



National
Council to

REPEAL THE DRAFT

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TO ALL REGIONAL COUNCILS TO REPEAL THE DRAFT

AND

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS OF NCRD

From Jo Lee Davis, Associate Director

RE WE ARE BEING FORCED TO MOVE FAST!!

**HEARINGS BEGIN
LOBBYING INFORMATION ENCLOSED**

As many of you have heard, hearings are beginning in the Senate on February 2; the pro-draft forces in and out of Congress are indeed afraid that anti-draft sentiment is so powerful that, as Sen. Stennis said recently, "we cannot pass a 'meaningful' Selective Service Act."

It is not yet known whether the Senate Armed Services Committee will allow testimony from outside groups. As of this writing, on Tuesday, Feb. 2, Sec. of Defense Melvin Laird will testify; on Wednesday, Selective Service Director Tarr and Undersecretary of Defense for Manpower Kelly will be heard; and on Thursday, Feb. 4, Senators who wish to speak will do so. It seems likely that Sen. Stennis is biding his time, waiting to see how much public outcry arises from his present lack of plans to hear public testimony. This outcry must be made, and vehemently! Call, write, telegvam the Senate Armed Services Committee demanding to be heard.

Legislative information: enclosed is NCRD's press release responding to Nixon's proposals; read especially closely the budgetary information. Nixon has backed up on even his paltry proposals for pay-raises of last April 23. Supporting our side of the issue in the Senate, Sen. Hatfield will introduce two pieces of legislation:

1) a Senate Joint Resolution (the legislative form necessary to repeal an already existing bill) for total repeal of the Military Selective Service Act of 1967, S.J. Res. 20. This resolution will get the idea before the Senate; it will very likely

be introduced during floor debate as an amendment to legislation reported out of the Armed Services Committee. The resolution currently has five co-signers, including Hatfield: Proxmire, McEver, Church, Cranston. NCRD is supporting this revolutionary piece of legislation strongly; this is the first time since 1948 that total repeal legislation has been introduced in the Senate.

2) a Gates Commission pay-raise bill very similar to that introduced as an amendment last August, S. 392. NCRD supports the pay-raise recommendations, necessary simply on the basis of equity. NCRD opposes the standby registration provision of this bill. In the unlikely chance that this bill makes it out of Committee, however, the bill could be amended by S.J. Res. 20. Co-sponsors of S. 392 are Hatfield, Goldwater, McEver, Church, Jordan (Idaho), Telford, Packwood, Pearson, Moes, Stephens (Alaska), and Cranston.

In the House, Rep. Kastenmeier has introduced Gates Commission legislation without standby draft provisions and calling for an end to inductions by the end of this year. The bill number is H.R. 71 -- Kastenmeier doesn't believe in co-sponsors. Hearings will probably begin about the third week in February but may come earlier.

The American Civil Liberties Union, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Women Strike for Peace, and American Friends Service Committee have all put draft repeal at the top of their priority lists. We ask that you contact your local groups to coordinate activities and get them moving. AFSC is scheduling a week of Washington visitation on the week of March 14. A list of AFSC Peace Education Divisions is enclosed (also enclosed is an updated list of regional councils to repeal the draft -- they have been forming in some numbers recently).

The conference on Repeal and Resistance being co-sponsored by NCP and SHAGWOOD will meet for two days: Saturday, Feb. 27, beginning at 12:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 28. It is vital that Congress be made fully to understand non-cooperation, especially in its newer forms, and that resistance and repeal groups develop strong lines of communication. We hope that you will be able to spend a few extra days in Washington to visit your Senators and Congressmen, demanding that they vote against extension and for repeal. See the enclosed flyer for information on the Repeal/Resistance Conference.

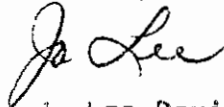
The Committee of National Churchmen to End the Draft in 1971 is organizing a "Wednesdays in Washington" program of prominent churchmen to lobby and testify. If you can be of any assistance please contact: Nancy Applewhite, United Church of Christ, 100 Maryland Ave. N.E., Room 209, Washington, D.C. 20002 (tel. 202/543-1517). The group is also circulating a Clergymen's Statement for Draft Repeal to be signed by church leaders from a wide spectrum of churches for presentation to Senators and Congressmen.

NCRD regional offices, located by regional councils, are included in the mailing list. If you are located in your state, stated on the enclosed regional council letter. We send copies of our mailing list to regional councils also where there is a priority of key names -- the code is 'DM' for keys and 'CM' for mailing list. If any other groups in a state start to contact the press, please write the recipient in your state.

Media attention (CM) is vital. Send out your own press release, or rewrite the enclosed one with a local angle; e.g., statements from prominent individuals in your community, local actions against the draft, etc.

Please check the enclosed items carefully. If we do not include all the information you need, let us know. Also, if we do not respond to your individual requests, CALL US ABOUT IT. The NCRD staff of four is working as diligently as possible but some things are not getting done in the rush. Heed the words of Solomon and do not hesitate to insist that your needs be met.

Fur repeal in '71!



Jo Lee Davis - Associate Director
National Council To Repeal
the Draft

February 2, 1971

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