

Camp David Protest ^{11/15/69} Called Off

A northern Frederick County Vietnam Moratorium Committee has alleged that the Thurmont radio station threatened them with "bodily injury" if they would hold a demonstration at Camp David.

The owner of Thurmont's WTHU, Victor Leisner, has flatly denied the allegations. Leisner said he has a tape of the phone conversation between himself and Stefan H. Graham who has lodged the allegations.

Graham said, "The planned demonstration at Camp David, Catoctin Mt. Park, Nov. 15 has been cancelled as of 12 noon Nov. 14. The sole reason for cancellation being the threat of bodily injury and complete disruption by a group of people supporting President Nixon's Vietnam policy.

"Our group was personally threatened by Mr. Vic Leisner who in his own words said, he would get 'his boys to run us off the hill.' As ours was to be a completely peaceful demonstration, we feel that this is neither the time nor place for any confrontation," Graham said.

According to Leisner, there was a disagreement between himself and Graham. This disagreement was that the radio station should give prior notice of the demonstration. Leisner wanted the right to give prior notification.

In a statement Friday morning, Leisner said he would have given prior notice to the people of the Thurmont area, "so they could go up there at the demonstration. I would have given this as much publicity as possible."

According to Graham his Vietnam Moratorium committee (about 25 persons) had received a permit to peacefully demonstrate at the Catoctin Mt. Park. The permit was returned this morning, Graham said.

The chief park ranger, Frank Mentzer, has confirmed that a permit was issued for a Nov. 15 demonstration.