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# Motor men in anti-war rally

Morning Star Reporters

WITH 400 marching behind the Birmingham Council for Peace in Vietnam banner, the city saw on Saturday the biggest demonstration yet staged here against the American aggression.

Marked by a new, broad unity of forces, thousands of shoppers had the full "muscle" of a march embracing church and trade unionists, students and sportsmen; leading Labour, Communist and Liberal personalities.

Following the lead banner came that of the tractor and transmission shop stewards and farther down the column the almost battle-scarred banner of the Austin joint shop stewards.

Also prominently carried by shop stewards, the Austin Joint Shop Stewards' banner.

## N.L.F. victory

A group of students carried a Union University Socialist Society—victory to the N.L.F.

Following a march through Birmingham city centre, the demonstrators held a meeting from the cathedral steps.

"Every day more people are expressing strong opposition to the support the British Government is giving to the Americans in this war," said Peace Council chairman Mr. G. White.

Bishop G. Sinker, Premier, expressed "app at having this great meeting in the cathedral grounds."

Mr. Julius Silverman, M.P. (Lab., Aston), said: "The steps suggested by U.P.A., the Labour Party conference, both the churches of America and Britain is the way to peace. Stop bombing North Vietnam."

Speaking officially for the Birmingham Trades Council, which represents a quarter of a million of the city's workers, the president, Cllr. M. E. Jarvis, urged the minimum pressure on Parliament.

Over 70 people marched from Burslem to Hanley, in the Porters, on Saturday demanding British withdrawal.

## GIFTS OF BLOOD

At a Medical Aid for Vietnam blood donor session at Crawley (Sussex) yesterday 170 people gave blood and £100 was collected.

These refrigerators were lent by the Crawley Co-operative Society, the Crawley Red Cross Committee, organised a rota of nurses, and the Crawley Labour Party, the Communist Party and the C.N.D. made donations.

Headed by a girl in traditional Vietnamese dress carrying the flag of the National Liberation Front and leading a captive American "marine" by rope, a poster parade was held in Tonworth (Surrey) at the weekend.

## MP 'greeted'

While Mr. Chelmsford (Essex) Mr. Gerry Reynolds, Labour M.P. for Islington North, was greeted by a demonstrator organised by the Iowa Committee for Peace in Vietnam. He had come to speak at a meeting of the Eastern Regional Labour Party.

From a meeting yesterday of the London regional committee of the committee for Peace in Vietnam an emergency meeting was sent to the Prime Minister.

It urged Her Majesty's Government "to end its support for the U.S. military intervention in Vietnam forthwith."

The conference unanimously agreed that its main aim was to change Government policy.

Coventry (Essex) had a teach-in on the war in which the speakers included Mrs. Peggy Duff, Mr. William Warley, and Mr. Roger Dillane, an American Rhodes scholar.

In Ipswich (Suffolk) a united demonstration of Quakers, Young Liberals, Young Communists, and members of the Communist Party demonstrated their disgust with British policy on Vietnam.

6 APR 1968

Clippings

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for Clr. Book

15 MAR 1968



● There was much more police attention for a kicking demonstrator than for a constable injured in the fighting. A flour splattered superintendent used a rugby tackle (right) to prevent one of the arrested protesters from getting away. It took the police about an hour and a half to restore order in the square.



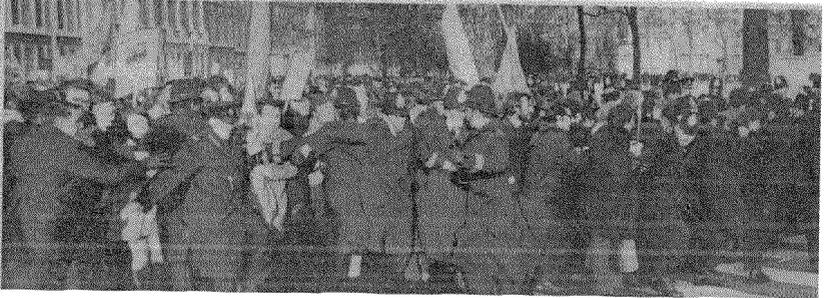
# The battle for Grosvenor Square



A police horse rearing up after being hit by stones thrown by anti-Vietnam war demonstrators in Grosvenor Square last night.

When the marchers stormed the square (right), about 50 mounted police were ordered in. As they charged the surging crowd some officers were lifted bodily from their horses, thrown to the ground and attacked.

Fireworks, smoke, flour





Picture by SROJA DJUKANOVIC  
A smoke bomb exploding in front of mounted police in Grosvenor Square as thousands of anti-Vietnam war demonstrators attempted to reach the United States Embassy yesterday.  
(Other pictures—P16.)

*Anti-Vietnam*



● Vanessa Redgrave, the actress, wearing a white paper headband—traditional Vietnamese sign of mourning—during the demonstration. She was allowed to hand in a petition at the American Embassy.



● Dazed by a stone, a policeman—still carrying his truncheon—is helped away by colleagues from the field of battle. LEFT: A casualty from the opposing forces.

PHOTOS BY BECK, ANTHONY MARSHALL AND SEDA DJUKANOVIC

*Handwritten note:* charity

Daily Telegraph

18. 3. 68



# POLICE WIN BATTLE OF U.S. EMBASSY

## ANTI-VIETNAM PROTEST

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

**HUNDREDS** of police fought with groups of violent demonstrators outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square yesterday at the end of an 8,000-strong anti-Vietnam war rally.

About 300 were arrested and many people, including 90 police officers, were injured.

In a 90-minute battle mounted police were hurled from their horses and attacked. Demonstrators, using banner poles as battering rams charged police cordons.

But despite this and a hail of stones, sticks, fireworks, smoke bombs, knives, paint and flour the mounted police kept the mob from reaching the embassy steps.

### HOTEL ATTACKED

#### Windows broken

As the demonstrators, many of them from overseas, moved away from the embassy they turned their fury on the Europa Hotel nearby. Several windows were broken. The management and porters barred the glass doors from the inside as the demonstrators tried to get in. Twenty-eight of the injured policemen were taken to hospital. Most were pleased, but six were detained with head injuries.

