

STOP THE DRAFT WEEK A PLAN OF ACTION

The war in Vietnam is becoming more and more real to the American people, particularly when the cost in higher taxes hits their pocketbooks. People are becoming less convinced by the abstract "anti-communist" argument when they see their sons dying in the war.

American men when they face the draft are often forced for the first time to confront the reality of the war. Many realize that despite LBJ's jingoism, the war isn't worth fighting for. But they go anyway, unwillingly, because they feel helpless in the face of government force. They can't fight the draft by themselves.

That individual helplessness must be destroyed. It can be destroyed if people who are affected by the draft realize that through political organization and action they can gain control over their own lives; that the draft and the war can be fought. It will be destroyed when people know that, with the support of others, they can resist the draft.

That is why we have called for STOP THE DRAFT Week. Draft resistance organizers in the Bay Area are working toward a week of massive demonstrations and direct action to shut down the Oakland Induction Center. The week begins October 16 when several hundred men will turn in their draft cards. On that evening we plan to hold a rally in Oakland or Berkeley with national representatives from SNCC and other organizations calling for direct political opposition to the draft. Following the rally we will hold an all night happening in the park where the rally is held -- with rock bands, etc. Early the following morning we will march to the induction center and begin a four-day siege -- blocking the doors and demonstrating in the streets.

We plan to carry on an extensive propaganda campaign in the Bay Area for several weeks before and during the action -- leafleting, sound trucks, street corner plays -- explaining to the people in the community why we are taking this action and urging them to participate.

We hope to encourage the development of draft resistance organizations while preparing for the action in October. Street theaters and rallies will introduce us to high schools, junior colleges and communities and whenever there is positive response, we will use the October action as a focus for beginning long-term draft activities in that area.

~~This is what we are doing in the Bay Area. We~~ urge that draft resistance and anti-war groups throughout the country plan whatever action would be possible in their areas.

Let us know what you think -- write to:

STOP THE DRAFT WEEK
449 14th Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94103