

Rubin: 'It's Like Peace Is

Yippie Feels An Outsider At Viet March

By William Greider
Washington Post Staff Writer

Like so many other peace marchers, Jerry Rubin wears Pentagon hand-me-downs. Over his "Conspiracy" sweatshirt, he was bundled in a surplus Navy pea-jacket.

Since an Oakland jailer shaved him clean a couple of months ago, Jerry's beard has been growing back red and shaggy, but he wears a long-hair wig under his beaded Indian headband. He takes it off for friends to show the cultural scars of imprisonment.

Rubin, the over-30 leader of the Youth International Party, was blocking troop trains in California four years ago when the peace thing was really far out. Now this great expanse of people turns up in Washington on his side and he's having trouble adjusting.

George McGovern and Charles Goodell, who are senators, and Howard Samuels, who wants to be governor of New York, all got to speak at yesterday's rally. But Jerry and Abbie Hoffman, co-leader of the Yippies and co-defendant in the Chicago conspiracy trial, did not.

Biggest Peace Crowd

Jerry looked over the people on the speaker's platform, the important figures in the greatest assembly the peace movement has ever produced, and one of his puckish thoughts popped out.

"I really think Spiro Agnew is right," Rubin said. "The leaders of the Mobe are effete snobs."

Jerry grinned at the perversity of his agreeing with the Vice President on anything.

"They're so cute and polite and respectable," Rubin said, waving at the bleachers where the Mobe leaders were seated. "I don't like

the idea of so many Democratic politicians on the platform. It's like peace is respectable."

Rubin's distinction was probably lost on most of the nation watching yesterday, perhaps even on the men in the White House, who may have been watching from behind their barricade of buses parked bumper to bumper around the presidential mansion. There were so many marchers, so noisy and buoyant and together, that the ranks blur into one big family-of protest.

Certainly, as the Vice President complained, they are impudent.

Police Grinned

In front of the old Post Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue even the cops were grinning as one youth led the passing throng in a

four-syllable chant: "Ag-new shut up."

When Army helicopters buzzed overhead, surveying the line of march, the marchers flashed the V-sign for peace at the soldiers in the sky.

There were all sorts of saucy signs: "Would you buy a used car from Ky or Thieu?" or: "Hitler had a silent majority too."

To Jerry Rubin, this was all fine and good fun, but he had seen it before. Now, he is one radical who feels like an outsider at his own movement.

"It's like a big peace picnic," he said, scanning the endless crowd that blanketed the Washington Monu-

Respectable?

ment grounds. "That's all right. It's fun. I'm not critical. I'm having a good time. It brings together all these people from all over the country and it gives them a sense of power."

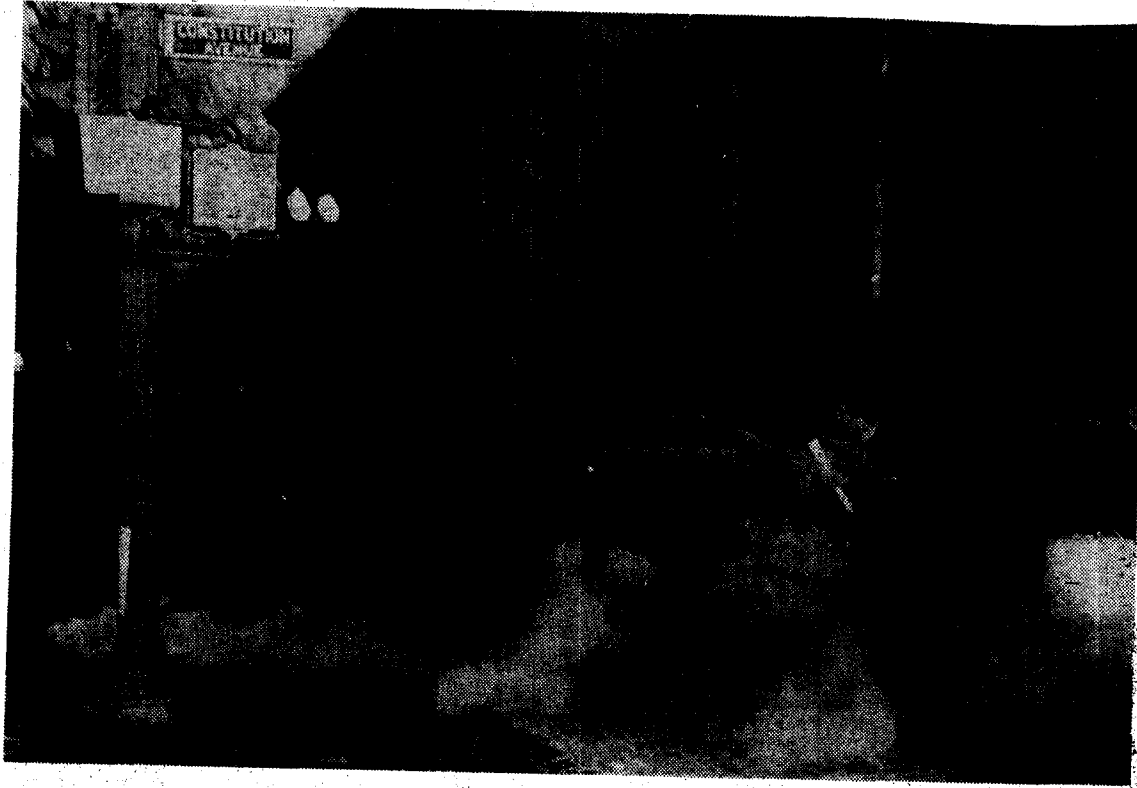
But Rubin, and for that matter a lot of other marchers, saw two groups holding two demonstrations side by side and all mixed up together. He welcomed those middle-class parents or earnest college girls shouting, "Peace now, peace now" but to him the real action was on Dupont Circle Friday night or at the Justice Department after the speeches.

"They won't even let the crazies anywhere near the platform," Jerry said. "It's

really a little hypocritical. If we are here to challenge the government, the real test is how many march on the Justice Department."

Rubin and Hoffman did get a brief moment in the spotlight when they were introduced by their co-defendant in Chicago, David Dellinger, who characterized the war as the "institutionalized violence of capitalism."

The Vietcong flags, the red and black banners of revolution, were hoisted by the Weathermen and the other radical factions pocketed among the peace marchers. They shouted their communal slogan,



A young man scrambles to escape tear gas at his feet yesterday during a demonstration at Justice Department.

By Stephen Northup—The Washington Post

"Right on," when Dellinger said:

"We antiwar people may occasionally throw rocks, but the government drops six-ton bombs on Vietnam."

To Rubin, that issue must be drawn with a sharpness of confrontation which cannot be expressed in a brotherly march down Pennsylvania Avenue. While the thousands of young peace demonstrators labored to keep their rally peaceful, Rubin found the officiousness of the shoulder-to-shoulder Mobe marshals offensive.

"These peace marshals," he said wearily, "are unbelievable. I told them I was the head marshal and they were all fired."