A police superintendent who was taken away for treatment returned to the square and could be seen hobbling about. Eight police horses were injured by demonstrators.

Arrests were also made before the demonstration started. Coaches carrying students to Trafalgar Square, to hear Vanessa Redgrave, the actress and other speakers, were stopped by police outside London.

The rally began peacefully in Trafalgar Square, but by 4.30 p.m. when the demonstrators had gone to Grosvenor Square there had been many incidents ranging from scuffles to "battles", in which several arrests were made.

In Grosvenor Square the mob threw down leaves and hedges, trampled in the flower gardens and threw policemen's helmets in the air.

The police almost lost control of the situation, but with the arrival of the mounted police they were able to prevent the crowd from breaking right through into the embassy itself.

In several parts of the gardens the charging mob were in hand-to-hand fighting with police and several retired with bloody noses.

The police did not draw truncheons, even when demonstrators used business as weapons.

Pictures—P14

London Day by Day—P12

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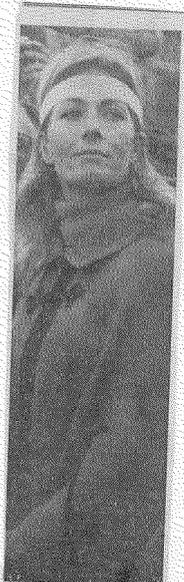
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for Ch. Insp.

THE MORNING STAR 15.3.68

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Actress Vanessa Redgrave — a simple band of crepe paper bound her hair, the traditional sign of Vietnamese mourning — as she appeared yesterday at London's massive protest

Clipping

THE MORNING STAR 18-3-68

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A section of the crowd which has gathered outside the U.S. Embassy in Grosvenor Square, London, for the purpose of presenting a petition to the U.S. Ambassador on his way to the U.S. Embassy in Grosvenor Square.

clippings

The scene outside the U.S. Embassy when demonstrators clashed with the police.



Clippings



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THE GUARDIAN 19.3.68

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### 'Foreigners' came for the march

A number of those taking part in the anti-Vietnam demonstration in London on Sunday tried to provoke the police into violence. Mr Callaghan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons yesterday. He quoted a "Guardian" report which said that some demonstrators were determined to do this.

He said that there was "no doubt that there was a great deal of international preparation behind demonstrations, particularly those in relation to Vietnam. A number of foreigners had come to Britain specially for the demonstration."



16: [redacted] Chief Superintendent Cunningham to his place  
 27: [redacted] C. [redacted] to [redacted] 18: [redacted]

19: [redacted] Room 294 to [redacted]

20: [redacted] TN0039 C.I.

Cappings



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# Two jailed—and fines imposed of up to £50

Morning Star Reporter

WHEN the first cases arising from Sunday's Battle of Grosvenor Square were heard yesterday in court this week, on charges which include assault on police, having offensive weapons, threatening behaviour, obstructing the police and obstructing the highway.

Overall more than 220 people have been charged and are appearing in court this week, on charges which include assault on police, having offensive weapons, threatening behaviour, obstructing the police and obstructing the highway.

One of 12 who appeared at Bow Street, Michael Colin Brown, 21, was sentenced to two months imprisonment after pleading guilty to assaulting a policeman.

Mr. Brown, unemployed of Highbury, told Mr. Frank Milton, the chief Metropolitan magistrate: "I have never done anything like this before, I just sort of got carried away."

### 'Bullying'

Mr. Milton told him: "Whatever one's views on the wisdom or the rightness of the demonstrators, I think there should be only one view as to the wisdom or wrongness of attacking police officers trying to do their duty."

A young wife charged with obstructing the pavement in Grosvenor Square, said that it had been empty except for police when she and her husband were arrested.

"I don't like this bullying by the police. If the demonstration had been for the Queen, this would not have happened," she said. She pleaded not guilty and was remanded on bail.

A commercial traveller, David Krezman, was fined £25 and given a three-month suspended sentence after pleading guilty to assault. He was said to have dived at a policeman's legs, causing him to fall on his back.

One man was fined £5 for throwing balloons at the Europa Hotel. Four men were remanded and others were fined between £3 and £5.

At Marlborough Street, where the magistrate, Mr. Edward Robey, heard cases involving 24 men and two women, one demonstrator was sent to prison for a month. He was Siffers Gordon, James

21, of Compayne Gardens, West Hamstead.

Given evidence in his own defence, Mr. James said that he had linked arms with other demonstrators in front of a police cordon pushing them back.

"A policeman kicked me between the feet, I was dragged out of the crowd and I was beaten up by a number of policemen. I fell and as soon as I got up I was pushed into a police van," he said.

The magistrate said that on his own admission the defendant had tried to stop the police and he was satisfied with the police evidence that he had committed "a quite unprovoked assault" on an officer who had suffered a cut lip.

Another defendant, Mr. Cameron Worrall, who pleaded not guilty to using threatening words and to assaulting a police officer, complained to the magistrate that he had not been able to contact a solicitor while he had been in custody.

"I have not been able to make any contact with anybody in the outside world and I do not know why," he said.

He alleged that he had not been permitted to telephone his place of employment. He was remanded on bail to appear on March 28.

### An American

Bail was also granted to Mr. Jackson Byrson, aged 21, said to be an American studying at Oxford University. He will appear on April 4, charged with obstruction and possessing no fire-arms certificate.

At Marylebone, John Lewis, a 24-year-old electronics engineer of Bushy (Herts), was fined £25 with ten guineas costs for assaulting a policeman, fined £5 for damage to his raincoat, and ordered to pay £8 15s 7d compensation.

When a student teacher was remanded in custody charged with assaulting a police inspector, it was stated there would be a further and far more serious charge of assault against another police officer who was in hospital with a suspected fractured spine.

Another man—Peter Lumsden, of South Villas, London, S.W.—was fined £10 with 25s costs when he pleaded guilty to insulting behaviour.

Clippings

### PROTESTERS WHO HAD PEPPER FINED £115

Morning Star Reporter

THREE would-be peace demonstrators were fined a total of £115 by Hendon, London, magistrates yesterday. Another man was remanded for three weeks on bail of £50.

