

Approaching the 11th hour

'There's a saying that evil exists only when good people remain silent. It matters very much what we do...'

It is the 11th hour for many in Peace City, a makeshift community of people from all walks of life who sleep, eat and work together once a year as a visible protest to the Nevada Test Site, 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

Nuclear weapons testing at that site on the north side of U.S. Highway 95 brings thousands together to fight what they say may be the economic, social and political downfall of America.

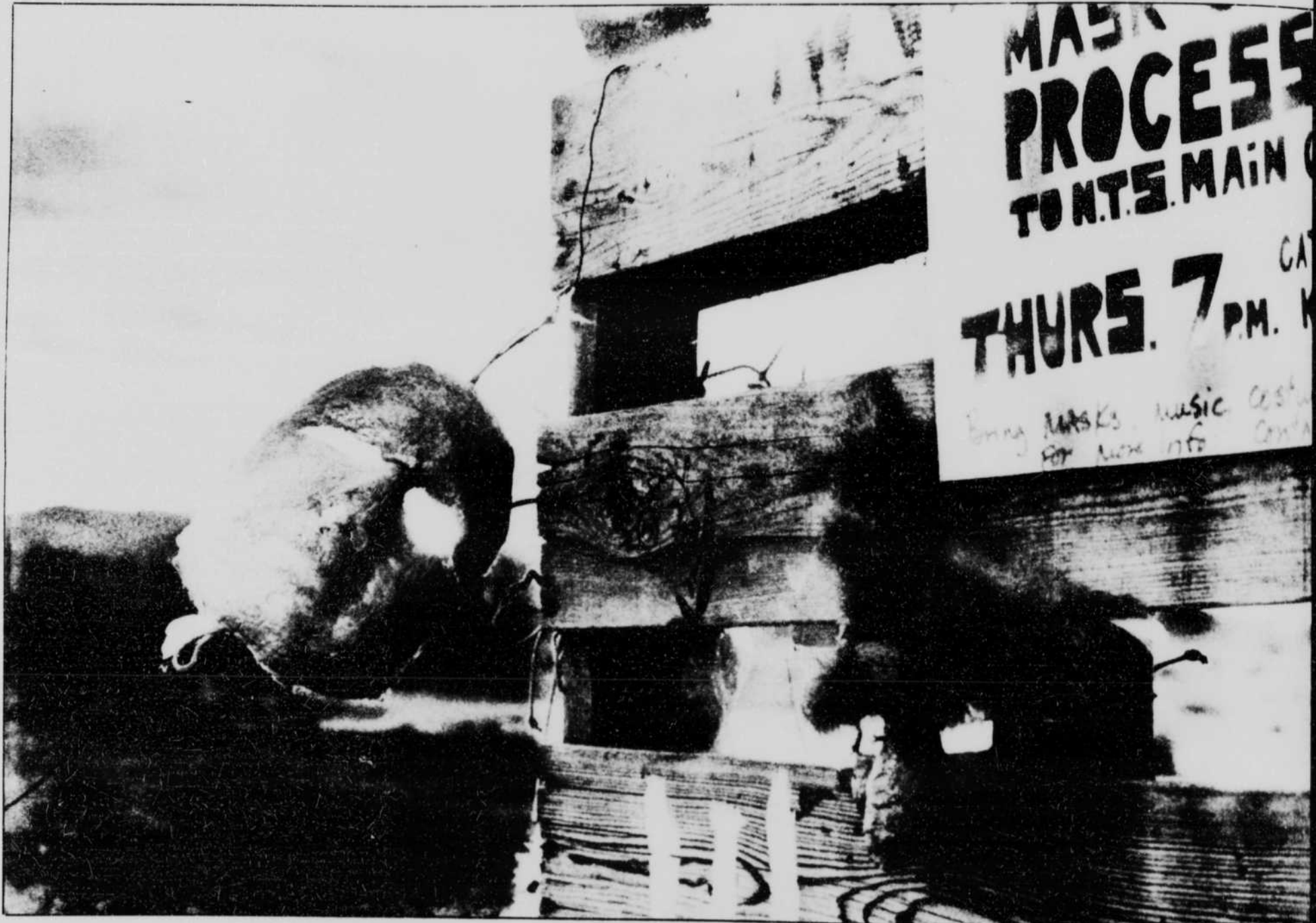
They are lawyers, doctors, scientists, students, teachers, business people and some activists who follow the peace movement from location to location across the United States.

But the glitz of city lights and traffic jams is far from the minds of those camped among cactuses and radioactive dust bowls for 10 days at "Reclaim the Test Site II."

Peace Camp is a non-classist, non-racist, non-sexist, non-homeless gathering, says Chris Brown, executive director of the American Peace Test, which sponsors the event.

Although "Reclaim the Test Site II" is only in its second organized year, Brown says, anti-nuclear weapons activists have been showing up at the test site since it first opened in 1951.

Brown, who temporarily houses himself and a small staff at a motel in Indian Springs just 18 miles from the test site, spends the majority of his time organizing the new



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Above: Handmade masks decorate Peace City. The masks were made and used during a procession Thursday night. Right: Daniel Zapata, Margaret Prescott, Reo Junji Shimanuki and Corbin Harney, representatives of various peace organizations, join in a Shoshone chant Friday night.



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