

# Plenty of Peace Marchers, Few Onlookers

By Don Righetti  
Sentinel Staff Writer

Yesterday's peace march through downtown Santa Cruz attracted a lot of walkers, but the city hardly raised an eyebrow as they filed past.

A parade official said he counted 545 participants, but the streets were virtually bare of onlookers. Of the few who did turn out to watch, the majority had only jeers and catcalls for the marchers, although they did draw scattered applause at the beginning of the walk.

A smaller band of counter protestants trailed doggedly at the heels of the marchers. They carried signs that read "As Americans, We Owe It to Our Country to Fight for Our Peace," "You People Want Peace but Won't Pay the Price for It," "Will They Practice What They Preach? We Will" and "What Is Life Without Honor and Freedom?"

The marchers were mostly young, but there were a few gray hairs among some of the beards—and there were lots of beards. Their attire was mostly garish, but encompassed the whole range from neatly pressed business suits to Goodwill rejects.

Many wore sandals. A few went barefoot on the cold, wet ground, thereby proving something or other.

Most carried crepe paper flowers, called "may love and peace be yours" flowers, and were adorned with dozens of buttons bearing various messages.

They carried signs reading "USA Listen to the world—Peace Now," "Stop the War," and the ever-popular "Make Love, Not War." A middle-aged housewife in a babushka carried a sign reading "Bombs are not the Answer." A little blonde girl of about 4 carried a placard someone had given her reading "Peace in Vietnam."

The paraders gathered in San Lorenzo Park for a number of brief statements by leaders before the march began.

They were addressed by Paul Lee, UCSC professor, who said, "The question isn't 'Why are we marching,' but 'Why isn't everybody marching?'"

Others who addressed the assembly were Manuel Santana, a restaurant owner; Bruce Runyon, a Quaker; John Tuck, an employee of the county welfare department; Dan Miller, an employee of the state department of fish and game, and Tom Ray, a Watsonville school teacher.

Marchers gave no profound ideological answers to this reporter's questions of what they hoped to accomplish. All stated that they had no ambitions beyond the ending of the Vietnam War.

The march got off to a rocky start when officials of The Committee for Responsibility heatedly protested to parade leaders the use of the committee's name in an advertisement for the march.

The committee claims it has no direct connection

with the march, although several members are believed to have taken part in it.

Several marchers carried small children as they started over the San Lorenzo River bridge and on a circuitous route to the post office.

They even had a kind of band. One girl tootled tunelessly on a wooden flute while another accompanied her on a kazoo. A little girl thumped a tambourine against her knee.

A Negro youth carried a sign which read "We Shall Overcome" and was decorated with an unexplained 8-ball. He wore a sweatshirt inscribed "Treat Me With Tender Loving Care."

They hadn't gone far when a woman yelled out of a car window "You bunch of bums!"

Another woman asked her husband, who was carrying a dozen eggs in a grocery bag back to their car, if he was going to toss some of them at the marchers.

"Hell," he answered, "I wouldn't waste them on those guys."

Marchers who attempted to pass out literature along the parade route met with little success in getting rid of their wares. Several prospective customers turned and walked away as they approached.

Pat Pullen, a service station attendant watching the marchers file past, said, "If that's all they think of their country, the heck with them."

Russell Lee, a Fort Ord soldier, called them "a bunch of draft dodgers and women. I don't respect these people. The Army and Navy is dying over there every day, and that's all the support we get."

The marchers were a little more talkative about their aims when they reached the steps of the post office to begin a 15-minute peace vigil.

Andy Lachman, a UCSC student from Encino, said he was "trying to arouse public interest in ending the war. He said he had no recommendation on an alternative to the conflict, declaring simply, "We should leave."

He said the vigil itself was a "standing guard for peace, an exercise to influence public opinion."

Jill Simmons of Rio del Mar said she was trying to accomplish "love and life."

When it was noted one of the placards was emblazoned with biological sex symbols and the question was asked if that were a portion of the march's love theme, the answer from a girl was, "Love is all one thing, there are just different variations."

Denny DeMartini of the San Lorenzo Valley said his goal was "heaven on earth."

When it was pointed out that in order to achieve his aims it would be necessary for both sides of the conflict to feel the same way, and the opposition has never strayed from its promise to bury democracy, he answered, "They can't bury us, man, it's too big and too real."

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Saturday's peace march drew all kinds — clowns to clergymen. The march attracted a large crowd of participants — 545 by one count —but not much interest on Santa Cruz' streets. The parade, stretching several blocks long, was marred by no incidents more violent than jeers from the sidelines. It ended in a 15-minute peace vigil on the steps of the post office. Other pictures on pages 30, 37.

## Arrest Sparks Meleë Near Negro College

Nashville, Tenn. (AP). — Negro students at Fisk University hurled rocks and fired pellet guns at helmeted, armed riot policemen as a demonstration on the Fisk campus raged into the early hours today.

The pellet shots came after the officers had fired riot guns into the air — and issued an urgent call to headquarters for more such guns in an effort to break up the crowd, which grew to nearly 800. Several hundred Metropolitan policemen were rushed to the scene.

The demonstration was touched off by reports of the arrest of a Negro student by a



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