Chief Supt. Charles Dace said the four were found in possession of offensive weapons on Sunday when coaches taking them to the Trafalgar Square rally against the Vietnam war, stopped in Watford Way, Hendon.

#### IF ATTACKED

Alan Green, 20, admitted having a glass cutter, two cans of pepper and two bags of red liquid.

Tim Buttman, 20, pleaded guilty to possessing a can of pepper and a bag of marbles. John Millett, 19, admitted having a can of pepper. All three are Cambridge students.

Ian Phillips, an 18-year-old

Coventry postman, denied carrying a knife as an offensive weapon and was remanded for three weeks.

Millett told the court he was carrying the pepper to use against police dogs if he was attacked. Green said he was given a bag containing the weapons but he did not inspect its contents.

Green was fined £50 with the alternative of one month's imprisonment. Buttman was fined £40 or one month's imprisonment. Millett was fined £25. All were bound over for three years.

*Clipping*

### No bans

TORY M.P.s who are enthusiastic supporters of Johnson's violence in Vietnam yesterday demanded restrictions on the right to demonstrate in London because of Sunday's battle at the U.S. Embassy.

All democrats should react vigorously to these demands and insist that there must be no further infringement of the rights of free speech and assembly.

The Morning Star does not agree with the political position of some of the organisers of Sunday's protest.

But the thousands who took part in it did so because of their disgust at Johnson's Vietnam war and the British Government's support of it.

Any worker who has been involved in an industrial dispute will know what value to place on the American Embassy, Tory and Right-Wing Labour tributes to "our wonderful police," and will understand how police provocations can exacerbate an already explosive situation.

The Labour movement should be on guard against any attempts to take away democratic rights which have been won in the course of bitter struggles.

There should be still more demonstrations against the Vietnam war. Next Sunday's London march and other such protests should receive the widest support.

Clippings

# Horses in square: MP seeks debate

- 8 APR 1968

AN M.P. who said he was very disturbed by what he saw at Sunday's demonstration at the American Embassy announced last night that he would seek an adjournment debate on the matter.

Mr. Peter Jackson (Lab. High Peak) speaking from a canteen in a London School of Economics building where he was one of the first to save blood for Vietnam at a special donating session for M.P.s.

He considered the use of mounted police against the demonstrators "provocative" and was collecting information from observers.

Others attending the session held by the Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam included Mr. Stan Cross M.P., Mrs. Renée Short M.P., Mr. Russell Kerr M.P. and Mr. Frank Hooley M.P.

### C.N.D.'s CONCERN

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament last night expressed its concern at the Home Secretary's Commons statement yesterday on the participation of foreign nationals in demonstrations.

Mrs. British citizens had taken part in demonstrations abroad, including leading members of the Labour Party, the C.N.D. statement said.

London Young Communists said that the Minister's implied threat against future demonstrations "will not stop all those who feel strongly about the U.S. aggression in Vietnam from exercising their right to demonstrate."

(Tory attack on protest rights, p. 7)

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*Suppl C Summary*

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*Room 894 to see*

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# Police bitter about Vietnam demonstration

By NORMAN FOWLER  
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Police Federation, representing almost 100,000 policemen in Britain, yesterday strongly attacked the behaviour of the demonstrators in Sunday's anti-Vietnam-war protest in London. They called on university authorities to take notice of what was happening "under their noses" and to expel students convicted of violent criminal offences.

The protest reflects some of the deep resentment felt against the demonstrators, particularly by the Metropolitan Police. It is estimated that 11,000 people took part in the demonstration. The police used about 1,300 men, including 800 in Grosvenor Square.

Casualty figures given yesterday by Mr. Callaghan, Home Secretary, in a Commons statement show that 117 policemen and 45 demonstrators received medical treatment. Mr. Callaghan said that proceedings were being taken against 246 demonstrators, mainly on charges of assaulting or obstructing policemen, using threatening behaviour, and being in possession of offensive weapons.

In their statement on the demonstration, the Police Federation said that the violence was not spontaneous but "fully planned

Some notices about the demonstration asked those taking part to "come armed". The organizers of the demonstration have denied all knowledge of the notices and the matter is being investigated by the police.

Another instruction circulated in the north said: "Each policeman has a number. Chant it together when provoked."

Police who intercepted some parties of demonstrators on their way to London by coach found marbles and pepper for use against police horses, and imitation blood which could be used to try to convince the television cameras of police brutality. An even more serious find yesterday was a number of unfired .22 cartridges amongst the debris in Grosvenor Square.

In his statement on the demonstration Mr. Callaghan said that he greatly regretted the outbreak of violence. He added: "There is no doubt that the police showed commendable restraint and self-discipline in the face of severe provocation."

From the Opposition front bench Mr. Maudling said the violence had shocked and scandalized the whole country. If there was evidence that foreign nationals resident in Britain either as visitors or students had been helping to stir

up violence they should be deported.

A similar point was made by Mr. John Hynd, Labour M.P. for Sheffield, Attercliffe, who said there was a synchronization of violent demonstrations in Britain and other parts of Europe. In spite of cries of "no" from some Labour backbenchers, Mr. Hynd asked for a full investigation into these demonstrations.

In reply, the Home Secretary said: "There is no doubt that there is a great deal of international preparation behind these demonstrations, particularly demonstrations in relation to Vietnam. We must rely on the good sense of the British people and the forces of law and order as expressed by the police to ensure that these demonstrations do no damage."

In its examination of the disturbance the Home Office is likely to ask the police for information about the number of students from other European countries involved. So far it is known that student leaders from west Berlin, the Netherlands, and France attended the demonstration.

The Home Secretary told the Commons that prohibiting meetings would lead to tension. After talks with the police he was convinced that it was possible for Lon-

don policemen to keep control by traditional methods.

"Could any of the violence have been avoided?" At a press conference at West End Central police station, Commander John Lawlor, who was in charge of the police forces on Sunday, said that the responsibility lay with the organizers—the Vietnam Ad Hoc Committee—who had been unable to control the marchers.

He said there had been a meeting at Scotland Yard with the organizers before the demonstration took place. The organizers had agreed to a route from Trafalgar Square and there was no intention that the marchers should stop for another meeting until they reached Speakers' Corner at Hyde Park.

