

Ideals vs. Tactics, Unrest vs. War

Special to The Examiner

SAN JOSE — President Nixon moved today to reassure San Jose State College students of his faith in them while Peace and Freedom Party senatorial candidate Robert Scheer called "for more and bigger demonstrations against Nixon until the Vietnam war ends."

The Peace and Freedom Party was one of three organizations behind Thursday night's demonstration outside civic auditorium that led to eggs, rocks and bottles being hurled at the limousine carrying the President, Governor Reagan and Senator George Murphy.

In a telegram to the president of the student body at San Jose State College, after he lashed out at college dissidents in a televised address, Nixon said:

"You can be sure that I was totally aware of the fact that only a small number of San Jose students participated, that a substantial number of those who created the disturbance were from outside of the city and that the overwhelming majority of San Jose State's 24,000 students

completely disapprove of violence and lawlessness as tactics which can be used to further any cause."

Nixon said he had great faith in young Americans because of their idealism and their concern for peace at home and abroad.

Scheer, however, saw the demonstration in a completely different light.

He stressed that his party warned protesters at the beginning of the rally not to claim the disturbance was spontaneous, with demonstrators leaving the rally three blocks away and marching on civic auditorium.

Bombs in Vietnam

"He can dish out all those bombs (in Vietnam) but he cannot take a few eggs," Scheer said of Nixon.

And then Scheer called for new protests until the Vietnam war ends. "And we (the Peace and Freedom Party) will do everything we can to plan them."

Nixon stopped in San Jose to campaign for Senator Murphy and the disturbance outside Civic Auditorium

☆☆☆ Section A Page 17
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broke out just after Nixon, exiting from the auditorium and getting into his limousine, showed the peace symbol to the protesters, indicating later he knew it would infuriate them.

Nixon Telegram

Nixon's telegram to student president Bill Langin pledged "that I will do everything that I possibly can to achieve the goal which we have not had in this century — a full generation of peace for them (students) and, hopefully, for their children."

The President also wrote a letter to Joseph Ridder, publisher of the San Jose Mercury-News, in which he said he assumes "personal responsibility for seeing to it that the ugly incident at the rally on Thursday night does not reflect on the good name of San Jose and the fine people in that community."

The letter said further:

"I shall remember Thursday night for the 5000 people in the hall who were listening courteously to what I had to say and gave me a very friendly reception after the remarks, rather than the thousand or so ugly demonstrators outside the hall."