



PROTEST FOR PEACE — Charles Kaska leads his fellow demonstrators on a march from Monmouth College to Fort Monmouth where they then picketed for several hours against our policy in Viet Nam. Counter-demonstrators, many of them fraternity members, line the route to jeer and harass the protestors as they pass by.

Students, Public Demonstrate Against U.S. Viet Nam Policy

by Lillian Frantin

Last Friday, a group of about thirty persons staged a peace march from this West Long Branch campus to the entrance of Fort Monmouth, Eatontown. The marchers, many of them from Monmouth College, were protesting the American foreign policy in Viet Nam.

Bearing signs such as "Is America Becoming An Empire Based On Corpses?", the group was met by a counter demonstration group. The marchers were cursed and spat upon by the heck-

lers at various points along the route.

As the marchers neared the entrance to the Fort, the counter demonstration group emerged from a cocktail lounge, incorrectly reported in the local press as a luncheonette, and tried to block the marchers by unfurling a large American flag across the sidewalk. The police, holding the jeering group back, allowed the marchers to continue. Some of the anti-protesters yelled, "Do you know what this is? Did you ever see it before?" A chorus of the

Star Spangled Banner was also sung by the anti-protesters.

The marchers proceeded to form a circle a few hundred yards away from the fort entrance, displaying pocket signs protesting the Viet Nameese war. One placard read, "Blessed are the peace marchers, for they are the children of God". The marcher who held it was jeered at, and was later called "dirty old man" in the form of a chant. Although other marchers were also personally insulted by the counter protesters, they did not engage in any dialogue with them.

This counter demonstration group, some garbed in fraternity shirts, was comprised mostly of Monmouth College fraternity men. Phi Delta Sigma, Kappa Beta Sigma members were in the group. Frank Jannerone, hastily appointed as spokesman for the Phi Delt men, said "We are diametrically opposed to their views, that's why we're here". Mr. Jannerone is president of the fraternity.

One counter protester said "It's ridiculous. If it weren't for us fighting over there, we'd all

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be communists and slaves." He was from Monmouth College.

Another Monmouth member asked, "Are **they** representing Monmouth College?" Shouts of "Commies", "Slackers!", "Pigs!" were heard from the group throughout the demonstration.

One woman, with three young children-the oldest about 14- yelled, "If more parents would bring their kids up right, scum like this wouldn't be here today!" Later, she started a chant of "Keep America clean, get rid of the scum, scum, scum, scum . . ." and the counter group chimed in. Her two small daughters called the marchers "scum," and "fat pigs" as the young boy from Ocean Township High School spat at the marchers.

Mr. Kaska, interviewed before the assault, charged the **Outlook** with not carrying news of the march sooner. It "should have been in the **Outlook** when we needed the publicity". Kaska was reported to have expected about a dozen marchers, incorrectly reported in the local press to have been 1000.

Tom Breslin, Toms River, a co-ordinator of the march, said, "The march was organized in honor of Christ's passion and death on this, Good Friday."

An experienced demonstrator characterized the hecklers as "much more vicious than usual". Another said they were "America's stormtroopers".

From the other side, Edgar Tirado, of Long Branch said, "I'm going in the Marine Corps next week and it makes me sick that I'll be fighting for these slobs." The woman with her children hollered, "If you were my children, I'd get a gun and shoot you all."

"Burn your draft cards, why don't you?" and a short chorus of "From the Halls of Montezuma" were chanted by the hecklers.

By this time, three policemen, two detectives and a trooper were gathered at the scene. Intermittently, the police indicated that the hecklers were not to proceed toward the marchers. None did.

A member of the counter group said, "We do not believe they

(the marchers) represent Monmouth at all.", and another characterized the marchers as "the scum of the school".

A member of the protest group commented, "I am very pleased to see college students turning out in opposition to the war, and to see individual commitment to the anti-war movement." One marcher, a woman, identified herself as a Quaker; another man, as a member of S.A.N.E. But, according to Tom Breslin, the march "was not organized by any particular group," but as a group of "concerned individuals committed against the policy in Viet Nam".

Brad Bierbrauer, a demonstrator, said, "For their **children**, yours and mine, that's why I'm taking all the spitting and the egging. **They** should have a chance."

The heckler group organized itself several times for photographers. A counter circle was also started several times, but disbanded. A high school girl, one of about seven high school people in the counter demonstration group, paraded in a large paper sack bearing the slogan, "Grow up, support Uncle Sam. Another youth said, "They are using American methods to protest the American way of life."

An observer, a teacher and one of several who watched the scene from across the highway, commented, "I am ashamed to say I attended the same school with that mob. (Indicating the counter-demonstrators). But I am proud of the way in which the marchers conducted themselves. I don't know how they contained themselves." Most of the observers were in sympathy with the counter-protesters, as were the passersby.

After two o'clock, both groups began to thin. And of the forty to fifty persons in the counter-demonstrating group, only about twenty were left. About thirteen marchers remained.

At about 3:15, Mami, one of a few remaining hecklers, assaulted Kaska, and was hauled off to jail by the police and a state trooper. By 3:30, the demonstration had broken up.