Commander Lawlor said: "There was no police brutality. If a policeman is being violently attacked and being hit with a stick, he is entitled to defend himself."

During the demonstration no general order was given for the police to use truncheons. The decision was left to the policeman's discretion. Commander Lawlor himself gave the order to use the 30 police horses—eight of which were injured.

Commander Lawlor said horses

became necessary when the violence began to flare up. Without them the police would not have been able to contain the crowds. He added: "If the horses had not gone in there would have been far more casualties." Thirty horses were used, eight of which were injured.

Like the Home Secretary, the commander saw no call for new methods of crowd control. Asked about the possibility of using tear gas and hoses at any similar demonstration in the future, he said: "This would be a bit foreign to us. We should be reluctant to do this."

But Mr. Tony Smythe, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, said the police had failed to learn the lesson of the last Grosvenor Square demonstration. The same cordon system had been used and there had been little attempt to keep the demonstration on the move.

Mr. Smythe added: "It is as well to recall that the violence committed on demonstrations bears no comparison to the violence perpetrated by the United States and condoned by Britain."

Conventional politics in Britain gave little encouragement to sincere and religious protest. Those who abhorred events like the Vietnam war might feel that they

had no alternative to militant action when politicians failed to respond to public feeling.

Generally, there has been overwhelming praise for the police in the way they handled the demonstration. Many members of the public has telephoned the chief Scotland Yard or West End Central police station to praise support, and the same spirit was caught in a motion tabled in the Commons.

This said: "This House wants to record its respect and admiration for the officers and men of the London police and in particular for the conscientiousness and commendable restraint which they displayed when dealing with the extremely violent police demonstration in London on Sunday, March 17."

The question that remains is whether the violence on Sunday was an isolated example or the beginning of a long summer of demonstrators battling with the police. One guide to this point will come next Sunday when there will be another rally in Trafalgar Square to demand that Britain should "dissociate herself" from United States policy in Vietnam.

Leading article, page 9; Parliamentary report, page 12.

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John Maudling

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# Protesting with planned violence

There was evidence that a not inconsiderable number of people would organise and go to political demonstrations with a view to provoking violence, Mr Callaghan, Home Secretary, said yesterday in a statement on the anti-Vietnam demonstration at Grosvenor Square outside the American Embassy on Sunday.

Concerning preparations that might have been made for violence charges were now being preferred.

The route to be followed had been agreed between the organisers and the police. The route was by North Audley Street, then around the three sides of Grosvenor Square not occupied by the square, with an exit from the square by way of South Audley Street.

But the organisers were unable to keep control of the march and in the 10,000 people were gathered in the square. Demonstrators broke into the gardens opposite the embassy.

It was true that a number of foreign consuls came to this part of the demonstration.

## Provocation

Mr Eric Jackson (Lab. Higham) would he agree that the provocation of police is the matter this evening with the police in command of the police.

Mr Callaghan: "I have discussed the matter with the police and he said that he was very reluctant to use mounted police and did them in reserve, but because of the circumstances the situation became so difficult and he is the man on the spot who has decided he reached the mounted police there would have been greater damage and greater injuries."

Mr Peter Bessell (L. Boston) asked if this sort of people in view of the fact that many people came armed and were interested in communism and if they take action against the organisations.

Mr Callaghan said that the demonstration in Trafalgar Square was peaceful and I think are should be very reluctant to do

course demonstrations of that sort.

Mr David Benton (C. Harrogate) asked whether Sunday's march could be described as a riot.

Mr Callaghan: "I do not know the legal definition of the term 'riot' and I would not care to give my definition of it without police. The Commissioner of Police, before the demonstration, believed he would have sufficient means of handling the demonstration. They did succeed in preventing an attempt to get at the American Embassy and to that extent they did hold the situation in control."

## Synchronisation

Mr John Hynd (Lab. Ayr) spoke of a synchronisation of violent demonstrations in Europe.

Was not the time ripe for a full investigation?

Mr Callaghan: "There is no doubt that there is a great deal of international preparation behind these demonstrations in Europe, particularly in Paris and Vienna. We must rely on the good sense of the British police and the forces of law and order as expressed by the police to ensure that these demonstrators do no damage."

Mr Gordon Campbell (C. Moray and Nairn) asked if Mr Callaghan would consider the possibility of demonstrating the sun and scope of demonstrations in London.

Mr Callaghan said that there would be very great difficulties involved in prescribing a course of this sort. A great deal of thought would be created as a result.

Mr Eric Beffer (Lab. Walsley) asked what weapons had been used. Mr Callaghan said smoke bombs were also used and but he does not know the purpose for which but bearings can be used.

He told Mr John Boyd-Carpenter (C. Kingston-upon-Thames) that he was convinced that it was possible for London politicians to keep control by traditional means.

Mr Commodore Sir A. I. B. R. Harvey (C. Exeter) asked if a similar demonstration may take place next Sunday. What precautions have been taken to prevent further violence does not take place?

Mr Callaghan said that the organisers were in touch with the police and I hope the necessary arrangements will be made to see that it is as peaceful as possible.

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*Chief Superintendent Cunningham to his place*  
*to see*  
*from 8.9.68 to see*

Sir—I have just returned from the Vietnam Falls in Douglas county and I feel it is sorry that our young people show the effective edge of their protest to be blunted by their inability to refrain from turning the whole thing into a stadium race. Those of us who are at our wisest end to know how best to demonstrate our concern at the injustice and brutality of the Vietnam war must have returned sadly from the falls.

It isn't justice to obstruct the police and arouse apprehension in those passengers in cars and buses caught in a sea of chanting demonstrators. It seems to me that there must be better ways of demonstrating our concern for Vietnam than this. The police deserve our support and appreciation for the way in which they handled the situation. I hope that those who feel angered by this letter will be challenged to work out a more effective and disciplined way to bring this concern which so many of us have, to the notice of the Government.—Yours faithfully  
 Ann Racer  
 London E 1



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# Grosvenor Square demonstrators plan legal fight



BY OUR OWN REPORTER

Sunday's demonstrators against the war in Vietnam may continue their fight—but this time in the law courts and to save their own reputations.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Tariq Ali, chairman of the committee which brought together 400 hundred organisations to stage the demonstration, said: "Some newspaper reports have been extremely libellous. We are considering a number of statements which have been made about organisations and individuals in several papers and are considering taking legal action. We are not being intimidated one iota."

