

# The Mourning Dove



Vol. I, No. 5

July 21, 1967

## MINISTER MUHAMMAD ALI DAY

The rally, sponsored by Washington Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, was held on Saturday, July 15th in support of Minister Muhammad Ali. The group gathered on the west grounds of the Washington Monument and approximately 350 people sat, giving their undivided attention for nearly 3 hours.

The speakers were Omar Abdul Armed, Prof. Robert Greenblatt, Dagmas Wilson, Ray Robinson, Jr., Reginald Booker, Michael Searles, and Marion Barry. Each of the speakers and the MC, WMC Director Herb Kelsey, delivered dynamic thought provoking ideas.

The success of the rally can be measured in terms of audience-response to the speakers. Reginald Booker, Niggers, Inc., asked that young black men stand who were willing to refuse to fight in Vietnam and approximately 20 young men responded.

The spectators, many of whom, out of curiosity, had wandered over from the Monument, wore a wide range of expressions - arrogance, skepticism, pensiveness, disbelief, outrage; but none wore an expression of boredom. They were intensely interested and only a negligible few left before the rally ended.

Everyone who attended the rally was enlightened by it and everyone who worked to make it a success must surely have found it gratifying.

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The WMC Newsletter Committee, in accordance with the non-exclusion policy adopted by Washington Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, welcomes your opinions on issues related to the Vietnam War.

The committee is interested in all anti-Vietnam group activity and urges you to submit information for the Bi-weekly Calendar of Events in The Mourning Dove.

## FORT HOOD THREE DEFENSE CONTINUES

The sentences of Pfc Jimmy Johnson, Pvt. David Samas, and Pvt. Dennis Mora were reduced from 5 years to 3 as a result of the June 23rd appeal of their courtmartial. They were the first GIs to publicly refuse orders to go to Vietnam and challenged the right of the government to send them to an "illegal, immoral and unjust war." They were courtmartialed, sentenced, stripped of pay, and dishonorably discharged. They are serving their sentences at Ft. Leavenworth.

The Fort Hood Three Defense Committee continues to press its suit against the government's right to send the men to Vietnam as it "violates international laws and treaties binding on the US Government." An application for appeal to the Supreme Court is being filed.

## WMC DRAFT COMMITTEE WANTS YOU

On July 24th, WMC Draft Committee will have a large demonstration, beginning at 6 am at the Induction Center, 916 G St., NW. One of the members of the Draft Committee - a member of the WASHINGTON DRAFT RESISTORS UNION, is taking a pre-induction physical on July 24th. It is important that we support him by making this our largest draft demonstration thus far.

The following days, July 25-28, the Draft Committee will focus on leafletting at the Induction Center.

You're needed each morning at 6 a.m.

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Mail your articles to The Mourning Dove, c/o Wash. Mobilization Committee, P.O. Box 3001, Washington, D. C. 20010.

The deadline for the next issue is July 31, 1967.

## WITHDRAWAL: A NEW ALTERNATIVE

In the last Mourning Dove Abe Bloom, a Washington leader of the Negotiations Now Campaign, was right in urging that the Peace Movement must strengthen its ties "with all kinds of people, even those that are not ready for draft resistance or tax refusal." But that should not mean that the Washington Mobilization Committee must stop working toward resistance measures, nor does it mean we should blunt our critical faculties which might save us from wasting our energies pursuing the wrong tactic.

To urge the President as Commander and Chief of the Armed Forces to withdraw the US military from Vietnam now appears to be a more sensible tactic than to ask him to allow the US to participate in peace negotiations. Luckily, I have Prof. Howard Zinn of Boston University to argue this point for me. Had we had time to hear all the speakers scheduled for the post-mobilization rally at the Lincoln Memorial Temple, we could have heard Zinn in person. The following quotes are taken from his new book: Vietnam: The Logic of Withdrawal.

