

THE DRAFT BOARDS ARE BEING STRANGLED!

CITIZENS! A situation of grave danger now confronts the local Draft Boards in our area. Their very existence has been called into question, and hence the continuation of our war against Aggression in Southeast Asia. We call upon all of you- Left, Center and Right- to help put an end to this danger, to restore Law and Order before the SPARK becomes a conflagration which engulfs the entire country.

THE SITUATION IS THIS: For the last few weeks, unscrupulous anarchists in the S.F. Bay Area have bombarded their local draft boards with all sorts of CRANK MAIL. For example, MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS have been taken out in the names (and office addresses) of the CLERKS- who, as everyone knows, actually run the boards. These Romantic Revolutionaries have taken to haunting magazine racks and stealthily pulling out the POSTAGE PAID, BILL ME LATER COUPONS from the innards of the magazines. They then check a costly subscription (usually for three years) and send it to the local clerk, BILLING HER IN HER OWN NAME. This has naturally resulted in the loss of many manpower hours, as the harried clerks have had to send back the magazines and a note, or else contend with the credit departments' harassment. (There are some reports that the clerks are actually reading the magazines as they come in, leading to further waste!) And this is not to mention the merchandise and junk that has to be sent back to book clubs, record clubs and stamp approval companies! And now that the NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS HAVE BECOME READILY AVAILABLE we can expect them too to come under attack. Some have even stated that THEY WILL QUIT if they should start to receive such harassment. THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A SERIOUS SITUATION.

BUT FAR, far worse than this is the PHONY LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN!

The unscrupulous terrorists have gone so far as to write counterfeit letters to the local draft boards. They have purposely varied the stationery used, as well as the style, pens, penmanship and even typewriters. In neighborhoods with large Mexican-American elements they have even written to the Boards in incomprehensible Spanish or in equally incomprehensible English.

Some letters bear fictitious names; others, however, bear the ACTUAL NAMES AND ADDRESSES of residents. These are either found in the phone book or in HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOKS and local COLLEGE DIRECTORIES! And even SS (Selective Security) numbers are fabricated, resembling those used by local boards! (This is easily done, since the number is little more than a simple indication of birth-date and board number.) But although the Board requests that all correspondence come with the writer's number, in actuality many forget to enclose it. This makes it impossible for the Board to automatically reject those letters which don't have numbers on them. And those which carry phony numbers have to be processed up to the point that the clerk actually pulls out the file and ~~and~~ realizes the ruse. What is more, certain letters obviously do not require an SS number: for example, those of the brave young men who are writing in to report that they are now old enough to serve their country.

THE SUBJECT MATTER of the letters usually duplicates the authentic letters received every day by the draft boards. Thus, some of them are, as already indicated, from young men requesting registration. Others request a CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION. This can be done for numerous reasons; some, noting the stern warning on the back of their draft cards, write to merely inform the boards of a change in health, job, wife, etc. Yet others request CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR forms. Others are from irate wives and

Nothing that might possibly interfere with the proper functioning of our local, neighborhood draft boards escapes the notice of these sick brains.. And since the mail (and to a lesser degree, the phone) is the main artery of the boards, and since the boards are the main source of manpower for the Army, we can easily see the REAL DANGER POSED BY DETERMINED ACTIVISTS.

Luckily, only a few boards have been thus far marked for harassment:

San Francisco (#36-45) 100 McAllister St. 536-3935	Berkeley (#46-8) 2199 Bancroft Way 2101 Grove St. 841-5121	Oakland (#49-52) 2030 Franklin St. 834-6121
Coast Area HQ. 450 Golden Gate, SF 536-0970	San Mateo (#57-8) 2251 Palm Ave.. 341-3311	San Jose (#60-62) 111 West St. John 286-2525

And even here the harassment has so far been on a relatively small scale. But it is obvious that the situation could get MUCH, MUCH WORSE. In one board the clerk is reportedly close to QUITTING- an act which would plunge the board into dismal chaos.

If a small group of people, of any age or sex, meeting periodically in the safety of their own homes, can almost CLOSE DOWN THEIR LOCAL DRAFT BOARD, imagine what would happen if certain destruction-minded GROUPS (such as SDS, FL, SWP, ADU, NARS, PFP, etc.) took up this idea! IT IS ENTIRELY CONCEIVABLE THAT THEY COULD SHUT DOWN MANY OF THE DRAFT BOARDS ACROSS THE LAND- and not just for a few hours, but FOR GOOD!

THEREFORE, we appeal to all right-thinking individuals to become aware of just how perilously VULNERABLE our understaffed and bureaucratic draft boards really are. Even today, a simple request, by an honest citizen, may take months to process. A PHONY REQUEST COULD TAKE YEARS!

And now that our Generals and Leaders need hundreds of thousands of young men to defend Freedom abroad, we feel it is the sacred duty of every one of us to give the local Draft Boards everything they need- and deserve- right here at home.

Thank you.

Put out by COMOUT (Committee of Patriotic Organizations to Uncover Terrorism)