Mr Mike Martin, secretary of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, said that the campaign was also asking its supporters to prepare written statements about being beaten or attacked.

Mr Ali, who is 24 and a former president of the Oxford Union, tried to excuse and dissociate himself from the violence. He said that once the demonstrators reached Grosvenor Square, the American Embassy "acted as a magnet."

When he was asked whether some of his supporters would have liked to have sacked the embassy, he replied: "Yes, I think some of them would, and that is very upsetting."

### Improvement hope

He said that he wished the organisation was well enough established to prevent its members bringing in weapons. "I hope the organisation improves," he said. "We don't have any way of keeping in touch with activities all over the country. I wish we had."

Mr Ali said that the police casualties reported to the Home Secretary were "about as accurate as the war casualties reported by the Americans in Vietnam. Many of the demonstrators did not report their injuries," he said. "They were treated or taken home by their friends."

Mr Pat Jordan, chairman of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, said that broken promises on the part of the police had resulted in confusion and violence. Before the demonstration, he said, the police had permitted letters of protest from the groups represented to be presented at the embassy.

"When we attempted to deliver the letters, we had difficulty in getting Vanessa Redgrave through. The police absolutely refused to let her through."

The campaign says they will meet again soon to plan demonstrations which will be larger and more aggressive.

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Student's view

From Mr. John Scarlett

I was at the anti-Vietnam demonstration yesterday but I am a Conservative who while not agreeing with the American position in the war has very little sympathy for the Vietcong. I went along because I was interested, and throughout the afternoon I made every effort to sympathise with and understand the actions of the police, who are certain to receive much public support, on the whole quite laudably.

However, I feel a few points must be made. First of all, it is no good blaming the students as newly extremists as many of them, far from being communists, were just young people who wanted to protest against a war which they regard as wicked, and it is their right to protest.

Secondly, these people had no wish to be violent, and along with the great mass of demonstrators they stood well away from the police cordon, where the more violent elements gathered. They did nothing but shout, although I did hear to do when things warmed up and they, as I myself, had no idea of what was happening at the front. Thereafter when the mounted police began charging quite viciously, into the crowd in parks in front of us, lamps were naturally lit and violence provoked.

as there seemed to be no good reason for these actions.

Finally I feel that I must protest at the behaviour of the mounted police as the park was being cleared. I once saw policemen charge quite strongly at very few demonstrators who were doing absolutely nothing and both times people were heavily clubbed over the head, while one of my friends saw a girl being viciously stabbed for no reason at all.

There is no reason for me to be biased about this, but amidst all the agitation which are certain to be brought, I feel it is necessary for me to say that there is no doubt that the police became unnecessarily violent, as I saw it myself.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN SCARLETT  
Magdalen College, Oxford, March 11



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BRITISH LIBRARY  
Date Dec 67 Initials [Redacted] 51

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TN0039

Sir—May I as one of the mob concerned in Sunday's anti-Vietnam war demonstration, and those in your columns to add to, or clarify, reports of those events.

A general consensus of opinion sees the events to have been an ill-considered, angry, and vicious procession of outrages willfully and savagely acted out by "irresponsible students," "anarchists," "hippies," "left-wing agitators," and "hooligans" (such a common front is broad indeed). What has not been mentioned for the obvious reason that few, if any, reporters can have walked among the demonstrators throughout the afternoon, is the solidarity, compassion, charity, and good sense which pressure which the marchers showed in their serious concern for one another, and whenever they were allowed to, for the police and onlookers.

In Grosvenor Square, when events were at their most impassioned, there was immediate and sensible response to the changing situation. The injured were carefully helped to the rear; the police who were isolated and overcome were not beaten up when they were helpless.

Allegations of police brutality as of hooliganism are tiresome, perpetual adjuncts of events like this. They should not require fresh discussion, but of course they do. On Sunday the police were not so conspicuous for their brutality as for their stupidity. Whenever scuffles occurred it was because attempts were made to break the marching column into segments even if, as happened outside Trafalgar Square, children had to be knocked down to do so.—Yours faithfully  
Michael Robinson  
London NW 1



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# BIGGER VIETNAM PROTESTS PLAN

## Police blamed for violence

By PHILIP HOWARD

The organizers of last Sunday's violent demonstration against the Vietnam war outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square said yesterday that they planned to hold bigger and more militant demonstrations in future. They blamed the police for Sunday's riot, saying that a promise to allow demonstrators to deliver letters to the embassy had been broken.

Mr. Pat Jordan, a bookeller and chairman of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, Mr. Michael Martin, full-time secretary of the Campaign, and Mr. Tariq Ali, journalist, author and freelance of the press and the Government to complain about the violence of the demonstrators when there was more violence in five minutes in Vietnam.

Mr. Jordan told reporters: "In the past few days you have given us the publicity which would have cost us at least £1m. Tariq Ali said: 'You people are indulging in violence by concentrating on the violence in Grosvenor Square instead of reporting the successes of the supporters of the National Liberation Front.'"

The organizers of the demonstration blamed responsibility for the smoke bombs, cartridges, ball bearings and other missiles carried by some of their supporters.

They claimed that casualty figures for the riot were inaccurate. At least 40 demonstrators were injured, some seriously, but they had nearly all been treated at home.

The demonstration cost £400, most of it spent on 50,000 leaflets, stickers and posters. The organizers said they took responsibility for the message: "Come armed" - for the rioting on some of their leaflets. They said they were considering legal action against those newspapers which reported that they had planned a violent confrontation with the police.

Mr. Ali said: "We regret this violence and we sad both that police got hurt."

For the future, the organizers promised to communicate and identify our opposition to the Government's support for the Americans.

Whatever they decide, the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign say that Sunday's affair was only a beginning of our campaign.



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**Govt may act on demonstration**

Attorney-General Sir Henry Jones said in a written Parliamentary answer yesterday that he had asked the police to report to the Director of Public Prosecutions any evidence for him to consider in relation to possible proceedings following Mrs Sandhu's Grosvenor Square Vietnam demonstration.

