

April 4, 1969

President Pitzer:

The large turn-out at the March 11 community-trustee forum demonstrated that there is a great deal of concern at Stanford over war-related research done at both Stanford and SRI. Over 800 members of the Stanford-Midpeninsula community expressed their continuing, growing concern over this research at an open meeting in Dirckelpiel Auditorium Thursday, April 3.

These 800 people asked that you place the following requests and statements of principle high on the agenda of the Board of Trustees meeting of Tuesday, April 8, and that you make a formal statement of your response and subsequent actions by noon, April 7.

I. "We request that the trustees order the immediate termination of current research at Stanford and SRI in the following three areas, and that no new projects in these areas be accepted.

1. Chemical-Biological Warfare research. SRI currently has \$404,000 of work directly related to CBW, with \$96,000 in contracts pending. Stanford has not had any CBW since 1962; hopefully it will not in the future.
2. Counterinsurgency: both in the Third World and in domestic urban colonies. SRI has done military counterinsurgency work in Viet Nam, Thailand, Peru, and Honduras. The Stanford Electronics Laboratory is presently doing over \$2.2 million in classified, applied military electronics work. Work done in the 1950's is now being used in Viet Nam (jamming of radar-directed anti-aircraft fire, etc.); techniques being developed now will assist counterinsurgency operations in the future. Domestic counterinsurgency work includes ghetto studies performed for the Oakland City Police by SRI.
3. Research directed against the needs of the Vietnamese, Lao, and Thai peoples for peace and social justice. SRI has over \$6.2 million in Defense Department contracts relating directly to the war effort in Southeast Asia.

II. "We oppose all classified research at Stanford and SRI. This includes contracts which require security clearance or which result in the production of classified publications. The Stanford Electronics Labs presently have \$2.2 million in classified military work, and SRI has some \$85 million in classified contracts, according to the officers in the Menlo Park facility.

III. "We oppose severance of SRI from the University (with or without a restrictive covenant). We want SRI to be brought under closer control by the Stanford community, and we want the guidelines formulated in Sections I and II for morally acceptable research to be applied directly to SRI and Stanford.

IV. "We wish to see war-related research at Stanford and SRI replaced with socially acceptable research directed toward positive and constructive goals; for example, the eradication of hunger, poverty, and racism; adequate housing; purification of the air and water; conservation of the natural environment.

V. "We request that the trustees hold a special meeting on campus during the week of April 21, 1969, to reach a final decision on Stanford and SRI's war-related research and on the University's relationship to SRI. This meeting might include community hearings and a decision-making process open to public view."

The crucial nature of these issues and the magnitude of community concern demand that you not only place them on the agenda for the April 8 meeting of the Board of Trustees, but that these issues receive priority on the agenda.

From

The April 3 Community Meeting

This letter was submitted to President Pitzer on April 4, at which time he responded that he would include the demands of the April 3 Community Meeting in the agenda of the April 8 meeting of the Stanford Board of Trustees.