

Immediate release

May 25, 1967

Tentative plans for Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer will be announced and discussed and work toward effecting them begun at a meeting Sunday at 8 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Cowper at Lincoln, in Palo Alto. Sponsors of the meeting are urging all those who wish to participate in Vietnam Summer to attend.

"Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer is a diversity of approaches within a unity of purpose, abroad movement of people interested in peace in Vietnam now and encouraging each person to enact his concern. The action of any individual or group does not necessarily represent the opinions of others included in Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer."

According to Guthrie Schwartz, chairman of *Mid-Peninsula* Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, and one of the sponsors of the meeting, tentative plans for Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer include draft organization, political education and organizing, and publication of a weekly newspaper. The draft project, sponsors say, will probably include information dissemination, providing legal assistance, and conscientious objector and other draft counseling.

The political education project will probably include door-to-door work and neighborhood organizations with the double purpose of "broadening the base of opposition" against the Vietnam War and developing existing opposition into a "politically significant" force for 1968 "and beyond."

Sponsors say that they may work this summer for local referendums on the War, such as that held in Dearborn, Michigan, in which 45% of those voting cast their ballot for withdrawal from Vietnam. George Leppert, Democratic candidate for Congress in the 10th district last election, is encouraging members of his campaign to join in the political work of Vietnam Summer.

Sponsors say that tentative plans have also been made for "mobile teach-outs" in the Mid-Peninsular Area and for political education and anti-Vietnam organizing "at places of employment and by professions." Organizers of Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer say they expect to raise \$20,000 for their program and to be able to provide free housing for students who wish to spend their summer working in the program.

According to William F. Pepper, executive director of the National Conference for New Politics, Vietnam Summer is a "national educational program against the war in Vietnam," announced by the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the April 15th march against the War in New York. It is modelled after the "Mississippi Summer" of 1964 which drew college students and clergymen into the civil rights battle in the South, with the difference that in Vietnam Summer students are urged to "stay home" and "work within their communities to end the war."

Local groups involved in Mid-Peninsular Vietnam Summer include Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, Concerned Citizens of Palo Alto and of San Mateo, Foothill College Constitutionalists, the Mid-Peninsula Committee for Conscientious Objectors,

(more)

Mid-Peninsula Vietnam Summer, May 25 (2)

members of the Palo Alto Society of Friends, the Stanford Faculty-Staff Committee for Peace in Vietnam, the Stanford Anti-Draft Union, the Stanford chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (Palo Alto Branch), ~~and~~ and the United Student Movement (high-school students).

#

David Ransom
325-7549
or
321-2300 x 2722