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Three Occupy Boston marchers charged after restaurant scare



Three masked men were arrested after they allegedly broke off from an Occupy Boston march and stormed into a packed fast-food restaurant in the Back Bay Saturday evening, startling diners and employees, police said yesterday.

Officers riding bicycles along Newbury Street while monitoring the Occupy Boston march which started from the group's camp in Dewey Square at about 5 p.m. followed the three men when they separated from the 50-person procession and sprinted onto Clarendon Street, Boston Police said in a statement.

Wearing face masks and dark clothing and carrying homemade signs, the trio turned on to Boylston Street as pedestrians along the sidewalk dodged out of their way, according to the statement. The three men then entered the Burger King on Boylston Street. Officers who had followed them said that a full house of "restaurant employees and customers appeared to cower in fear and had a look of shock and disbelief on their faces at such a commotion," police said.

The signs, which were made from white bedsheets wrapped around 3-foot pieces of wood, were kept by police as evidence. They read: "Fight for your rights" and "Capitalism is the crisis, steal everything," according to the police narrative of the incident.

As officers questioned the men outside the restaurant, according to the police statement, they chanted boisterously, causing passersby to stop and watch, "in an attempt to turn the growing crowd against the officers."

The men yelled: "Police brutality" and "This is how people are treated in a police state," the statement said.

Jeffrey Nunes, 17, and Sean Cormier, 21, both of Westport, and Kiearn Lyons, 17, of Norwood were charged with disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace.

Also on Saturday, Worcester police said they arrested 20 Occupy protesters for trespassing after they refused to leave the common behind City Hall after the park's 10 p.m. closing time.

Initially around 75 people had gathered, police said. Two protesters were arrested on charges of disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct.

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