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Trojan protestors crowd jails

Arrests continue
Monday afternoon

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Of the Emerald

Seven Oregon jails are full of demonstrators today after 135 persons were arrested Sunday at the Trojan Nuclear Plant near Rainier, Oregon, during the third occupation organized by the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance (TDA).

The occupation began at 11:30 Sunday morning when the demonstrators marched up to the four-foot fence Portland General Electric Co. (PGE) recently built near the highway and used homemade stairs to enter the property.

As the 135 went over the fence, several Columbia County sheriff's deputies were waiting about 50 feet inside the gate on the main access road leading up to the reactor building.

By noon, the demonstrators had been arrested without violence and bussed to seven different jails around the state.

"There's a national guard armory right down the road," said Norman Solomon, TDA spokesperson. "But they've been taken to jails in The Dalles, Tillamook, Hood River, St. Helens, Newport, Oregon City and Hillsboro."

"It's a tactic. They (the police) want to fragment people if they can."

At last report, 45 more demonstrators were entering the site at two different places, and police had confiscated the homemade stairs near the main entrance. A group of demonstrators, preparing to jump onto the property, were told by police not to jump. The group then paused at the top of the fence to discuss nuclear power with the deputies and explain why they were occupying before leaping onto the site.

This second group of demonstrators is expected to be arrested also.

