

EMERGENCY ALERT

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE B-1 BOMBER
318 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

202-547-2202 or 546-7330
(collect if necessary)

FRIDAY
APRIL 1, 1976

DEAR FRIENDS,

HERE'S THE LATEST:

THE FULL HOUSE DEBATES THE BIG DEFENSE BILL NEXT WEEK. THERE WILL BE A RECORD VOTE ON REP. JOHN SEIBERLING'S AMENDMENT TO DENY PRODUCTION FUNDS FOR THE B-1 BOMBER.

THE BEST GUESS IS THAT THE B-1 VOTE WILL COME THURSDAY OR FRIDAY, APRIL 8 OR 9.

THIS IS THE FIRST OF A CASCADE OF CRITICAL VOTES, AND IT'S CERTAINLY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT. WE MUST MAKE A STRONG SHOWING TO KEEP OUR MOMENTUM AND STAY ALIVE.

FRANKLY, WE WERE SURPRISED BY THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE BILL WAS BROUGHT TO DEBATE, AS WAS EVERYONE ELSE. THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN AGAIN. IT'S OUR TURN TO SURPRISE EVERYONE WITH THE PRESSURE WE CAN GENERATE IN AN EMERGENCY.

YOU ARE RESPONDING MARVELOUSLY TO THE CALL. NATIONAL ACTIVITY RANGES FROM THE WEST COAST WOMAN WHO SAT DOWN AND WROTE 25 LETTERS TO HER STATE DELEGATION, TO THE PHILADELPHIA CAMPAIGN WHICH RAPIDLY GENERATED 2000 LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS!

THE D.C. COALITION IS MOBILIZED, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION BY THE NATIONAL FARMERS UNION (WHICH JUST WENT ON RECORD AGAINST THE B-1) and A MASSIVE ALERT TO RELIGIOUS ACTIVISTS IN 100 SWING DISTRICTS. PEOPLE WILL USE FOUR PHONE ALL WEEKEND.

WE MUST KEEP THE PRESSURE ON EACH DAY NOW. AS ONE PERSON HERE PUT IT, "WE CAN HEAR THE DISTANT RUMBLING OF A WAVE ROLLING IN."

FIND WHAT TO DO NOW ON THE NEXT PAGE. KEEP IN TOUCH. GOOD LUCK. THANKS.

WHAT TO DO NOW:

1. SEND TELEGRAMS.
2. CALL HOME DISTRICT OFFICES. ASK REP'S B-1 POSITION AND STATE YOURS. REQUEST APPOINTMENT DURING EASTER RECESS (APRIL 15-25.)
3. CALL US. GET LATEST UPDATE, GIVE US LOBBYING CLUES.
4. PREPARE TO RESPOND TO REP'S VOTE.

DETAILS ON WHAT TO DO:

SEND TELEGRAMS UP TO THE LAST MINUTE. CALL WESTERN UNION, CHARGE TELEGRAM TO YOUR PHONE BILL. "PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGES" ARE 15 WORDS FOR \$2.00, DELIVERED SAME DAY. "MAILGRAMS" ARE 100 WORDS FOR \$2.50, DELIVERED IN NEXT DAY'S MAIL. ADDRESS TO REP. ____, HOUSE BUILDING, WASHINGTON, 20515.

TO GET THE CONGRESSPERSON'S DISTRICT OFFICE PHONE NUMBER, ASK LOCAL NEWSPAPER OR LOCAL PARTY HEADQUARTERS OR "INFORMATION" IN DISTRICT'S LARGEST CITY. ASK A SPECIFIC QUESTION WHEN YOU CALL ("HOW WILL YOU VOTE ON THE B-1?") SO LOCAL OFFICE WILL BE CERTAIN TO QUICKLY CONTACT WASHINGTON.

AFTER THE VOTE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO SWIFTLY REGISTER YOUR GRATITUDE OR DISAPPOINTMENT FOR YOUR REP'S RIGHT OR WRONG VOTE, AND TO GET AN EXPLANATION FOR WRONG VOTES. YOUR PRESSURE NEXT TIME WILL BE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE IF YOU FOLLOW THROUGH THIS TIME, AND YOU WILL KNOW WHAT ARGUMENTS TO USE.

THE MESSAGE:

CONSTITUENTS MUST DEMAND OUTRIGHT TERMINATION OF THE B-1 PROGRAM, EVEN THOUGH THE AMENDMENT WOULD ONLY EMBARGO PRODUCTION FUNDS (RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS ARE NOT CHALLENGED THIS TIME.) USE YOUR BASIC ARGUMENTS: IT'S NOT NEEDED, IT COSTS TOO MUCH, IT'S DANGEROUS, AND IT'S A BOONDOGGLE.