"Many critics of our policy, who know very well that the US should leave Vietnam, do not want to ask immediate and unilateral withdrawal. That is not because they find powerful reasons against it, but because it is not a good 'tactic', not 'popular', not acceptable to the President and those working with him. . . .

"The so-called 'realists' who urge us to speak softly and so persuade the President are working against the reality, which is that the President responds to self-interest rather than to rational argument. In a country where political power passes easily from one major party to another, even a minority can create a new self-interest for the President. But this cannot be done by those who dilute their passion and say only half of what they believe. The critics must begin to speak their full minds, to declare boldly what the logic of their criticism demands: that the US is doing no good in Vietnam, that it is doing a frightful amount of harm, that it should immediately withdraw."

Earlier in his book, Prof. Zinn explains that even the Geneva Agreements do not provide a workable basis for

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## IN THE NAME OF PEACE AND FREEDOM

"After an air attack by 2 US planes and a helicopter on the North Vietnamese province of Lamdong in Nov. 1964, the smell of chemicals was unbearable. . . . After five minutes, leaves of sweet potatoes, rice plants, and trees became completely dessicated. Domestic animals would not eat and almost all died. . . . There was a second attack 15 minutes later. The next day all our poultry were dead. The fish in the streams and lakes were floating on the surface of the water, discolored. . . . All the women that were pregnant and all pregnant animals had miscarried on the spot. After the third attack ten days later, people were unable to move, I vomited all the time. My mouth, throat, stomach and bowels were painfully inflamed."

The above quote is from the recent testimony of Dr. Ngyen, North Vietnamese physician, submitted to the International War Crimes Tribunal in Stockholm.

A recent article in East Village Other by JAAKOV KOHN reported several army installations and universities engaged in research and/or the production of CBW munitions. Among those named were Ft. Detrick, Md, specializing in aerobiology; Edgewood Arsenal, Md; Dugway Proving Grounds, Utah; Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas, specializing in nerve and mustard gasses (blistering agents) and personnel incapacitators; Johns Hopkins and its affiliated hospital, engaged in research of "Diseases of potential significance in Biological Warfare"; University of Arizona, specializing in depth research of infectious fungal diseases and their specific relation to CBW; Duke University Medical Center and University of Maryland Medical Center.

East Village Other charges that experimentation is being done on human beings and that a large number of Seven Day Adventists serving in the Army as non-combatants and Federal prisoners are currently serving as "volunteers" for CBW research.

Withdrawal: New Alternative

negotiations: "What was fundamentally wrong with the Geneva Agreements was that the great powers dominated it and falsified the real relationship of forces. All the North and half the South were under Vietminh control, and the division of the country into two equal parts was bound to fail. Not only the US but also the Soviet Union and the Republic of China were responsible for this development, because their own national ambitions required a peaceful settlement, even at the expense of the Vietminh. Neither communism nor capitalism, it seems, can be depended on to look out for the interests of other nations. . . .

"There is something intrinsically wrong in the idea that the US should participate in negotiations to decide the future of Vietnam. We are an outside power, and the fact that we have inundated the country with combat soldiers does not thereby give us any moral right to decide its fate. Perhaps might makes right, as a historical fact, but it should not make right; and it is the duty of citizens to assert the "should," however statesmen behave.

"This is true also for China, the Soviet Union, England and all other great powers. To have the future of Vietnam decided by these outside parties at an international conference is as much a violation of self-determination as was the settlement of Czechoslovakia's fate by Hitler, Mussolini, Daladier and Chamberlain in 1938 at Munich. Whatever negotiation goes on should be among the Vietnamese themselves, each group negotiating from its own position of strength, undistorted by the strength of the great powers. . . .