He was replying to a request from Tony M.P. Sir Derek Walker-Smith for prosecutions under Section 2 on the Public Order Act, 1946.

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Sunday Times  
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# The startling facts behind the failure of a demonstration



The battle of Grosvenor Square, March 17

THE POLICE are preparing to deal with at least 2,000 anti-Vietnam protesters on two "peace" marches in London this afternoon.

Unless violence breaks out again like last Sunday, the police will allow the larger group of marchers, which is led and organised by Youth CND and the Young Socialist League, to hand in protest petitions in groups of six at No. 10, Downing Street. This march starts at Kennington Park and moves to Trafalgar Square, where the speakers will include actress Vanessa Redgrave and Lord Gifford.

The other march will consist of about 200 women who have chosen Mothers' Day to move their protest. They will hand in their letters of protest to the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square.

By Alexander Mitchell

A CAREFUL analysis of the March 17 demonstration, the largest and most militant anti-Vietnam war rally yet held in this country, shows that the National Liberation Front (NLF) Campaign arranged the timing. David Robinson, an obscure but very New Zealander, was the organiser. The demonstration failed because it lacked positive leadership and any clearcut objective.

The organisers were able to mobilise 15,000 people chanting "Victory for the NLF" but did not know what to do with them. And because there was no statement of objectives, the rally in Grosvenor Square degenerated into a series of wild skirmishes between police and demonstrators.

In the days just before the demonstration many participating groups pressed the leaders to announce what the rally aimed to achieve. Would it culminate in front of the American Embassy with the lodging of protest notes? Was there to be a mass trial? What about an attempt to take the embassy by force?

The immaculately organised students from West Berlin were particularly incensed by the lack of information. At a meeting in Kingsway Hall on the eve of the demonstration they heckled Mr Tariq Ali, chairman of the ad hoc committee which organised the march.

On the day of the march I asked scores of demonstrators as they surged up Charing Cross Road and Oxford Street what was planned in Grosvenor Square. "I don't know," was the stock answer. The chief reason objectives were not announced lies in the experience of the early 1960s when the Committee of 100 and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) were disrupting Trafalgar Square and Whitehall with massive demonstrations. Police snatched out leaders for arrest, court sentences became tougher and tougher.

And only last May, after protests at the Greek Embassy, Terry Chandler, Mike Hande and Del

Foley, all veteran demonstrators, were given jail terms up to 18 months, while the remaining 38 defendants were fined or given conditional discharges.

As one member of the ad hoc committee said: "There are few enough militants left in the movement without creating martyrs. It would have been insane if one of us had stood up at Trafalgar Square and said that the object of the march was to storm the embassy. He would have been charged with incitement, possibly conspiracy, and that means a long stretch behind bars."

"I must admit that we relied rather too heavily on spontaneity. We left the decisions for direct action too much in the hands of the marchers. And you can't let the mob take on this sort of responsibility."

An examination of the origins of this undernourished popular move-

ment reveals why it has such a nebulous leadership. It was Ralph Schoorman, the driving force of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, who first set up a Vietnam committee to devote itself to arousing the British public on the Vietnam issue.

Hence the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign was formed under the sponsorship of the Peace Foundation. With the appointment of David Robinson, a bespectacled, bearded New Zealander, as organising secretary, the VSC became totally committed to victory for the National Liberation Front. To gather support for a demonstration last October 22 Robinson set up an ad hoc committee and invited anybody they would accept the slogan "Victory for the NLF".

The institutionalised peace groups—the Committee of 100 and CND—were appalled by VSC's policy and refused to associate with the ad hoc committee. But by the day the demonstrators marched into Grosvenor Square Robinson could boast the support of 24 groups.



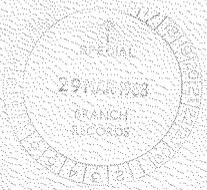
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Sir—It has been pressed to me beyond all reasonable doubt, that it is possible for a person of exemplary character to be convicted of assault in London. As a former Magistrate I feel this is a grave situation.

One case will illustrate. An inoffensive student of exemplary character and integrity, standing some distance from the police, taking photographs was set upon by four policemen shouting "Let's get this one!" He was dragged into a van and told not to use his camera or he "would not see it again." Next day he was charged by his assailants with assault and was summarily convicted. No opportunity had been given him to use a phone or to contact his parents. At no time before or after his arrest had he done anything which could be remotely construed as an assault.

E. Appleby,  
1 Mill Lane,  
Winston Hill,  
Blaydon-on-Tyne.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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For C.B. Head

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Daily Telegraph  
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Yesterday in Parliament

# 'KEEP DEMONSTRATIONS BRITISH EVENTS'

## ALIENS NOT WELCOMED

BY OUR PARLIAMENTARY STAFF  
WESTMINSTER, Thursday.

**MR. CALLAGHAN**, Home Secretary, spoke disapprovingly at question time in the Commons today of foreign visitors who come to Britain to make it a cockpit for demonstrations as happened recently in Grosvenor Square.

When Mr. DIGBY (C., Dorset, W.) said there was resentment over their activities, the MINISTER replied: "I think that is a fair statement." The number of students known to have come here for that purpose was "small—about 100."

A large number came on an architectural tour. "I am not sure what sort of architecture they were to study."

### USE OF HOSES Continental methods

There was an outburst of anger when Mr. GRESHAM COCHRAN (C., Westminster) asked that these demonstrations should be British events only. But he insists on students were coming with weapons to join in they should not object to Continental methods, such as having hoses turned on them.

Mr. CALLAGHAN replied: "I would be reluctant to lower the A.P.M. barriers to allow Continental methods to be introduced in this particular field. We should not make too much of one major and serious demonstration of this sort. We should continue to rely on traditional methods."

No separate record had been kept of protesters who declined to immigration officers on arrival that they intended to take part in demonstrations. Some of those who took part had been identified.

Some cases were still to be heard and further proceedings might be instituted.

