

Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer
May 20, 1967

Vietnam Summer
Cambridge, Mass.

Cambridge:

As delegated by the undersigned groups, we request \$10,000 toward Vietnam Summer projects, the total cost of which we estimate to be \$19,980. As we are already organized, we are in immediate need of capital. Consequently, we request \$5000 now and \$5000 later. An itemization of projects follows.

Perhaps, however, you ought know something of our history, our present state, and the state of our local problem to gauge the feasibility of our plans.

Opposition to the War in Vietnam began in winter and spring of 1965 with a large teach-in at Stanford University, the formation of Stanford faculty and student groups opposed to the war, and the formation of the Concerned Citizens of Palo Alto. Stanford supplied one of the largest numbers of workers for "Mississippi Summer" and had a very active Friends of SNCC chapter. Mid-Peninsula CORE was active for local fair-hiring practices.

In 1965/6 the Stanford student group was the "largest, most active voluntary student group" on campus, according to the Administration. Its members began the Medical Aid Committee for North Vietnam and the NLF, the action against the manufacture of napalm by the United Technology Center, and the Dow Chemical Co. boycott.

At the February, 1966, resumption of the bombing of North Vietnam, Stanford marched 1000-strong in protest; later the townspeople marched 1000-strong in protest.

This year the movement at Stanford has diversified, mounting the Humphrey demonstration, an anti-draft union (which has published the signatures of 250 students who say they won't go), the Stanford-Berkeley medical group who refuse to serve in Vietnam, and a faculty group pledging mass civil disobedience about the draft.

Concerned Citizens of Palo Alto, one of the first non-student organizations against the War formed in the Bay Area, has a membership exceeding 1000, though a majority are inactive. They sent 14 busloads of people to the Mobilization.

Both congressional districts which our area covers fielded peace candidates in the 1966 elections: Edward Keating in the Democratic primary of the 11th district, George Leppert as the Democratic candidate in the 10th. Both lost, in districts traditionally Republican, though Keating got 35% of the primary vote. The California Democratic Council (CDC), strong in the area, will run a slate of delegates committed to nominating a peace candidate for president to the Democratic convention in 1968; most are expected to work for a candidate other than Johnson when he is nominated.

Both on and off campus the peace movement has recently been bolstered by the emergence, as a strong and vocal force, of the Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, led and supported by figures of local and national religious prominence. They will be a strong element in the Vietnam Summer program here.

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The United Student Movement and the United Students, contiguous groups of high-school and junior-high-school students covering all of our area, self-organized, are working closely with Stanford and townspeople's organizations and have been effective in introducing discussion and concern about the War onto their campuses as well as opening the door to conscientious objection and non-cooperation.

The Palo Alto Friends, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, San Mateo Concerned Citizens, and so forth, have been active against the war for some time. The local junior colleges have full-fledged peace movements this year, whereas last year they had very little.

Members of the movement in E. Palo Alto and E. Menlo Park, near ghettoes, have recently been elected to the school board.

The Mid-Peninsula area, extending from San Mateo to Sunnyvale, considers itself geographically contained--the elements of the movement in the various communities look rather to each other than to San Francisco or San Jose (though this is not wholly true for Sunnyvale). But the political boundaries are many: we contain at least 10 cities and assorted unincorporated areas, two congressional districts (though only part of each), two counties. The area varies from the lower and lower middle class (E. Palo Alto, E. Menlo Park, parts of other cities), through middle (electronics workers--war industry: Redwood City, Mountain View, Sunnyvale), upper middle (Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills), to upper (Atherton, Woodside, the previous three). The combined populations were 325,000 in 1961 and are probably nearer 400,000 now.

Sunnyvale and San Mateo, large population centers and generally conservative, sit on the bounds of our area. We hope that by the end of the summer they will have sufficiently well-developed opposition movements that they will find it most advantageous to split off and carry on independently.

Most of us look forward to the formation of a Third Force which will be both relatively cohesive and politically significant. We see Vietnam Summer as working toward that end as well as toward increasing the base of opposition against the War.

Presently we have promises for \$ and living quarters for twenty full-time ~~staff~~ workers. We have twenty full-time workers.

Signed

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Projects:

1) Draft Organization Project: including information dissemination, the providing of legal assistance, conscientious objector and other draft ~~seminars~~ counseling. The Mid-Peninsula Committee for Conscientious Objectors and WIL already have counseling programs for C.O.s; the Stanford Anti-Draft Union, members of the Stanford Faculty-Staff Committee for Peace in Vietnam, and the October 16 group headed by David Harris, are all carrying programs for various sorts of draft resistance and civil disobedience.

Counseling kits.....	\$100
Gas, auto expenses.....	250
Leaflets.....	250
Misc. expenses.....	50
total.....	650
Full-time field organizer.....	350
	<u>\$1000</u>

2) Political Education Project. In this we plan to begin thorough precinct work and precinct organization. Going first door to door with basic literature, we plan to locate the doves, the pigeons, and the hawks. Programs thereafter will bring our people, the doves, into Vietnam Summer and ~~precinct~~ precinct organizations, and the persuadable into discussion groups and/or man-to-man discussion. We shall perhaps work to put a referendum for withdrawal on local ballots. By the end of the summer we foresee having local precinct captains and precinct organizations prepared to do further political work. George Leppert is planning to revitalize the organization he had in the 10th district for his 1966 campaign, and perhaps we will be able to do the same with the Keating organization. We believe this to be a most important long-range program.

Educational materials.....	\$5000
Mobile teach outs:	
electronic equipment.....	300
gas, auto expenses.....	100
5 full-time field organizers.....	1750
gas, auto expenses.....	1250
miscellaneous expenses.....	250
	<u>\$8,650</u>

3) Organizing within places and groups of employment, profession. The state of the movement is such in this area that groups can be organized, perhaps, in such places as the Stanford Research Institute, the International Longshoreman's local, the San Mateo Social Workers, local professional organizations, and so forth. We think this to be of special importance, work-groups being socially as important if not more important to people than their neighborhood.

Full-time organizer (blue and white collar workers)...	350
Full-time organizer (business and professional).....	350
Gas.....	200
Leaflets.....	200
Misc. expenses.....	100
	<u>\$1200</u>

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4) Fund-raising: no explanation necessary.

Full-time field worker.....	\$350
Gas.....	100
Misc. expenses.....	50
	<u>\$500</u>

5) A Newspaper. Ours are one-paper cities, with morning papers from San Francisco and San Jose which do not carry our local news. Except for the San Francisco Chronicle all support the war and overlook both the movement and the national and local problems about which the movement exists. Right now we expect to be able to publish a paper weekly for this area which will publish movement news, do local muck-raking, and publish national and international news and news analysis such as is not seen locally. We consider this an important element, not only of Vietnam Summer, but of a long-term political program.

10,000 press-run, 12-page, 12-issue weekly.....	2700
1 1/2 full-time workers.....	525
gas, misc. expenses.....	500
	<u>\$3725</u>

6) Central Office Staff and Expenses:

Office Space.....	\$1200
2 telephones.....	200
2 IBM electric typewriters, rented.....	115
(also for leaflet cutting, newspaper)	
Offset press (table model--cuts leaflet cost)....	1000
insurance.....	50
utilities.....	100
5 full-time staffers (research coordinator, publications-publicity coordinator, production worker, secretary, general coordinator).....	1750
Misc. expenses.....	500
	<u>4915</u>

Grand total.....	19900
	\$19,980