

'March for Victory'

Washington, D.C. — (RNS)— It was small by comparison with an anti-Vietnam war demonstration last November, but the "March for Victory in Vietnam," led by Dr. Carl McIntire on April 4 was Washington's largest pro-war demonstration since this country became involved in Vietnam.

Predictions of the turnout before the march down Pennsylvania Avenue ran as high as 150,000, which still would have been considerably less than the

estimated 250,000 at the November demonstration.

But Washington Police Chief Jerry Wilson said between 10,000 and 15,000 participated in Dr. McIntire's march. Reporters for a Washington newspaper counted about 11,500 marchers at the parade's starting point four blocks from the Capitol.

Founding president of the International Council of Christian Churches, Dr. McIntire said the purpose of the march and rally was to demand an immediate

15,000 Hit 'No-Win' Viet Policy

military victory in Vietnam and protest the "Communist takeover of the country."

Earlier, he had charged the Nixon Administration with a "no win" policy in Vietnam.

In full-page advertisements in selected newspapers around the country, he said the "March for Victory is a religious and patriotic demonstration." He also promoted the rally through his daily radio program, "The 20th Century Reformation Hour," broadcast over more

than 600 stations across the country.

But if the conservative "Bible Presbyterian" leader, a frequent attacker of the National Council of Churches was disappointed at the turnout for his Washington demonstration, he gave no indication in his remarks during the march and rally.

He told his followers — they appeared to be neither very rich nor very poor — that their effort "would turn the country around to God . . ."

"At last we have broken through, he told the people on the Washington Monument grounds, many clutching a Bible in one hand, an American flag (or in some cases, Confederate or pro-war placards or flag) in the other.

The "breakdown" referred to grievances many of his supporters share with him — prayer and Bible reading banned from public school; "freedom of choice and education being denied," "the liberal leftist program which corresponds to much of the Communist demand."

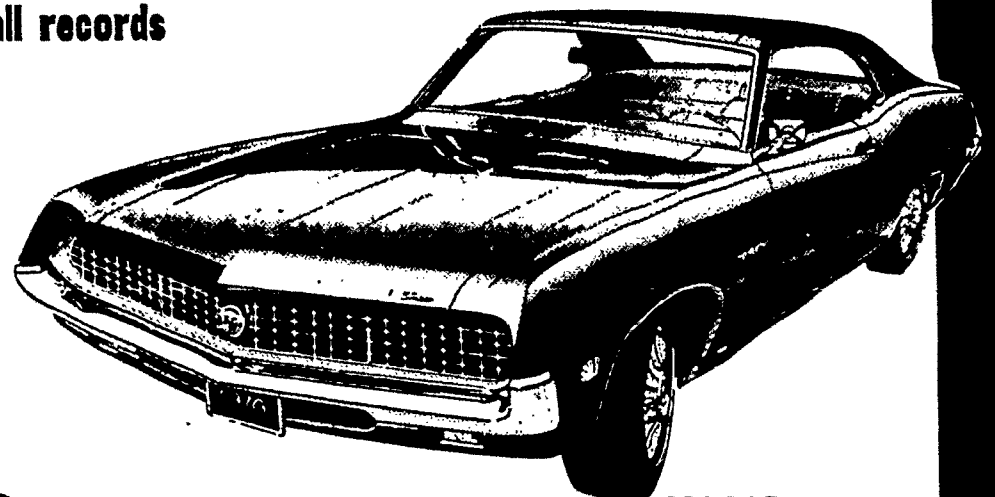
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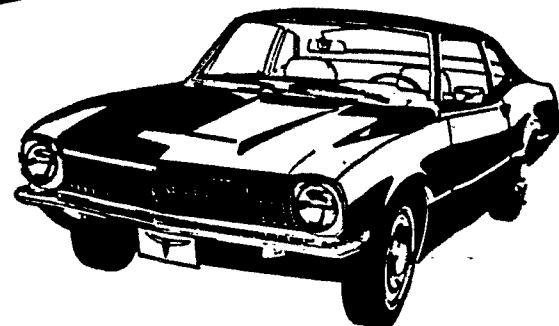
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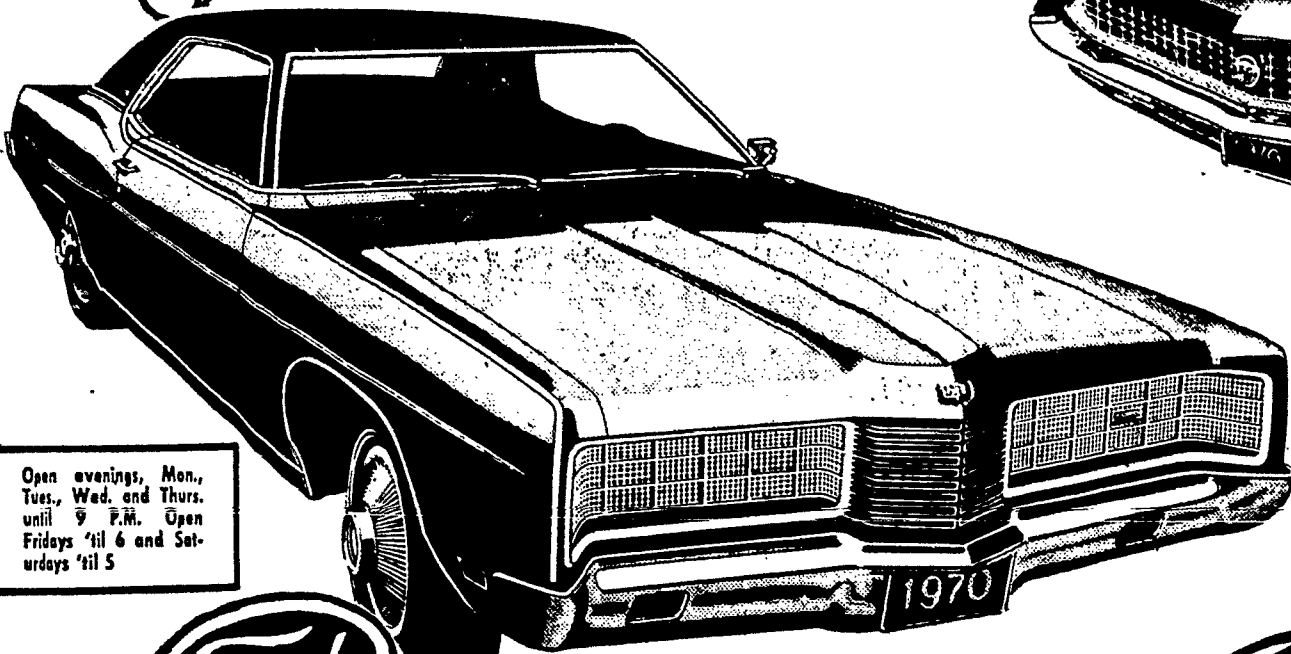
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