### EASTER PLANS No special preparations

Questioned about the proposed Easter demonstration by the Campaign for Peace and Disarmament in Trafalgar Square, Mr. Callaghan said he was not making special preparations. This was a matter for Sir John Widdowson, Acting Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

"He tells me that discussions have been held with the organizers on arrangements for the meeting and he will have regard to recent experience in formulating his plans."

Mr. MARTIN (C., Bathurst) said it would be better if demonstrations were held in a central park in Hyde Park, to lessen damage to property and risk to people.

Mr. CALLAGHAN replied that Trafalgar Square was traditionally a meeting place. Demonstrations had been held there from time immemorial.

"I don't want to be in the position that because of unruly behaviour on one of two occasions we undermine our traditional privileges. I don't believe the situation is by any means out of hand and I don't think the police believe so either."

### REPARATION PLEA Nine police horses hurt

In a written answer, Mr. CALLAGHAN stated that the full cost of replacing all items of police uniform and equipment lost or damaged in the Grosvenor Square demonstration on March 17 was about £14,360.

Nine police horses were injured. Eight were back on duty. One, with a puncture wound in its back, was recovering.

Students from Germany, Holland, Sweden, France, Spain, Portugal, Greece and Persia were seen at the demonstration. It was impossible to estimate the extent of participation of students from British universities.

Mr. OSBORNE (C., Hallam) asked him to introduce a law to provide that those found guilty of disturbing the peace, causing wilful damage to public and private property—or failing them the occupiers of demonstrations causing this—should make full payment for the repair of such damage which would otherwise be met by the taxpayer and ratepayer.

Mr. CALLAGHAN replied: "The Advisory Council on the Penal System is examining the question of reparation by the offender and I shall consider the need for further legislation in the light of its recommendations."



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**POLICE 'BRUTAL AT RALLY' CHARGE BY MP**  
Police control during anti-Vietnam demonstrations in Grosvenor Square last month was criticised by Mr. Peter Jackson (Lab., High Peak) during an adjournment debate in the Commons last night.  
He quoted reports by "accredited observers" of the National Council for Civil Liberties and said attempts by mounted police to disperse the crowd were a provocation.  
Mr. Taverner, Under-Secretary, Home Office, said he did not believe that anyone would have guessed from Mr. Jackson's description that three times as many policemen in Grosvenor Square were injured as demonstrators. It was the loss of control by the leaders that led to the disturbances.

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# Mounted police 'seemed to lose control'

**STRONG CRITICISMS of the use of police horses and truncheons in the March 17 Grosvenor Square demonstration against the Vietnam war are made in a report sent yesterday to the Home Secretary.**

Serious injury could have occurred, says the report, as mounted police seemed to lose control of their horses during the repeated charges.

The report—prepared from eyewitness accounts of 25 observers sent to Mr. Callaghan by Mr. Tony Snow, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties.

Police who draw and used their truncheons without permission from a senior officer should be reprimanded, says the report.

Such actions, it warns, could have led to demonstrations of retaliation.

The leaders of the march also came under fire for "deliberately refusing to disperse" in the latter stages of the march.

### Quite wrong

"In future they should communicate their objectives both to participants and to the police. There were no clear instructions to marchers, no stated objectives and no march route."

Mr. Smythe stresses that it would be "quite wrong" for the Home Office to try and prevent the demonstrators from abroad entering the country.

"We emphasise this point because we fear interference with aliens wishing to come here for the C.N.D. Easter march this year."

"The routes which provoke demonstrations find support in many countries and international co-operation has become an essential feature of such activities."

### Police barrier

In a Commons debate on Thursday night, Mr. Peter Jackson, Labour M.P. for High Peak, said that several hundred observers of the march saw police "kicking demonstrators on the ground."

Mr. Jackson said a very great degree of co-operation was being shown by the police barrier and that the march was to a very successful end.

Mr. Jackson said he had heard from a witness that a mounted policeman had "charged at full gallop" toward a man carrying a sign who was "doing nothing."

"I have been hit head on, she would have been dead. Luckily she was missed, knocked down and got up soon afterwards."

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# Anatomy of the Vietnam protest

By our own Reporter

Another dimension to last month's "battle of Grosvenor Square" was added yesterday—the alleged mishandling of demonstrators during and after they were taken into custody.

This emerges in an anatomy of the March 17 anti-Vietnam war demonstration by the National Council for Civil Liberties based on reports by its own 25 accredited observers and on other written statements.

Another report by the police themselves has led Sir Elwyn Jones, the Attorney-General, to decide against taking action under the Public Order Act of 1966, it was announced in the Commons yesterday. Many and people have, however, been charged with other offences.

In its report, the first of its kind, the NCCL generally endorses the newspaper and television consensus at the time of the Grosvenor Square incidents that:

(1) "The major blame for the violence may be attributed to the demonstrators or their organisers";

(2) "The presence of a large number of police horses provoked missile throwing. This would not have happened if no targets existed."

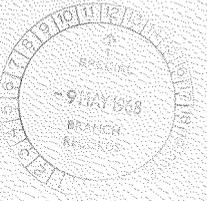
### German students

More liaison between police and march organisers, more marshals and use of loudhailers are recommended as future action by the NCCL, which itself offers "to promote better communications."

Details of what the NCCL considered to be undue police force or force of a vindictive kind have been sent to the Home Office with the names and addresses of those who saw it.

In the Commons, Sir Elwyn said that one or two incidents were being investigated but he had been injured and 42 civilians received hospital treatment.

Replying to Sir Peter Hawlinson, the Conservative spokesman on legal matters, he said one question had been the conduct of what appeared to be an organised group of German students. There might be cases in the future in which individuals would not be allowed into the country.



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# Demand for inquiry strikes no fear into demonstrators

Mr. Pat Jordan, chairman of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, was unimpressed yesterday by Conservative demands for a Government investigation into the organisation which urged foreign militants to come to Britain for demonstrations.

Mr. Jordan was at an East London office furnished with piles of pamphlets, a duplicator, three typewriters, and shelves stacked with boxes of duplicating paper. They had, he agreed, a list of about 2,000 potential sympathisers in America, Scandinavia, and the Continent built up painstakingly from correspondence. But the M.P.'s suggestion that the organisation was seeking to import trouble-makers was, he thought, a rather hysterical way of describing what are the quite normal activities of organisations, and which even anti-political groups indulge in as

an everyday affair. Rose-gate societies and women's knitting clubs had their own mailing lists.

