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GUARDING 14TH STREET BRIDGE: Marines with radio sets patrolling an entrance to Washington from Virginia

# Washington Demonstrators Clog the City's

## 8 JUDGES PRESIDE; MOST BONDS \$250

Round-Clock Hearings Set—  
Trials to Begin on May 11  
—Forfeits Suspended

By BEN A. FRANKLIN

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WASHINGTON, May 3—The 7,000 arrests here today filled the District of Columbia jails to overflowing and clogged the courts.

Most of those arrested faced at least an overnight stay in temporary, outdoor detention

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## Courts; Thousands Are

## Held Outdoors

centers, including the Washington Redskins' fenced-in practice field—next to the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium—and the exercise yard of the D.C. Jail, the only large lockup in the city.

It appeared that the city's Department of Corrections had been unprepared for so many arrests, although police officials said the mass arrests had been part of a prearranged strategy, apparently approved by Attorney General John N. Mitchell.

Chief Judge Harold H. Greene of the city's Superior Court temporarily suspended today the so-called collateral list, under which persons arrested on minor charges ordinarily can obtain their freedom by forfeiting \$10 or \$15 collateral—the equivalent of a plea of guilty in lieu of trial.

The effect was to route all 7,000 cases toward the trial stage. The first legal requirement was arraignment, and the arraignments did not begin until about 4 P.M. They were being cleared by three judges at the rate of only about 25 an hour.

Trials, most of them on charges of disorderly conduct, were being scheduled for May 11 and beyond.

Court officials said the arraignments might not be fully cleared in two days of around-the-clock sittings by the eight Superior Court judges specially assigned to handle the cases.

Government prosecutors—in these cases they were staff lawyers of the city's legal office—asked the three judges sitting this afternoon to set bail bonds of \$250 in most cases, and this was generally done. A few demonstrators, with jobs or residences in the city were released without bond, but in one case bail was set at \$750. The normal collateral for disorderly conduct is \$10.

Volunteer lawyers for the accused argued unsuccessfully in most bond cases that the youthful defendants, far from home, could not obtain the services of professional bondsmen and would have difficulty obtaining that much cash. One angry lawyer for the public defender's service here told newsmen in a courthouse corridor, "This is preventive detention."

Philip J. Hirschkop, a former paratrooper who has been a lawyer here for many unpopular groups and was acting today as chief defense counsel for the demonstration sponsors, decried the mass arrests and high bonds as "purely political," and "a policy thing."

## Workhouse Prepared

For those not freed, the Department of Corrections was reported by Police Chief Jerry V. Wilson to be reactivating an old city workhouse facility at Occoquan, Va., about 30 miles south of Washington. The workhouse has been used to detain demonstrators arrested at other recent protest gatherings.

The number of arrests today, most of them made before noon, far exceeded the highest one-day total previously on record here.

Just under 700 persons were arrested at an antiwar demonstration at the Pentagon in 1967, but over a nearly 24-hour period. There were only 135 arrests at the last big antiwar rally in Washington in 1969. During the entire five days of rioting and disorders in the capital after the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King in 1968, the total number of arrests was 7,650.

As things stood at dusk today, thousands of accused youths were still camped out, under generally pleasant skies, in the two fenced-in detention areas.

On the turf at the Redskins' practice field, they sat or sprawled in groups behind the high wire fence, talking quietly. Demonstrator "medics"—young doctors and medical students arrested as lawbreakers when the police in many downtown areas swept through the streets this morning—attended minor injuries and arranged for hospital attention for a few.

By late afternoon, there were still no sanitary facilities.

Asked if he had consulted officials of the Nixon Administration about today's police tactics, Chief Wilson said, "We have been in touch with the Attorney General and there are no indications they feel we are not doing what we were instructed to do."