

POLICE GUARD AT VIETNAM PROTEST



CORDON of plain-clothes and uniformed police outside the United States Consulate in Queen Street, Brisbane, yesterday afternoon during an anti-Vietnam war rally,



DETECTIVES watched as delegates of the demonstrators left the consulate after seeing the Consul (Mr. C. G. Sommer).

There was a policeman for every two demonstrators outside the Consulate during the rally.

About 200 protestors . . . mainly young people . . . milled quietly around the entrance to the Consulate while their leaders sought an audience with Mr. Sommer.

Almost 100 plain-clothes, uniformed, and Federal police watched carefully for any outbreak of violence.

Police allowed ten delegates of the demonstrators, supporters of the Vietnam Action Committee, into the building to see the Consul.

While the main group waited patiently outside, the delegates presented two documents to Mr. Sommer and asked that

they be forwarded to the United States.

The documents contained details of the committee's main points of opposition to the Vietnam war.

As the spokesman for the group, bearded University law student, Brian Laver, 21, walked back on to the street, he was greeted by cheering from supporters.

DISAPPOINTED

Laver then announced that he was disappointed in the way the delegation had been received.

He said that the Consul had talked to them over the counter in the main office of the consulate.

"I thought at least he would talk to us in his office," he said.

He said he had spoken to the Consul for about 20 minutes but was not at all satisfied with the result.

SUPPORT

Earlier in the day, Mr. Sommer had received a delegation from the Citizens For Freedom Movement who expressed their support for America's action in Vietnam.

This delegation was lead by the Queensland president of the movement (Mr. H. Wright) and included the State Member for Mt. Gravatt (Mr. G. Chinchin) and represented more than 20 organisations in support of American action.

In a letter to the Consul, Mr. Wright said: "The people of the free world, including Australia, owe a great debt of gratitude to the Government of the United States for providing protection for smaller non-Communist nations unable to defend themselves."

Bitter debate on Vietnam

CANBERRA. — Government and Opposition members clashed heatedly during the "State of the Nation" debate in the House of Representatives last night over the Vietnam issue.

After a running and bitter debate which started in the afternoon, the feeling reached its climax late in the evening during a speech by a former Minister for the Army, Sir John Cramer (Liberal, N.S.W.).

During the speech Mr. Daly (Labor, N.S.W.)

Otherwise, the business of the House and of its committees would not progress.

The ruling sparked an angry debate on the motion in which Mr. Daly was twice asked to withdraw and apologise for reflections on the chair.

After the increasingly bitter debate was gagged

27 ARRESTS BY POLICE DURING CITY VIETNAM PROTEST

SEVERAL thousand people early last night watched police struggle with and arrest 27 young men and women taking part in an anti-Vietnam demonstration in Queen Street.

Peak-hour crowds thronged the intersection of Queen and Albert streets to watch the demonstrators stage their protest.

The Youth Campaign Against Conscription organised the demonstration. Police eventually arrested nearly all the young men and women who appeared at the intersection to protest against the Federal Government's decision to send National Servicemen to Vietnam.

Those arrested, most of them teenagers, were charged last night at the city watchhouse with offences ranging from disorderly conduct and resisting arrest to failure to obey the lawful instruction of a police officer and failing to state their names and addresses to police officers when asked for them.

On bail

Two hours after the last of the demonstrators were arrested, watchhouse authorities were still dealing with them.

Bail for the group, including four girls, was fixed at between \$10 and \$20 each.

Those charged will be listed to appear before the Magistrate's Court this morning.

The demonstration convenor of the organisation, Mr. Kit Guyatt, of Ryans Road, St. Lucia, was one of those arrested.

The first disturbance occurred at 5.20, when uniformed and plain clothes police began to follow several youths who formed a small procession from one corner to another of the intersection.

"Move on"

The police told the youths to move on and not to obstruct pedestrians.

