

A Solemn Tribute

Silent Memorial at UC

The normal bustle of the Berkeley campus gave way to a solemn memorial service yesterday afternoon as the University of California stopped to mourn the death of Robert F. Kennedy.

More than 1700 students, professors and staff members gathered for the hour-and fifteen minute service of baroque organ music and silent meditation.

"We have come here engulfed by words of grief, words of depression, words of guilt and words of resolve," executive vice chancellor Earl Cheit explained.

"We have come for music and silent contemplation for in quiet places reason

abounds."

The crowd filled Hertz Hall and groups gathered on the lawn outside to hear music performed by Lawrence Moe, chairman of the Music Department and the university's organist.

Except for Cheit's brief opening statement, there were no speeches, and after an hour of music and a period of silence the service ended.

No classes were scheduled yesterday — it was a one-day break before final examinations — but all university offices were closed for the memorial service.

U.C. President Charles Hitch ordered that flags on all campuses be flown at half

staff and issued this statement:

"Senator Robert Kennedy was a man of courage and compassion, unsparing of himself in service to his country. His loss is a national tragedy. We must seek now to translate our anguish into a new resolve to reach his goal of a genuinely just society. He deserves no lesser memorial."

Kennedy visited the Berkeley campus in October, 1966, and U.C. students played a large role in his California presidential campaign. Three Berkeley students — Susan Werbe, John Gage and Richard Raznikov — are on the Kennedy delegation to the Democratic National conven-

tion.

However, yesterday, the political tables were gone from Sproul plaza, and the only reminders of the cam-

paign were the familiar Kennedy buttons on the coats of a few students. In addition to the buttons, many students wore black arm bands.