

MAY 6 1971

Peace March On Capitol-- 1200 Seized

Associated Press
SF Chronicle

Washington

Three thousand demonstrators carried their demand for an end to the Vietnam war to the doorstep of Congress yesterday and were arrested by the busful while a few sympathetic congressmen watched.

The chief of capitol police later said 1200 had been arrested.

They were charged with unlawful entry or unlawful assembly, both misdemeanors.

PROTESTS

It was the third day of protests and mass arrests in the capital, progressing from traffic-disrupting attempts Monday, to a rally at the Justice Department Tuesday to yesterday's massing at the capitol steps.

Organizers vowed to continue their protests during the days ahead.

A record 10,000 were arrested in the first two days.

In nearby Maryland, State police used tear gas to clear an estimated 5000 demonstrators off U.S. 1, one of the principal roadways into Washington, and Governor Marvin Mandel ordered National Guardsmen onto the University of Maryland cam-

See Back Page

New Washington March, Arrests

From Page 1

pus, where the crowd had gathered.

Earlier, many of the same demonstrators had seized one of the school's administration buildings after an anti-ROTC rally addressed by protest leader Rennie Davis.

More than a dozen persons were arrested as sporadic reports of trouble continued into the night, and Mandel imposed a 9 p.m. curfew on the campus.

Homebound traffic on Massachusetts avenue, another of the capital city's main corridors into Maryland, was blocked temporarily by a separate group near American University.

The demonstrators at the Capitol had only a short warning that arrests were imminent. There was a muffled announcement over a loud-speaker system, a few protesters ran, and the city's Civil Disturbance Unit moved in.

"He could have gone to the men's room in the capitol to give the warning for all the good it did," complained Representative Charles Rangel (Dem-N.Y.), who said he tried unsuccessfully to get a House leader to intercede for the demonstrators.

Police Chief Jerry V. Wilson said the request to clear out the crowd was made by Chief James M. Powell of the U.S. capitol police.

Powell said he ordered the arrests after conferring with House Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma, who concurred in the action.

Albert later told reporters: "I was told they were on the steps and the chief of police said they should be taken off. So I said, 'Well, take them off then.' I only did what sergeant at arms requested I

do. I trust the sergeant at arms."

ANNOUNCEMENT

Powell made the announcement, but even those standing nearby had a hard time hearing his words: "You have been requested and ordered to leave the grounds immediately . . . It is an unlawful assembly and you will be arrested. It is now 3 p.m. Unless you leave by 3:10 you will be arrested. Leave the entire capitol grounds."

The order was delayed until a few congressmen had finished speaking to the crowd, using the demonstrators' bullhorn. They included Representative Bella Abzug (Dem-N.Y.), Ronald Dellums, (Dem-Calif.) and Parren Mitchell (Dem-Md.).

But another congressman, Representative G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery (Dem-Miss.), rushed one of the demonstrators on the capitol steps and came away with part of a banner.

Mrs. Abzug and Dellums met the crowd at the capitol plaza entrance and led the group to the House side of the dome.

The House and Senate were in session as the demonstration began, but adjourned not long afterward. The last speech of the day was a brief assertion by Representative Roman C. Pucinski (Dem-Ill.), that "these last three days have frustrated the plans of these young anarchists."

Steel doors to the capitol, almost never closed while Congress is in session, were shut and white-helmeted police waited inside.

"The whole world is watching . . . the whole world is watching," the demonstrators chanted as they were led one by one by policeman to waiting buses.