

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."

(MORE)

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ADD ROTC DEMONSTRATIONS

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The Off ROTC Movement, which switched to the peaceful sit-in tactic after being rebuffed in its plans for a disruptive occupation of the President's Office early Wednesday morning, announced it would hold another rally at 12:30 p.m. Thursday (APRIL 30) in White Plaza. This will be followed by a meeting called in response to President Nixon's televised address on Cambodia, scheduled for 6 p.m. The Stanford session will be held an hour later, at 7:30 p.m., tonight in the Old Union courtyard.

The Old Union sit-in began with about 115 students at 8:15 a.m. The group had doubled in size by 3:30 p.m., when it began discussions on whether to leave the building by 5 p.m. Most speakers favored staying, but others favored leaving to take another building or seek more support in dormitories.

At 4:30 p.m., Dean of Students Peter Z. Bulkeley read a notice from President Pitzer closing the building from 5 p.m. until 8 a.m. Thursday, warning that violators could be subject to campus judicial action and possible arrest. Pitzer also offered the group the use of the nearby Nitery for a teach-in or vigil. The group then voted overwhelmingly to stay. When 5 p.m. came, about 125 did so.

At 5:25 p.m. Capt. Tom Rosa and another officer from the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office warned the group they were in violation of the law. They responded with chants of "Join Us-Off ROTC." A few minutes later, Prof. Linus Pauling, winner of the Nobel Prize in both peace and chemistry, entered the Old Union lobby. He expressed his opposition to ROTC and urged the students to leave to avoid "a violent crackdown." Mrs. Pauling accompanied him. The group then dwindled to about 75.

In his 7 p.m. KZSU broadcast, Lyman said students remaining in the Old Union had "clearly gone in to bear witness to their political belief, rehabilitating the non-violent tactic of political protest." But he added that the University could not leave the building open overnight because over the past four weeks "there hasn't been a meeting of the Off ROTC Movement which hasn't involved threats" of violence with some expressed intention to carry them out. The University also was "unwilling to risk irreplaceable material" stored in the building, he added.

Both Lyman and Dean of Students Peter Z. Bulkeley assured the protesters that those who wished to leave the building would have a chance to do so. The sit-in group had not destroyed property and most offices in the building functioned close to normal after 10 a.m.

The crowd grew while waiting for the police to come. Well over 100 packed the lobby at times. But scores poured out of the front entrance when police arrived at 8:55 p.m. Only those who chose to stay were arrested. They were: Carol G. Wilson, 22, a senior; Edith J. Kusnik, 22, a junior; Mary Marshall "Molly" Cooke, 18, a freshman; David Fidanque, 20, a junior; Henry L.S. "Lenny" Anderson, 23, a non-student; Steven M. Borish, 26, a graduate student; Patricia Neely, 18, a freshman; Paul T. Johnston, 19, a freshman; Kit Sims Taylor, 27, a graduate student; and Szebeliski Freeman Jr., 20, a non-student. All are charged with trespassing. Bail was set at \$125.

Cars carrying police and faculty observers to the Old Union were stoned on their arrival. One officer received a minor neck wound when hit with a brick which shattered a police bus window. Windshields on two police cars were broken. Private cars were used to barricade streets near the Union.

As the arrests were made peacefully in the lobby, the crowd of about 600 gathered in the courtyard and threw glasses and rocks at police. Some protesters still urged non-violence. One youth and a policeman clashed briefly, but the youth escaped. In the back of the Old Union, a large group surrounded the police bus. After several short speeches on the Nitery steps, about 150 to 200 demonstrators started to march on Encina, where they were met by sheriff's deputies. They quickly moved on to the building housing ROTC, breaking at least a dozen windows, turning over chairs and tables, but not entering individual offices. Soon afterwards, the shack was set afire and Business School stoned. After breaking windows at History Corner, the crowd returned to the Union courtyard, where KZSU reported they charged the police. Students and police then surged back and forth across White Plaza and nearby areas.

On a grassy spot near the center of the Plaza, sitting and standing quietly beside three large candles a group dedicated solely to peace remained untouched by either side amid the conflict. As police contingents arrived, more forays and larger sweeps were used to try and break up the demonstrators. When these tactics failed, police lobbed tear gas cannisters into a large crowd between the Placement Office and the Bookstore. Those arrested after the sit-in was cleared included: Franklin L. Perkins, 21; Bernard B. Mack, 23; Stephen G. Tipps, 21; Frederick W. Bush, 32; Robert D. Garreit, 23; and Bijay K. Sharma, 23. Further details were not immediately available on these arrests.

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