Mel's Drive-Ins Settle Dispute

TRAINING

The training program will be set up within seven days at Mel's establishments. Training periods will range up to 30 days and students will be paid while learning, Mel Weiss, co-owner of the chain, announced.

The civil rights groups had contended that Mel's systematically excluded Negroes from dealing with the public. Weiss had argued that the chain never had qualified Negro applicants for such work.

ARRESTS

The demonstrations were touched off by Mel's refusal to create jobs immediately for Negroes. More than 100 persons were arrested last weekend in demonstrations at the restaurant at 3355 Geary Boulevard.

The agreement calls for employment within seven days at Mel's Drive-Ins in Berkeley and Oakland of at least one Negro as either a waitress, cashier, carhop, counter girl, or bartender.

The provisions for a training program specifies the Berkeley and Oakland establishments, but Weiss said it would be extended to all 13.

"We never intended to discriminate at any stand," he said.

The chain frequently mentioned that 13 percent of its employees were Negroes. The rights groups contended, however, that none of them held jobs dealing with the public.

HIRINGS

The agreement will be drawn up as a contract and signed November 16, when Weiss returns from a vacation.

In advance of the scheduled demonstration last night, Mel's had hired a part-time Negro bartender for one of its Red Roof restaurants and a Negro carhop, Theresa Ward, 24, of 3400 California street, Berkeley.

Dobbins had charged that demonstrations in the final days of the mayoral campaign were staged to help defeat him. The pickets denied this. Dobbs' home also was picketed.

Berkeley police had called in more than 20 off-duty police to watch over the demonstration before it was called off last night.

Air Freighter Sets Record

A Boeing 707 fan jet operated by World Airways of Oakland as a military-chartered aerial freighter has set a new trans-Pacific military airlift record, it was announced yesterday.

The plane, under command of Captain George Merrill, left Travis AFB with a load of 50,148 pounds of military cargo for FarEastern bases, including Vietnam.

This bettered the existing record by 3000 pounds.