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SAN FRANCISCO (PALO ALTO)--April 9, 1971

PACKARD FLEES ARREST

(Thursday, April 8)

A scheduled address last night/by Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard was moved from Palo Alto to San Francisco at the last moment after anti-war demonstrators announced plans to arrest Packard for war crimes. Two to three hundred ~~men~~ ^{people} demonstrated outside the San Francisco Hilton, where Packard addressed a meeting of the Western Electronics Manufacturers Association (WEMA). After two hours of picketing and chanting, the ~~men~~ demonstrators were attacked and dispersed by the San Francisco Tac Squad.

Packard's dinner speech was originally planned for Rickey's Hyatt House in Palo Alto. A number of local anti-war groups released statements holding Packard responsible for war crimes in Vietnam. They issued an arrest warrant and adopted the slogan "Packard before Calley." WEMA announced thursday morning that the dinner meeting had been moved to the Imperial Ballroom at the San Francisco Hilton, some forty miles away. Because of the change, only 600 of 700 ~~men~~ with tickets to the speech and dinner were able to attend.

Confused by press announcements, only 200 people rallied in Palo Alto Square at 4:30 pm, where a march to Rickey's

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had been planned to start. Car pools were organized, and the demonstrators from Palo Alto were joined by a number of hastily-mobilized people from San Francisco. No ~~of~~ real attempt was made to arrest Packard in San Francisco, as ~~XXX~~ security at the Hilton was tight. / ^{Apparently} Using the excuse of "cursing", the police declared the demonstration an unlawful assembly and charged the crowd. 7 were arrested. Several were beaten.

The People's Peace Treaty Collective in Palo Alto, one of the sponsoring organizations, called the move a victory, stating that "David Packard is afraid to return to the city that he owns." (Packard is on leave as Board Chairman of Hewlett-Packard, a Palo Alto-based electronics firm) A member of Venceremos called the action a "People's Injunction," noting that while several area radicals have been banned from Stanford by court injunction, Packard was banned from Palo Alto by the "People's Arrest Warrant." No one here can recall a similar relocation of an ~~XXXXXX~~ appearance by a major administration official.

Packard's speech to the Western U.S. industry association from electronics and information technology was entitled "The Department of Defense in a Generation of Peace." He said that "The nation will increasingly rely on machines rather than men to preserve its strength ^{around} ~~XX~~/the world."

Packard's ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ criticized WEMA for moving the speech: "It is unfortunate that the leaders of this industry are unwilling to stand up to that bunch of radicals down on the [San Francisco] peninsula. The David Harrises, Jane Fondas, and all those that support

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them are your ~~XXXXXXXX~~ deadly enemies. They want to destroy you, me, and everything this nation stands for. Do not let them do it."