Onlookers thronged the footpaths and virtually prevented any movement of pedestrian traffic across the intersection by 5.20.

Detectives and uniformed police converged on several youths at points around the intersection, and after having exchanged words with them, carried them, struggling in most cases, to Black Maria's, three of which were lined up in Albert Street.

Cast on arm

A youth arrested at the T. and G. corner had a plaster cast on his right arm and a sling around it with the words, "Stop Vietnam Conscripts," painted in red on it.

Several policemen carried him away, and some people in the crowd booed, and some shouted "bullies."

During the sometimes hectic hour between 5.20 and 6.20, uniformed policemen kept the road traffic flowing, although large numbers of people wandered across the intersection.

'Reds seeking strong-arm action at rally.'

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YOUTH being carried away by police during the anti-conscription demonstration in Queen Street yesterday afternoon. *His call-up papers were dropped in the street. Police made 27 arrests during the demonstration.

VIETNAM WAS THE TOPIC



ANTI-CONSCRIPTION for the Vietnam war was the theme of this and a number of other speakers who addressed several hundred people in Centenary Place yesterday after a city march.

About a thousand people took part in the march from Roma Street, along Ann Street, to Centenary Place, where there were about another thousand people gathered.

Near the head of the procession marched a little girl who appeared to be about three years of age. She was clutching and wearing a sandwich board which carried the inscription: "Don't bomb my Vietnam playmates."

The marchers included some of those arrested by police last Thursday for staging an anti-Vietnam demonstration in the City at peak hour.

PLACARDS

The march was organised by the Vietnam Action Committee, and had police approval.

The marchers, many carrying placards and banners, left the Roma Street area at 2.30, and marched slowly along Ann Street.

The placards carried inscriptions such as: "Yankee Go Home." "Silence is taken as Consent." "Conscripts: No Vote No Voice No Choice." "Mothers: do you want your sons to die in Vietnam? Demand Recall of our troops." "Do you want to die in a paddyfield?"

Most of the marchers were protesting against conscription and Australian involvement in South Vietnam.

BARGED IN

At several intersections along the route an Army officer barged his way through the marchers tooting the horn of his car.

The marchers shouted slogans such as: "Hey L.B.J., how many kids have you killed today?" and sang songs including the American negro song "We Will Overcome."

The march was preceded by a police car and four vehicles bearing anti-war placards.

Motor cycle police rode up and down along the side of the marchers

to keep traffic away from them. more police were waiting at Centenary Park.

There was also a crowd of pro-Vietnam demonstrators, but there were no incidents.

The crowd gathered in three groups.

The largest group was the anti-conscription group, which was addressed by speakers from the university, the trade union movement and

Mr. Manfred Cross, M.H.R.

It was also addressed by Mr. A. MacDonald, the Communist secretary of the Trades and Labor Council.

Opposing the anti-Vietnam war demonstrators was the Citizens for Freedom organisation.

The president, Mr. Harold Wright, said there were 300 supporters of the movement present.

GAUNTLET OF MISSILES

NEW YORK, March 27 (A.A.P.). — Tens of thousands of demonstrators ran a gauntlet of missiles and abuse through dozens of United States' cities yesterday, protesting against the war in Vietnam.

The mood of spectators ranged from tension and hostility in New York, Boston, Detroit, and Oklahoma City, to bored casualness in cities like Cleveland, El Paso, Kansas City, and Los Angeles.

Similar protests overseas were reported in Stockholm, Rome, Tel Aviv, and Lima. The demonstration in the Peruvian capital was broken up by police using tear gas and fire hoses.

DELAY BAIL CLAIM

● "SYSTEM ARCHAIC"

A solicitor said in the Magistrates Court today that the system of entering charges at the City Watchhouse was archaic.

Mr. Cyril Murphy, appearing for a number of people arrested in a city demonstration yesterday, said that most of the 26 admitted to the Watchhouse at 5.30 p.m. were not given bail until after 7.30 p.m.

Although the bail money was available, the majority were still at the watchhouse at 9 p.m., and the last left at 11.30 p.m., he said.

Mr. Murphy said that Watchhouse staff were not to blame for the delay:

It was due to the archaic system under which only one man entered the charges.

"It is a disgrace to the community that young people should be held in prison for so long although bail was immediately available and I bring the matter forward in the hope that proper authorities will do something to remedy it," he said.

Police arrested 21 men and five women during the disturbance and of those 19 forfeited bail of from \$10 (£5) to \$20 (£10)

Six pleaded not guilty

Six appeared and pleaded not guilty and were remanded until April 12 and April 26.

Mr. Hickey said a youth, 16, whose age earlier had been given as 17, could not be charged in the Magistrates Court.

The charges listed ranged from disorderly behavior, resisting arrest, obscene language, having disobeyed police directions, having obstructed police and having refused to state name and address.

The offences were alleged to have been committed in Queen and Albert Streets.

Protest at arrests

The Queensland Trades and Labor Council executive today decided to protest against the arrest and handling of a number of young people who took part in an anti-Vietnam demonstration in Queen Street yesterday.

The executive resolved to send telegrams of protest immediately to the Premier, Mr. Nicklin, and the Police Commissioner, Mr. Bischof, and a copy to the Opposition Leader, Mr. Duggan.

The Youth Campaign Against Conscription arranged the demonstration.

Those who forfeited bail were:

Brentwood Douglas McGregor, 20, student (disorderly behavior and having resisted arrest); Matthew Myles, 40, salesman (disorderly behavior); David Colin Christopher Guyatt, 18, student (disorderly behavior, having resisted arrest); John Gregory Nelson Millar, 17, student (disorderly behavior); Christopher Alan Rootes, 18, student (disorderly behavior); Alexander Carlton Ashe, 75, pensioner (disorderly behavior); Alexander Kowalonek, 20, teacher (disorderly behavior); Christopher MacDade, 18, teacher (disorderly behavior); Dennis William Beitz, 19, draftsman (disorderly behavior); Michael Geoffrey Parr, 20, student (disorderly behavior); Edwin John Challen, 20, laborer (obscene language).

Patrick Benedict Rooke, 21, carpenter (disorderly behavior).

David John Tichborne, 28, fitter, Michael Marce Thompson, 20, student, Clarence Roy Higham, 22, student, Robert Andrew Hamwood, 20, student, Barbara Clare Wright, 18, typist, (all having disobeyed a direction); Ann Pechey, 19, student (having obstructed police); Carol Frances Brown, 19, student (disorderly behaviour).

Those who appeared and pleaded not guilty are James Thomas Cleary, 19, student, James Malcolm Beatson, 20, student and Anne Veronica Rooke, 21, librarian (all disorderly behavior); John Grant Hannan, 27, student and Victor Douglas Slater, 22, waterside worker (having disobeyed a direction); Barbara Jane Gaines, 21, student (having unlawfully carried a placard and having refused to state name and address).

The Youth Campaign Against Conscription in a statement today, claimed that during yesterday's demonstration police had twisted behind his back the broken arm, set in plaster, of one demonstrator.

Another had been knocked down by five policemen when he attempted to show a placard.

The statement added that the YCAC supported "any individual taking the initiative to burn his draft card."

"HARSH ACTION" CLAIMS LLOYD

The deputy Opposition Leader, Mr. Lloyd, MLA, today protested to the Minister in charge of police, Mr. Pizzey, against "harsh action" by police in yesterday's anti-conscription for Vietnam demonstration in Queen Street.

Mr. Lloyd said his electors who saw the disturbance said police used unnecessarily harsh action.

"I feel that the wide powers given to the Police Force should at all times be exercised in a manner which will prevent any unnecessary disturbance of peace.

"These powers must not be used in a manner which in itself can provoke a disturbance."

