EDITORIAL

What the hell kind of campus do we have?
Just why do some people think they have to destroy and maim before they believe they have gotten their point across?

We have no idea who was involved in this act—no idea at all, and the last thing we want to do is point the finger at any political faction, at any group, or at any individual. That is for the proper authorities to discover (if they can) in due time.

But we are frightfully concerned that others will believe that this is a proper course of action—that bombs and mutilation are the tools of political power.

This campus has been relatively free from violence. There has been no violent confrontation, no real destruction of property, nothing more dangerous than threats—up until now.

We believe it is probable that this act may have had nothing to do with anything political that has gone on at this campus.

But we feel it is incumbent upon all those involved in the political activity on this campus—and that includes everyone from the Young Americans for Freedom through the Associated Students and on to the Black Student Union and the Students for a Democratic Society—to publicly and forcefully denounce this act, for if this is not done, we lay ourselves open to the charge of endorsement by inaction.

Right now a man lies in a hospital with burns over 80 per cent of his body. He may be dying. He had nothing to do with anything that has happened on this campus, except that he cleaned up the Faculty Club on the night shift.

But if he dies, that won’t make him any less dead.

A home-made bomb, which exploded in the court-yard of the Faculty Club at 6:23 this morning, critically injured Dover O. Sharp, 55, maintenance man of the Faculty Club, and caused $1,000 worth of damage.

The bomb was contained in a cardboard box and was placed in the north-east corner of the patio, next to the dining room. It apparently went off when Sharp attempted to open the box.

Sharp lived in the building and was probably on his way to the kitchen to fix breakfast.

The explosion blew him 20 feet toward the center of the patio. Sharp then evidently pulled himself another 50 to 75 feet to the wading pool in order to extinguish his burning clothing.

Students in San Rafael dorm, located over 200 yards away, were awakened by the blast and two reported hearing "the most horrible cry for help."

Several men residents of the dorm ran to Sharp with blankets. They helped him out of the pool and covered him until the campus fire department and rescue squad arrived.

The squad arrived within a few minutes of the explosion and immediately transported Sharp to the Goleta Valley Hospital. KCSB will have a further report, shortly after noon, on the extent of his injuries.

The blast shattered four sliding glass doors, ripped screens, charred walls, and caused an estimated $1,000 damage, according to William H. Steinmetz, Manager of Safety and Security Services.

Although authorities had not determined the precise composition of the bomb, Fire Chief Arthur T. McGarry stated that it was a fairly sophisticated device, consisting of "a half gallon wine jug filled with a volatile liquid, such as gasoline, a timing device, a battery, and a piece of six inch pipe packed with an explosive compound."