THE ARRESTS AT SPROUL HALL: Part II-Girl student tells of experiences here and of Life at the Armory

Cheryl Loskutoff entered Sproul Hall with her husband at 1 p.m. Wednesday afternoon. After spending 26 hours in the building, she was arrested around 3 p.m. Thursday and taken to the San Lorenzo Guard Armory.

After 10 hours there, she and 31 other girls were transferred to Santa Rita prison farm. At about 4:30 Friday morning, she was released. The following is her own account of those 39½ hours, written exclusively for The Gate.

I entered Sproul Hall, with my husband, at about 1:00 Wednesday afternoon. Inside - on the second floor - some people were gathered to sing; others were sitting along the walls reading or talking, and many were walking around, trying to get settled.

At about 3:30, I left with a friend to buy food for the students. When we returned two hours later, people seemed more settled into their own places.

AN AMAZINGLY CREATIVE AND ORGANIZED SITUATION

During the evening, we found ourselves in an amazingly creative and organized situation. It was announced that films would be shown regularly every half hour, that freedom school classes were being conducted in specified areas of the building, that a Chanukah service was to be held.

As we walked through Sproul Hall, spontaneous singing groups, and discussions were found; we stopped to watch a Chaplin movie, later an anti-HUAC film, and a Laurel and Hardy comedy.

Food (sandwiches which we ordered, kool-aid, and apples) was prepared and distributed.

Somehow the time passed rapidly - I think because it was put to such good use. Beginning to look for a place to sleep around 12, we finally settled by the information windows on the first floor.

POLICE MAY BE ON THE WAY

Near 2 a.m., Mario came around to tell quietly about 20 people at a time that the Governor may have sent police, and - if they should come - to move upstairs to the second and third floors. At about 2:30 we were told to move. We sat on the 3rd floor, preparing to be arrested, wetting handkerchiefs and kleenex to protect us from tear gas. We saw policemen, but no arrests took place. Then a few persons were taken from our floor.

HARDSHIPS

For the next 12 hours, no food was available; for the police had cut off our supply lines. The bathroom doors had to be removed from their hinges, so that the police could not lock them up. (This left only the one bathroom on the 3rd floor open).

A LONG WAIT AHEAD

As the hours passed, we began to realize that our time there (in Sproul Hall) would be long. We worried about being isolated from the others in the building; for the police allowed us to go only downstairs, but not to return upstairs.

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EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE

All rights to the contents of this newspaper, The Gate, are reserved. No portion thereof may be used without the express consent of the editor. Bob Weinzheimer 1964.
WORD FROM OUTSIDE AND FROM DOWNSTAIRS

Somehow Brian Turner (men's leader on the 3rd floor) and others were able to report about happenings and downstairs. They told us that 35 had just been arrested from the second floor, and that 35 more had just climbed in through the window. They reported also that the faculty was organizing in a new response to the administration, the public address system had been saved from the police, and that the entire second floor had been arrested.

We were concerned about our isolation—that we couldn't tell how many were really outside supporting us and they couldn't know how many of us were still inside.

ARRESTS ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Brian Turner was the first to go, at the time; then the boys were dragged to the steps at the end of the hall—while the girls waited. I sat near the middle of the hall, but I could hear the awful thud of bodies landing.

At the hall's end, the boys went through a minute of questions, pictures, and then the sliding of the body. At one point, some girls ran near me, becoming very upset at what they had seen.

PROCEDURE WITH THE GIRLS

All the girls were moved to one central area; and most were dragged to the elevator at the end of the hall. There the "preliminary booking" took place, then the search for weapons. From there, we went to the elevator (everyone walked, as I remember). Downstairs we were put into a "cage" (actually, the inside wire fence door of the campus police station—she explained—Editor), and then we went into a bus.

THE SAN LORENZO GUARD ARMORY

Arriving at the Armory, we found other girls already assembled. For the entire length of our stay, we were in a huge gymnasium with a cold concrete floor; the heating was turned on later. While there, a lawman—who seemed very concerned at the inadequacy of the accommodations—kindly explained that the prisons were full and we had to wait for space here. He stated that they would try their best to accommodate us. We sat on the cold floor; at 8:30 p.m., each of us received 2 spam sandwiches and tea. This was our first food in almost 18 hours.

