


VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR/ WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION, INC.



NATIONAL OFFICE

827 West Newport
Chicago, Illinois 60657.
Tel. (312) 935-2129

March 25, 1975

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The National Office is in a desperate financial situation. We have no money. We feel that it is essential that the organization support itself, and that chapters support the work of the organization -- both politically and financially. Unfortunately, this state of affairs has not yet developed in VVAW/WSO, though it will be crucial to develop this kind of internal funding and self-reliance in the future. Because we still rely on outside sources for the vast majority of our money, we have been doing direct-mail fund-raising (i. e. mailing thousands of letters out to people all across the country and asking them to contribute). At this time, we have a huge mailer ready to go out into the mail, but there is one problem -- we can't afford to get it printed, pay the postage, etc. If we are unable to get this mailer out, the day will come (in the very near future) when there will be nowhere nearly adequate money coming into this office.

The day is rapidly approaching when we will have no money at all coming in and no methods of getting the money needed to get the new mailer into the mail; when that happens, we will have no alternative but to shut down the National Office. We feel that the organization has already been set back by the lack of an April issue of WINTER SOLDIER. The organization needs a number of different pamphlets which we are planning to produce, we need buttons, we need the regular publication of our national newspapers (WS and GI NEWS). The organization also needs a National Office.

At this point, things look bleak as far as the financial status of the NO is concerned. Because of this, we are asking all chapters to make a special contribution to keeping this office open and producing the things VVAW/WSO needs. If 50 chapters hold special fund-raising benefits or activities and send \$100 (or more) to the NO, we would have enough money to get the fund-raiser into the mail and begin operating again at full steam (ie, get the newspaper, go ahead with the pamphlets, etc). If you can only afford \$50, that will help.

We realize that many chapters are having financial problems also, but these special fund-raisers could be put on by the chapters with the proceeds being split between the local chapter and the NO. A special fund-raising effort is essential on the chapter level. Without it, we may go under. Please begin moving on this problem immediately. If we can be of any assistance (ie, providing ideas, etc) please let us know; some ideas on fund-raising from the Buffalo chapter are enclosed. We hope to be hearing from all of you in the very near future.