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The Hunt for Those Arrested at Protest

Washington

More than 500 of the 1,318 persons who may be entitled to as much as \$10,000 apiece in damages for illegal arrest during the 1971 "May Day" anti-war protest have still not identified themselves to the American Civil Liberties Union, that group said yesterday.

Diana H. Josephson, the executive director of the national capital area ACLU, which filed the suit on behalf of those who were arrested, warned that if the 510 still-untraced persons cannot be found by next March, "they'll lose."

A civil jury last January awarded damages estimated to average \$10,000 each to the 1,318 persons arrested May 5, 1971. The class action suit had charged the police with making false arrests, violating the arrested persons' rights, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution.

The total of legitimate applicants, the ACLU announced in a news release yesterday, had now reached 809, and their claims, totaling from \$7 million to \$8 million, have been filed with the court.

New York Times