern Mexican history was a 1968 massacre of striking students.

This strike began in April with students opposed to plans to raise tuition, which had been just a few cents, to the equivalent of \$140.

The university backed off those plans, but strikers refused to end their occupation of the campus, pressing a six-point agenda for reversing academic changes and giving students more power.

The strike has been marked by sometimes-violent demonstrations

that tied up Mexico City's most important streets. Clashes occurred between students supporting and opposed to the strike.

Some of the worst violence occurred Tuesday when anti-strike students, backed by university security forces, took control of a university-affiliated high school. Strikers returned later in the day and retook the school, injuring 37 security guards. Police then raided the school, arresting 250 strikers.

Strike leaders added to their list of demands the release of those arrested. The university, meanwhile, obtained arrest warrants for 430 people involved in the strike.

A 12-hour negotiating session ended Friday with both sides accusing the other of intransigence. The students asked for talks to resume today, but the university refused.

## RHA questions ASUN fetal tissue bill

By Jackie Blair

Staff writer

After a lengthy debate, the Residence Hall Association joined the controversy over the use of aborted fetal tissue for research.

Last Wednesday, the Association of Students at the University of Nebraska passed a bill that allowed it to ask the Government Liaison Committee to lobby against the legislative bill that would make it illegal for state institutions to use aborted fetal tissue in research.

The RHA voted Sunday night to recommend to ASUN that it reconsider the vote and move for a position of neutrality.

RHA decided to take part in the issue because it has received numerous complaints from students that ASUN misrepresented the majority,

said Jadd Stevens, RHA president.

Stephanie Voge, a sophomore secondary education major and Abel Residence Hall representative, said: "I think that ASUN should take the neutrality stance because the campus is so divided that you can't truly represent the majority."

ASUN president Andy Schuerman asked the RHA to table the discussion until next week. That way he could provide all the information to the RHA that ASUN used in order to make its decision to lobby against the bill. RHA voted on it anyway.

RHA's recommendation would also ask that ASUN and RHA work together to inform the students on how to contact their representatives in the Nebraska Legislature so their personal feelings can be heard by state senators.

RHA can't lobby against the state

bill; only ASUN can. But RHA can ask ASUN to reconsider its position.

In other business, Doug Zatechka, director of housing, spoke to the RHA about possible increases for room and board costs next year.

Zatechka said that housing expenses have increased for three reasons: a 5.9 percent increase in electric bills; a 4.5 percent increase in employees' salaries; and most substantially, a 40 percent increase in employees' health-care insurance.

The proposed budget would raise room and board \$240 a year for next year's incoming freshmen. "I don't know what else to do," Zatechka said.

This increase would not affect older residents who have already signed their housing contracts.

The proposal is going before the University of Nebraska Board of Regents at its February meeting for a vote.

### Correction

A legislative bill introduced by Sen. John Hilgert of Omaha would ban the use of aborted fetal tissue in research by state employees and institutions, such as the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The purpose of the bill was misstated in a guest view Wednesday and in the Quotes of the Week on Friday.

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