November 19, 1968

BROTHERS:

The guy who is handing out these leaflets is an inductee, just like you. He also happens to be a draft counselor, which means that he can tell you a few things about your rights and alternatives that the army won't tell you. He has a copy of the Army Medical Regulations and a copy of the Selective Service Regulations, which you are welcome to look at.

This is a statement of personal belief--why I oppose the Army and the Draft:

As a kid I was taught that people had a right to control the institutions that governed them. We called this democracy. In the past several years I've learned that our government is trying to keep people around the world from having democracy. America's big bosses are ~~XXXXX~~ denying us our freedom to make us fight Vietnamese for their freedom.

In ~~XXXXXX~~ South Vietnam there is a government called the Republic of Vietnam. Because the U.S. supports the Republic of Vietnam, we know a lot about it. We know that it is corrupt and totalitarian. We know that its only claim to legitimacy rests in the fact that it overthrew the junta that ...

In South Vietnam there is another government, the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. The National Liberation Front governs most of rural South Vietnam. Americans usually call the NLF the "Viet Cong", or "The Political Arm of the Viet Cong." Although the Viet Cong is spearheaded by Communists, it represents a broad coalition of nationalist groups. The political program of the NLF is not Communist, but one suspects that the fact that most of the support for the NLF comes from Socialist countries (such as the Democratic ~~XXXXXXX~~ Republic of (North) Vietnam) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ will lead to the eventual establishment of a Socialist South Vietnam.

The U.S. is pushing a "pacification program"--imitating the program of the NLF. We are trying to push land reform on the Saigon government, for this is how the NLF wins "the minds and hearts" of the people. If the NLF has the support of the Vietnamese people because it helps them, why doesn't the American government support the Viet Cong?

There is, of course a complicated answer to this question. In short, the men who control the U.S. government are those with power and wealth. Many who support the War on Vietnam make millions from it. Others need to be able to invest in Vietnam, or to sell their products to the richer Vietnamese, to stay on top. This is not to say that ~~XXXXXXXXXXX