

Event held at new time KKK rally is peaceful

NEW ORLEANS — The Ku Klux Klan, surrounded by uniformed and plainclothes police, marched through the French Quarter Sunday but avoided a confrontation with opponents by holding the demonstration two hours ahead of schedule.

"That was purely from a police request because they wanted to avoid any trouble if possible," KKK leader David Duke said of the rescheduling. "We were happy to cooperate with that."

"They didn't give us an ultimatum, but they did request us to do that. We'd been getting a lot of threats so they wanted us to move the rally up a little bit."

Police Superintendent James Parsons headed a squad of 100 officers who escorted the Klansmen on an eight-block march from Jackson Square to the Liberty Monument, a relic of the post-Reconstruction era when whites regained control of the city government. Policemen erected metal barricades and formed a cordon around the 85-member Klan group during a brief speech by Duke at the monument.

"We stand here today because white people all over this country are being discriminated against," said Duke, of Metairie, La. "We have become second-class citizens in our own land."

The Klan rally ended before the first participants in a counter-

demonstration arrived. The anti-Klan protesters then remained to denounce the Klan and the monument.

"We want to say here and now that we are declaring a victory over the cowardly Klan," said Kalamu Ya Salaam, an organizer of the counter-rally.

Salaam said the monument, an object of scorn by black people for many years, should be demolished. The city, in a move toward appeasement, added a marker several years ago declaring that the inscription on the monument reflected past attitudes.

The Klan march was allowed despite heavy pressure from civil rights groups who wanted city officials to prohibit it. Mayor Ernest Morial, the city's first black mayor, said he personally opposed the KKK, but the group was entitled to express its views.

"The city of New Orleans will not interfere with the expression of their ideas, no matter how distasteful, as long as they remain peaceful," Morial said.

The march was part of a weekend conference attended by Klan leaders from many states, Duke said. A cross burning earlier in the confer-

ence resulted in the trading of gunfire between police and Klan members.

No one was hurt in the Saturday night exchange of shots but two men were arrested on weapon charges and a third was wanted. The incident took place in an isolated section of the city across the Mississippi River from downtown. Officers said they were called by worried residents who heard noises from a wooded area, but they were unaware the gathering involved the Klan. Duke said shots fired by one of his followers were meant to alert the group that intruders were present.

"We were way out in the country on private property," Duke said. "We're out in the country, these communists are trying to kill us and we're certainly going to defend ourselves."

He said the cross burning was allowed to continue after Parsons came to the scene.

Those arrested were Philip A. Layton, 34, of Abita Springs, La., and MacArthur Hodges, 34, of Pasadena, Texas. Another man fled after firing three shots when officers approached.

Cops catch man after he calls in crime

CHICAGO — A Chicago man who called police to ask if they were looking for him has been charged with attempted armed robbery.

Timothy Novak called police Friday to see if they knew of an attempted robbery at 2500 S. Drake Ave. Authorities first thought Novak's call was a prank, but they routinely took his name and address.

A short time later, police discovered Anthony Glogoski, 56, was beaten during a robbery attempt in his apartment at 2500 S. Drake. Police took a photo of Novak and showed it to Glogoski, who identified Novak as the assailant.

Novak, 33, then was charged with the crime.

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Card players bridge' gaps to lead tourney

DENVER — The Aces bridge team, captained by Ira Corn Jr., a Dallas industrialist and bridge columnist, Sunday held a slim lead in the final round of play in the Heisinger Trophy race at the 1978 Fall North American Championships of the American Contract Bridge League.

The Aces finished the first final session with a score of 19.2 in the demanding board-a-match play and team captained by Steve Robinson of Arlington, Va., was in second with 18.0.

The third place team led by veteran campaigner Sam Staymen, formerly of New York, was at 17.7.

Corn, who is the non-playing captain of the Aces, coached Robert Hamman and Robby Wolff, two U.S. players rated as Grand Masters in the World Bridge Federation; Ira Rubin, Paramus, N.J., and Fred Hamilton, who also have been world team champions.

The fall championships were to end Sunday night after 9,000 tables of players have been seated during ten days of play in 60 events. Thirty-six thousand entries recorded in the ten days have included players from all 50 states, seven Canadian Provinces, two Mexican states and several other nations.

A mixed Canadian-American team held the lead Saturday in the second day of qualification play. George Mittelman and Allan Graves of Toronto; Mark Lair, Canyon, Texas; Ron Smith, St. Louis; Barney Malia, Hawthorne, Nev., and Taylor Kasle, Tucson, Ariz., had 20 points after the afternoon session in the competition.

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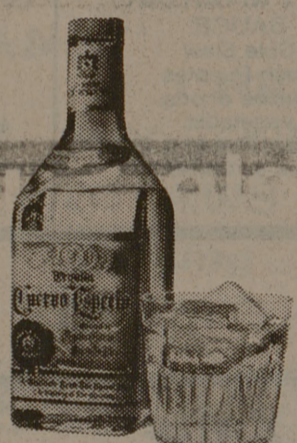
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