

October, 13, 1970

Many campus leftist seem incapacitated these days. We are "looking for an issue." There are several issues which merit attention, but the primary focus seems unclear. I find such uncertainty difficult to understand. The War in Indochina (and counterinsurgency in general) not only seem to be the critical conflicts in the World today, but the Movement has learned that people radicalized in struggles against the war more readily explore other social, economic, and political questions. Unfortunately, too many radicals have been convinced that the War is over, or that everyone else believes that the War is over.

Another group of people consider the War important, but cannot conceive of activities which would affect it. In developing a militant anti-war strategy, we must remember that the NLF, the NUPK, and the Pathet Lao are capable of defeating counter-revolutionary forces. What they cannot prevent, however, is genocide--the saturation bombing of their countryside and cities. Only a strong anti-war movement capable of seeing through Nixon can prevent this. If we do not stop genocide in Southeast Asia, then there is little prospect that we will be able to prevent it here.

Many radicals do want to stop the genocide, but shy away from confrontation politics. They consider it a deid vu. What they fail to consider is that confrontation politics have been the most effective form of opposing the war. I share their fear that the movement would fuck-up if it merely attempted to repeat last year's tactics and that some people see confrontation as an end in itself, but confrontation politics--in the SDS tradition--means education and action on all levels.

Though a large number of liberals are working for "peace" candidates this fall, a larger number of liberals and radicals remain uninspired. Since Nixon can be expected to escalate following the election--unless the anti-war movement gets its shit together--we must seek an effective alternative anti-war campaign.

I suggest a "Road to Peace Lies in the Streets" campaign. The 1968-69 campaign against SRI and war research demonstrated that the movement can build without externally stimulated crises. It does, however, take patience and energy.

The first stage of this campaign must be educational and informational. Something is needed, however, to give focus to the campaign. I suggest that a list of programmatic goals be formulated, and that these be considered demands as we develop the ability to enforce them.

The goals should be aimed at the administration and other powers that be, but they should also be directed to students, researchers, and local war industry employees. Though our approach to the decision-makers should be antagonistic, we should attempt to convince people like ourselves that making war is not the best way to live.

Though the War in Southeast Asia is the center of America's global counterinsurgency, our goals or demands should focus on global imperial policy--that is, Indonesia, Jordan, and ~~Myanmar~~ Bolivia or Chile.

The issue of the war cannot be divorced from the development of this area. (Read the Promised Land).

#### SUGGESTED PROGRAMMATIC GOALS:

- 1) An end to campus ROT research and training
- 2) An end to international studies programs (or their reconstitution to study imperialism)
- 3) ~~REPEAL~~ An end to University field projects in the Third World
- 4) An end to consulting (by faculty, etc.) for war industries
- 5) An end to the development of new war industries or financial centers to service them
- 6) An end to war research and counterinsurgency studies at SRI
- 7) Local control over research and development

We cannot at this time commit ourselves to any set of actions designed to reach these goals. I suggest, however, a number of preliminary activities:

- 1) Educational presentations at speeches by campaigned politicians
- 2) A dorm and department program to discuss our goal or demands
- 3) Demonstrations and tours to familiarize people with center or war-related activity. (We must let SRI know that we remember it.)
- 4) Immediate demands that the University publish its listing of ROT research, etc.
- 5) Some counter-activity around election time.