

Detrick Protest Staged

By Alex Ward

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FREDERICK, Md., Aug. 5—

Seven people standing just outside the main gate of the nation's major research center for biological warfare today held onto a large banner which read, "Ft. Detrick: Gateway to a Silent World."

For those seven, and the 20 or so others who were picketing the fort to protest the research being done there, the sign was appropriate. Most of the drivers in the midday flow of traffic into the post simply stared at the protesters, then drove on without saying anything.

Three soldiers walked to the edge of the fence surrounding the base and asked for copies of the leaflet being passed out. Minutes later, a military policeman stopped the three and took their names. After that, no other soldiers showed up.

"We really didn't expect much reaction out of these people," said Judith Sugar, a Garrett Park housewife who is chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Committee on Ft. Detrick that organized the protest. "We just want to let them know that there are those who are concerned about what's going on here."

Today's protest was the beginning of a two-day demonstration by the committee against chemical and biological warfare. On Wednesday, the 15th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing, it will hold a noon rally in front of the White House and later a march to the Capitol.

Mrs. Sugar said a group considerably larger than the 25 or 30 who came to Detrick was expected for the Washington demonstration.