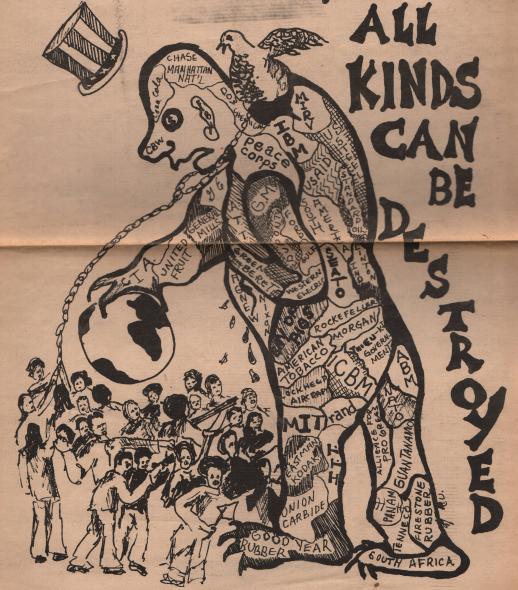
MONSTERS OF



Mass demonstrations are a reminder to Nixon that he cannot ignore the demand of the American people for an immediate end to the war in Indochina (Harris and Gallup polls). The crucial impact of mass demonstrations against Johnson's saturation bombing tactics forced him to drop out of the running for a second term as president. Again, the eruption of mass protests by students and workers against the Cambodian invasion last spring compelled Nixon to terminate the incursion. We can assume Nixon would not have opted for so hasty a withdrawal had not the American people united in opposition to his war policies. Likewise, mass demonstrations have also served to mobilize and educate millions who question the war but are not yet actively opposing it.

Anti-war demonstrations also have been a source of moral support for the Indochange peoples instheir long, just struggle against the same interests that oppress the American people. The Indochinese peoples have long recognized their bonds with us, and have urged us to "unite closely" to oppose Nixon's futile attempt atachieving a military victory by wider war and aggression, first in Cambodia, then in Laos.

What are the real issues?

National Peace Action Coalition (NPAC), which originally called for the April 24th date, has as its only demand, "Bring all the troops home--End the war now!" The People's Coalition for Peace and Justice (PCDJ) raises the demand for an immediate end to the war, \$6500 guaranteed annual income (for a family of four), and freedom for all political prisoners. The great non-debate over the so-called "single issue" vs. "multi-issue" approach has, it seems to us, obscured much more important questions.

The American people need to come to the understanding that this war is neither "to protect freedom and democracy" (as Nixon would have us believe) nor is it amistake" (as liberal politicans proclaim). It is the logical outcome of the determination of the American monopoly capitalist ruling class to maintain economic, political and military dominance in Southeast Asia and in other parts of the world. That is, the war in Indochina is an imperialist war.

U.S. presence in Victnam expesses the hyporrisy of ruling class propagandathat the U.S. is attempting to guarantee self-determination for the South Victnamese peoples-when in fact, the Victnamese people had attained freedom and democracy after they had defeated the French in a decisive victory at Dien Bien Phu. In reality, the U.S. ruling class saw Indochina as a lucrative field for investment and an abundant source of raw materials and cheap labor reserves, with Victnam being the key to the whole of Southeast Asia. Given the emergence of the Celd war after while and the successful revolution in China in 1949, the U.S. also viewed this area as a pelitical bastion from which to stave off all national liberation movments in Asia. Because of the determination of the Victnamese people to drive out yet another foreign aggressor, the U.S. was forced to establish and support a succession of puppet dictators in Saigon and to escalate its military commitment to these Saigon regimes.

The American people need to recognize what the Indochinese peoples have grasped firmly and clearly for a long time: that imperialist wars will not become a thing of the past until imperialism itself—as a global system—is crushed by the peoples of the world. In this light, the question of "legal, peaceful demonstrations" (NPAC) vs. "non-violent civil disobedience" (PCPJ) is a decoy. To pose such alternatives evades the fact that the American ruling class intends to maintain its position by any means necessary. Consequently, not to point out to the American people that it is necessary to wage a tit-for-tat struggle against this monopoly capitalist class is to mislead them and possibly set back the progress of the world's peoples generally.