Two M.P.s, Mr. Richard Sharples (Suffolk and Cleam) and Mr. Bernard Braine (Essex and South-east), are asking the Home Secretary what steps he is proposing to take. Mr. Sharples has put down a question asking for "an inquiry into the organisation of the kind of demonstration we have had in the London area in particular to look into the question of demonstrators from overseas." He said yesterday: "I think it is significant that we should have had a demonstration against a German newspaper in Britain. There is

a threat to freedom of speech here, as if this sort of thing goes on we are inevitably going to get a reaction to it."

Following these latest demonstrations over Easter, I think there is a certain amount of urgency about this. People are worried about it and sympathetic with the police, who are having to turn out weekend after weekend and have things thrown at them."

Mr. Jordan said foreign demonstrators must have come over because they knew Easter was a time for protest marches. The demonstration had been requested by a German student organisation, and with only three days' notice there had not been time to notify anyone.

The campaign, he said, had been aimed at solidarity with the Vietnamese people and opposition to the Government's coalition with the Americans. A lot of its supporters, though, I wouldn't say a majority, would believe in revolution.

"I am a Marxist," said Mr. Jordan, and when pressed about whether the Communist Party's notorious cohesiveness to the campaign meant it was Trotskyist, he said: "I consider Trotsky wrote a lot and did a lot of relevance for Marxism."

The campaign secretary, Mr. Mike Martin, said it was on a broad front, including Maoists, Trotskyists, Anarchists, and Labour Party Young Socialists.

A student supporter of the campaign suggested that members of the old CND or Committee of 101 had moved on. "Students with time to do things were the core of the movement and the activists. They must combine with trade unions."

Neither Mr. Jordan nor Mr. Martin seemed to accept much responsibility for what went on at demonstrations. Dr. Grosvenor Square, a map of which hangs on the wall with the Embassy marked with a Viet Cong flag, Mr. Jordan said: "It is pretty impossible to control demonstrators when police have behaved in a very primitive manner."

And Mr. Martin said: "It is

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# German demonstrators 'were invited'

No evidence has been received by the Attorney-General, Sir Elwyn Jones, that any organisation in this country sponsored the arrangements for German students to take part in the Vietnam demonstration in Grosvenor Square on March 17.

In reply to other questions, the Attorney-General repeated an earlier ministerial statement that in future steps would be taken to see that individuals should not be allowed into this country for demonstrations if it were thought they would cause the facility to foment disorder and cause damage.

By our Political Correspondent

not the true source in East Germany rather than in West Germany?

case that the South Vietnamese Embassy in London had spent money unnecessarily to organise a demonstration in Trafalgar Square and whether it were right for a diplomatic mission here to spend money in this way? Sir Elwyn replied that this point did not arise out of the question he was answering.

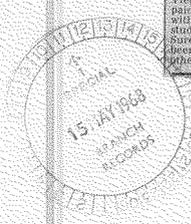
## Two more face murder charge

James Alfred Marks (27), and Richard Thomas Moody (28), both of Dulwich Court, Roehampton Road, Dulwich, London, were charged this week with the murder of William Anthony Day at Hildesley Grove, Welling, on Easter Monday. They will appear at Brixton Court today. Mr Day has already appeared in court charged with the murder.

Mr Hastings asked if the Vietnam Solidarity Committee had been invited to take part by the Vietnam Solidarity Committee, the

"Students who come here for peaceful purposes to take part in peaceful demonstrations should not be prevented, but if there is evidence that they come to cause mischief of the kind I have indicated, they are to be kept out."

Sir Peter Rawlinson (C. Epsom), a former Solicitor-General, asked if no inquiries had been made that would have shown that these students had arrived to cause trouble. Sir Elwyn replied that such a conclusion was not obvious.



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### Grosvenor Square boggy walks again

TORY M.P. Stephen Hasstons tried to resurrect in the Commons yesterday the idea that an international sign was behind last month's Grosvenor Square battle.

Mr. Hasstons, M.P. for Maid-Ruby, said he suggested that the German students' contingent which took part in the demonstration was organised and financed from East Germany.

But Sir Elwyn Jones, the Attorney-General, told him that the Government had found no evidence that the German students were paid to come or that their fares were paid.

"It appears they were invited here by the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, the organisers of the demonstration," he said.



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SPECIAL  
9 MAY 1968  
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# Entry ban on protesters likely

By our own Reporters

The Home Office is expected to refuse entry in future to some of the foreign visitors who took part in the Vietnam demonstration outside the American Embassy in London on March 17.

Mr Dick Taverne, Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, said in the Commons last night that the Home Secretary did a week ago when he caused the feelings of not like to suit all those who took part in this (demonstration) as little feet Nazis, but there were those who were noted and who would not be allowed into this country.

The admission of foreign nationals was in the discretion of the Home Secretary, and in the light of recent experience the Home Secretary will not hesitate to exercise his powers in a manner which the public interest requires.

The reputation of the police had, Mr Taverne said, risen by

their faith in traditional methods rather than hoses, to control the demonstrators, because it would have been a very short step from this to the use of tear gas and from that to steel helmets. The whole nation could be proud of the way in which the police had handled the demonstration.

On March 28 the House was told that the number of foreign students known to have come to Britain for the rally was 100.

### 'Arbitrary' arrests

Earlier, Mr Peter Jackson (Lab. High Peak) said he believed people were arrested in a very arbitrary manner, and he claimed there were "systematic attempts made by the police to destroy photographic evidence".

He added: "I was present and felt that the vast majority of the police acted in a most exemplary way, but I do not think we should attempt to whitewash what a minority of the police did."

Commenting last night on the Grosvenor Square demonstration

Mr Pat Jordan, chairman of the Vietnam Solidarity Committee, said, half in jest: "We should aim at a demonstration three, four times as big. If it got any bigger, maybe we'll start a revolution."

He was addressing 100 members of the committee who were holding at the public instigation of the March 17 demonstration.

The promised follow-ups are not planned until the autumn. Last night's meeting was to show the end of March 17, a process which will continue at a two-day conference next month.

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