

# Anti-War Rally At Supreme Court

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## Washington

Police arrested 110 anti-war demonstrators on disorderly conduct charges at a Supreme Court rally yesterday, and it was learned that President Nixon had personally authorized protesting Vietnam veterans to camp out on the Mall in defiance of a court order.

Insiders at the White

House said Mr. Nixon passed the word "without fanfare" to permit the veterans to remain at their bivouac at the foot of Capitol Hill throughout Wednesday night despite a National Park Service ban upheld by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and affirmed by the full Supreme Court.

Late yesterday afternoon, at the request of the Justice Department, U.S. District Judge George L. Hart Jr. dissolved his original ban against the veterans' encampment which the Supreme Court had upheld. But he severely rebuked the Justice Department for chinging its mind on the issue.

Hart said he felt the Justice Department had "dangerously and improperly used" the judicial branch in the case of the veterans' campsite issue.

He noted that after he issued his original order upholding the park service ban last Friday, the department set a deadline Wednesday for the veterans to break camp, or at least to refrain from sleeping on the mall. The veterans voted 480 to 400 to sleep there anyway, rather than stay awake there all night. Policemen at the scene looked the other way and made no arrests.

"If you did not wish to en-

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orce the deadline, you should have come to this court then and asked to have the injunction dissolved," Judge Hart told Assistant Attorney General L. Patrick Gray.

"You have put the Vietnam veterans in a situation of openly defying the law of this country and openly defying the courts of this country," he added. "This is a position this country cannot tolerate and live with."

Hart's action in negating the effect of his original ban also voids subsequent rulings by a special U.S. Court of Appeals panel and the Supreme Court itself, wiping the court slate clean and leaving the veterans free to camp out unrestricted on the mall.

In making the Justice Department's belated appeal, Gray noted that 400 of the 980 veterans had voted late Wednesday to abide by the government's ground rules under the court ban and to refrain from sleeping, breaking ground, making fires or pitching tents on the mall.

"We feel that there were a lot of veterans there who desired to comply with this court's ruling by their vote," he said. "One more day remains, one more evening remains. We are advised they will depart their bivouac area tomorrow. We believe they will do so."

The Vietnam veterans against the war, about 1000 strong, gathered Sunday at the mall, a grassy parkland extending from the foot of the west front of the Capitol west to the Lincoln Memorial, for five scheduled days of anti-war protests ending Friday night. This is the eve of a mass rally and march to the Capitol by expected tens of thousands of other demonstrators.

The White House said that Mr. Nixon "of course is aware of the activities here in Washington" but that he had no plans to see a delegation of the anti-war protesters.

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Press Secretary Ronald Ziegler said earlier that the President had instructed government officials to "take steps that would avoid any violence and to move with understanding that individuals in this country have a right to express themselves."

There were no arrests on the mall Wednesday night and early yesterday morning even though the many demonstrators slept under bedrolls, blankets and plastic wrapping bags in defiance of the Supreme Court's ban and against the advice of their chief lawyer, former attorney general Ramsey Clark.

But when an estimated 160 of them marched onto the marble steps of the Supreme Court building shortly before 9 a.m. yesterday and held a noisy, 90-minute rally against the Indochina war, police moved in to make arrests.

Police said the demonstrators were violating a Federal law against interfering with the administration of justice or picketing or parading near a U.S. court building.

With hands clasped behind their heads in POW fashion, 110 demonstrators dressed in battle fatigues were taken into custody and led away for booking.

Within 2½ hours, however, all were released after payment of \$10 each in bond.

During the rally, the demonstrators sat on the steps leading to the columned main portico facing the Capitol, clapping and singing the National Anthem, "America the Beautiful" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

To chants of "bring them home — bring our brothers home," two demonstrators scrambled atop one of the two large statues flanking the steps, a seated female figure entitled "contemplation of justice," and broke their toy machine guns over its head.