

U.S. out of Vietnam now

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At the White House, the first marcher Mrs. Judy Droz called out the name of her husband, "Donald Glenn Droz." Holding a flickering candle, the petite, 23 year-old Missouri widow, talked quietly as she marched.

Her husband died in Vietnam April 12. "I'm sorry that it was necessary to march and that I had to march in the relatives contingent," she said. "It's not precipitous to ask for an immediate end to the war in Vietnam." She said that politically she was "leaning toward McGovern," the South Dakota Senator who would speak Nov. 15 at the rally.

The marchers proceeded to the Capitol where they deposited the placards in plain wooden coffins.

Through the night and into the next day and the

3000 persons showed up for the rally.

"Tonight is the beginning of the end," one speaker exhorted the crowd. A black speaker waving a Confederate flag led demonstrators in a chant of "Off the pig."

Mickey Jarvis of New York Revolutionary Youth Movement 2 walked back and forth among the demonstrators and newsmen with a loudspeaker announcing, "We will have a very short rally and then march to the Saigon Embassy." No one discussed how the group would manage to bypass 400 riot police grouped near the Embassy.

Although RYM 2 and the Mad Dogs—a faction of Weathermen—were the "tactical leadership" for the action, there was no recognized leadership. Shortly after 8 p.m. a group with NLF flags suddenly yelled, "Let's

By 11 p.m. police reported that 83 persons had been arrested including three on felony charges. Hospitals reported that 37 demonstrators were treated, most for the effects of gas. About 50 police cars were damaged.

In a brief statement to the press that evening the Mobilization Committee said that it neither sponsored nor endorsed the Saigon Embassy demonstration.

The Mobilization Committee had earlier promised government officials the protests would be legal and nonviolent, a theme repeated over and over during the buildup and the Nov. 13-15 action. One reason was to attract as large a crowd as possible. Another was to insure a permit from Washington officials for the three-day protest.

After refusing the New Mobe a permit in the first week of November, the Justice Department backtracked five days before the scheduled demonstration, announcing protesters would be granted the use of the South side of Pennsylvania Ave. from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Nov. 15. Mayor Walter Washington is said to have intervened with President Nixon to grant the permit.

By early Nov. 15, the District of Columbia was a city of antiwar protesters, streaming toward the Mall assembly area, swelling into larger tributaries that flowed in mass numbers toward the Capitol where the march was scheduled to begin.

U.S. flags distributed

At the Capitol assembly area, Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.) spoke briefly to the crowd. Over the loudspeaker, a voice repeatedly boomed the message to the crowd that the march was to be peaceful. Thousands of U.S. flags were distributed.

The march started at 10:15 a.m. Committee marshals linking arms in a wedge, managed to open up a path and the march began moving out of the Mall area and West on Pennsylvania Ave.

According to Fred Halstead, chief Mobilization marshal, 6000 marshals were on hand for the event.

At the head of the march were Congressmen and speakers, among them Mrs. Martin Luther King, arm-in-arm with speakers Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and Charles Goodell (R-N.Y.), plus Sen. McCarthy, and Reps. Philip Burton (D-Calif.) and James Scheuer (D-N.Y.).

Behind them came 11 coffins, filled with the placards of the GI war dead and the names of the destroyed Vietnamese villages. Next, a large banner that read "Silent Majority for Peace," and then, the GLs.

"Left, left . . ." the antiwar soldiers chanted, marching in military cadence. Above them were banners reading, "Free the Fort Dix 38" and "Active Duty GLs for Peace."

There were hundreds of soldiers, nearly all dressed in civilian attire. Marine Corporal David Thomas, 21, hitchhiked all the way from Camp Lejeune, N.C. "A lot of my friends have gotten killed in Nam," he said. "I guess you could say I'm against all wars."

The Revolutionary Contingent carried NLF flags. "Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh, the NLF is going to win," they yelled.

The marchers turned south along 15th St., a block



Asian-Americans marched in militant contingent up Pennsylvania Ave.

following night, the March Against Death continued, despite an early morning downpour and a brief hail storm on the afternoon of Nov. 14.

One of the marchers was Dr. Benjamin Spock, who carried the placard with the name "Jimmie B. Taylor." Asked if he knew Taylor, Spock responded, "All I know is that he died in vain."

During the early hours of the march, D.C. Mayor Walter Washington stood on the parade route on Pennsylvania Ave., shaking the hands of the protesters.

Hundreds of Mobilization marshals kept the March orderly and without incident. At numerous intersections along the 4.2 mile trek, police stepped aside while marshals directed traffic.

The bulk of marchers were liberals, young, and convinced the war was wrong. "I'm a pacifist," said Jim Farrell, 20 of Danville, Ill. He carried a placard with the name of Peter Quilich, Jr. of Nevada. Farrell had just arrived from Chicago following a 16-hour bus ride. "I believe in revolution," Farrell said, "but a nonviolent revolution."