Mr. Lloyd said a number of people told him unnecessary force had been used against young people who, because they had no vote, used the only method they knew of to register their protests against conscription.

It was important that the Police Force should retain the respect of the community, Mr. Lloyd said.

The convener of Vietnam Protest Week, Mr. Brian Laver, said today he expected tonight's public debate on Vietnam to be noisy.

The speakers will be Mr. Killen, MHR, and Mr. Bryant, MHR.

The debate will be held in the Albert Hall at 8 o'clock.

Students' wait in the Watchhouse

A SOLICITOR claimed yesterday that students and others arrested in an anti-Vietnam War demonstration on Thursday night had been detained in the Watchhouse for up to six hours.

Mr. Cyril Murphy, representing several students, told Mr. T. Hickey, S.M., that only one policeman had been detailed to record charges against the 26 arrested.

He said he did not blame the Watchhouse staff for this archaic system, but he urged the authorities to do something about it.

Mr. Murphy appeared for Anne Veronica Rooke, 21, librarian, the first called, in No. 1 Magistrate's Court on a charge of having behaved in a disorderly manner.

"Until 11.30"

He said 26 people had been taken to the Watchhouse at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday after a demonstration at Queen and Albert Streets, but nobody had been released on bail until two hours later.

Others had been detained until 9 p.m. and the last was released at 11.30.

Mr. Murphy said it was an injustice to the community that in such an emergency, these young people should be held in prison although bail had immediately been available.

Mr. Hickey said he had no comment to make.

He remanded Rooke, who pleaded not guilty, until April 12, on her own \$10 bond.

Forfeited bail

Those who did not appear were: Brentwood Douglas McGregor, 20, and David Colin Gurratt, 18, students, who each forfeited \$30 bail on charges of having behaved in a disorderly manner and resisted arrest; Matthew Myles, 40, salesman; Carol Frances Brown, 19, student; Christopher Macdade, 18, teacher; Dennis William Bantz, 19, draftsman; Michael Geoffrey Parr, 20, student; Patrick Benedict Rooke, 21, carpenter; John Gregory Nelson Millar, 17, student; Christopher Alan Rootes, 18, student; Alexander Carlton Ashe, 75, pensioner; and Alexander Kowalonek, 20, school teacher, who each forfeited \$10 bail on a charge of having be-

haved in a disorderly manner and Edwin John Challen, 20, laborer, who forfeited \$10 bail on an obscene language charge.

James Thomas Cleary, 19, and James Malcolm Beatson, 20, students, were remanded until April 12 on their own \$10 bail bond on a charge of having behaved in a disorderly manner.

Under 17

Anthony Dominic Rooke, 16, carpenter, was discharged on a charge of having behaved in a disorderly manner when Mr. Murphy told Mr. Hickey he was under 17.

Four men and two women each forfeited \$10 bail when they did not appear before Mr. Dillon, S.M., in No. 10 Magistrate's Court.

They are David George Tichborne, 28, fitter; Michael Marcel Thompson, 20, student; Clarence Roy Hisham, 22, student; Robert Andrew Hamwood, 20, student; Barbara Claire Wright, 18, typist; and Ann Pechey, 19, student.

Tichborne, Thompson, Hisham, Hamwood and Miss Wright failed to appear on a charge of having disobeyed a direction given by a member of the police force.

Miss Pechey failed to appear on a charge of having obstructed a member of the police force in the exercise of his powers stated in the Traffic Act.

Remanded

John Grant Hannan, 27, student, who pleaded not guilty to a charge of having disobeyed a direction given by a member of the police force, in that he failed to remove himself from Albert Street, was remanded for mention until April 26.

Victor Douglas Slater, 22, waterside worker, pleaded not guilty to a similar charge and was remanded for mention until April 26.

Barbara Jane Gaines, 21, student, pleaded not guilty to a charge of having carried a placard without a permit and a charge of having refused to give her name and address.

Mr. Dillon remanded her for mention until April 26.