

Veterans Face Guardsmen In Protest at Miami Beach

By JOHN KIFNER

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MIAMI BEACH, Aug. 21 — Demonstrating Vietnam veterans sprawled today on the grass in front of Miami Beach High School, where National Guardsmen waited behind drawn window blinds as this security-conscious Republican National Convention opened.

Out of sight on a side street behind the school, a line of Florida Highway Patrol cars, with four troopers in each car, stretched for four city blocks, embodying the highly mobile — but often relatively low-profile — tactics adopted by Police Chief Rocky Pomerance and other police officials here.

A brief scuffle resulted when five veterans climbed to the roof of the high school and about 20 National Guardsmen chased them off, according to The Associated Press. The police said seven demonstrators were arrested on charges of nonforcible entry in connection with the incident. The arrests of the antiwar protesters were the first that the police have made at the convention.

Meanwhile, the ranks of the demonstrators at Flamingo Park continued to increase. The number of demonstrators at the park, which the city has turned over to the protesters during the convention, appeared to reach 3,500 or more by mid-afternoon, including a contingent of about 800 that calls itself Vietnam Veterans Against the War. Some who had been through the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago said they thought the turnout was somewhat bigger than in the first days of those demonstrations.

Hotel Demonstration

Last night, for example, the S.D.S. led a group of about 400 chanting and cursing demonstrators who attempted to prevent Republicans from attending a \$500-a-plate convention eve party at the Fontainebleau Hotel.

There are no uniformed policemen in sight at the campground, but along the row of garish hotels on Collins Avenue, the Republican party's concern for security is more evident. However, much of it seems as much to prevent any unwanted information from dribbling out as to ward off assaults on their bastions by dissidents.

The major symbol of the security consciousness is the Doral Hotel, the White House headquarters, where the curving driveways are lined with Secret Service agents and hired guards, the antennas of their walkie-talkies bristling. The hotel employes, including lifeguards, wear badges with their pictures around their necks.

Howard Calloway, a former member of Congress from Georgia, strolled into the lobby the other day with his daugh-

ter, who had the proper color-coded plastic badger to get her past the guards.

Stopped by Guards

Mr. Calloway, who is the chairman of the Republican National Committee's subcommittee on housing, had not picked up his credentials, however, and the guards refused to let him go when he attempted to leave the hotel. Since he did not have any credentials, they said he should not have been in the hotel in the first place, and thus could not be permitted to go out. He was finally able to leave.

"While at the hotel," reads a confidential memorandum distributed to the important Republicans who are staying there, "you are requested to put all sensitive paper in the 'confidential burn' bags found in every office. These are not general trash bags, but for sensitive memos, papers, etc. only. At approximately 9 P.M. each day, a security officer will pick up these bags. A paper shredder is available in the security office."

In one of the most serious breaches of security thus far, however, the Doral memo fell into the hands of Dick Tuck, the political prankster, bon vivant and sometime publisher, who printed it in his convention newspaper, Reliable Source.

Color-Coded Credentials

The memo says that the "hotel will be totally secured and considered a restricted area," and describes the color-coded credentials—red for working staff, white for V.I.P.'s and blue for professional workers.

"Entry to the hotel will be gained only by displaying" the credentials, the memo said, and the Republicans are warned, "If you plan to swim, walk, sunbathe, eac., bring your credentials." The last three words are underlined.

The press here has been issued credentials that say, in large letters, "Limited access."

Security precautions are not quite so stringent at the other hotels, but private guards and city policemen line the doors and people with long hair or "odd" clothes are stopped and questioned. The Nebraska delegation's planned boat excursion was canceled because security arrangements could not be completed.

The precautions, of course, are not meant to deal with such demonstrations as the ruly crowd of kempt youths, summoned by notices in the hotels, who gathered on the steps of the Fontainebleau the other day to welcome Mrs. Nixon.

But, while the Platform Committee worked on its document in the Voltaire Room of the Fontainebleau Hotel last week, the police sealed off all possible entrances to the fourth-floor room and waiters bringing food and drink were scrutinized and rushed away as soon as their carts were inside.

Typists Guarded

When four young women were typing the platform the other night, a security guard was assigned to each typist, lest any slip off to a copying machine.

Outside the convention, Chief Pomerance's 250-man department has been supplemented by Miami policemen, Dade County deputies, Florida highway patrolmen and state fish and game wardens, bringing the total number of uniformed officers to about 1,000. Some 3,000 National Guardsmen are bivouacked in schools and golf courses and 3,000 marines and Army paratroopers are standing by at Homestead Air Force Base, near here.

The Secret Service, as is its custom, declines to reveal its numbers here, but its agents are much in evidence. They are identifiable by small buttons in their lapels, ear-plugs and concealed microphone arrangements, into which they are constantly talking, cupping their hands over their mouths as if coughing.

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