"In this light, to ask whether the US will be willing to negotiate with the Vietcong seems strange. Rather, the question is: should the Vietcong be willing to negotiate with the US? From a standpoint of moral principle it should not; from the standpoint of military reality it may have to. But it is the oppressive power of our country which forces this violation of moral principle, and it is the duty of American citizens--whatever the reality of power--to try to bend the power of government toward what is right.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Free Films July 21-22  
Film Gallery, 1323 New Hampshire, NW  
8:00 and 9:30 pm  
Why Vietnam? and Time of the Locust  
Sponsored by Wash. Peace Center.

Open Meeting July 22  
St. Stephen's Church - Basement  
16th & Newton St, NW  
NATIONAL MOBILIZATION ADMIN. COMM.  
11 am

Draft Counsel Tng Session  
Sunday - July 23  
Call Draft Committee for details  
387-8028

Draft Days July 24-28  
Induction Center  
916 G St, NW 6 a.m.  
See Page 1 for additional info.

Membership Meeting July 25  
St. Stephen's Church  
16th & Newton St, NW  
Speaker: Seymour Hersh  
Subject: Germ & Chemical Warfare  
8:00 pm

Discussion July 28  
Washington Ethical Society  
7750 16th St, NW  
Speaker: Tran Van Dinh  
Dr. Tran is former South Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand and Burma and Charge d'affairs to the US under Diem regime.  
Time: 8:00 pm  
Sponsored by Wash Ethical Society

Steering Comm. Meeting Aug. 1  
St. Stephen's Church 8:00 pm

Call to Action Aug 3  
WMC Rally  
Speakers:  
Carl Ogelsby, author of Containment and Change; Dave Dellinger, Editor of Liberty Magazine - has just returned from Stockholm and Hanoi; Rev. James Bevel, Director, National Mobilization - has just returned from Stockholm.

Many other plans are in progress--  
Call WMC office for details.

HIROSHIMA DAY Aug 6

## Withdrawal ---

"For the US to withdraw unilaterally, leaving the negotiating to the various groups in Vietnam, would avoid the present impasse over negotiations. This impasse is founded on a set of psychological realities which protract the war. The NLF, imbued with the spirit of patriots driving off an invading army, is willing to continue its guerilla tactics until the US is worn down. Besides, the Geneva experience taught it to distrust international agreements; it is confident of its skill in the jungles of Vietnam, not so confident it can out-manuever great powers at conference tables. . . .

"Withdrawal has not drawn large support, because it has not been put forward either by the Administration or by its most prominent critics. And so the public has been forced to choose within a limited set of respectable alternatives. If the Administration were to advance a new alternative, it would soon gain the respectability that any proposal gets which is made by the leaders of government...."

(For Prof. Zinn's complete argument have your local book store order Vietnam: The Logic of Withdrawal @ \$1.25 in paperback from Beacon Press, 25 Beacon St, Boston, Mass 02108)  
Anne Brann

## ANTIRIOT BILL

HR 421, sponsored by Rep Wm Cramer of Fla., has cleared the House Judiciary Committee and, if passed, will make it a Federal crime to cross state lines with the intent of inciting a riot. Anyone found guilty of this "crime" would face penalties up to \$10,000 and/or 5 years imprisonment.

The bill, intended to punish and restrict civil rights and peace demonstrators, describes a riot as "a public disturbance, involving acts of violence by assemblages of 3 or more persons, which poses an immediate danger of damage or injury to property or persons." Therefore, no damage or injury need actually occur and no more than 3 people need be involved for a riot to exist.

## WANTED ! !

The WMC Education Comm needs audio-visual equipment; particularly 16mm sound projectors and tape recorders. If you can lend or donate one for the summer, call WMC

## THE BEG-IN

Nearly every Sunday for the last four months, members of the Washington Chapter of the Catholic Peace Fellowship have been begging at the doors of various DC churches. The money we have raised, over \$600 now, is being used for medical supplies in the north and south of Vietnam, either through the Fellowship of Reconciliation or, more recently and directly, through Caritas International, a European-based organization engaged in many projects through the North Vietnamese Red Cross.

