



The AXON

TUESDAY
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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.

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