

HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN

# A PEACE CONGRESS IN '72

GOAL: ELECT 304 ANTI-WAR CONGRESSPEOPLE (70% of the HOUSE)

**RESEARCH** your Congressman's vote on legislation dealing with the Indochina War. There are very few Congressmen who have a perfect anti-war voting record.

If yours is one of the few, then organize efforts to give support for his strong stand and urge him to spend more time speaking to his colleagues in the Congress about the imperative for ending the war.

Write to the Friends' Committee on National Legislation, 245 Second St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, for information on your Congressman's voting record. Additional information may be gleaned from the Congressional Record and the Congressional Quarterly in your local public library.

**PUBLICIZE** your Congressman's voting record and point how it supports a continuation of this horrible war that more than 70% of us do not want.

**Raise** funds within your Congressional District to run ads in the major community newspapers throughout the District, disclosing your Congressman's voting record and explaining how his vote has acted against the best interests and the wishes of his constituents. (If you have a Peace & New Priorities Candidate who will run against him at this time, print his stand on the war and what he'd do about it, if elected.)

**Write** leaflets which publicize the truth about your Congressman's voting record on the war and attempt to get them to every home in the district, along with information about the PEACE POSITION of your alternative candidate.

**Write** to Minn. CALC, 122 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55404, for help in writing the leaflet or the ad, if you desire such assistance.

**ORGANIZE** the people within your District to give strong support for End-The-War votes by their Congressman; where that is not forthcoming, organize to vote into power a genuine PEACE CONGRESSMAN.

**Find** some donated office space, a typewriter and a mimeograph machine.

**Raise** funds to install a phone and purchase paper, ink, stamps, and envelopes.

**Find** an existing peace and new priorities group with which to work or gather together people interested in the PEACE CONGRESS PROJECT, give yourselves a name and set out to move your Congressman away from war or away from Washington, D.C.

**Set up** a continuing correspondence and dialogue between your group and your Congressman.

**Write** a letter to your Congressman's Office, House Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515 requesting that he return to the six largest cities within his home district during the next month to speak to his constituents about the reasons for his votes on legislation dealing with the war, followed by a question and answer period. Offer to make the physical arrangements for the meetings and help publicize them. **Follow up** the letter with a phone call to his administrative assistant and/or appointment secretary if you receive no answer within 10 days.

**Phone** your Congressman's home district office and request copies of the speeches, Congressional Record inserts, and press releases which he has issued on the war in the last 8 years (if in office that long).

**Help organize and run** the campaign of the Peace Candidate in opposition to pro-war incumbents or candidates: a viable alternative to war.

**Contact** voluntary associations, churches, labor organizations, and community clubs urging them to offer resolutions which express their strong support for End-The-War legislation and your Peace Candidate.

**PROVIDE** forums for Community Dialogue and Grass Roots Peace Education Work.

**Organize** meetings in schools, churches, and community meeting halls to plan relevant anti-war action and communicate your feelings on the war to your elected officials—at every level of government.

**Issue** frequent press releases which "Speak Truth to Power" and attempt to counteract official lies and half-truths about the war.

**Schedule** anti-war speakers in communities all over your district at meetings and gatherings which have been pre-arranged.

MINNESOTA CLERGY AND LAYMEN CONCERNED - PEACE CONGRESS PROJECT  
122 W. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55404. 612-338-7033

MINNESOTA  
CLERGY &  
LAYMEN  
CONCERNED

(Incorporated)  
Minnesota Church Center  
122 West Franklin Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404  
Phone (612) 338-7033 or 7034



May 26, 1972

Dear Friends

We're sending you this flyer because we feel that you might be thinking, as we have, about embarking on sustained programs designed to give the people a stronger voice in their own destiny and that of all mankind. Rather than ignoring a government that completely ignores us, it seems incumbent upon us to work to gain a firm hold on the existing machinery of that government in order to effect more humane policy decisions—like ending the war and taking care of peoples' crying needs.

This war will end when there is a political decision made to end it! We can't rely on Presidents to make that decision and at present both the House and Senate are unready and unwilling. So—we have to work hard to establish people in positions of political power who stand forthrightly for ending the war and scaling down the military. We must elect a Congress that is so strongly anti-war that it matters not what our "emperors" decide to do or not do!

ELECTING A CONGRESS IN WHICH 30% of the 435 TOTAL MEMBERSHIP ARE STRONG PEACE AND NEW PRIORITIES PEOPLE WOULD GIVE US SLIGHTLY MORE THAN THE 2/3 MAJORITY NEEDED TO CHECK IRRATIONAL EXECUTIVE DECISIONS AND OVERRIDE REGRESSIVE PRESIDENTIAL VETOS.

If the current Congress cannot vote out a war that fully 3/4 of our population does not want, then they must be replaced by Congressmen or women who will reflect that yearning for an end to the war and prevention of future wars. Its not an easy job. We may not succeed in '72. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't make an all our effort—efforts which should continue until the job is done: '74, '76, '78 or whatever it takes. And once we've elected strong peace people to Congress we must not sit back; we must watch their every move and let them know we're there monitoring their votes, position papers, speeches, press releases, and their actions on behalf of peace. A CONTINUING AND EFFECTIVE PEACE LOBBY MUST BE CREATED AT THE SAME TIME WE'RE BUILDING FOR THE STRONGEST PEACE CONGRESS EVER!

We know that a lot of you are already engaged in activities which are designed to press your Congressman for a "no" war vote and that you may be thinking of running a peace and new priorities candidate against him. If you are, then BRAVO! Send this leaflet on to a friend in a not-so-active Congressional District. BUT PLEASE SEND US THE ENCLOSED CARD, FILLED OUT, SO THAT WE KNOW WHO'S DOING WHAT AND IN WHAT DISTRICT. It'll just cost you 8¢ postage.

You may ask, who are we to presume we should be the group to keep such lists? Well, the answer is: someone better do it and try to get active contacts in each of the 435 Congressional Districts or we're never going to get the power to shur off war and build for life. The purpose is to get some co-ordination and idea sharing going on and to keep you informed about what's happening in other districts so that you'll get some extra encouragement for keeping up the struggle. We really don't care who does the job of setting up this communication and coordination—the point is, IT HAS TO BE DONE, AND NOW! If your group wants to do the job, then say so and the job is yours. Anyway, there should be peoples' committees all across the country to put people into Congress who do not cater to the moneyed interests but to the peoples' wishes; who stand for the truth regardless of the consequences; and who stand for peace, justice, freedom and liberty. The job must be done by the people and in the peoples' name. Minn. Clergy and Laymen Concerned's name is just there for a mailing place—a central location for the time being. We will do whatever is necessary to assist you in your efforts: help raise funds, do needed research, print your leaflets for you at cost, and find the people and resources to provide you with additional action suggestions. The fact that we've sent you this flyer at all is not because its a unique idea—but just the opposite: because people all over the country are beginning to think this is one way to work effectively and we just wanted to add our 2¢ and say, "DO IT!" PLEASE GIVE IT A LONG, HARD AND ENTHUSIASTIC AND SERIOUS TRY. TOGETHER WE WILL WIN!

With hope,  
*Paula Westerlund*  
Paula Westerlund  
Executive Secretary

*Joe Salvaggio*  
Joe Salvaggio  
Co-Chairman

*Vincent Hawkinson*  
Vincent Hawkinson  
Co-Chairman