



—Associated Press Photo by Carl Linds.

Ambassador Stevenson, flanked by police, shows shock after being hit on head by picket sign.

Stevenson Struck With Sign, Booed

By MIKE QUINN

Ambassador Adlai Stevenson was struck in the head with a picket sign, spat upon and booed here Thursday night as he left a United Nations Day program at Dallas Memorial Auditorium Theater.

The near-riot broke out as Stevenson stopped to shake hands with well-wishers and pickets alike outside a rear door of the auditorium where more than 2,000 persons heard the ambassador to the United Nations praise work of the world organization over the last 18 years.

Dallas police attempted to rush Stevenson out the back door after pickets had crowded around his auto at the auditorium's front entrance and blocked his path from the building.

As Stevenson emerged from the back door, there were cheers and boos. About 15 feet from the waiting car, he stopped and turned toward the crowd, smiling. He began shaking hands.

It was then a "Down With U.N." sign plunged with a thud on the ambassador's head.

With an expression of shock on his face, Stevenson stepped back. Police lunged into the crowd and grabbed a woman.

But Stevenson quickly regained his composure and walked toward the woman. They exchanged words quickly and the police led her away.

Then as the ambassador turned to the car, he was spat upon by

Stevenson's speech, related photo, Sec. 4, Page 1.

a 22-year-old Irving man, identified by police as a student at North Texas State University.

Police grabbed the man and pinned him against a police car hood as he spat upon an officer.

The events climaxed the U.N. Day program which began with National Indignation Convention leader Frank McGehee of Dallas attempting to get Stevenson's attention as the ambassador started his locally televised speech. After several tension-filled moments, police escorted McGehee out a side door of the theater.

The woman involved in the sign incident identified herself to reporters and police as Mrs. Cora Lacy Fredrickson, 47, of 1415 Dominion. Mrs. Fredrickson, visibly shaken, told reporters she only intended to shove the sign in front of Stevenson's face. She said some one pushed her hand, causing the placard to hit Stevenson.

Police said the ambassador requested they release Mrs. Fredrickson.

Meanwhile, police rushed the man who spat on the 2-time Demo-

cratic candidate for president of the United States to police headquarters.

He identified himself as a business student at NTSU. He said he got mad at Stevenson after talking to Cuban refugees who were picketing the theater and then hearing the ambassador's speech.

The student was booked on investigation of aggravated assault and inciting a riot. He also spat in the face of Patrolman L. R. Larkins as the officer attempted to restrain the man.

Jack Goren, U.N. Day chairman, told Ambassador Stevenson after the speech that the "bad manners shown by a few are totally uncharacteristic of Texans."

Stevenson immediately retired to his hotel room and was unavailable for comment.

There were 30 policemen on duty at the theater, including 17 special 1-man squads equipped to handle demonstrations.

Many of the pickets carried American flags and signs, attacking the U.N.

The pickets refused to identify themselves, but many said they had attended Edwin A. Walker's U.S. Day rally Wednesday night in the same auditorium.

One picket told reporters there were many Young Americans for Freedom members present Thursday night, as well as some representatives from Young Republican Clubs in the Dallas area.

Stevenson was honored with a reception backstage after his speech, sponsored by the Dallas U.N. Association and the League of Women Voters.