



The AXON

TUESDAY
February 9, 1971

...published by a rejuvenated Stanford Medical
Community for Peace from the Nerve Center, M127.

HAS NIXON WON ?

Not again? Memories of moratoria, years of telegrams and marches, and last spring's strike become nightmares, as we realize that Nixon and the war machine are still going strong, that Laos can now be added officially to the list of countries America has invaded. After a week of government censorship of the press, we find ourselves caught in the apparent hopelessness and futility of anything we might do. Some are attracted to violence and trashing, others allow business to go on as usual and try to deal with guilt feelings that accompany apathy.

The war is getting worse. To give up now, after this medical community so beautifully organized its sentiment last spring, would give Nixon and the war makers their real victory at home and their chance for military (nuclear?) victory in Asia. We've got our jobs or our research or our classes to attend, and working against the war is nothing new and not exactly fun.

Somehow we've got to look around again, look outside our narrow hospital world and think seriously if we can't make some changes in business as usual to protest the invasion of Laos. A war that kills hundreds of thousands of people and destroys a land makes our humanitarian efforts of healing the sick completely irrelevant.

LAOS!

Thousands of South Vietnamese infantrymen and armored troops invaded Laos early Monday, February 8, 1971 with massive American air support, seeking to sever enemy supply lines. President Nguyen Van Thieu claims that this is a "limited" thrust against Communist supply bases. The U.S. has repeatedly emphasized that no ground forces will be used in Laos, but instead the U.S. Pacific B-52 fleet has been involved in massive bombing of the Ho Chi Minh Trail during the last week, and now the U.S. is supplying air support, helicopters with U.S. crewmen, and medical support -- all crucial to the "Vietnamese invasion."

The strategic goal behind the drive against key North Vietnamese supply bases in Laos, according to Pentagon officials, is the blocking of any enemy offensive in South Vietnam for at least the rest of the year. This is similar to the rationale behind the Cambodian incursion.

Employees, Staff, Students:

MASS MEETING THURSDAY --
Noon, Medical School Courtyard

Planning for action - Marches, Med
Center Strike, Local Community
Organizing, Labor Alliance for
Action...

UP AGAINST THE WALL

by John Battista
President, SMSA

It is with increasing despair that I observed the developing United States and South Vietnamese involvement in Laos. To have time and time again committed myself to, and worked for, what I believe to be right only to have it daily ignored and scorned has truly left me with grief.

(Continued page two)

PLANNING SESSION FOR MASS MEETING

Tuesday, noon, M106 - Everyone welcome!

POOR NETWORK EYESIGHT

-----KCBS radio news on the evening of February 8, 1971, said: "At Stanford today a few campus dissidents managed to close the doors to a meeting of the Stanford Board of Trustees. We saw at least 300 concerned persons at the Graduate School of Business while the meeting was taking place. How many does it take to be more than a few?"

-----CBS nation-wide TV news on February 8, 1971, said: "At Stanford about 15 persons were involved in throwing rocks at some campus buildings." And that was it! No mention of 600-700 persons gathered at Dinkelspiel who met in outrage to establish campus awareness of the actualization of the Laotian invasion.

"Protest to the invasion has been moderate to light... The public and members of the press are numb, in despair... The White House and Administration officials are jubilant."

HAS NIXON WON ?

FEW ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Nerve Center is open again. Come to Room M127 for information about meetings in the Medical Center and on campus.

- Letters to Senators, Representatives, the White House and the media expressing our feelings about the United States'

Against the Wall (Con't)

I recognize that for the last year, and especially in the course of the last week, I have been manipulated and counted upon to remain apathetic. Still within me there is a fierce rage, now so great that I am scared to respond to it, recognizing that it may well lead me into armed violence. I still believe that to be either apathetic or violent will only play into the hands of militarism and ensure the continuity of its way. Furthermore, I have discovered in the last year that at least for myself a politico-economic view of the world deadens and shallows my basic humanity and life values. The result is that I find myself up against the wall with virtually nowhere to turn. Yet, in the face of this I find that I must again try to affirm my beliefs by joining with those who feel as I do in the hopes of convincing others through our humanity and the sincerity of our beliefs. I thus urge you to join with me in the struggle for peace.

invasion of Laos are important as an indication of public opinion. DO WRITE!

-- Pot luck clipping board outside the Nerve Center - bring any news, cartoons, etc. - and check by for the latest word.