

Why She Did It

Singer's Peace Message 'Plot'

Van Nuys

Carol Feraci, the Canadian-born singer who gave a surprise anti-war lecture to President Nixon during a White House appearance with the Ray Conniff Singers Friday night, now is beginning to think of the future.

"There's a possibility that people won't want to hire me," she told newsmen after returning to her Van Nuys home. "They won't want to put themselves on the line and hire somebody who had the courage to speak up."

Miss Feraci received a heroine's welcome from six anti-war friends who said they had been in on her plan for the demonstration.

Miss Feraci, 30, who has been singing professionally for 10 years, said she at first turned Conniff down when he asked her two weeks ago to join the group for the White House appearance.

"But when I thought about it, I thought it would be a great opportunity to make the American people a little more aware of what is going on in Vietnam. So I called him back and said I would accept the job."

Then she began planning and rehearsing her remarks.

After the group walked on stage in the east room of the White House, where President and Mrs. Nixon were entertaining, Miss Feraci unfurled a hand-painted sign she had hidden inside the top of her dress and stepped to the stage microphone. The sign read "stop the killing."

"President Nixon," she said, "stop bombing human beings, animals and vegetation. You go to church on Sunday and pray to Jesus Christ. If Jesus Christ was in this room tonight, you would not dare to drop another bomb. Bless the Berrigans and Daniel Ellsberg."

After her speech, she rolled up her sign, stepped back to her place and sang in



AP Wirephoto
CAROL FERACI
'A great opportunity'

the first number. When it was over the audience started to applaud but someone called out: "Throw the bum out."

Conniff, who said the opening "was as much of a surprise to me as if was to you," quietly asked her to leave and the show went on.

Later Mr. Nixon reportedly told Conniff to "forget it, those things will happen."

Other guests, including Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Wallace, co-founders of Reader's Digest magazine and the guests of honor Friday night, were less charitable.

"I was disgusted," Wallace said.

Evangelist Billy Graham said Miss Feraci "was very rude."

Martha Mitchell, wife of the U.S. attorney general, said "I think she ought to be torn limb from limb."

United Press