

# Radicals, Peace Group Brawl at MIT

By Robert L. Levey  
Globe Staff

A national meeting of student strike leaders at MIT was disrupted twice yesterday by brawling members of the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) and Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

At one point, more than 150 young radicals were

pummeling each other in the hallway outside an MIT lecture room. The fighting was triggered by the refusal of the meeting organizers, the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (SMC), to allow Progressive party and SDS members to occupy seats in the room.

At least seven people were treated at the MIT in-

firmary for minor injuries. There was no police intervention and no arrests were made.

Carol Lipman of Washington, executive secretary of the Mobilization Committee, said the first brawl came before noon when a Progressive tried to get into the meeting without registering. About a dozen PLP and SDS members,

who had already been admitted, dashed to the aid of the gate crasher, and a brief battle ensued.

The Progressives and SDS members then left. Miss Lipman said the meeting membership then offered each group the right to send in one representative, but the offer was refused.

Three hours later, she said, 60 to 80 PLP and SDS members stormed the doors of the meeting hall, Room 10-250, and were met by 25 to 30 Student Mobilization steering committee members who had been placed to prevent another incident.

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That battle raged for about 10 minutes, according to observers, and then the meeting was temporarily recessed while dozens of SMC members poured out into the hallways and dispersed the attackers.

When the meeting resumed, numerous students sat nursing wounds and at least two injured students were removed from the area on stretchers. Many SMC members sat in tattered clothes.

The violent episode came at a meeting designed to plan strategy for the con-

tinuing anti-war movement.

During a long afternoon discussion, SMC drafted and passed two resolutions. The first asks that all anti-war groups campaign against such violence and defends the right of groups to hold their meetings as they see fit. The second demands that PLP and SDS repudiate the attack on the meeting.

Don Gurewitz, an SMC coordinator, said that three weeks ago a local member of the New Mobilization Committee, Bob Bresnahan, who had worked as a head marshal during recent

peace demonstrations, was badly beaten by seven or eight PLP members in the basement of a Harvard building.

The incident appeared to confirm the view that the extreme radical groups still regard the wider peace movement as far removed from their own causes. "There has been a history of attacks on the movement from PLP and SDS," Gurewitz said.

In the regular business sessions, the SMC voted to move its main headquarters from Washington to New York. It was also decided to start organizing toward the next major day

of mass demonstrations against the war — Saturday, May 30.

Byron Ackerman, from the SMC national office, said the movement hopes to "attract more labor involvement." He said that the action by New York construction workers against anti-war demonstrators has made some union people anxious to join actively in the peace movement.

In a related development, Sen. George S. McGovern (D-S.D.), yesterday sent congratulations to the Massachusetts PAX office, which organized a campaign for the Amend-



CAROL LIPMAN  
... described scene

ment to End the War that has gathered 65,000 signatures in the state.

Radical Faction at MIT

# 100 in Fistfight at Peace Meeting

By BETSY NADAS

HT Staff Reporter

A free swinging brawl involving more than 100 persons erupted during a meeting of the Student Mobilization Committee at an MIT lecture hall yesterday when about 50 members of a radical faction of the SDS tried to force their way in.

At least six persons were treated for minor injuries at the MIT infirmary after members of SDS's Progressive Labor faction slugged it out with SMC members.

Earlier in the day five SDS members were beaten by SMC door guards when one of their members tried to force his way into the lecture hall.

The groups disagree on what methods should be used to stop the war.

After the first fight, PL members returned with about 50 supporters. They were met by an equal number of SMC members stationed outside the lecture hall. When the SDS group tried to force its way past, fighting broke out and lasted about five minutes.

Both sides accused the opposition of using blackjacks and heavy belts. Two SMC mem-

bers were carried to the infirmary from the scene by MIT security police who arrived as the fight was breaking up.

The PL group retreated to the MIT student center, while the SMC group, in ripped shirts and holding wet rags to black eyes and head bumps, resumed its meeting.

The SMC group held a lengthy discussion on the fight, and drafted a statement "to repudiate all violence within the movement," and to indict PL for the attack.

Peter Camejo, candidate for the U.S. Senate who drafted the statement, said the group should "join with anyone to defend anyone else's meeting."

"If we have to be afraid to hold a meeting, we're lost," Camejo told the group.

The remainder of the SMC meeting was taken up with plans for a May 30 anti-war demonstration and a June 19-20 anti-war conference in Cleveland. The May 30 demonstration will be aimed at enlisting support of labor unions and working class people into the anti-war movement.

## Brawl Mars MIT Peace Meeting

Record American 5-25-70

A meeting of young persons concerned with ending the war in Vietnam erupted into a slugfest at MIT yesterday afternoon, sending at least six to the school's infirmary.

The five-minute fracas broke out when about 50 members of the Progressive Labor faction of the Students for a Democratic Society tried to force their way into the meeting.

They were met at the door by about an equal number of the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. After the fight started more SMC members came out of the hall to disperse the would-be intruders.

When it was all over, both sides accused the other of using blackjacks and heavy belts.

Two members of SMC had to be carried to the infirmary by MIT campus police.

Earlier a number of SDS members had been refused entrance to the lecture hall when they declined to register properly.

This had set off a brief encounter, and the outnumbered SDS left the scene only to return later with reinforcements.

After the second fight, the SMC, some looking battered, resumed their meeting.

The members passed a resolution indicting the SDS Progressive Labor group for the attack and decrying "all violence in the (peace) movement."

Peter Camejo, a candidate for the U. S. Senate, who drafted the resolution said, "If we have to be afraid to hold a meeting, we're lost."

A second resolution demanded that the SDS repudiate the violence of some of its members.

An SMC spokesman said that a member of the organization had been badly beaten in a Harvard University basement by about a half dozen SDS men.

Items on the regular agen-

da that were passed including plans for organizing mass Memorial Day peace demonstrations to be held next Saturday.

It was also voted to move SMC main headquarters from Washington to New York, and to hold an anti-war conference June 19 and 20 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Byron Ackerman, a SMC national officer, said the movement hopes to get more support from workers.

He said some union personnel had indicated interest following the construction workers' demonstrations in New York against the peace movement.

## Kent Probe Panel Set

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Nixon this week will appoint a high-level commission "to get to the bottom of the Kent State tragedy" in which four students were shot dead by National Guardsmen, an administration official said yesterday.

White House communications director Herbert G. Klein made the disclosure as he raised the possibility of continued American air strikes inside Cambodia in support of

South Vietnamese forces after U. S. ground forces withdraw June 30.

Klein said Nixon would name to the Kent State Commission prestigious individuals "with the ability to look with an unquestionable investigative mind at all the facts."

The four students at Kent State were shot May 4 during a rally protesting Nixon's decision to send American forces into Cambodia.