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THOUSANDS IN U.S. PROTEST ON LAOS

Students March in Several
Cities and Stage Sit-Ins

By MARTIN ARNOLD

About 2,000 persons demonstrated here last evening against the Laos incursion and about 3,000 marched on the Boston Common.

But around the country, attendance at demonstrations was mostly slight. Nearly everywhere they were peaceful, with few arrests.

Five persons, however, were arrested in Washington, where 1,000 persons marched in protest in front of the White House.

After 60 minutes of this, small bands of the protesters spread out throughout the business district breaking store windows. No one was reported injured.

At the University of Wisconsin in Madison 1,000 demonstrators briefly took over a social science building. Gov. Patrick Lucey dispatched 100 Wisconsin state conservation officers and state traffic patrolmen to assist the local police in regaining control of the building.

Computer Center Occupied

Half a continent away, at Palo Alto, Calif., 70 students occupied a computer center at Stanford University to protest the use of the computer facilities for war research. The university did not summon the police, for fear that the students would wreck the computers.

In Berkeley, 1,500 anti-war protesters marched through the campus of the University of California. There was sporadic rock throwing and an automobile owned by the Atomic Energy Commission was set afire.

Twice the Berkeley police used tear gas to turn back protesters. Windows were smashed. One policeman was hurt and one person was arrested.

In Boston, demonstrators burned an American flag in Copley Square and marched on the State House, where they were denied entrance.

In Albany, 100 university students chanted "Ho! Ho! Ho Chi Minh!" marched up the Capitol's main staircase to the third floor office of Assembly Speaker Perry B. Duryea, Suffolk County Republican, and started denouncing him for not appearing.

Suddenly the curtained door to his office opened, and Mr. Duryea emerged, silver-haired and smiling hesitantly.

"There's no reluctance, by any means, to discuss any problem," the Speaker said.

He added that he favored American disengagement from the war, but that the place to protest was in Washington, not in Albany.

An epithet was shouted from the crowd and when this was followed by another, the Speaker withdrew saying, "If this is the tenor of the meeting, you don't need me anymore."

Rally Here in Low Key

The demonstration here started out in low key, with about 300 persons, mostly students, gathering on the island between 43d and 44th Streets, which separates Seventh Avenue from Broadway in Times Square.

The crowd spilled off into the streets, causing the police to block the area to automobile traffic, and then as more students joined, the entire group marched off toward the National Broadcasting Company Building in Rockefeller Center to protest alleged mishandling of news about the Laos incursion. By this time the crowd had grown to several thousand.

Other demonstrations were smaller, partly because of the cold that settled over large sections of the country.

In Chicago, for instance, only about 300 people took part, and there was no violence. At Champaign, Ill., several hundred students of the University of Illinois burned an effigy of Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird.

About 100 persons took part in a protest in Detroit and about 1,000 at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. joined the marchers.

And in Cleveland only 75 persons showed up for a demonstration in front of the city's new Federal building.