Anne Morrison, 19, a sophomore at the University of Indiana in Bloomington sat on the floor of a chapel where marchers stayed, listening to a young bearded man strum a guitar. Why had she come to Washington? "It isn't right to kill people," she said. "We're over there to make money for the businessmen." She said she began demonstrating against the war a year ago. "Before that, I was stupid," she said. "I use to think that if we got out of Vietnam, the communists would take over the world. I don't believe that anymore."

At noon Nov. 14 the Lawyers Ad Hoc Committee to Stop the Trial held a rally and demonstration in support of The Conspiracy. Before it was over more than 1000 participated in the protest outside the Department of Justice. Speakers at the rally included Arthur Waskow, Marcus Raskin and Spock.

The first confrontation took place the evening of Nov. 14, organized by the ad hoc Revolutionary Contingent in Solidarity with Vietnam, which called a rally to begin at Dupont Circle at 8:30, followed by a march to the Saigon Embassy where Saigon officials were to be presented with an "eviction notice."

Police denied the demonstrators a permit, but nearly



Dave Dellinger, surrounded by fellow Conspirators, Jerry Rubin (right), John Froines and Abbie Hoffman.

go" and charged out of the Circle, down Massachusetts Ave. toward the Saigon Embassy taking the crowd with them—leaving a somewhat puzzled RYM 2 back at Dupont Circle with its loudspeaker.

"Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh, the NLF is going to win," the demonstrators chanted, trotting down the middle of the street, snarling traffic. A police car was pelted with rocks.

Near Sheridan Circle, where the Embassy is located, a solid cordon of police with riot clubs blocked the route. "You are ordered to disperse," said a policeman with a bullhorn, but the noise was too great for most to hear. A moment later, police began firing tear gas at the demonstrators with "pepper fog" dispensers. The crowd fell backward, coughing, handkerchiefs to faces as the stinging gas enveloped the street.

Hundreds gathered again at Dupont Circle. "We all have to regroup so we can move out together," Jarvis said through the microphone. He hardly finished when the Circle was engulfed with gas and demonstrators fled.

Store windows all along Connecticut Ave. and 18th St. were broken by demonstrators.

from the White House and headed into the Washington Monument grounds.

The front of the march arrived at the Monument at about 11:15 a.m. but demonstrators kept coming for several hours, some from Pennsylvania Ave., others directly from the Mall.

At the Monument, some marchers hauled down the U.S. flags that encircle the base and ran an NLF flag and peace banners up the flagpoles. About a fifth of a mile away, the Mobilization Committee had placed a "Peace Now" banner across the speakers platform.

The Mall was packed with demonstrators, acres and acres of them. "Just sit down," said Peter Yarrow, organizer of entertainment, "just sit down and sing together and love one another and we'll end this war." A quarter-mile away, people sat down. The public address system, rented for the day for \$17,000, functioned beautifully.

Lisa Schiller, active in the Resistance movement from Philadelphia, was among the early speakers. "When I first joined the peace movement," she said, "I used to

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Guardian photo by Richard Ward



Revolutionary Contingent marched with militant signs and liberation flags.

...largest march

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think that to end the war and end the draft was all that was necessary. I now think that the system, the courts, the military and the school system have made this war, and this war is part of the system as is racism and the tracking system in the schools. I quit school in the 10th grade. Now I urge people to stay in school and organize."

Nobel-prizewinner Dr. George Wald, professor of biology at Harvard University spoke briefly, followed by Dick Gregory, the black comedian. Another speaker was Howard Samuels, a former undersecretary of Commerce and a candidate for the Democratic nomination of the governor of New York. He represented the "business community," much to the chagrin of a considerable number of demonstrators.

Popular singer Arlo Guthrie appeared next. "I don't have much to say—it's all been said before," he announced before a song. "He's right," said Pamela Cain, 19 from Syracuse University, stretched out on the grounds, far from the platform. She shrugged off the speeches. "They're talking off the top of their heads. Everything has been said. Everyone here is agreed."

Leonard Bernstein spoke next. "I represent the square world," he said.

A GI from Colorado Springs drew cheers when he asserted, "If Nixon doesn't bring the troops home soon, they are going to come home by themselves."

In a sharply worded anti-imperialist speech, Mobilization co-chairman Dave Dellinger, a member of The Conspiracy, delivered the most radical and rousing speech.

A war against Americans

"The war against the Vietnamese people has come to the point where it is a war against the American people," Dellinger said. He described Spiro Agnew as "the Richard Nixon of the Richard Nixon administration. He is a caricature of the right. If he didn't exist we would have to invent him. But don't underestimate Agnew like they underestimated McCarthy a few years back . . . and like they underestimated the people who brought fascism to Germany. Spiro Agnew is not an accident. He is programmed."