The point of the beg-in, however, is not as much to raise money as to have small confrontations. In the act of being "religious" or "christian," people are challenged with what is supposed to be one of the strong points of that faith: love for those we have made our enemies. The beg-in almost always produces some heated words, some scorn, some sympathy and, we hope, a lot of thought.

The technique is simple. We have a soliciting permit from the District government (cost \$29) which the police, who are invariably called, always ask to look at. Most often we remain on public sidewalks since some pastors have threatened to arrest us for unlawful entry if we go further. As people go into the church, they are given leaflets explaining what we are doing, where the money will go, etc. When they come out, we ask as often as possible on a one-to-one basis, "Sir, will you help buy medical supplies for North and South Vietnam?"

We have doubts, really, about mopping up after the government. But, hopefully, this is much more a kind of minor challenge to the war-makers. Our license and permit cards allow us to beg for this purpose anywhere in the District.

We would welcome assistance at other times and at other churches.

gabe huck

EDUCATION COMMITTEE COLLECTING BEST LEAFLETS

The Education Committee of WMC is gathering all anti-Vietnam War leaflets that may be helpful in preparing future leaflets.

If you have any leaflets or can get any that are unique or effective, whether they're new or old, take them to the WMC office - 3421 Center St, NW Third floor or mail them.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR WMC

The Washington Mobilization Committee has a new Post Office Box:

Columbia Heights Station  
P. O. Box 3001  
Washington, DC 20010

The office is in the same location - 3rd floor - 3421 Center Avenue and the telephone number is the same - 387-7374.

PEACE CENTER SPONSORS FILMS

Washington Peace Center is presenting a film and discussion series every Friday and Saturday night for the rest of the summer.

The films will begin at 8 p.m. at 1323 New Hampshire, NW. The series is designed to introduce non-committed people to the issues involved in US action in Vietnam.

If you have friends who are asking questions but are not yet willing to commit themselves to going to meetings, you may suggest the film and discussion series. The series is low-keyed to interest the non-committed or antagonistic people.

There are two showings - one at 8 and one at 9:30. No donations are asked except one's time and an open mind.

WASHINGTON MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE is in need of funds. It takes more money than many of us realized to maintain adequate communications and to give just attention to the areas that need our attention. Please send as much as you can afford to Washington Mobilization Committee P. O. Box 3001, Columbia Heights Sta. Wash, D. C. 20010.

Make checks payable to Washington Mobilization Committee.

WASHINGTON MOBILIZATION COMMITTEES NEED YOUR HELP. If you are truly concerned about the War in Vietnam, check one or more of the following boxes and mail to WMC P.O. Box 3001, Columbia Heights Sta., Washington, D. C. 20010:

- ANTI DRAFT
- LEAFLET GUARD
- NEWSLETTER
- FUND RAISING
- TAX REFUSAL
- MASS ACTION
- DEFENSE
- NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZING
- EDUCATION
- OFFICE VOLUNTEER
- TELEPHONE
- CIVILIAN ECONOMY

If we're to end the War in Vietnam, we must be involved.

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE (Home)

(Office)

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# August 6, 1967 #

# HIROSHIMA DAY #

# CALL WMC OFFICE 387-7373 #

# Ask how you can make HIROSHIMA #

# DAY a success. #

# WE NEED YOUR HELP. #

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Bob Simpson  
1014 Devere Dr.  
Silver Spring, Md. 20903

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to End the War in Vietnam  
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Washington, D. C. 20010

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

8:00 pm

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1967

SEYMOUR HERSH, Washington journalist, will speak on the subject of Germ and Chemical Warfare. Mr. Hersh wrote "Gas and Chemical Germ Warfare - The Controversy over Campus Research Contracts," which appeared in the July 1st issue of New Republic and "Just a Drop Can Kill, Secret Work on Gas and Germ Warfare," in the May 6th issue of the same magazine. Mr. Hersh is presently writing a book on Chemical and Biological Warfare that will be published by Bobbs-Merrill.