

Impeachment Honks in D.C. Earn Tickets

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As hundreds of cars honked loudly to support them, about 750 demonstrators marched by the White House yesterday to call for the impeachment of President Nixon.

The honking started in mid-morning as about 25 protesters stood on both sides of Pennsylvania Avenue with signs asking motorists to "Honk to Impeach" and "Honk with Honor."

It continued through the afternoon with a majority of the cars that passed by joining in the din.

By 3:30 p.m. special operations division police officers on scooters began pulling over honking motorists and issuing tickets.

Within minutes more than a dozen traffic citations for

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unlawful use of the horn were issued. The tickets call for a \$5 fine and do not count as points against a D.C. driver's license.

"We're giving tickets to repeaters," said Capt. J. E. Mazur, who was commanding police operations on Pennsylvania Avenue. "It's all right (to blow the horn) if you're passing through. What we're after are the repeaters that keep on going around the block blowing the horn."

Police said they could not estimate the number of citations issued. They did say, though, that several of those cited balked at the tickets and were taken to the traffic division headquarters, where they paid the \$5. There were no arrests.

The horn-blowing has been occurring in front of the White House intermittently during the past week.

Yesterday, however, the honking and demonstrating and marching created a carnival atmosphere in front of the White House and Treasury Building.

The crowds grew steadily starting at 10 a.m. when a few dozen demonstrators from the Washington Area Impeachment Coalition began passing out leaflets among the 4,300 tourists taking the White House tour.

Within two hours more than 125 people had gathered, many of them carrying homemade placards calling for impeachment. Also present were the signs urging drivers to honk.

The impeachment march started at the Ellipse, south of the White House, at about 1:30 p.m. after a 90-minute rally.

More often than not the White House tourists seemed indifferent or hostile to the leafleteers, although several hundred took "Impeach Nixon" bumper stickers.

In one incident, a small boy asked for a bumper sticker, but after he got one

yelled, "Here's something for you," and threw a penny on the sidewalk near the young man selling them. Then the boy ripped up the bumper sticker and let the scraps fall to the ground.

Among the crowd were three women who backed the President with placards and argued with protesters.

One of them carried a sign saying "Nixon is a peach." They pointed to corruption in the administrations of other presidents, but found few supporters.

Demonstrators lined up along the sidewalk, shouting to passing motorists to honk. The response along the avenue, a major artery between shopping areas, came in loud, long blasts from cars, buses and commercial trucks.

The honking brought cheers and applause from those on the sidewalks.

It could be heard inside the White House, according to a press office staffer, but President Nixon and his family were far away from it all at Camp David.

Meanwhile, as a group of Girl Scouts from Sayreville, N.J., left the White House, most of them took impeachment leaflets. But when one of their leaders, Ruth Raymond, saw what was going on, she shouted, "Don't take it girls! Don't take it!"

A few minutes later Mrs. Raymond tol the girls to wad up the leaflets, and most did so readily. She collected them and threw them away.

Another scout leader Evelyn Grabas, said that if the anti-Nixon protesters "don't like this country, they should leave it." Then she turned to some of the girls and said, "We're going to see some other things that make this country great. It's the greatest country in the world. Don't you forget that."

The organizers of the rally at the Ellipse, the Committee to Impeach the

President, said beforehand that they expected about 5,000 participants, but the crowd that turned out numbered about 750. Almost all of them were white and appeared to be college age, which drew warnings from several rally speakers that the impeachment drive must not be "elitist."

Writer I.F. Stone, who received two standing ovations, described the virtual absence of blacks. Stone also cautioned that the movement could not be built up "by a lot of left-wing slogans that appeal only to a few people."

"We should not talk about lettuce or grapes or other thing," Stone continued. "We have to explain why Nixon should be impeached."

Among those passing out leaflets in the crowd were supporters of the Irish Republican Army, grape pickers in California, African guerrillas in Portuguese Guinea, and Socialist Workers' candidates for the D.C. school board.

The organizers of the impeachment activity were the Washington Area Impeachment Coalition and two groups called the Committee to Impeach the President, one group from Washington and the other from Baltimore.