Dellinger set three conditions for ending the war: "First that it must be ended now. Next, that we stand for self-determination and independence for South Vietnam . . . That means we must support the PRG and the government of North Vietnam. Third, we must learn the lesson of this war . . . and now allow more Vietnamese in Laos, Latin America and the black communities."

"We must defeat imperialism abroad," said Dellinger, "and prevent fascism here at home and the attempt by the system to wipe out the black people."

Dellinger called federal judge Julius Hoffman "the Spiro Agnew of Chicago." He said, "They want to electrocute Bobby Seale. The political repression

throughout the country is organized in Washington."

Dellinger concluded by calling for everyone to march on the Justice Department at 5 p.m.

Harold Gibbons, international vice president of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, said that "if we can end the war we can begin to address ourselves to the problems at home, slums, health, security for the aged, racism . . ."

Sens. Goodell and McGovern delivered liberal speeches that drew very modest applause and some boos. The crowd, by now frozen stiff in the chill winds several hours into the rally, began to drift away, many people heading early toward the Justice Department for the 5 p.m. rally.

Peter Seeger warmed the crowd—probably a half-million or so were still in the audience two-thirds of the way through the rally—by leading the entire assembly in a standing, swaying chorus of "All we are saying is give peace a chance" (a line from a popular song) repeated over and over for ten minutes. Even those who put down the lyrics as "liberal," which they certainly were, joined in the massive sing-out. It was perhaps the most emotional and communal moment of the day.

Some did not sing. One was Bill Campbell, 19, a student at New York University. "I don't think this does any good anymore," he said. "It's been done for 10 years. More emphasis should be put on action."

Carol Lipman, head of the Student Mobilization Committee, delivered an impassioned speech. "We have come to Washington to make clear to the Nixon administration to immediately withdraw all troops from Vietnam, or this demonstration is just the beginning . . .," she said.

"We are here because we believe the people of Vietnam are our brothers, not our enemies. We welcome the labor movement to the antiwar struggle," Miss Lipman continued. "We know it will take more than students to end the war in Vietnam."

She said that some were talking in terms of "time-

Draft resisters march past empty buses set up as barricade by police.



Guardian photo by Michael Lippman

Women protest

Guardian Washington Bureau

Washington

A coalition of 400 people from women's liberation, social welfare workers, the National Association of Social Workers, Psychologists for a Democratic Society and Health, Education and Welfare Department workers demonstrated outside the HEW building here Nov. 14.

The demonstrators charged HEW functions as the domestic counterinsurgency agency in the same way the Pentagon and the CIA work abroad by maintaining the status quo of the ruling class and by refusal to provide basic services to the masses of people.

The rally began with an impromptu skit by members of women's liberation. The skit demonstrated that the health system supported by HEW is not one of preventive care but of profiteering, even when it means the death of women. It showed the educational system as one designed to track people, particularly women and minority groups, into low-paying, unpaid, menial positions as well as to discourage any attempt at learning. It showed welfare as paternalistic starvation, emphasizing that the jobs women are given, regardless of training, are primarily secondary service jobs with low pay and no union benefits. "HEW kills," they chanted, with the crowd joining in.

Speakers from each group talked of particular grievances with HEW. Women's liberation listed a series of demands, including free child care, free medical care, walk-in abortion clinics, an end to sexist and racist education, school courses on the history of women and third world people, free and safe contraception and abortion on demand and wages paid to women for uncompensated services (e.g., for domestic work or child rearing, for pregnancy and as a supplement for wage and job discrimination).

A delegation from each of the groups entered the HEW building in an attempt to present these demands and grievances to HEW Secretary Robert Finch, who was not in the office. They met with two other officials for ten minutes.

MSW

tables" for withdrawal. "These are not timetables for ending the war," Miss Lipman said. "They are timetables for continuing the war in Vietnam."

"If the antiwar movement with all its resources can bring a million people to Washington," she said, "the Nixon administration can bring a half million troops home from Vietnam."

Carol Brightman, an editor of *Leviathan*, said: "The U.S. military has been defeated in Vietnam. Defeated by the NLF of South Vietnam." She concluded exclaiming, "Long live people's war!"

Dave Hawk of the Vietnam Moratorium Committee promised, "We will occupy buildings for the next 20 years if that's what we have to do."

Phil Hutchings, *Guardian* columnist, spoke about the necessity for the antiwar movement to articulate demands about the oppression of blacks and other national minorities.

Aside from Hutchings, there were no other representatives of the revolutionary movement within the black liberation struggle.

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