

As pro-Palestine protests mount nationwide, so do arrests at N.Y. universities

Almost 300 demonstrators arrested at Columbia University, City University of New York

May 1 (UPI) — As pro-Palestinian protests continue to affect college campuses throughout the United States, New York Mayor Eric Adams on Wednesday said nearly 300 people were arrested the night before at Columbia University and City University of New York.

“While those who broke into the building did include students, they were led by people who were not affiliated with the university,” Adams said at a Wednesday morning press conference with the city’s police commissioner.

On Tuesday, hundreds of New York Police Department officers wearing riot gear began to assemble on Columbia University’s campus at about 9 p.m. EDT. They later swarmed and entered Hamilton Hall, where they cleared the building and arrested dozens of protesters inside and outside.

The mayor blamed “outside agitators” for the escalation, stating his belief that “there is a movement to radicalize young people, and I’m not going to wait until it’s done and all of a sudden acknowledge the existence of it.”

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