

Protesters vow to return today

PROTEST, from Page 1B
again try to block employees going to work.

Lockheed workers waiting to get to their jobs expressed disapproval of the demonstration.

"It's bad. There should be some way of praying to save their souls," said Geraldine Robinson, an ordnance technician from Santa Cruz.

Montee Allen, a production inspector from Bonny Doon, also was unhappy.

"I sure don't like this. I shouldn't have to go through a blockade. I should be able to pursue my work," he said.

The protest is part of a nationwide series of demonstrations at U.S. nuclear weapons manufacturing and testing sites to mark this month's 25th anniversary of

the Cuban missile crisis.

Lockheed designs, produces and tests the Trident II D-5 nuclear missile. However, only a tiny, non-nuclear part of that work is done in Santa Cruz County, Lockheed officials maintain.

Lockheed spokesman Bob Burgess said, "What happens on our side of the gate gives them the freedom to do what they are doing (protest), but I don't think it necessarily gives them the right to block workers." He said the demonstration has delayed work at the test facility.

The test facility's 300 workers had been off the job — without pay — for two days.

Lockheed's decision to close in face of the protest meant each employee was losing \$60 to \$140 every day the plant was shut, said

Ken Benda, who heads the Sunnyvale-based District Lodge 508 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents about 275 of the Lockheed facility's employees.

"Our goal is to keep them closed," Terry Teitelbaum, director of the Santa Cruz Nuclear Weapons Freeze, said of the demonstration on Empire Grade Road 18 miles north of Santa Cruz.

The test facility initially was closed Wednesday, as it was all Monday and Tuesday.

However, telephone calls instructing workers to report to their jobs began going out at about 8 a.m.

The first employees arrived at about 9 a.m. Normally, work be-

gins for most at about 7 a.m., according to Lockheed representative George Mulhern.

Mulhern said Lockheed felt that demonstrators were less likely to be "keyed up" by now, "so it seemed a good time to resume work."

Lockheed has said concern over worker safety prompted the decision to keep the test facility closed during the protest.

All employees returning Wednesday were advised "to use restraint, not to do anything to provoke any violence," Mulhern said.

And, he added, "Authorities are on hand to ensure that workers' rights are observed."

Wednesday's peaceful confrontation took place in a drizzling rain.