Protest and Conflict

Photo Essay By Kevin Osborn

Approximately 50,000 people gathered near the Lincoln Memorial last Sunday before marching to the Pentagon to protest US intervention in El Salvador. The gathering was uneventful. Leaflets were distributed and newspapers representing various ideologies were solicited. Old friends met and people of diverse backgrounds mingled. Trade union members, liberals, communists, and militant groups all came together to protest the same government policy.

The March began resolutely but not too loudly …

Including 500 Moonies who tried to disrupt the demonstration with a counter-demonstration of their own. Violence between the two groups threatened to erupt. Protest security quickly surrounded the Moonies, to separate the two groups.

A policeman came up to the leaders of the counter-demonstration and asked them to leave before anything serious happened. The Unification Church media representative whispered something to the officer and showed him some papers. The Officer said "Oh!" and backed off. Later I saw the Moonie demonstrators loading their van in a restricted Pentagon parking lot right next to the building. Hmm...