

To the President of the United States

STOP THE BLOODSHED

IN VIETNAM

The war in Vietnam is continuing with ever-increasing human suffering, mounting destruction, and diminishing hope for a just and speedy resolution.

A year ago the war in South Vietnam was a civil war, even though opposing factions were instigated, supported, and supplied from the outside, by both the United States and North Vietnam. Today the struggle has become overwhelmingly a war conducted by the American armed forces against a communist-led revolutionary movement.

The people of Vietnam of all political beliefs have been the unwilling and helpless victims of bombs and fire. The American people themselves are undergoing a brutalizing and degrading experience. They are coming to view without concern the inhuman suffering being inflicted in their name against a defenseless population.

Mr. President, now is the time to put an end to the killing.

It is said that the United States is seeking peace, and freedom from aggression, for Vietnam. Belligerents in all wars claim to seek peace. The real question is what peace terms they are trying to impose, and how. American intervention, both in men and in war materials, is now much greater than the intervention from the North. The terrorism practised by the Viet Cong is now vastly exceeded by the terror, death and destruction inflicted from the sky by American planes. The only victory to which this massive military action may

We ask you to stop the bloodshed now. We ask you to order an immediate halt to the destruction of villages and to the burning of people's food lest it fall into enemy hands. Stop the bombing raids and the waging of offensive military operations.

Let us give the people of Vietnam the chance to work out their own peace, as promised by the Geneva Pact of 1954, regardless of what form of government they may choose. The nations of the world should undertake to guarantee such a peace.

Mr. President, we cannot support your Vietnam policy.

The current threats to investigate protests by students or other critics will not deter us from speaking out against a wrong and immoral policy.

We shall encourage our colleagues, our students, and all responsible citizens to make themselves heard. As for ourselves, we shall continue to exercise our lawful right to protest. We shall oppose your present policy in Vietnam openly and vigorously. Only thus can we do our part in trying to bring about peace and to protect the moral integrity of our nation.

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