

# RCMP & Indians Clash



By PAUL MITCHELL and KEITH REYNOLDS

OTTAWA (CUP) -- RCMP riot squad officers forced close to 300 militant Indian demonstrators off Parliament Hill late today (Sept. 30) in the second pitched battle between the two groups.

The riot squad appeared from nowhere and forced the demonstrators back down the steps they had won in a previous battle, off the Hill, out onto Metcalfe Street and

back to Indian headquarters.

During the skirmish riot squad officers pushed people off the stone wall on top of the Hill, a fifteen foot drop, and down the stairs using their clubs liberally on demonstrators as well as bystanders.

Earlier in the day the Indians marched from an abandoned government building eight blocks below Parliament Hill, up Rideau Street to the Hill before being met by a solid wall of RCMP officers and a wooden barricade. The

Indians fought the RCMP for about 20 feet before they were stopped. RCMP officers kicked protestors in the groin and ganged up on individual Indians who broke through the lines. One hundred soldiers armed with bayonets provided the colour guard for Parliament and later a back up for the RCMP.

The Indians remained on the Hill beating their drums, singing and making speeches for about two hours while Parliament was in session. They booed the army band playing O Canada and Chief Justice Bora Laskin when he appeared to review the guard, after the session ended.

Violence erupted again when the RCMP started pushing people off the steps of the House of Commons. Then the riot squad appeared and ordered everyone off the Hill. The Indians fought back throwing rocks, bottles, and sticks.

During the fighting Don Whiteside of the Canadian Federation of Civil Liberties was beaten by riot police as he tried to explain who he was.

"For the riot police to come in and beat people indiscriminately is inexcusable," Whiteside said.

Charlotte McEwan, an elderly Ottawa activist, was also pushed to the ground by the police rush.

"They were pushing everybody down those steps and you know what 20 concrete steps

can do. There were quite a few bloody faces," she said.

Bob Buckingham, National Union of Students organizer and a participant in the demonstration said, "I think it's a disgrace. It's symptomatic of the way the Indian in this country is treated by the white-man's government."

He was disgusted that no member of Parliament came out to talk to the demonstrators and Chief Justice Bora Laskin did not even acknowledge their presence.

He went back to lodge a complaint with his member of Parliament and discovered that all the MPs were "hobnobbing and having a booze party," in the Parliament buildings.

Indian leaders were not available for comment as they had returned to their headquarters for a private strategy session.

The charge of the riot squad was ordered by Superintendent Marcel Sauve, officer in charge of the criminal investigation branch A, Division Ottawa, of the RCMP.

"It had become an unruly crowd. Our men were being beaten with rocks and sticks and had taken all measures possible to disperse the crowd. Three of our men were injured slightly and treated in a local hospital. Afterwards we picked up spikes and chains and other weapons," he said.

Canadian University Press reporters who were in the

midst of the fighting saw only belts and picket signs in the hands of the demonstrators. Other reporters at the scene also say they saw no other weapons in the hands of the Indians.

Sauve refused to say how many RCMP officers were at the demonstration stating only that "they had adequate reserves, including the riot squad over and above the number that were seen."

"We had carefully planned this operation in conjunction with the Ottawa police," said Sauve. There were 20 Ottawa policemen guarding the American embassy during the demonstration.

When asked to comment on the statement made by Don Whiteside, Sauve said only that "we have no comment to make on that statement."

Over 20 arrests were made by the RCMP, most of them in the second battle. Ottawa police say that two of the Indians will be charged with obstructing the police but other charges are as yet unknown. All arrests were made by the RCMP and processed by Ottawa police.

The Indians arrived in Ottawa Sunday night and took over an abandoned government building, saying they would stay until Minister of Indian Affairs Judd Buchanan met with them.

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# Shaheen to Nova Scotia

by Mary Pat Mackenzie

In Nov. 1972 the government of Nova Scotia announced that an agreement had been reached with John M. Shaheen of New York to build a new oil refinery in Nova Scotia. At that time it was estimated that the refinery would cost approx. \$223,000,000 and would go into construction in late 1974 or early 1975. It is now late '74 but difficult labour negotiations have delayed any actual start on the project.

The refinery is to be built on the mainland side of the Strait of Canso between Melford and Sand Point. The Provincial Government has expropriated 11,000 acres of land in that area for industrial use.

The refinery will be owned and operated by Nova Scotia Refining Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Shaheen Natural Resources Co., Inc. of New York. Shaheen Natural Resources is probably best known in this area for the oil refinery it owns and operates in Come-By-Chance,

Nfld.

The Province has agreed to put up \$35,000,000 — \$40,000,000 towards the construction cost, with the Shaheen company providing the initial financing of \$40,000,000. The balance will be raised through the sale of first mortgage bonds by the British Government. At the end of the seventh year of operation, and continuing for the next 25 years, the Province of Nova Scotia will receive 5% of the refinery's profits, after taxes.

Plans for the area also include a \$35,000,000 common — user dock. The dock will be built and owned by the Province of Nova Scotia. It will commence construction at the same time as the refinery, forming basically one project. The Acres Consulting Firm of Toronto is responsible for monitoring the planning, construction and financial aspects of the dock on behalf of the Province, while Snam-Progetti of Italy is handling the same for the Shaheen company.

The Nova Scotia Trade &

Labour Council has been negotiating on behalf of the 28 unions and contractors involved. Of the 13 Trades included in this group nine (9) have reached tentative agreements which they will sign after some redrafting. The project agreement basically consists of two (2) parts — the first part will apply to the unions as a group and the second part will contain clauses pertinent to each specific union. The 4 Trades which have not yet reached agreements on their specific clauses are: the Plumbers & Pipefitters, the Teamsters, the Operating Engineers and the Labourers. Negotiations with these groups broke down on the 28th of August and to date no further meetings have been scheduled. It appears that the earliest possible date construction could begin would be May 1975 and since construction would last for 3 years, the most optimistic estimate for commencing operations is mid-1978.

There have been rumours circulated in the press about a so-called "productivity

clause". Sources at the Trade & Labour Council have stated that there has been no mention of such a clause in their negotiations with Snam-Progetti or Acres Consulting. Apparently Mr. Shaheen was quoted as stating that the British Bankers wanted a productivity guarantee from the unions. The British bankers, however, have denied any knowledge of this clause. The, so far, non-existent clause has no bearing on the stalemate in negotiations; the unions, however, will not dis-

close what it is they want and have not yet received.

If construction on the combined project commences in 1975 it would reach its peak sometime in 1976. At that time employment would reach somewhere between 2500 - 3000. The actual operation of the refinery will employ around 500 or so. However, any project of this magnitude would supply 3 times as many "spin-off" jobs. That is, for every one

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