

But Justice Department Waives Permit Hurdle

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 6—Despite a more conciliatory attitude by the Justice Department than it has shown in the past, the Government and protest leaders remained at loggerheads today over the plans for the antiwar demonstration scheduled here for Saturday.

At the department's request, a Federal court waived this afternoon the requirement that demonstrators apply for a rally permit 15 days before any demonstration.

The Government then offered the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, which is coordinating the demonstration against the Administration's Vietnam and Cambodia policy, a permit for the use of the Washington Monument grounds, a block from the White House, for the rally.

The New Mobilization Committee rejected this site and insisted that the rally would be in front of the White House, or as close to the front as the protesters could get.

Ron Young, the Mobilization Committee's spokesman, said at a news conference:

"We're coming to the front of the White House at noon Saturday. If we can only get to the north side of Lafayette Park, that's where we'll be. Large numbers are prepared to stay there.

"The Government must decide what they do then. Will they arrest us? Will they leave us there? Or will they gas and beat us? We will be nonviolent because we are peacemakers."

Lafayette Park is directly across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House. The Government plans to cordon off the White House grounds, the park and the ellipse behind the White House on the day of the demonstration.

William D. Ruckelshaus, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Division, said, "The White House grounds must be protected from any damage whatsoever."

Mr. Ruckelshaus and Mayor Walter E. Washington said in a statement that the Government was prepared "to offer all possible help in insuring that the participants will be able to exercise their rights of free expression."

They said the Government

would erect a speakers' stand and set up sound equipment for the demonstrators on the north side of the monument grounds in view of the White House.

With Lafayette Park unreachable, the closest the demonstrators could get to the front of the White House would be T Street, on the other side of the park. It is here that the protest leaders are now planning to stage their rally.

Mr. Young said the protesters had already lined up 1,000 marshals to help keep the demonstration peaceful. But it was clear that the demonstrators expected eventually, probably after nightfall, to be routed from H Street by the police.

The police probably would not be willing to allow a large number of protesters to remain indefinitely blocking a main downtown thoroughfare.

"If they gas us and beat us," Mr. Young said, "then it is their demonstration, their violence."

Mayor Washington said that there were discussions about mobilizing the National Guard but that no decision had been made. He also said that police preparations were being made but were incomplete.

A spokesman for the District of Columbia National Guard said that guardsmen here had never been allowed to load their weapons during a civil disturbance, although they have been issued ammunition to carry in pouches.

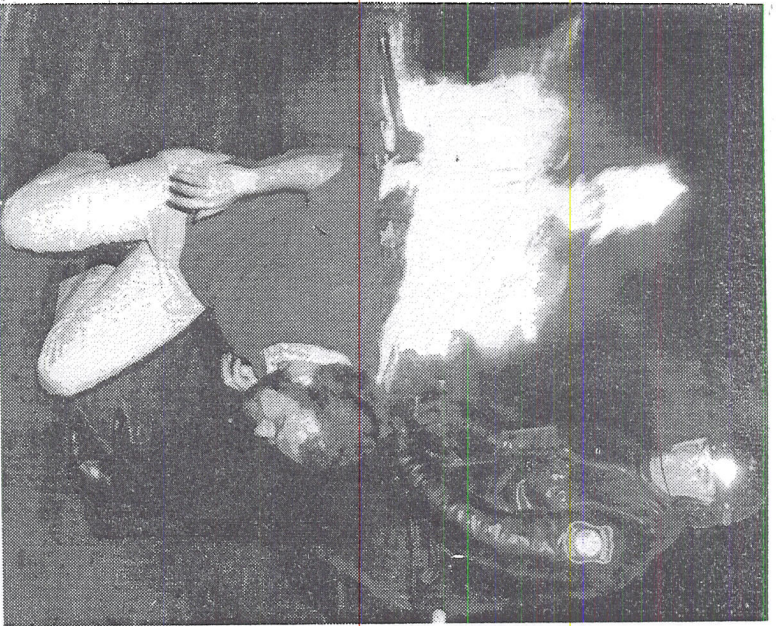
In another development today, most of the 75 demonstrators who were arrested Sunday during a peaceful prayer service in Lafayette Park were acquitted of disorderly conduct charges in the Court of General Sessions.

After six of the demonstrators were acquitted, the Government dismissed the charges against the 59 others who had not forfeited bond.

