

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Stanford, California

45 STANFORD FACULTY AND STAFF MAKE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PLEDGE

CONTACT: JAY NEUGEBOREN (Department of English, Stanford University), 415-327-8770, or 415-321-2300 X-2722, or BARTON J. BERNSTEIN (Department of History), 415-322-8550, or 415-321-2300 X-4728.

FOR RELEASE: NOON, FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1967.

A group of 45 Stanford University faculty and staff members have pledged themselves to acts of mass civil disobedience designed to stop the war in Vietnam. According to the Stanford group, their action is the first step in a nationwide movement which will mobilize academic, professional, religious and women's anti-war groups.

The signatories include doctors from Stanford's medical school, members of the Campus Ministry, the Counseling and Testing Center, the High Energy Physics Lab, and many of Stanford's most distinguished professors in the Departments of Chemistry, Health Physics, English, Statistics, History, Economics, Philosophy, Political Science, Anthropology, and Speech and Drama. (See attached copy of pledge and list of signers.)

The 45 signers represent over 20% of faculty and staff at Stanford who have previously expressed themselves against the war.

(REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STANFORD FACULTY-STAFF PEACE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT NOON ON FRIDAY IN ROOM 270 TRESIDDER MEMORIAL UNION, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THAT TIME FOR QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND MEDIA.)

The Stanford pledge states, in part, that: "The anti-war movement is now large enough and broad enough that one part of it can step out in front and say: We do not want to protest the war any longer; we want to stop it. We are prepared, through mass civil disobedience, to say NO to our government.

"We can not be certain that such acts will stop the war. We do believe, however, that nothing less has any chance of stopping it. If only 10 per cent of those who marched against the war on April 15th will involve themselves in such an action, we might realistically hope to reverse the escalating murder and suffering."

The Stanford group is already in touch with major academic, professional, religious and women's organizations, and with some of the nation's most prominent leaders in these areas, and the response has been favorable. A memo regarding civil disobedience currently being circulated among these anti-war groups says that "The 'We Won't Go' movement among draft-age youth represents an extreme, potentially effective, and apparently infectious development in the society," and that there is a "great need for an analogous activity on the part of those who are past draft age." The memo goes on to state that "The response that people at Stanford have had among that faculty to the notion of civil disobedience against the war suggests that it is an idea whose time has come."

According to the Stanford group, the acts of civil disobedience "will be in the spirit of the non-violent acts undertaken by Martin Luther King in the civil rights movement--except that our action will be on a much larger scale."

STANFORD PLEDGE AND LIST OF SIGNERS

Because we believe that the last chances to stop the war in Vietnam are rapidly slipping away, and because we believe that primary responsibility for stopping the war lies with the American people, we, the undersigned members of the Stanford faculty and staff, declare our willingness to participate in acts of mass civil disobedience.

The April 15th demonstrations were proof that the anti-war movement in America is growing in size and strength. Once again, however, the war in Vietnam is with deadly speed out-escalating the protests. Thus, while all forms of protest must continue and must expand, new ones and more intense ones must be generated.

The anti-war movement is now large enough and broad enough that one part of it can step out in front and say: We do not want to protest the war any longer; we want to stop it. We are prepared, through mass civil disobedience, to say NO to our government.

We can not be certain that such acts will stop the war. We do believe, however, that nothing less has any chance of stopping it. If only 10 per cent of those who marched against the war on April 15th will involve themselves in such an action, we might realistically hope to reverse the escalating murder and suffering.

We are fully aware of the risks such actions involve, and we know the price many of us may have to pay. But we believe that unless some of us are prepared to take such risks and to pay such a price, we have no chance whatsoever of actually affecting the course of U. S. actions. We are ready to pay this price, and we call upon other Americans who feel as we do--members of the clergy, of the professions, of the academic community--to pledge themselves to join us in acts of mass civil disobedience.

LIST OF SIGNERS

Medical School

Leonard H. Herzenberg, M.D., Genetics
Leonore H. Herzenberg, Genetics
Hadley Kirkman, M.D., Anatomy
Genevieve Knupfer, M.D., Psychiatry
Leland Rather, M.D., Pathology
Robert S. Spitzer, M.D., Psychiatry
Henry H. Wortis, M.D., Genetics
Irvin Yalom, M.D., Psychiatry

Bernadene Allen, Counseling & Testing Center
David E. Allen, Jr., Research Librarian
Lydia Baker, Chemistry
David Berlinski, Philosophy
Barton J. Bernstein, History
Beverly Bogart, Librarian
Louis Bogart, High Energy Physics Lab

(continued)

List of Signers - continued

William A. Bonner, Chemistry
Jerome Charyn, English
Marlene Charyn, Stanford University Press
Charles Drekmeier, Political Science
Mel Edelstein, History
Robert Finn, Mathematics
Roland Finston, Health Physics
H. Bruce Franklin, English
Larry Friedlander, English
Sara Gilliam, Secretary
Mitchell Goodman, Voice Project
John G. Gurley, Economics
Richard L. Harvey, History
John C. Hotchkiss, Anthropology
Judith K. Knapp, Librarian
Jacques Kornberg, History
Victor R. Lovell, Counseling & Testing Center
Stuart McLean, Campus Ministry
Diane Middlebrook, English
Jay Neugeboren, English
Michael Novak, Religion
Charlotte Painter, English
Robert Polhemus, English
Jerome Raphael, Speech & Drama
Julien Ripley, Physical Sciences
William F. Rogers, Reference Librarian
John Rue, Political Science
Paul S. Seaver, History
Charles Stein, Statistics
Paul Switzer, Statistics