

D. C. MOBILIZATION NEWSLETTER

Come to the May 9th D. C. Mobilization Committee meeting at St. Stephen's Church at 8 p. m. Election of Steering Committee. Projects to be discussed. Reverend Bevel to speak about May 17th. We need your vote and your ideas!

This is the first issue of the D. C. Mobilization Newsletter. Its purpose is to inform everyone interested in the mobilization of the Committee's activities, plans, and projects.

The D. C. Mobilization Committee now has an office of its own at St. Stephen's Church, 16th and Newton streets, N. W. Located on the third floor, the new office accommodates meetings of as many as 75 people. The only thing it lacks is adequate volunteer help. Staff is needed on week-days, week-nights, and week-ends. Contact Herb Kelsey or Marcia Kallen at 387-6607 if you can assist.

Activities of the Mobilization Committee

200 peace partisans were present at a general meeting of the Mobilization Committee held on Tuesday, April 25 at St. Stephen's church. Discussion centered around a proposal for serious organization of antiwar sentiment in Washington-area communities, submitted by Arthur Waskow, a Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies. The proposal was adopted in the form of a motion which was referred to a special committee for structural suggestions. Reverend James Bevel, National Director of the Spring Mobilization Committee spoke on the past accomplishments and future tasks of the antiwar movement nationally.

On Friday, April 28 General Westmoreland was given a proper reception by an antiwar demonstration of 200 people at the White House. The successful protest, proposed by Women Strike for Peace, received the strong support of the Mobilization Committee.

On Sunday, April 20, a representative committee met to discuss structure of the D. C. Mobilization Committee. The committee will recommend to the general committee on Tuesday night, May 9, that the D. C. Mobilization Committee be headed by a Steering Committee of 30 members. It composed a slate of 25 representative peace and community leaders for recommendation to the general Committee. It further will recommend that a staff be elected and they are recommending nomination of Herb Kelsey as Executive Director, Marcia Kallen as Associate Director. They will recommend that a full-time secretary be hired for the office to be selected by the officers.

On Tuesday, May 2, there was a meeting at the Mobilization office open to all who were interested, which discussed structure. Although some differences were expressed on this question, all agreed that we must begin on a program of action. Herb Kelsey, meeting Chairman, suggested that we get to work immediately. Those present broke up into four groups which began to outline programs for precinct organization, mass action, education, and defense of peace activists under attack.

A workshop to prepare organizers for the job of taking the Vietnam issue to Washington area communities will begin soon. Activists interested in working with this group should call the office - 387-6607.

The Mobilization Committee is involving itself in many activities. Listed below is a calendar of coming events. Call the office for further detail.

- May 7 - Rally and workshops against the draft at Lafayette Park.
- May 8 - Anti-draft demonstration beginning at 14th and N, N.E., marching through the ghetto to the Rayburn building. This group plans to confront the draft hearings beginning that day.
- May 8 and 9 - People from the Committee for Non-Violent Action will arrive in D. C. after having walked from Boston. On the 9th they plan a march down New York Avenue to the Pentagon.
- May 14 - (Mothers' Day) - Mothers are coming to D. C. from all over the nation to protest the genocide of the children of Vietnam.

MAY 16, 17, 18 and 19

National leaders and representatives of the National Spring Mobilization Committee will be in the city to talk to President Johnson. Everyone is urged to support their efforts to talk to the President and tell him to stop this war. Reverend Bevel and other representatives from the National Spring Mobilization Committee are in town now and plan to stay throughout the next two weeks making arrangements and gathering support for this confrontation. Come to the meeting on Tuesday and meet them and support the activities! The activities planned for these days are:

MAY 16 - A mass meeting at 8 p.m. at the Lincoln Memorial Temple, 11th and R streets. Reverend Bevel will speak and plans for the next few days will be outlined.

MAY 17 - The speakers and representatives will be arriving in D. C. They will congregate at the Lincoln Memorial Temple at 10 a.m., a rally will be held from 11 a.m. to 12, and at 12 noon the group will walk from the Lincoln Memorial Temple to the White House to see the President.

MAY 18 and 19 - On these days the group will probably have to go back to the White House to try to see the President. Large numbers of people are needed to support their demand to see the President. Later in the evening of the 19th there will be another mass meeting, largely in preparation for the conference to be held the next day.

May 20 and 21 - A national convention will be held here in D. C. of representative antiwar activists to discuss the future plans for the national movement. Approximately 6 to 8 hundred people will arrive from all over the nation. WE NEED HELP IN MAKING HOUSING AND FOOD ARRANGEMENTS. A meeting will be held on Monday, May 8th at St. Stephen's Church for those able to help with these arrangements.

May 30 - Memorial Day - Veterans and Reservists against the war plan a march. The march will probably be from Dupont Circle to Lafayette Square. Contact the office for further information.

COME to the meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 8 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church, 16th and Newton streets, N. W. Suggest a project, pick a project, and let's get to work!