

15 October 1969

Dear Fairchild Employee,

As you may already know, today is the first day of the National Moratorium to End the War in Vietnam. Millions of people across the country are stopping their usual business to talk and work together to bring American troops home from southeast Asia.

It's easy to realize what the war has done directly to this country in terms of American lives lost, billions of dollars wasted on war material, and increases in taxes and inflation. What's tougher is to think about what preoccupation with this war has meant in terms of opportunities wasted. We have not really been able to put our constructive talents to work on achieving social justice for all Americans, on cleaning up our polluted water and air, on rebuilding our cities, and on providing all Americans with enough food and decent places to live.

These problems come right home to Santa Clara County. People who do not draw professional salaries now find it almost impossible to live in the northern part of the county. As they are forced to move further from their jobs, they have to drive more to get to work, increasing traffic problems and thus increasing air pollution. Yet Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp. is itself making the problems worse. FCIC plans to use some 30 acres near Coyote Hill for more R&D and manufacturing facilities. If Stanford University must use this land for any purpose, it should be used for low-cost housing for people who work nearby.

The Bank of America recently declared that about 60% of the people employed by manufacturing companies in Santa Clara County work for the aerospace and electronics industries. Our community is very efficient at turning out the products needed to continue the war, but we can't get ourselves together to start a good mass transportation system for the county.

But worse than these physical problems is what the war is doing to our heads. We are channeled and pushed and molded to work for war. Our talents are being put to work for destruction. Where will the integrated circuit you designed yesterday be used tomorrow? In a Poseidon or Minuteman missile? In an F-111? In a computer that will never be sophisticated enough to perform the job of ABM defense that David Packard says is necessary? We must begin to examine and change the uses to which our talents are put. And today is the day to start.

Last Friday's Chronicle reported that today Roswell Gilpatric will speak at a rally on Wall Street against the Vietnam war. Roswell Gilpatric is a Director of Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp. If a director of FCIC can interrupt his usual business today to work against the war, so can you.

----Wear an armband today. They say "Stop the Killing" and are available at 424 Lytton Avenue in Palo Alto.

----Talk with your fellow workers today. Talk about what the war has done to you, to them, and to your neighbors. Take the afternoon and begin to talk the problems and possible solutions through.

----Gather at noon at Lytton and Bryant Streets in Palo Alto and march in the parade against the war.

----Attend the rally at Stanford in front of Memorial Church tonight at 8:00.

OCT. 15: NO BUSINESS AS USUAL UNTIL THE TROOPS COME HOME.

Sincerely,
Stanford SDS