

TO: All SRI Employees

FROM: The April 3 Movement

### WE CAN WORK IT OUT

The roots of our current discord lie beyond our own community: they lie in the misshapen and distorted scientific and social priorities of our country. The future of America will not brighten until we, together, act in an effective way to reshape these priorities.

Understandably, every SRI employee is now concerned about his future salary and professional prestige, as well as job satisfaction and expansion of research opportunities. The best way to resolve these concerns is for the University and the Institute to strengthen existing ties, and then act in concert to change the funding priorities of the Stanford complex and our nation's government, industries, and foundations.

We of the April 3 Movement demand change from the trustees of Stanford University -- concrete lawful change of institutions they legally control. Merely because Stanford's trustees have not financially aided SRI in the past, merely because the trustees have allowed both SRI and the University to become too dependent on war work, does not mean that they cannot see their way to better alternatives.

Consider the other options which have been presented. If SRI is sold to a profit-making corporation, the boundaries of the "marketplace" to which SRI can now turn for funding will narrow drastically. How much "academic freedom" will future employees of Litton Industries, LTV, Tenneco, or Lockheed have? If SRI is sold to a large defense-based conglomerate, the current rate of job mortality at SRI will only grow.

If Stanford's trustees choose to sever SRI and establish it as a non-profit institution, even with no limitations on war research and no financial indebtedness to Stanford, SRI will still be at the mercy of present distortions in the research market. And SRI will so exist without the potential of Stanford's finances and political influence to change our nation's priorities.

Should the trustees gain the notion of committing both institutions to a more humane future, and should they act on that notion, then we will have a powerful lobby for change. We need not presume a static "marketplace," a frozen concept of "academic freedom," a mythical division between "pure" and "applied" research, or a continuation of current governmental definitions of "classified" research. Reorienting research priorities will not take place if SRI is severed from the University. OUR STRENGTH LIES IN WORKING TOGETHER.

Charles Anderson recently told a group of students that he has spent much of his last few months back in Washington pleading for more money from HEW, HUD, NIH, and other non-military sources. A student then asked if he had considered asking the Stanford BSU or SDS to rally around him for his cause. Anderson was surprised; to ask anyone outside the Institute for help was an entirely new idea to him. Are all employees of SRI now so unimaginative that they cannot think of asking all of Stanford University (trustees included) to work together to build a better country by more constructive methods than now exist?

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