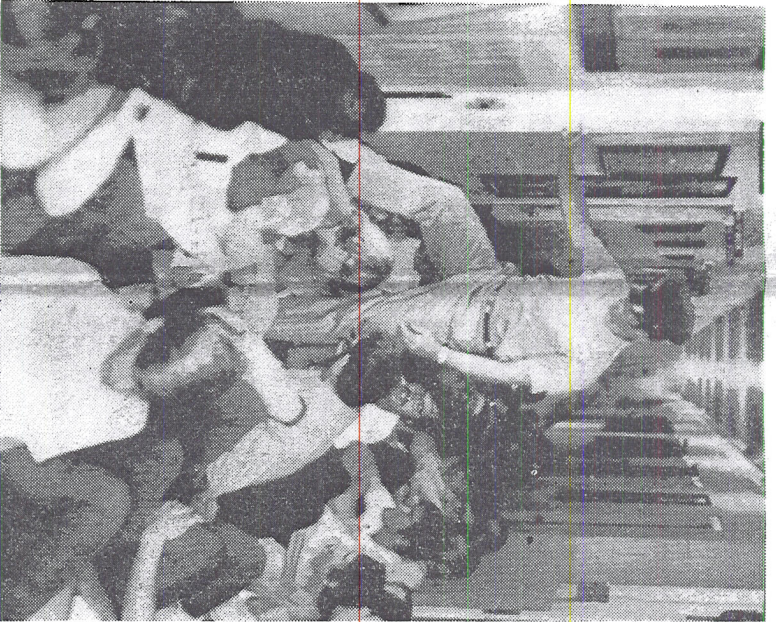
Philip Hirschkop, the lawyer for the demonstrators, said the Government prosecutors told him that if he would agree to continue the cases until next week "something beneficial to both sides might be worked out — something you might like — depending on what happens this

weekend."

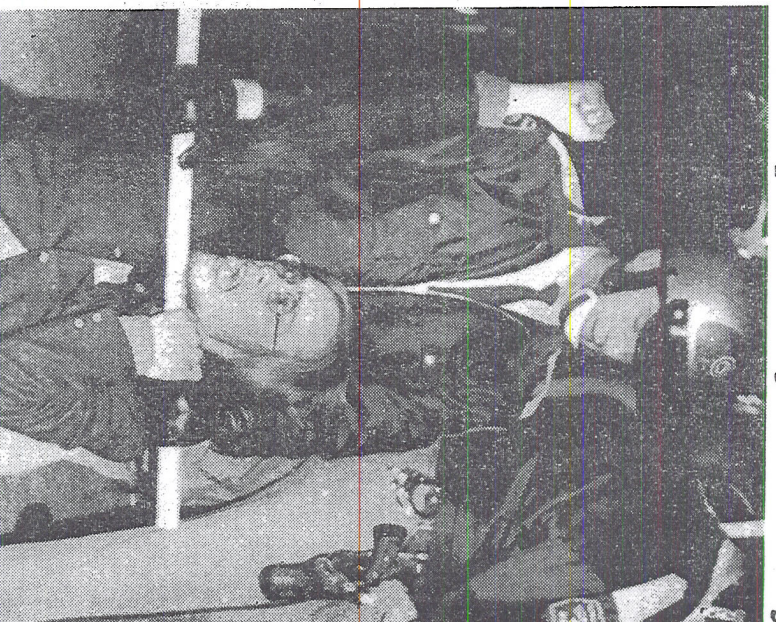
War Protesters and Government Are at Odds Over Site of Capital Rally Saturday



SETON HALL: In South Orange, N. J., students lit bonfires on the street Tuesday to protest against the war. Here, a policeman shines a student.



DAVIDSON COLLEGE: In Davidson, N. C., students staged a sit-in outside the R.O.T.C. offices Tuesday and forced the shortening of a military drill.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA: In Minneapolis, demonstrators tried to block demolition of campus shops, which would make way for restaurant.



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN: Demonstrators fleeing before tear gas as National Guardsmen, foreground, and Madison policemen, in the background, routed war protesters yesterday from a town near the campus of the university.

Associated Press



PRAY FOR PEACE: Seminarians gathered yesterday in Lafayette Park, Washington, across from the White House. They were part of same group that was arrested at the site last weekend and acquitted yesterday of unlawful assembly.

The New York Times (by Mike Linn)