WE ARE BUCKING AN ATTITUDE IN CONGRESS THAT NO MILITARY SPENDING CUTS CAN BE MADE THIS YEAR BECAUSE THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IS NOT RIGHT. WE MUST DESTROY THAT MYTH. SAY THE B-1 IS NOT NEEDED FOR NATIONAL SECURITY, AND THAT WE DO DESPERATELY NEED THE FUNDS FOR USEFUL PROGRAMS. THAT WILL COUNTER THE NUMEROUS PENTAGON "SOVIET SCARE" STORIES.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THIS VOTE?

IT IS CRUCIAL. WE MUST HOLD OUR OWN WITH THIS VOTE AND THEN COME BACK IN THE SENATE AND AT APPROPRIATIONS WITH AMENDMENTS TO CUT THE PRODUCTION MONEY OUTRIGHT. WE NEED MOMENTUM FOR CRITICAL VOTES DOWN THE LINE.

GO ALL OUT NOW.

UPDATE AND PROJECTED TIMELINE:

1. Full Senate takes up the First Budget Resolution about April 12 or 13. The Budget Committee finished its version of the Resolution yesterday, setting a ceiling of \$113.3 billion for Defense, which is what Ford asked for.

2. Full House takes up Budget Resolution about April 26. Yesterday House Budget Committee recommended \$112 billion for Defense.

THE RESOLUTION SETS CEILINGS FOR FEDERAL SPENDING ON DEFENSE AND OTHER FUNCTIONS, LIKE SOCIAL SPENDING. THERE WILL BE FLOOR AMENDMENTS TO CUT DEFENSE CEILING OR TRANSFER DEFENSE FUNDS TO OTHER CATEGORIES, AND WE WILL SUPPORT THEM IN ORDER TO FURTHER PRESSURE THE B-1 AND OTHER ITEMS. HOUSE AND SENATE MUST AGREE ON RESOLUTION BY MAY 15.

3. FULL SENATE CONSIDERS DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL IN LATE APRIL. SENATOR MCGOVERN WILL OFFER AMENDMENT TO STRIKE PRODUCTION FUNDS. WE MUST WORK THIS VOTE WITH GREAT INTENSITY.

4. HOUSE AND SENATE CONSIDER DEFENSE APPROPRIATION BILLS IN MAY AND JUNE.

IN SHORT, IT LOOKS NOW LIKE THE ENTIRE CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS MAY BE OVER BY THE TIME WE EXPECTED THE AUTHORIZATION BILLS TO BE FINISHED.

WE'LL TAKE THEM ONE AT A TIME. THE SENATE AUTHORIZATION AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATION BILLS LOOK LIKE THE BIGGIES AFTER THIS WEEK'S VOTE.

WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED.

WHAT ARE OUR PROSPECTS?

This House vote will be tough, but we must hang in there, as they say, so we are able to carry the struggle to the later votes, for which we will be entirely ready.

We must try to lower the Defense ceilings in the Budget Resolution to pressure the B-1 in Appropriations.

The vote in the Senate looks very hopeful. Everyone should start SOON on Scoop Jackson: he's a presidential candidate who should listen to all of you -- and who will bring a few with him if he votes against the B-1.But more on that later!

We get a second shot at the House when the Appropriations bill comes up. That may be the biggest vote of all, as long as we 'hang tough' this time.

In short, we still have chances, but the biggest factor in momentum will be the vote next week.

ROOM FOR JUST A COUPLE ANECDOTES ABOUT HOW WELL YOU ARE DOING ALL ACROSS THE LAND:

The Minnesota Campaign had 50 mailgrams off within hours of getting the alert.....the Steelworkers have, for the first time, agreed to talk to a few Reps they can influence.....The San Francisco Bay Area Campaign quickly alerted 600 people by mail, followed up with phone calls, generated 200 public opinion messages, mobilized 20 churches and set up a press conference for Monday -- with the endorsement of 4 of their Congresspeople!..... AFSC/NARMIC just got the jobs information from Rockwell International, and put out a great piece on how few jobs are created and how costly they are (it went to a few hundred press people.....The Washington offices of numerous religious groups are writing a letter to Congress, and releasing it the press.....UPI may do a story on the religious groups around the Campaign.....the massive phone alert to religious activists is being done on 4 Common Cause WATS lines tonite, Saturday and Sunday.....more than one Congressperson's office complained to folks who call in "Not another B-1 message!"

KEEP IT HAPPENING!

LET US HEAR FROM YOU.....WE'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS WE KNOW HOW THE VOTE GOES. FEEL FREE TO CALL: WE HAVE LOTS OF FOLKS MANNING OUR 5 NEW PHONES.