DISCIPLINE

The mid-court line on the gym floor served as our boundary line—which we could not cross. We could use the bathroom if it was not in use; but if it was occupied, the matron would tell us when to enter.

To ask a question, we had to stand back of the line and raise our hand—waiting until one of the four matrons recognized us.

BOOKING AND QUESTIONS

Around 10:30, the booking began; initially, I refused to answer any questions other than my name and address—until I could consult my lawyer. The policeman said that these questions had to be answered—in order to send me to San Francisco to finish my booking and to be released. So I answered all the questions about my nationality, religion, birthplace, etc.

PHONE CALL—THE OPEN DOOR

Then I made a phone call to my sister in San Francisco. As I entered the booth and started to close the door, the matron—sitting by it and checking names—ordered me to leave it open. When I asked why, she repeated the order. I made my call.

'AN UNHEALTHY CONVERSATION'

As I talked, I recalled the awful and tedious past hours. When I told my sister that I had never seen anything so ugly and frightening, the matron interrupted me with, 'This is an unhealthy conversation, and I think it should end; besides, there are others waiting.' I continued talking until I had finished what I had to say and then hung up.

SANTA RITA

Later I fell asleep, but was awakened around 1:30 a.m. to climb in a bus and go to Santa Rita. About half of us went at one time. On arriving, we were told to stand outside and to wait for a lady to direct us. After a short wait, a policewoman led us to a cage-like bungalow. It had a cyclone fence-type grating which reached about shoulder high. Most of the girls sat on either a shell-like counter or on stools. We stayed there until 4:30 a.m. While waiting, we saw other demonstrators who had arrived earlier leave.

WAITING—RELEASE—HOME

At 4:30, 30 names were called; we grouped in a small room. A policewoman called our names again, and we lined up to sign for our release. Then we were told to get in the "cage" again. On boarding the bus, all names were called off a third time.

And then the drive—that brought us to the beautiful people waiting with cars to take us home.

YOUR PORTRAIT

FOR

CHRISTMAS

OF COURSE—
Ad Hoc pickets arrested at Tribune

Saturday 18 members of organizations comprising the Ad Hoc Committee to End Discrimination were arrested at the Tribune building for blocking a driveway in violation of the law.

The group sat down in front of a driveway leading to a courtyard loading area. The gate was locked.

After the group had been sitting there 15-20 minutes, a Tribune circulation truck pulled up to the gate. At this point, William F. Knowland, assistant publisher and general manager of The Tribune, walked out to speak to them. "I am William Knowland," he said. "You are obstructing the exits of our premises. I ask you to leave forthwith so we can carry on our normal business."

Knowland had emerged through a smaller door in the gate. Three patrolmen had been standing at the gate prior to the start of the sit-in.

While they were sitting down, the group sang freedom songs. ABC-TV cameramen and a number of photographers were present. One policeman was observed without a badge. The photographers would not take any picture of him -- saying that they didn't see any police without badges.

After members of the group were warned several times, they were arrested one by one and taken to waiting paddy wagons. All but the first went limp and had to be carried or dragged (going limp has been held by the courts as not to be resisting arrest - editor).

THE PICKETS

There was a yellow line drawn down the sidewalk in front of and on the side of the Tribune building. Marchers were required to stay on the curbward side of this line. When the police got grouchy, they would push the pickets with their hands.

The line of 350-400 pickets was kept moving by the monitors; there were between 50 and 100 policemen on the scene.

At the time of arrests, the police pushed back spectators and grabbed one of them out of the crowd.

A SHORT RALLY - WITH MOTORCYCLES

After the arrests occurred, a short rally was held around 3:30 at the Tribune building. Various persons spoke, telling of the charges against some of the persons arrested and of a collection for bail money to be taken in Oakland's Negro churches Sunday.

At this time, 10-15 motorcycle policemen, on duty in the area, were parked at the curb. During the rally, they gunned their engines in an apparent effort to drown out the speakers.

