

April 12, 1968

Dear Fellow Signers of the We Won't Go Statement,

The events on campus and in the community-at-large following the assassination of Martin Luther King have occupied most of our thoughts and efforts in the past week. But the war and the draft continue. We thus make it our objective to publish the WE WON'T GO statement with the names of 10% of Stanford men. Indeed our determination has only increased following the President's statement of March 31 and, especially, the assassination of one of the foremost leaders of the peace movement, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

We certainly welcome the news that Johnson may be de-escalating the war effort. But we note that there is no concomitant de-escalation in his financial and manpower commitment to the Vietnam war. To the contrary. The administration is still economizing on "all non-essential civilian spending" and sending more troops into Vietnam and into the city ghettos. We are all aware of the credibility gap and might have reason to wonder about the sincerity of Johnson's stated intentions. The New York Times and the Wall Street Journal certainly do (see issues immediately following Johnson's speech and news of the bombing around the 20th parallel).

Following the assassination of Dr. King, many white students are asking themselves "what can we do?" There are a multitude of responses that might be summarized by the one word, "resist." Resist white racism, resist the structures and institutions that promote and further the cause of white racism, and resist the military that protects the interests of white racism in Vietnam, Latin America, and in our very own cities. Today, for example, more than 20,000 regulars (are) patrolling streets in cities across the Nation (and) the Army is worried that this pattern, if stretched (would) strain its thin Strategic Reserve" (S.F. Chronicle, 4/10/68). This conclusion is clear. Organizing whites to resist the military by not providing cannon fodder is one method of attacking a major prop of white racism in our country.

Enclosed you will find a copy of the WE WON'T GO statement that you and 400 others have already signed. We are asking you to try to get at least one more adherent to this statement and to return it with one or more signatures either to our box #2654 at S.H. or to our desk in the ASPP office in President. We are planning to publish the statement around Mayday (the first) and also need the WE WON'T GO statements returned by the last week of April. Contributions or suggestions for financing the expense of publishing our statement are truly needed. We are also enclosing a 3x5 card which we ask you to return to us with the following information: your age, draft status, and academic status.

ARMKEM

Our next excitingly brief meeting will be held on April 23 at 1:15 in room 270 of President. Hoping to see you there.

The Stanford Anti-Draft Union