

# STANFORD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PALO ALTO - Speaking as a private citizen, Richard W. Lyman of Stanford Monday night, Feb. 22, said "only by setting ourselves a definite target date for total withdrawal from Southeast Asia--B-52's as well as infantrymen--can we extricate ourselves from this tragedy.

"Otherwise, we shall find ourselves supporting the endless slaughter of Asians, partly by other Asians and partly by American air power, in a struggle the originally announced objectives of which will have been totally lost from view."

Lyman spoke as an individual at a meeting with Sen. Alan Cranston, sponsored by the Emergency Committee Against Escalation of the War in Southeast Asia, at Spangenberg Auditorium of Gunn High School.

Reiterating views expressed as a citizen in letters to Congress earlier this month, Lyman said: "Speaking for myself, I find it deeply disturbing that the response of the Congress to the Laotian adventure has been so muted.

"It is a bad omen if Congress can respond only when masses of its constituents are pouring into Washington and knocking on its doors with the importunity of last May.

"Over and over again, during the past couple of weeks, students have been asking me, 'What can we do?' Most of them--the overwhelming majority of them--have no faith in the possibility of changing the government's policies by campus vandalism--in other words, of achieving peace abroad by 'bringing the war home to America.'

"But neither do they see alternatives available to them that stand such a chance of producing results. Perhaps they are too pessimistic. For example, the 18- to 20-year-old vote can become potent leverage, if they will work to make it so.

"But I think what particularly distresses them--and this is a distress that I share more with every passing day--is the fear that Vietnamization may turn out to be just a euphemism for that old will-o'-the-wisp, military victory in Southeast Asia. It is perhaps even more profoundly disturbing to see the war, and our relation to it, measured so much in terms of American casualties or the number of American troops still engaged.

"I do not subscribe to the widely held view that the under-25 generation possesses a monopoly of wisdom and virtue. But I do understand their cynicism or dismay at the thought that we may once again be succumbing to that chauvinistic and parochial view once bitterly satirized by Sir Denis Brogan in the couplet, 'American boys are not like any others/only American boys have mothers.'"

Lyman noted that "fewer and fewer college students today believe that the country's institutions can survive without major reform, at the very least. Even within the privileged sanctuary of an anonymous response to the Gallup poll, fewer each year will identify themselves with either of the major political parties."

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