

POST 10/3/71

Coalition Sponsors Protests Against Prison Conditions

Associated Press

Demonstrators in several parts of the nation staged protests yesterday against prison conditions.

A coalition of groups, including peace organizations, East Coast to California, with sponsored rallies from the more than 1,000 demonstrators

The Danbury protesters, in Danbury, Conn., beginning the day's activities.

some traveling on special buses, gathered at midmorning in a park five miles from the Federal Correctional Institute, where the Revs. Philip and Daniel Berrigan are serving time for destroying draft files.

At the same time, Warden John J. Norton reported that Daniel Berrigan conducted a memorial service for 300 inmates, who mourned the 42 deaths incurred during last month's Attica, N.Y., prison uprising.

Disrupting the service of

jazz guitar music, Norton said, "It certainly wasn't liturgical in the traditional sense, but it was in the modern sense."

About 30 persons left Kansas City, Mo., for the U.S. Medical Center in Springfield to call attention to prison systems both in the United States and South Vietnam.

A spokesman for the group said the demonstration was to "show solidarity for prisoners everywhere."

Sponsors of the day's protests included the Harrisburg Committee; the Episcopal defense and Catholic Peace Fellowships; Clergy and Laymen Concerned; the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, and the Third World Women's Alliance.

In Sandstone, Minn., 100 demonstrators rallied outside the Federal Correctional Institute.

Protests were also planned at San Quentin Prison in California, where Black Panther

Party Chairman Bobby Seale was to speak; at the Cook County Jail, Chicago; the Bexar, Travis and Dallas County Jails in Texas; Terminal Island prison, Los Angeles; and Windsor State Prison, Vermont.