

Summary of Antiwar Work

Spring Mobilization Committee

Around the country support is growing and preparations are moving along for the April 15th Mobilization and indications are at this point that the two demonstrations in San Francisco and New York will be very successful. The national steering committee meetings in New York have become progressively larger as more and more organizations and individuals show interest and support in the Mobilization and at the last meeting, Cleveland Robinson, a top officer of District 65, Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Workers Union, AFL-CIO was added as a vice president of the Spring Mobilization Committee.

Unfortunately there has been a delay in getting the call written, approved, printed and distributed, as well as posters and other materials sent out. There have been numerous problems, one of the most serious being an inadequate staff. Nonetheless the call finally went to the printers early this week and will be out soon. It's main purpose will be to show to potential sponsors and contributors. Local areas should not feel obligated to use it for their local leaflets nor should they wait for it to start publicizing and signing people up for the mobilization. Buttons are also available now from the Spring Mobilization office.

Student Mobilization Committee

The Student Mobilization Committee also lacks an adequate staff for getting out all the materials that are needed and consequently there has been some delay there. The situation now is that the student call went to the printers early this week, buttons are being made now and will be ready in about five days, and the second issue of the Student Mobilizer is nearly ready.

Summary Reports from Local Areas

A. New York- The New York Student Mobilization Committee helped organize a high school conference of about 50 high school students and is now organizing meetings on New York City campuses for Bevel, Dellinger, Halstead, Buch, etc. Rallies in front of Harlem high schools are also planned.

The Columbia University CEWV is planning a campus war crimes hearing for Vietnam Week and has currently been engaged in united front activity with SDS against the CIA on campus. The Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee will meet to set up the committees that will be organizing the logistics of the New York demonstration. Thousands of copies of a leaflet calling for ~~participation~~ **participation** in the April 15th demonstration will be given to organizations for distribution throughout the city.

B. Boston- An area wide conference is being held on February 23 to plan for the Student Vietnam Week. Attempts are being made to draw in students from Harvard, MIT, Boston University, Brandies, Tufts, and Northeastern.

The head of the student government at BU will be coordinating the activity there. Harvard and MIT are projecting war crimes tribunals and the Cambridge CEWV is planning to hold a referendum.

C. Philadelphia- Progress is being made on building Vietnam Week in Philadelphia particularly at the U. of Pennsylvania and Temple U. At the U. of P. a united front committee with many organizations on the campus from the Intrafraternity Council to the YSA has been set up.

D. Cleveland- (See report in Feb. 20th Militant). Over 200 people present from a wide range of organizations including strong campus contingents participated in a regional conference on February 11th. Plans were made to bring a train load from Cleveland as well as a train load from central Ohio. One of the high points was the student workshop where plans for Vietnam Week were discussed by 100 students from all over Ohio. James Bevel spoke to a ~~CONE~~Open house urging them to join in helping to bring black people to the mobilization.

E. Detroit- About 70 students braved a snowstorm to attend a local planning conference for Student Vietnam Week on February 1st. The Detroit Student Mobilization Committee was set up with Eve Rosen, SDSer and Carol Lipman as coordinators. It was decided that the central theme for Vietnam Week in the Detroit area would be a war crimes hearing.

Another meeting was called and organized by the Detroit Citizens for Peace at which the Detroit Ad Hoc Spring Mobilization Committee was established. The Wayne CEWV, Detroit CEWV, SWP, Detroit Student Mobilization Committee, Trade Unionists for Peace, Citizens for Peace, YSA, and Women for Peace were represented. SDS failed to participate. John Anderson, local trade unionist and organizer of the Dearborn referendum, and Carol Lipman were selected as coordinators. Plans are being considered for chartering a train and some consideration has been given to chartering airplanes.

F. Minneapolis- A regional conference is planned for Minneapolis on February 25th sponsored by the Minnesota CEWV. Mulford Q. Sibley, a local pacifist leader, has agreed to address the conference and attempts are being made to have Sidney Peck or Jack Speigel speak also. Minneapolis is thinking of trying to link up with chartered trains from Chicago or Cleveland. The Carleton College SDS scheduled a discussion on whether they should support the mobilization.

G. San Francisco - Berkeley- Two very successful conferences were held in the Bay Area on the week-end of February 4-5 (see Militant, Feb. 13). On February 4th a Spring Mobilization conference was held with 512 people registering including nearly 100 from Los Angeles and about a dozen from Seattle. The overwhelming majority present supported the mobilization and a list of activities toward building a mass march in San Francisco on April 15th were agreed upon. There was significant representation

from trade unions and civil rights organizations as well as colleges and high schools. The two unions with the largest representation were the American Federation of Teachers and the ILWU.

On February 5th a Student Mobilization conference was held with about 150 participating to plan for Vietnam Week. It was agreed that an office should be set up in Berkeley but this has since been changed and the West Coast Student Mobilization Committee will be moving into the San Francisco office of the Spring Mobilization Committee.

On February 13th the West Coast steering committee of the Spring Mobilization Committee met and heard reports on the concrete details of organizing the San Francisco mobilization. The cultural committee reported that black and yellow would be the colors for the demonstration and various artists are submitting designs for a poster that can become the symbol for the action. The finance committee, consisting of Clifford Humphrey, Elena Greene, Carlton Goodlet, Neil Aberscrombie, and Asher Harer, reported on various projects for raising money. A speakers bureau was suggested in order to send people to groups that might be willing to contribute.

The labor committee had not met yet but was planning to shortly. It was announced however that the Santa Clara Labor Council voted unanimously to participate in the April 15th action and three delegates from the council will sit on the West Coast Steering Committee.

The Afro-American committee requested that there be a special leaflet for the Black Community.

The student committee indicated that they are planning to put out a bi-weekly bulletin to be distributed to high school students. The referendum committee indicated plans to get a Dearborn type referendum on the ballot in California.

The program committee met on the following evening and projected a long march from downtown San Francisco to Kezar Stadium. Shuttle busses are being organized to transport people from parking areas to the mobilization point.

February 21, 1967