

No Test Cases Planned In Antiwar March Arrests

Civil rights attorneys for 298 antiwar demonstrators arrested near the White House Oct. 26 have decided against bringing test cases in their behalf.

The decision—made by the Emergency Legal Defense Corps for the demonstrators—represents a complete switch in defense tactics from those that followed the Mayday antiwar protests, in which 12,000 persons were arrested.

After those demonstrations defense attorneys battled successfully in trial after trial to have the charges thrown out on grounds that constitutional rights were violated. The courts eventually threw out almost all of the charges.

Following allegations of mass violation of rights during the Mayday arrests, police used streamlined arrest procedures during the Oct. 26 demonstration and said they wanted to avoid similar criticism.

Yesterday, prosecutors at Superior Court, who did not want their names used, said that defense attorneys for the 298 were advising their clients to forfeit collateral instead of going to trial.

Members of the group have been released on their own recognizance or by posting up to \$50 collateral pending trial on disorderly conduct charges later this month. They were arrested during an abortive attempt to march to the White House gates.

Yesterday James H. Heller,

an American Civil Liberties attorney who is with the defense corps, declined to comment on whether demonstrators are being urged to forfeit collateral.

He said, however, that the defense group had originally planned to try "two or three" test cases of the arrest, using "all defenses possible." After viewing a videotape of the arrests, he said, "we don't see much virtue in doing that in this case."

In another antiwar demonstration scheduled for today, protesters plan to rally at the Ellipse. It is to be one of 16 regional rallies across the country called by the National Peace Action Coalition.

Plans call for two simultaneous lines of march—one starting from the Capitol, the other from Arlington National Cemetery—to converge at the Ellipse at 1 p.m. for an afternoon of speeches and musical entertainment.

Organizers say veterans, active duty GIs and participants from out of town are to assemble near the Arlington cemetery main gate at 11 a.m. and begin marching at noon.

Labor Contingents

For the march starting at the Capitol, labor union contingents will gather in front of the Teamsters headquarters building on New Jersey Avenue. Federal employees will assemble on a soccer field adjacent to the HEW building on Independence Avenue. Other D.C. area participants will

gather on the west side of the Capitol at 1st Street.

Marchers from the cemetery will walk across Memorial Bridge, around the south side of Lincoln Memorial, north on Bacon Drive and east on Constitution Avenue to the Ellipse. Marchers from the Capitol area will go straight up Pennsylvania Avenue to 15th Street and into the Ellipse.