

Troops Keep Demonstrators From 'Park' in Berkeley

By WALLACE TURNER Special to The New York Times

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BERKELEY, Calif., May 30—National Guard troops behind barbed wire barricades and sheriff's deputies with shotguns protected the University of California's vacant lot today from thousands of demonstrators who wanted to make it into a "people's park."

The confrontation came at 1:45 P.M. when, in a thunder of motorcycle exhaust noise, the leading elements of the march of approximately 20,000 reached the fence that brought a new crisis to the Berkeley campus when it was erected on May 15 to keep trespassers out.

Today the marchers, who moved past the fence at the rate of 200 a minute, made no move to gain entry to the park. Some of them festooned the woven wire with flowers. After 30 minutes it was solidly covered.

After they had passed the park, some protesters brought out pick axes from a truck and dug holes in the pavement at three nearby intersections. They planted small trees there, and put down sod taken from two truckloads that had been in the march.

The police made no move to arrest them, and the effort to establish street intersection parks soon ended. By 3:25 P.M., the last of the parade's stragglers had passed the park. Once past the park, the marchers dispersed.

The Berkeley police said that there were no arrests incidental to the march. More than 1,000 persons have been arrested in connection with the attempt to establish the "people's park."

One man has been killed and more than 100 persons hurt in gunfire, tear-gas attacks and rock-throwing as the police and their adversaries struggled for two weeks over possession of the tract, which is three blocks away from the main campus.

Residents, hippies and revolutionaries want to build a park. The university wants to build athletic fields for a few years until it builds student housing on the 2.3 acres it amassed for \$1.3-million in a series of purchases in 1967.

Inside today, guardsmen with fixed bayonets watched impassively. When the motorcycles that led the marchers had disappeared, the line moved along quietly. The buzzing of four helicopters that circled overhead covered the sound of shuffling feet.

Few Angry Shouts

Occasionally someone in the march played a harmonica or rang a bell, or a small child or baby cried. There were few angry shouts. The marchers were predominantly young, but there were some middle-aged and a few elderly persons.

Exact numbers of policemen and soldiers were not made known by the security-minded staff directed by the Alameda County Sheriff, Francis I. Madigan, the over-all director of the effort to control the protest march.

Two-man teams of sheriff's deputies, equipped with a shotgun and carbine for each team, were on the roofs along the parade line where it passed through business areas.

Concertina wire, the coiled barbed wire used to fortify strong points, was used to block off street intersections in the vicinity of the tract. Marchers impaled flowers on the wire.

Just as the parade line approached the park, six carloads of sheriff's deputies with shotguns posted themselves at an intersection a block away. They pulled back into side streets as the leading elements of the parade entered the intersection.

The march was conducted with a permit voted late last night by the Berkeley City Council, which met for more than five hours at a meeting marked by a display of political passions.

Bill Miller, who applied for the parade permit, asked to have four routes that would converge on the "people's park" tract. At the urging of the police department, the Berkeley City Council gave him a permit for a march of some 24 blocks to the park, across the hill behind it and back to the starting point.

Policemen along the route kept nudging the parade back into the authorized line.

