

FROM: STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE Stanford, Calif. 94305 (Bob Beyers ex . 2558)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANFORD--The biggest confrontation between students and police in Stanford campus history erupted Wednesday night (APRIL 29).

A non-destructive, day-long sit-in at the Old Union flared into a rock-throwing, club-wielding contest involving several hundred students and 274 police drawn from as far away as San Francisco.

Student resentment at American aid to Cambodia helped heat up that rampage, which resulted in the first use of tear gas on the Stanford campus.

When it was over, 16 persons were arrested, including 10 who sat in and chose this means of voluntarily expressing their opposition to ROTC.

Thirty police were struck by stones and other missiles. Two were knocked out temporarily and one, hit with a brick, being released after treatment at Stanford Hospital.

Cowell Health Center reported 10 to 12 students were treated there, with three or four kept overnight for observation. At least one was knocked unconscious but none was injured seriously, according to Dr. James B. McClenahan. A Cowell staffer checked the injuries of those arrested, who were booked and taken to jail in the presence of faculty observers.

Property losses expected to total several thousand dollars were sustained when windows were broken in Encina, Meyer Library, History Corner, the Graduate School of Business, and the Bookstore. A construction shack was set afire, and the building housing ROTC briefly invaded. No offices were entered there.

University President Kenneth S. Pitzer called the night "tragic."

"The seeds of this unfortunate and senseless violence have been sown over the past several weeks," he declared. "I urge all members of the Stanford community to remain calm and to seek rational solutions to our problems through peaceful means."

Three of four members of the Associated Students Council of Presidents said they had been hit lightly by police during a four-hour melee which saw protesters charge police, then surge back and forth across White Plaza and its environs. Council members Patrick C. Shea, Robert N. Grant, Hal M. Mickelson and Adam K. Levin said: "This ghastly and horrifying clash between police and students plays into the hands of radicals who have been calling for continued vandalism and destruction. The clash occurred because of the polarization and irrationality which has prevailed on the campus for the past weeks; it occurred because of hysteria and hatred at the Old Union.

"This campus must not panic. Its problems will not be solved by hate or hysteria. We plead with students to restore a sense of rationality, so that events of the past weeks can be sorted out toward some constructive result."

Both President Pitzer and Provost Richard W. Lyman, speaking as individuals, strongly condemned any new American involvement in Cambodia. In a campus broadcast heard by the protesters, Lyman said he personally was "enormously discouraged and appalled" by this news. President Pitzer said:

"In fairness, I think we should wait until the President's statement before we make a final judgment. However, if he confirms today's report that the United States is extending its Southeast Asia involvement to include Cambodia---and I fervently hope he does not---then I personally regard this as a mistake of the gravest kind. Our experience in Vietnam has been disastrous enough; surely we should not extend it to Cambodia.

"No thoughtful American can fail to realize the severe damage to our entire national fabric caused by our continued effort to fight a war about which the nation is, at best, ambiguous and which most college students believe immoral. This action can only deepen the already serious gulf between the federal government and many citizens, especially but not only the young. An action of this kind, which I personally find impossible to support, makes it difficult to defend the government in other matters of national policy.

"I want to emphasize again that this is a personal statement, but one which is sincerely and deeply held."

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