

## **Matthews Campus cafeteria ribbon cutting**

**February 21, 1967**

Dr. John S. Galbraith, Chancellor of the University of California, San Diego brought down a meat cleaver with a sure chop Tuesday (February 21) slicing a blue ribbon in two and officially opening on the of the "oldest" buildings on the UCSD campus.

The ceremony marked the start of business for the Matthews Campus Cafeteria, a colorful makeover of a Marine Corps mess hall building which is more than 30 years old. Any resemblance the cafeteria may now hold to the former mess hall is very difficult to find. New furniture, a new white tile floor, white and blue walls, and orange rafters and doors are heightened by several rows of bare light bulbs in the rafters looks very much like a movie marquee. The interior takes on a bright circus atmosphere.

The makeover was designed by Architect Russell Forester and the work was done by the UCSD Physical Plant Department.

According to Chancellor Galbraith, it took approximately \$5.00 per square foot to create the attractive cafeteria from an existing building as opposed to \$25.00 to \$30.00 per square foot to build a new facility.

"This is what a little money and a little imagination will do," the Chancellor said after swinging at the ribbon. It actually took the Chancellor several chops to cut the ribbon since the meat cleaver he used was one forgotten by the Marines when they left the area a year ago. The cleaver hasn't been sharpened since.

The new cafeteria will service the 300 students living in dormitories in the Matthews Campus area of UCSD, as well as staff and faculty members. It can seat approximately 260 inside at one time and can feed about 600 persons at each meal. The cafeteria offers both a complete meal line and a snack bar.

Further remodeling is scheduled for this summer to increase the seating by 100 persons through the addition of an outside patio. The cafeteria is operated by the Prophet Company, which operates other eating facilities on the campus.