

# 'Morality Play' for Nixon

## Berrigan's Sidewalk Protest

Washington

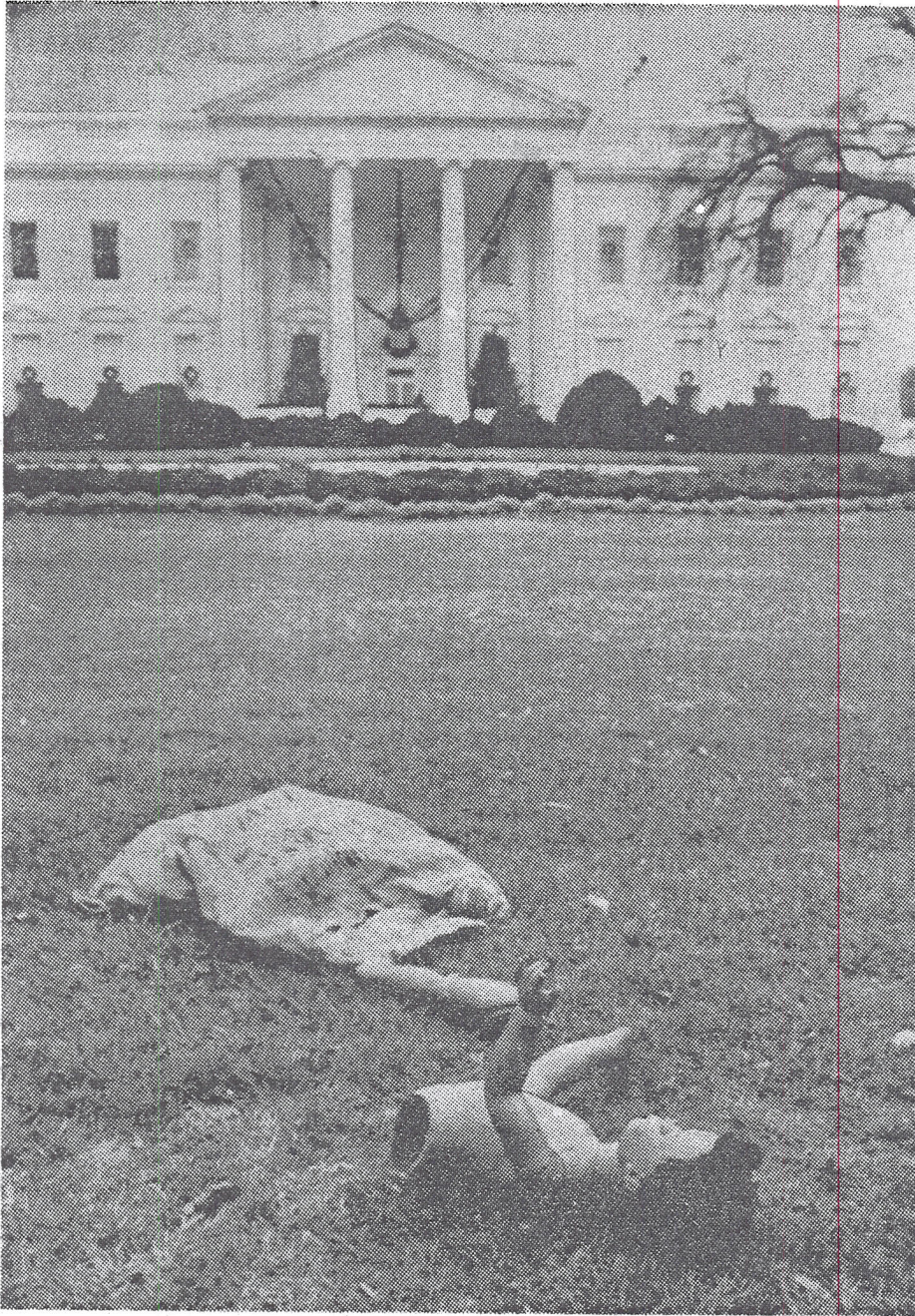
In what the Rev. Phillip Berrigan called "our way of celebrating Christmas," 37 protesters held a medieval morality play in front of the White House yesterday and conducted a mass that likened President Nixon to King Herod. Six persons were arrested.