Can we expect a 'whole generation of peace' from Nixon and his likes?

Indochina is crucial to American world dominance. U.S. rulers will withdraw from that area only if they are forced to do so by the unswerring insistence of the American people. Consequently, they will use any ploys necessary to give the impression that they are trying to end the war, and thereby undermine the resistance of the people. If we truly want to see "peace in our generation," then we must ruthlessly expose all tactics centemplated by the various sections of the American ruling class to salvage the position of U.S. imperialism in Indochina, and see that their implications for the masses of the American people be made crystal clear.

The most current tactic is the move to "Vietnamize" the war (and the racism implicit in the notion that the American people will accept "changing the color of the corpses" and the sham of the troop-withdrawal shell game (which dodges the question of pulling out ail troops, including air and naval forces). The POW issue also has been exploited by Nixon to try to divide the people at home, and-perhaps more importantly--to bolster the flagging morale of the U.S. pilots and air crews who, after Laos, face the ever-growing probability of being shot down, as the character of U.S. military activity shifts from land to air.

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the war (and the racism imth "changing the color of the te (which dodges the questforces). The POW issue also at home, and--perhaps more pilots and air crews who, thot down, as the character Sections of the American ruling class are interested in capitalizing on the universal hatred of South Vietnamese students, veterans and intellectuals for the corrupt and barbarous Thieu-Ky regime. Moves are being made to put forward Duong Van Minh ("Big Minh"), the general who was the ClA front-man in overthrowing Diem, as the man to replace Thieu and Ky and build a broader based puppet regime. This move, too, will ultimately fail, but a lot of harm can be done if the American people are not made aware of its true nature.

Another important issue which has received little attention as yet is the possibility of Japanese involvement in Southeast Asia. The discovery of potentially huge oil reserves under Indonesian waters, off the tip of South Victams and under the coastal shelf of China has brought the question of Japan's role sharply infocus. Japan, Asia's mest highly industrialized nation, imports 85% of her oil from the Middle East. Unhappy about the recently increased cost of oil from this source, and the rising costs of transportation, Japanese industrialists are also faced with a projected tripling of consumption by 1980, to more than ten million barrels per day. This incentive to aggression has found expression in the revival of the reactionary militarist "bushido" spirit and the drive by Sato's government to expand the role of the "Self-Defonce Forces" into all of East Asia. This question needs urgent attention because of its attractiveness as an option to sections of the American ruling class. By allying with Japanese forces, U.S. rulers could keep their fingers firmly implanted in Indochina while at the same time being able to withdraw American troops. This would mean real "Asianization" of the war.



'What Worries Me, Senator, Is That They're Getting Into Step'

The American people also need to be helped to see clearly that the growth of anti-war sentiment among "liberal" politicians is a result of the long and militant mass struggles against the war and reflects a conflict within the American ruling class about what to do. While it is important to make the most of such conflicts, it would be sheer folly-if not treachery-nt opertray these elements as servants of the real interests of the American people or to encourage us to put our trust in them. The main task of our historical period is to bring an end to imperialism. In the last analysis, these "liberal" politicians share the desire of the ruling class to postpons or prevent that happy event, not to precipitate it. Far from leading us, they need to be driven by us to end this war, while we keep firmly in mind that the only way to really end imperialist wars and the threat of them is by putting an end to imperialism.

Taking on the jobs at hand.

We call on the people of the U.S. to demand the withdrawal of all U.S. air, sea and land forces and the end of all assistance to the puppet regimes in Indochina. We do not make this demand lightly or intend it as a banner for a single demonstration. We raise it as a demand that can be son through persistent and militant struggle against the forces of war and repression that now rule this country. As we leave this demonstration, there are specific actions we can take to insure that our demand for an end to the Indochinese war is met:

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- -- Production stoppages by working people against the corporations and institutions that profit from the war and the increasing hardship of the American people. The building of anti-war caucuses in places of work where the main task would be to make clear the imperialist nature of the war and the steps necessary to fight imperialism. May 5th Moratorium can provide a starting point for such actions.
- -- Support for the GI movement in the form of encouragement and help to the forces within that movement which are attempting to expose the true nature of the U.S. armed forces as a world gendarme, protecting economic and power interests around the globe. By denying the military its cannon fodder, these soldiers will be striking a blow at the conscripted slavery of millions of Americans, and will be seriously damaging the ability of U.S. rulers to wage war against the peoples of indochina and other areas of the world.
- --Build a strong anti-imperialist student movement with the purpose of exposing and opposing any ideology which serves imperialism, resisting any research or programs which advance the waging of the war, and of taking the struggles and experiences of students to the masses of working and poor Americans outside the schools and universities.
- -- Women can work to consolidate the opposition to the war by the women's liberation movement. The struggle of women against second class status, sexism and male dominance is directly linked to the struggle against imperialism. For the economic system of imperialism not only requires constant expansion of external markets, but also a flexible reserve labor force at home. Women have long formed a major part of that reserve work force, and the myth of male superiority has helped to keep women in a position of passive consumers who can be introduced into the productive process ONLY when needed. As the continuation of the war creates ever-deepening economic crisis, working women will be some of the first to suffer these war effects (in terms of lay-offs, etc.) Forming 53% of the American population, women can be a critical force in bringing an end to imperialist war. Their best interests are served by joining the fight against imperialism.
- -- Support for political prisoners. Building a massive movement against this imperialist war will be greeted by the ruling class with ever repression against the most active elements. Already, many are political prisoners on account of having fought against this war. And many, like Bobby Seale, Ericka Huggins, and Angela Davis, are political prisoners on account of their fight against imperialism. But repression breeds resistance. As the FBI, Army intelligence, state and local police and courts conspire to make more of us pelitical prisoners, the movement needs to build massive actions around this issue and bring anti-imperialist consciousness to the resistance which this repression will surely generate.

Building a United Front Against Imperialism.

Building strong movements in the above areas will certainly bring the American people closer to winning their just demand to end imperialist war. But to insure that this demand is won, yet another step must be taken. A nation-wide united front against imperialism must be built which will allow us to forge these separate efforts into one great hammer, strong enough to strike a fatal blow to imperialist policy. We do not make this statement lightly. To form such a vast united front will of course inwolve difficulties and hard work. Although those people who are genuinely opposed to the war and its causes do have a common enemy and a reason for joining forces, they also have many different political views. To pretend that these differences do not exist would be misleading and self-defeating. Consequently, it will be necessary for all groups to maintain organizational independence within the united front. It will also be necessary for the differences between these groups to be clearly brought out and discussed, but always in the spirit of friends who have a common interest and a shared goal, and always with the main task sharply in focus: forcing an end to the imperialist war. Although there may be some disagreements among us, we the working people, all Black and brown people struggling for liberation, family farmers, shopkeepers and even many small businessmen have no future in a society dominated by monopoly capitalism and embroiled in endless imperialist wars. We must understand and help others to understand that U.S. imperialsm is like everything reactionary: If we don't hit it, it won't fall. And we can only hit it by standing firmly together.

> U.S. FORCES OUT OF INDOCHINA NOW! INDOCHINA FOR THE INDOCHINESE! PEOPLE UNITE AGAINST IMPERIALISM!

the sea turtle & the shark by M. B. Tolsen

Strange but true is the story
of the sea-turtle and the sharkthe instinctive drive of the weak to survive
in the oceanic dark.

Driven,

riven

by hunger
from abyss to shoal,
sometimes the shark swallows
the sea turtle whole.
"The sly reptilian marine
withdraws,
into the shell

of his undersea craft, his leathery head and rapacious claws that can rip

a rhinoceros' hide or strip

a crocodile to fare-thee-well;

now, inside the shark,

the sea-turtle begins the churning seesaws
of his descent into pelagic hell;
then...then
with ravenous jaws
that can cut sheet steel scrap,
the sea turtle gnaws
...and gnaws... and gnaws...

his way in a way that appalishis way to freedom,
beyond the vomiting dark,
beyond the stomach walls
of the shark."

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