

A PROPOSAL
FOR A DEADLINE STRIKE
TO END THE WAR IN VIETNAM

POLITICAL RATIONALE: The Nixon Administration came to power with a mandate from the American people to end American participation in the Vietnam War. While the Paris peace talks drag on, thousands of American soldiers are being killed and wounded. Pressure from the home front must be remounted, demanding American troop withdrawal from Vietnam. The Nixon Administration must be given a deadline for withdrawal. After this deadline has passed we propose a series of actions which will indicate to the Administration the price it will have to pay for the continuation of the war. The purpose of the deadline is to prevent interminable negotiations in Paris and to speed the inevitable outcome of American withdrawal, while at the same time giving the Administration sufficient time to organize the withdrawal. The Administration can avoid the strike and its political and economic effects by withdrawing.

METHOD: A national call for a deadline strike on Wednesday, October 8, will be issued on June 1. The strike will take effect if American troops are not withdrawn by October 8. The strike will last one day. If American troops are not withdrawn by November 1, the second strike will last for two days, November 5 and 6. For each additional month an additional striking day will be added. The strike is defined as refraining from reporting to work or to regular occupation (e.g. in offices, factories, laboratories, classes, etc.) Beginning June 1, organizations and individuals will announce publicly their commitment to the strike. They will organize local meetings to convince additional strikers and to publicize their reasons. On October 8 the strikers in each area or local community will hold a mass meeting to dramatize their actions.

PURPOSE: In addition to the obvious political pressure upon the Administration, the strike will put pressure on all organizations of American society, public and private, thus causing them to put pressure upon the Administration. It will cause a significant diminution of production and revenues to all institutions. It will enable a broad segment of the American people to participate in a legal and traditional protest action which will have a painful effect upon all with power and influence. It will be a sacrifice of sufficient magnitude to show the Administration and the leaders of American business that those who strike are determined to end the war even if it means shutting down all American institutions by refraining from work.