

Icy Waters Lap at Feet of Chained Man

Confined from 4th Page
The engineers need to raise the surface only a few more feet to have enough water for a test of the dam's turbine generators.
Only a white sock on one of his thin 17 feet protruded his ankle from a heavy chain fastened to a massive eye bolt, which in turn was firmly anchored in solid rock.
"The keys are hidden 100 feet from here, and when I get a commitment the filling will stop . . . I will tell (friends) where they are," said Dubois, his 6-foot, 6-inch frame draped in a faded blanket and shivering bag.

His skin is beginning to show signs of irritation from the poison oak that runs the rocks where he sleeps. Since chaining himself in place Monday, Dubois has kept busy writing letters, reading and mouthing over how close the rescuers have come.
"It's amazing how fast their boats go," he said.
Dubois' example apparently inspired two other men of the New Melones project to chain themselves to rocks at the water's edge near Parrotta Ferry.

Officials, however, seemed relatively unconcerned about the two—David Lynch and Alexander Gagnone because their whereabouts are known and presumably they could be removed if they were in any danger.
The Corps of Engineers, meanwhile, continues its search for Dubois and its deliberation over whether to continue with filling the reservoir.

The Corps of Engineers will raise the surface only a few more feet to have enough water for a test of the dam's turbine generators.
Dubois lives a spartan life as executive director of Friends of the River, taking only the portion of his \$100-a-month salary needed to meet expenses incurred in his fight to get governmental agencies to change their policies on New Melones.
A vegetarian, Dubois maintains his weight at 180 pounds on a diet of fruits and vegetables.
"He has two meals. Two pairs of pants, two sandals and two T-shirts," a friend said.

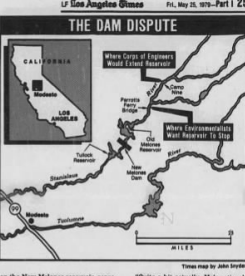
He said heavy spending by farmers defeated the initiative.
One course shy of an anthropology degree, he dropped out of college to pursue his first love—rattling on the bushes where he helped organize raft trips for handicapped children.
"When you've spent as much time in this canyon as Mark has, it's like a chapel to you," a friend said.
The group Dubois heads, Friends of the River, says the filling of Lake has wiped out wildlife habitat and a stretch of the river pined as a trans-

ing ground for beginning rafters.
"Spectacular whitewater stretches pined by more sophisticated rafters would be inundated if the Corps moves ahead with its plan next year to raise the reservoir almost 100 feet more. Approximately 11,000 acres of the canyon that Dubois says has become part of him would be covered.
Gov. Brown, Wednesday said, a telegram to President Carter requesting that New Melones be kept at its present level to preserve "the beauty of the Stanislaus River Canyon and the life of Mark Dubois."
Brown's chief of staff, Gray Davis, met with the Corp's district engineer, Donald O'Brien, Thursday to announce what he called "a great victory for the environmentalists."
Davis said the colored would "confirm to the governor in writing the Corp will not allow the water to rise above the level at Parrotta Ferry while the project is under the Corp's jurisdiction."

before the Corp, which has built the dam, can turn it over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which by law will operate it, tests must be performed on the dam's turbine generators.
In order for those tests to be made, the Corp has said it must fill the reservoir roughly 3 feet above its present level—which is more than Dubois would like to accept.
"The Corp is not going to let the water rise at all until they have com-

municated this agreement to Mark Dubois and obtained his reaction," Davis said. That reaction will not be available until at least tomorrow.
Brown approved a 1974 ballot initiative that would have prevented construction of New Melones Dam. Dubois was among the early champions of the initiative, which appeared on the ballot as Proposition 17 and was defeated by the voters.
He says the defeat was due more to heavy campaign spending by farmers and other interest groups opposed to the measure than it was to widespread public support for the dam.
"A poll done by . . . professional pollsters after the election showed that 80% of the voters thought they were voting against the dam," Dubois said.

Those who opposed Proposition 17 want the irrigation water and hydroelectric power it will produce, while Dubois argues that the water and power would be unnecessary if existing resources are used more wisely.
Over since the 1974 election, Dubois and Friends of the River have been battling the New Melones project at virtually every level of government with only fleeting success.
"I always knew I would have to make a personal statement at some time," Dubois said Thursday, his face framed in the dim light by branches of a leading buckeye tree that overhangs his hideout.
Dubois, perched on his rocky ledge



THE DAM DISPUTE
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