Bail was set at $300 each for each of 11 pickets booked for disturbing the peace, failure to disperse and creating a public nuisance. An additional backing of resisting arrest was made against five of the men with their bail set at $500 each. One picketer faced an additional charge of profanity. His bail was set at $500.

COUNTER-PICKETS

A 50 member counter-picket group, composed of members from Cal Conservatives for Political Action, Montclair Young Republicans, and the Young Americans for Freedom, used their own picket signs to block off the view of the picket line.

CHANTS

When the Ad Hoc pickets shouted Jim Crow - Must Go, their opponents countered with Ad Hoc - Must Stay.

Following the rally at the Tribune, the pickets marched to Knowland Park; there they received favorable reactions from those elderly Negroes present, some of whom spoke in their behalf.
Editorial page

Breaking the circle

From the recent situation involving the arrests at Sproul Hall, we have obtained an increasing awareness of the operation of the local and area press.

We have read - as have many of you - deliberate smears of leadership of the Free Speech Movement and its leaders, distorted news reporting which offered little resemblance to the actual event. One local newspaper ran the following headline: Strike Flops 24,000 attend classes. Another paper, out at the same time, stated: 7000 mill around campus. 24,000 ≠ 7,000 = 31,000. U.C. enrollment- 27,650. Those outside agitators again - all 3350 of them!

The National Guardian, in its December 12 edition, reported: "The massive and militant student strike proved effective as all classes at the university were cancelled Dec. 7."

Yes, all classes were cancelled December 7 - but because of the University meeting in the Greek Theater.

Returning to the local papers, one crucial point comes to light: if we cannot trust our newspapers to report and print accurately those items which we witness ourselves, how can we trust them in reporting and printing that which we do not witness - and therefore cannot check for ourselves?

The press has a responsibility to its readers who may be regarded as stockholders; their monthly subscription or purchases entitles them to the dividends of honest, accurate reporting in all types of news articles and headlines.

An example of a distorting headline - in a non-political area - follows: in last month's Oakland Tribune, this headline appeared on the front page of the 6 p.m. edition: Raiders Get Cookie Gilchrist (The Oakland Raiders are a professional football team in the American Football League; Cookie Gilchrist, a fullback for the Buffalo Bills, is one of the leading rushers in the league - editor) SEE SPORTS. On the first sports page appeared the following headline: Raiders Claim Cookie Gilchrist. (emphasis mine) Oakland had not signed Gilchrist but merely had claimed him as a result of his being placed on waivers.

Upon reading this front page headline, the sports fan would buy the paper to find out the details. When he turns to the sports section, he finds that he has been deceived. Hopefully, he will have learned his lesson. This is an isolated incident, but it did occur.

If a manufacturing concern turns out a sub-standard product, the public becomes aware of its condition by usage or through the efforts of a federal agency.

We do not feel that federal control or regulation of newspapers is desirable or necessary; policing should be done by the publishers, editors, and various state and national associations. They should be the ones to set and enforce ethical standards of news coverage.

The reader believes that he is receiving accurate reports because he has no authoritative source to rely on, or because he does not use existing sources.

The newspapers has a responsibility to its readers to present the news in a factual manner. Yet the publishers and editors know that the public will believe what they read in the absence of any strong counter-opinion.

It's a vicious circle.

Anyone have a pair of scissors?

State Senator Miller's stand on the University's Budget

Post Office Box 1281
Berkeley 1, California

State Senator George Miller Jr.
Chairman, State Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, California

Dear Senator Miller:

I have read your statement of December 8 that the unrest at Cal would not affect the University's budget appropriations. . . . "The budget will not be used to punish either the students, faculty or administration,"

As a resident of Contra Costa County, a citizen of this state, and an alumnus of the Berkeley campus, I fully approve of your stand on this matter and wish to commend you for taking it.

I have published this letter in my newspaper, The Gate, (an off-campus independent - published weekly at the University. It is not affiliated with any political group) in the hope that other interested persons will see fit to communicate their feelings on this matter.

Bob Weinzheimer
Editor and Publisher

They're still up

Posters and signs of candidates are still found on telephone poles, store windows, and walls of buildings on both sides of campus.