"The police know we have a lot more people ready to continue with the occu-

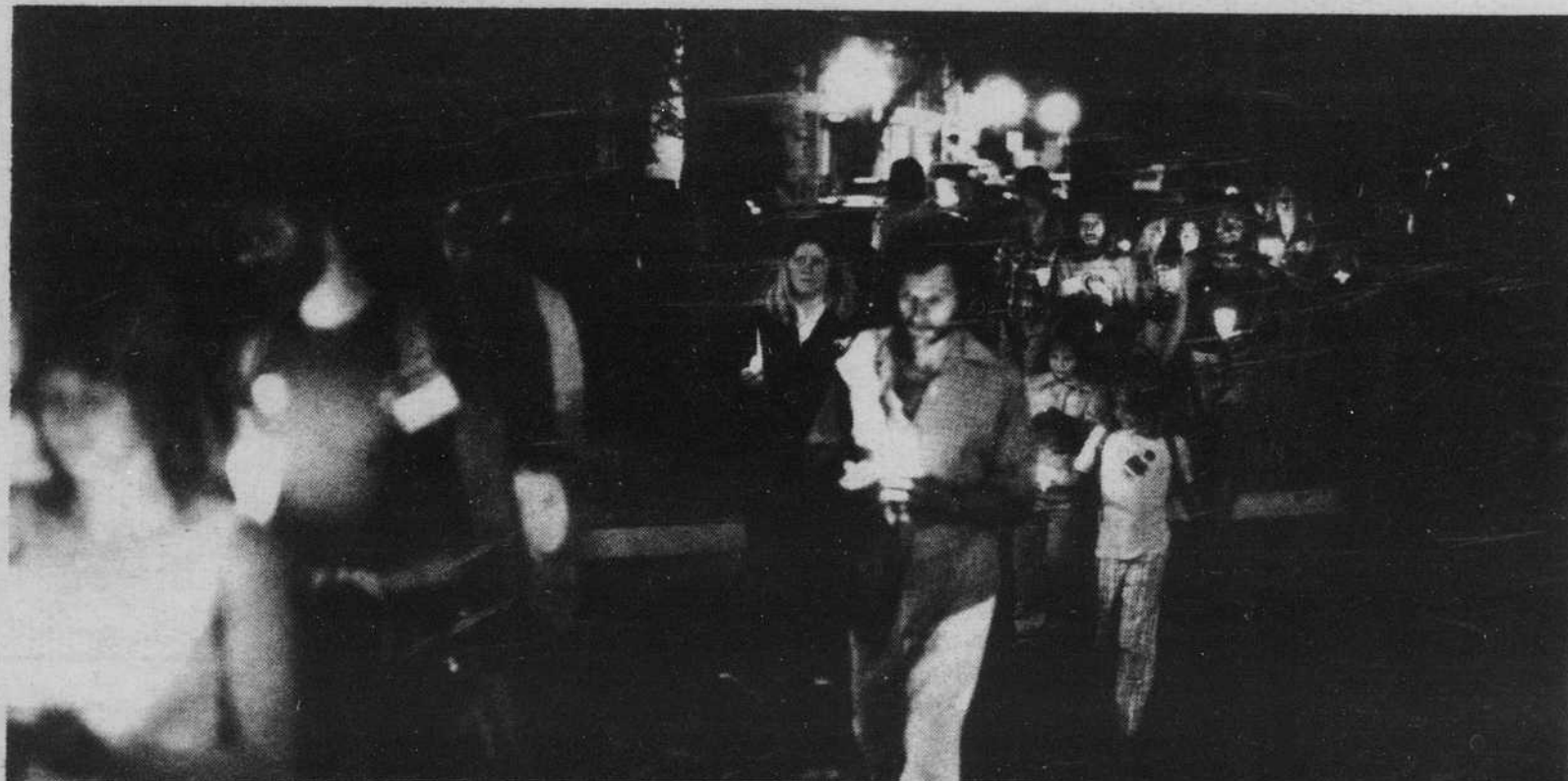


Photo by Greg Gawlowski

pation," Solomon said. "So now they're more uptight."

"There's only room for about 20 more people in the Columbia County jail," Solomon added. "The other jails are crowded now, and apparently some of those arrested had no mattresses Sunday night."

Members of the press were staying outside the four-foot fence after a freelance reporter from Seattle was arrested Sunday when he entered the property. At meetings between PGE officials and TDA representatives prior to the demonstration, the utility indicated that press people would be treated the same as other demonstrators and arrested along with them.

TDA had sought formal permission from PGE to proceed with the occupation, planned for Sunday through Wednesday, but did not succeed. Permission for the Alliance to demonstrate at Trojan was granted, however, by the Tchinouk

Tribe, which has held title to lands along the lower Columbia River (including the Trojan site) for more than 180 years.

Tribal Chairperson Karleen McKenzie sent a message to TDA Friday that stated: "The Tchinouk give full permission to the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance to be upon tribal lands from August 6-9 including the area upon which the Trojan Nuclear Plant and its owners are now trespassing."

The Tribe's claim to the lands dates back to the treaties of Tansy Point which were signed in 1851. An accompanying statement from the Tribe stated that "... Tchinouk aboriginal title precedes that of PGE."

The Tribe went on to say: "Trojan sits on the graveyards of our ancestors. All activities should include respect and reverence for these ancestors. Mother Earth and the Tchinouk Tribe bear the weight of the Trojan unwillingly."

PGE had requested a preliminary in-

junction to prevent the demonstration, but the request was denied last week in Washington County Circuit Court. Judge Albert Musick claimed he could not enjoin unincorporated voluntary organizations from demonstrating because membership was unclear and he could not be sure who, in fact, he would be enjoining.

Twenty-seven individuals were named, however, in an injunction, and will be subject to contempt of court citations should any of them be arrested at the Trojan site.

"No injunctions have been arrested as yet," according to Rhys Schols, a member of TDA. "But maybe later there might be some of them at the plant."

The occupation will continue as planned Tuesday and Wednesday, with more demonstrators going to the Trojan site each day. On the last day, occupiers may approach the plant in more than one group and at different times of the day, according to TDA.

Rainier group not alone



While protestors were being arrested at Trojan Nuclear Power Plant in Rainier, Oregon, thousands more enjoined in other U.S. cities to oppose nuclear development.

About 1,000 people gathered Sunday at Diablo Canyon nuclear plant near San Luis Obispo, California, planning to enter the facility in groups of 50.

A group of about 2,000 peaceful demonstrators, part of a coalition of more than 50 anti-war, ecology and religious groups, marched before Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station outside Los Angeles Saturday, chanting "No More Nukes."

The Southern California Alliance for Survival, which organized the demonstration, claims the station is a depot for

arms for the Navy's Pacific Fleet. Naval officials never have commented about whether nuclear weapons are stored there.

About 100 persons in white outfits with black armbands gathered in downtown Atlanta Saturday night and then held a candlelight march to the state Capitol several blocks away. They said their dress represented the ghosts of nearly 94,000 people who died because the United States dropped an atom bomb on Hiroshima — the first use of nuclear weapons in war — exactly 33 years before the demonstration.

Another demonstration against a nuclear power plant occurred Sunday in North Perry, Ohio, where about 300 persons marched a mile to protest the construction of the \$2 billion facility.

The plant, being built for Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co., is about one-fourth complete and is expected to begin operation in 1981.

About 60 persons marched three miles through rain Sunday from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, to Pease Air Force Base in Newington, N.H., to highlight anti-nuclear activities in New England. The 509th Bomb Wing, the unit from which planes left in 1945 to drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, is stationed at Pease.

Other anti-nuclear activities in the Northeast and Canada included a rally in Brattleboro, Vt., near the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, and a demonstration at the nearly completed Point Lepreau, New Brunswick, Canada power plant.