Urge 7-Year Lease

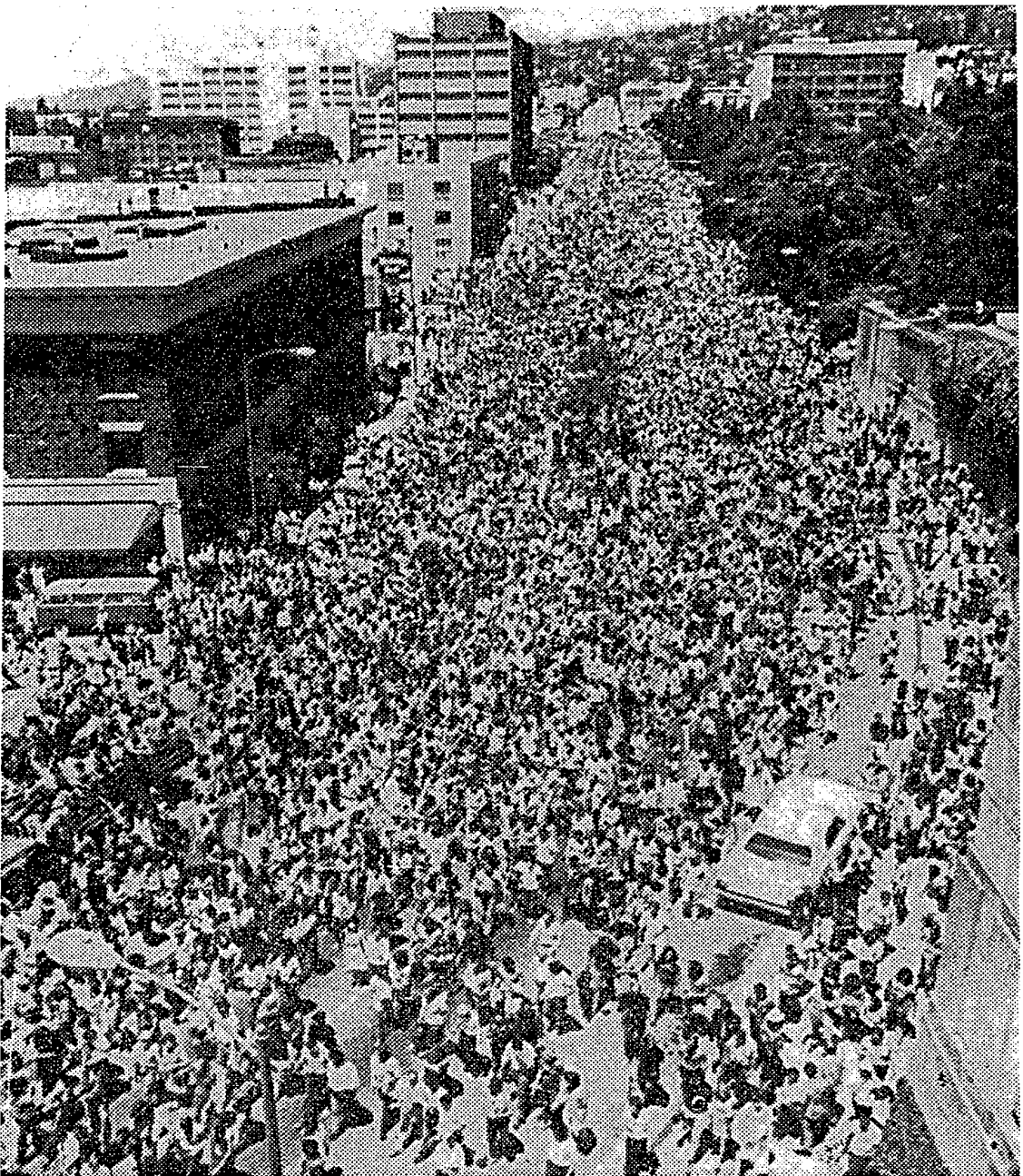
More than 40 persons urged the Berkeley City Council last night either to ignore or to accept the suggestion that it ask to lease for seven years a portion of the university's controversial tract. The suggestion came from Roger Heyns, chancellor of Berkeley.

The council voted 5 to 4 to rent a part of the tract if the Regents of the university offered it to the city.

Among those who spoke were business leaders, hippies and at least two nationally known personalities — Gen. William Dean, a commander in the Korean war now living in retirement in Berkeley, and Thomas P. F. Hoving, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and former Director of Parks and Recreation in New York City.

General Dean opposed the lease proposition. Mr. Hoving, here as a visitor, supported the idea and compared it with the miniparks he and Mayor Lindsay established.

From the emotional pitch of the speeches, as well as other indications of public temper, it appeared that the majority of voters in Berkeley probably would support continued stern suppression of the attempt to convert the university tract into a public park.



Protesters marching through downtown Berkeley, Calif., during yesterday's demonstration

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