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Thousands rally against Iraqi war



Tens of thousands of demonstrators gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., yesterday to protest against the possibility of war against Iraq.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



John Grant, holding the sign, was one of about 200 Louisvillians who attended the Washington rally.

GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Kentuckians join in demonstrations

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WASHINGTON — In a scene reminiscent of the Vietnam War era, tens of thousands of people gathered on the National Mall yesterday to denounce President Bush's threat to wage war on Iraq.

The protest in frigid weather, one of numerous anti-war demonstrations in the United States and around the world yesterday, drew as many as 200 people from Louisville. About 600 people attended an anti-war rally in Indianapolis, and more

than 100 went to a demonstration outside the Blue Grass Army Depot in Richmond, Ky.

At the Washington event, some speakers and demonstrators expressed frustration that an Iraqi war could come with little public debate. Others warned that U.S. military action could lead to more bloodshed in the Middle East and on American soil.

"A lot of people are against this," said Nora Christensen, 27, of Louisville, who made a 12-hour overnight trip by bus to attend. "I feel the people are the ones criticizing (the war threat), not the politicians."

Her mother, Peggy Christensen, 54, of Louisville, said the demonstration was "an extreme act of patriotism on our parts." An early intervention specialist with infants and toddlers, she carried a "Grandmother Against War" sign that included a picture of her 3-year-old granddaughter, Stella.

Despite temperatures in the 20s, the demonstrators filled a section along the Mall's east end near the Capitol and the National Gallery of Art, shouting "no blood for oil" and car-

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