After several days of rain, they begin to peel and run down the walls and poles, finally hanging in unsightly shreds.

We think that the individual candidates - both winners and losers - should remove their own signs.

On the other hand, individuals could help greatly by removing them as they are found. If you spot one in this said (or sad) condition, tear it down.

And be sure to drop it in a trash container.
A report on sources of labor to replace the bracero on California farms was recently released by the Institute of Industrial Relations at Los Angeles.

The report, prepared under a contract with the State Department of Employment, is designed to assist California agriculture to meet its labor needs upon expiration of the bracero program Dec. 31.

It points to a sizable potential supply of domestic farm laborers among urban workers in Los Angeles, provided that favorable conditions are established for their use on the farms.

Conclusions of the report were based in part upon a sampling survey of currently or previously unemployed workers in Los Angeles. Of the currently unemployed men in the group, 48.3 per cent said they would do farm work if they could spend weekends at home in the city and if transportation and housing on the farm were free.

Other results of the survey were as follows:

1. On the question of wages, 16.3 per cent of the unemployed men said they would work for weekly wages below $55 per week; 29.1 per cent said they would work for less than $65 per week; 31.4 per cent would accept less than $70 per week and 38.4 would take less than $75 per week.

2. Some 37 per cent said they had previously worked as farm laborers, and almost 85 per cent said they would be willing to move to get the type of work they wanted.

The author of the report, Fred H. Schmidt, Research Specialist for the Institute, makes two major proposals which he believes would be helpful to California agriculture in providing a domestic labor supply:

1. Farm laborers should be covered under the State's unemployment insurance system at the earliest possible date, so that they have access to the same form of supplemental wage income available to other seasonal workers in California.

2. The Manpower Development and Training Act can provide the means to insure an adequate farm labor supply during the next two years, at least, and will at the same time provide much remedial education and skill training for agricultural workers.

Under the second point, Schmidt proposes the establishment of training centers for farm laborers, with a flexible training program permitting the centers to serve also as centers for labor supply.

Under this arrangement, he suggests, "the families of workers will not be unduly disturbed, and the workers will be separated from their families for only short periods of time."

The report makes a number of other suggestions for the improvement of the farm labor situation in California and for the stabilization of a farm labor supply.

Schmidt believes, however, that the labor problems facing California agriculture will probably not be solved until there is a general acceptance of Congressional unwillingness to extend Public Law 78, which permitted Mexican braceros to work in California fields and orchards.

"So long as there is any assurance that a reservoir of foreign labor can readily be tapped to meet what appear to be shortages of labor supply, there will be continuing postponements in reckoning with the basic problems associated with farm labor," the report concludes.

PARTICLE SYMPOSIUM

Under the sponsorship of Particle- Berkeley, the 3rd annual student research symposium will be held December 26,29,30 on the Berkeley campus.

Planned are various faculty lectures involving math and science, presentation of student research papers, and possibly small, interesting field trips. In the student research papers there will be a special emphasis on research in progress. There will also be small seminars and meetings for students interested in specific topics. The seminars will be designed to foster discussion of research techniques and advancements.

Both complete and incomplete papers are being accepted for presentation. At the symposium, research in progress is being emphasized in the hope of helping students to eliminate research difficulties involving both techniques and materials.

Persons wishing to attend this year's symposium may obtain a registration form at the ASUC Information Desk or from Particle- Berkeley, Box 1147, Berkeley, California 94701.

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3 FLOORS OF SPR OUL HALL - 4:15 THURSDAY. 1ST REPORTER ON THE SCENE AFTER THE LAST DEMONSTRATOR WAS REMOVED.

WEDNESDAY MIDNIGHT THROUGH THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

EDITORIALS: Know them by their deeds.
CONSCIENCE OF A CAMPUS.

Vol. 2 No. 9  EVENTS OF NOV. 9-13. 75 STUDENTS CITED FOR MANNING TABLES ON CAMPUS. GRADS MAN TABLES - NO ACTION. HEYMAN COMMITTEE REPORT - ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Abridged).


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