

## CITY HIGH SCHOOLS JOIN IN PROTESTS

Thousands Here React to  
Cambodia and Kent State

By McCANDLISH PHILLIPS

Demonstrations, protests and boycotts hit at least 20 of the city's 90 public high schools yesterday.

Thousands of students reacted with anguish or anger to the military sweep into Cambodia and to the deaths of four Kent State University students, shot by National Guardsmen at the school in Ohio on Monday.

Sidewalks in sections of the Bronx were filled with striking high school students, sometimes

Phalanxes of students milling, sometimes marching. Thousands of students marched from high school to high school to recruit more strikers, often with telling effect. Schools that began the day with attendance levels of 65 to 90 per cent suffered attrition throughout the day.

DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx, which had reported 65 per cent present at the start of the day, closed when attendance slipped to about 10 per cent.

The demonstrations were orderly with some exceptions. Attendance at 65 high schools remained at, or close to, normal.

A revealing pattern emerged in the day's boycott activities: High schools situated near college campuses were most heavily affected; high schools remote from college campuses were least affected.

### Some Student Pleas Ignored

Lines of pickets from Brooklyn College formed outside Midwood High School in Brooklyn, affecting attendance there. About 1,500 students from Brooklyn Technical High School went to the Long Island University auditorium on the downtown Brooklyn campus, at the invitation of L.I.U. students.

Some students proved resistant to the pleas of their fellow students. A crowd of visiting students formed outside the George Westinhouse Vocational and Technical High School in Brooklyn, chanting, "Come on out!" However, as one observer put it, "They stayed right in."

About 1,000 students from several other high schools marched to Christopher Columbus High School in the Bronx, where attendance was reported at 92 per cent in the morning. Several hundred students poured out in response to their shouted entreaties.

The duration of the strike action remained uncertain. Some students said they would return to classes today; others said they would go back on Friday, and still others planned to stay out until Monday. A few said they would like to stay out until the Federal Government reversed its course in Indochina.

"Most Americans have this fear of not going about their daily business," one student said earnestly. "But if enough people just stayed away from their jobs some day, this war would be over."

### Students Go to the Bronx

On Tuesday, teams of five to eight students from the New York University uptown campus visited high schools in the Bronx to distribute leaflets and talk with students about boycotting classes.

At Bronx High School of Science, where the student senate had voted to strike on Tuesday, 1,000 students picketed described as the largest demonstration the school had seen.

About 45 per cent of the 3,200-member student body did not attend classes. In some classes only a few students were present; others had one-half to two-thirds of the normal number. Ten of the 165-member faculty stayed out in agreement with the strikers.

Talks with strikers and non-strikers at the school showed that there were few differences between them, except on how to protest. For the most part, those who went to school voiced their objections to the war action and the Kent shootings as readily as those who stayed out.

"Is Nixon going to stop the war because these people are walking around?" asked Jerry Toy, a 16-year-old sophomore.

"Most of the kids outside were just following the crowd," said Jay Lapidus, also 16, a junior. "Half the kids who stayed out were carrying their books this morning."

"Look," a girl striker broke in. "We still have to go home and eat our parents' food and sleep in their beds — that's why we carried our books out of the house this morning."

Leonard Russ, a bearded, pink-cheeked demonstrator said, "Just at the time the anti-war flame was burning low, the President relit it."