Two protesters were arrested for vaulting the black iron fence around the White House and walking toward the mansion where Mr. Nixon was having his Christmas dinner. Deborah Daniell and Mitchell Snyder were charged by the Secret Service with unlawful entry.

The two, according to an eyewitness, John McGuirk, "were trying to deliver pictures of Vietnamese children who were mutilated because of Nixon's orders."

Four others who chained themselves to the fence were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. They were identified as Rosemary Brandle, Teresa Kohlenberg, Gerard Gange and Joan Cavanaugh.

A sack of mutilated and bloody baby dolls was tossed over the fence as part of the protest. "It was our way of celebrating Christmas," said Father Berrigan, the



Mutilated dolls were thrown on the White House lawn to protest the "massacre" of children in Indochina

anti-war priest who was jailed for pouring blood on draft board files and accused of participating in an alleged plot to kidnap government officials.

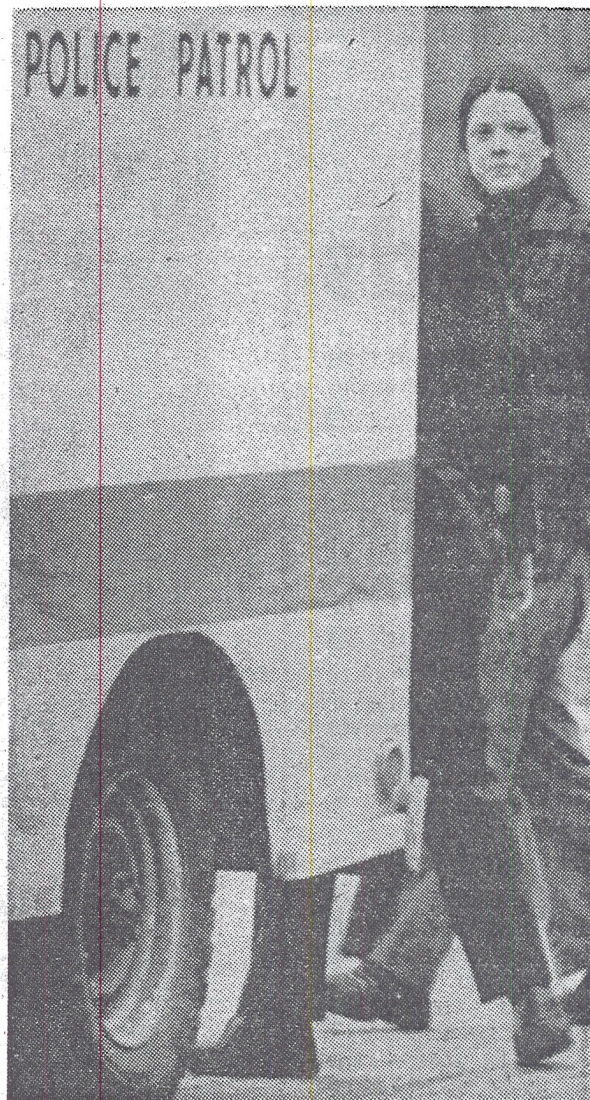
"In light of what is going on around the world and especially in Indochina, with a continuing war there, we wanted to worship as Chris-

tians here and have . . . a morality play and a Christian liturgy.

"And we also wanted to face our leader in some way — as those people who went over the fence did — with the massacre of innocents in Indochina over the past ten years. It's still going on today. The kids take the brunt of it, so we tied in Christmas with the feast of the holy innocents and we liken Herod to Nixon," Father Berrigan said.

The morality play, performed by protesters in medieval costumes, portrays Herod, the king who in Christian theology killed all infants under the age of two in Palestine as "prince of purgatory and chief captain of hell." The Christ child and his parents escaped to Egypt and returned after Herod had died.

*United Press*



*AP Wirephotos*

**Deborah Daniell was arrested for jumping over the White House fence**