



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

DATE: April 3, 2003

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: [REDACTED]

Administrative Lieutenant - South Team

SUBJECT: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS - April 5, 2003

On Saturday, April 5, 2003, there will be two separate public demonstrations taking place at Veteran's Memorial Park. The following is a brief overview of each event:

American Legion (Post #2) Support the Troops Rally

Post #2 of the American Legion is sponsoring a support the troops rally at Veteran's Park from 1330 – 1530 hours. The event will feature live music, leading the crowd in patriotic songs, and speeches from Desert Storm Veterans. The event organizer, Bill Brinkman, expects approximately 2,000 attendees. At the present time, there is no information that would suggest that this event would create a problem.

People's Alliance for Justice and Change Anti War Rally

The People's Alliance for Justice and Change has scheduled an anti war rally at Veterans Park at 1800 hours. Immediately following the rally they will march to DeVos Hall to pass out leaflets. The Grand Rapids Symphony will be performing "Mendelssohn's Elijah" at 2000 hours at DeVos Hall. Currently, there is a limited amount of information available regarding this event, but I will continue to monitor applicable web sites.

In preparing for these two events, I have scheduled eight patrol officers to cover the immediate area surrounding Veterans Park. These officers will handle crowd control and ensure that protesters do not block pedestrian or vehicle traffic. At the conclusion of the anti war rally, the officers will

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assist in traffic and crowd control escorting demonstrators on their march to DeVos Hall. In addition, there will be five Special Response Team (SRT) officers assigned as a React Team to handle any problems that may arise.

In the absence of any further information indicating potential violence at these events, I feel that the assignments that I have made will be adequate to handle the events.

Cc:

