

sds new left notes 



STUDENT strike, Berkeley - 1970

ACT NOW!

STRIKE U.S. Out of S.E. Asia Stop the Bombings

IN THE PAST WEEK AND A HALF, Nixon and friends have sent literally hundreds of planes - including B-52's - in raids against the north Vietnamese people. They boast about bombing the big port of Haiphong and the capital, Hanoi. Pilots say they're told "drop the bombs anywhere if the target is hard to find". In other words, any and all Vietnamese are targets of this attack. The U.S. government is using the massive raids to scare the Vietnamese people so they'll stop fighting back. But that's never worked in Vietnam, or anywhere else, and it isn't working now.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT USED TO TALK all the time about the justice of its cause in Vietnam. By now nearly everyone is against the government in this war. So we don't hear too much nowadays about the "justice of the U.S. government's cause". The cold fact is: the war is being fought to benefit a few rich corporations. And the U.S. isn't about to get out of Vietnam until it's forced out. Millions of Vietnamese workers and peasants are organizing right now to defeat the escalation and drive the U.S. out of Vietnam - and all of southeast Asia. SDS calls on everyone to back the Vietnamese people in this truly international struggle against those who are oppressed. That's why we're CALLING A MILITANT STUDENT STRIKE, in every school, in every COUNTRY, where it's possible. The main demands:

U.S. OUT OF SOUTHEAST ASIA - NOW!!
STOP THE BOMBINGS!

Students should shut down all high schools and colleges. Try to win workers to strike too. Hold meetings where students and workers can discuss politics and strategy together. Set up picket lines around the schools - this is no time for business as usual!

WE SHOULD EXPOSE AND ATTACK the ways in which the schools are linked up with the war. For instance, ROTC must go! (There could be sit-ins at ROTC buildings and also other militant actions). No war recruiters! That goes for Dow, GM, GE and other big "defense" contractors too, not just armed forces. Kick them off wherever they appear. End all war research! Why should we let them use the schools to figure out better ways to kill the Vietnamese? End university complicity in the oppression of people in Africa, Latin America, Asia and elsewhere. Like Harvard's ownership of stocks in Gulf Oil, a company that helps the

rich Portuguese shaft the African people.

We should raise other issues, too. It's especially important to fight CAMPUS RACISM. The government is behind a big campaign to push racist ideas any way they can in order to justify their racist practices. We should fight against racist texts and professors and the harassment and racist flunk-outs black and latin students face.

WHEN YOUR SCHOOL GOES OUT ON STRIKE, struggle with people to stay at school. Keep the schools shut down and spread the strike! There can be MASS DISCUSSIONS of how best to oppose the war and racism. Produce LEAFLETS and get them out to other schools as well as working class communities and factories. SPREAD THE STRIKE - to other schools - but also to workers. Working people can stop this war by striking nationwide! Plan joint actions with workers on campus and off campus. Stage massive demonstrations against local war-related institutions, recruitment centers, federal buildings, etc. Give U.S. diplomats and Nixon and his fellow racist war criminals the treatment they deserve.

**MAY
DAY
MARCH
apr. 29**

**U.S. OUT OF S.E. ASIA NOW!
STOP the BOMBINGS**

**A CALL FOR
International
Solidarity**

SDS AND OTHERS ARE ORGANIZING massive MAY DAY marches in WASHINGTON, D.C., LOS ANGELES, TORONTO, SEATTLE/VANCOUVER and HOUSTON. THE DATE: April 29th. OUR PURPOSE: to oppose the U.S. war; to fight racism, especially on campus; to call for (and in the demonstrations themselves, put into practice!) worker-student alliance; to issue a living call for unity in struggle among workers and students here and AROUND THE WORLD. International solidarity is the keynote of this action! THIS IS AN ANTI-WAR MARCH which links the war to the terrible oppression of working people here and around the world, especially non-white. It supports those who fight back. It puts the blame where it belongs on the U.S. government and other oppressors. It accuses the U.S. government of war crimes and racist crimes. Right now the U.S. government is giving millions in Vietnam a taste of ITS kind of "solidarity" - bombs to try and crush their struggle. Let's get together - thousands of us - and celebrate MAY DAY in WASHINGTON, D.C., LOS ANGELES, TORONTO, SEATTLE/VANCOUVER and HOUSTON and give the U.S. government a sample of OUR idea of INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY. An injury to one person in Vietnam is an injury to us all! Demonstrate against the racist war criminals. Marches through working class areas followed by meetings with speakers and skits.



PUERTO RICAN students fight ROTC - 1971

MAY DAY is an international holiday that first started as a commemoration of heroic workers who died fighting for the 8-hour day in Chicago's Haymarket Square in 1886. People all over the world celebrate this as a symbol of working people's fight against oppression - and thousands will look to see what happens in the U.S. This demonstration raising international solidarity, U.S. out of Southeast Asia now and anti-racism will be a powerful call for a movement founded on INTERNATIONALISM.

THE SDS CONVENTION involved a vast number of people of different nationalities and races. The focus was against the war and racism, and for internationalism. There was much leadership from minority students. This convention was truly a first inter-racial, international convention. The MAY DAY marches will be another big step forward for INTERNATIONALISM!



PART OF THE GROUP of over 2,000 who took part in the March 30-April 2 SDS Convention at Harvard. The convention was held despite intense harassment from Harvard. The most striking feature was the way the large numbers of black, white, asian, latin and native-american students and non-students worked together, hashed out all sorts of questions about the anti-racism fight, and came up with over 60 resolutions. "They said it couldn't be done" - that a multi-racial, international (3 new chapters in Canada!) student organization couldn't be built. "They" can't be right ALL the time (!). BUILD SDS. FORM A CHAPTER. We'll send you literature and keep in touch.

How to Build the Strike

Here are some ideas on how to build the strike for STOP THE BOMBINGS and U.S. OUT OF SOUTHEAST ASIA NOW in your area.

1. FORM AN SDS CHAPTER if there is none yet. If one exists, it should meet. SDS is an international, multi-racial militant student group against the war and racism. You can form a chapter anywhere, as long as you agree with the demands around the war and fighting racism. You don't need "permission" or something. Please let us know if you're starting a chapter - we'll help as well as we can. Write us at any local address, or the Boston national headquarters address.
2. WHEREVER POSSIBLE, pull together an SDS Regional Interim Committee - which unites the work of different chapters.
3. The RIC's should work out a plan, or individual chapters could do it, to build the strikes. (If SDS isn't around, it's best if some group does this!). Call together other groups on campus (or off!) who want to build the strike. Call meetings based on demands to STOP THE BOMBINGS and U.S. OUT OF SOUTHEAST ASIA NOW! But if possible, link anti-racist demands to the anti-war demands. Focus on ways in which the schools are tied in with the "war effort". WHEREVER THIS IS AGREED ON, STRIKE COMMITTEES SHOULD ENDORSE THE VERY IMPORTANT MAY DAY MARCHES AGAINST THE WAR AND RACISM.
4. THEN you can either call a strike right away, or after building for awhile. You have to judge based on local conditions. When you DO call a strike, the best idea is MASS PICKET LINES TO REALLY SHUT IT DOWN. But everyone shouldn't go right home - because that would just empty out the schools. That would hurt the fight. Strike - but stay on campus and keep up the struggle.
5. Here are some ideas for building for a strike - they are also good things to do after the strike gets called: take out faculty ads in local college and non-college media; sponsor teach-ins; panel discussions, debates, workshops on what to do and why; call for and organize militant confrontations (how militant depends on what people are ready to do - it's different in different places) against war-related institutions - like ROTC, war research labs, government officials; contact faculty and CAMPUS WORKERS (also off-campus working people and professionals) about taking support action - OR STRIKING THEMSELVES.
6. Tie strike into struggles against school budget cuts, laying-off of campus workers, male chauvinist firings of workers or teachers, etc.
7. SEND ALL INFORMATION on strike-related activities to the SDS NATIONAL STRIKE COMMITTEE, P.O. Box 423, Prudential Center, Boston, Mass. 02119.

Contact SDS in your Area

Atlanta, (404) 378-5556
 Baltimore, (301) 539-2566
 Berkeley, (415) 534-8954
 Boston, (617) 498-2666
 Buffalo, (716) 831-2879
 Chicago, (312) 472-1367
 Cleveland, (216) 884-8806
 Columbus, (614) 228-0776
 Detroit, (313) 874-3716
 E. Lansing, (517) 355-1541
 Gary, (219) 882-4878
 Hartford, (203) 688-7690
 Honolulu, (808) 734-8238
 Houston, (713) 747-8750
 Iowa City, (319) 337-2687
 Kansas City, (816) 363-7610
 London, Ontario, (519) 432-8602
 Long Island, (516) 273-8085

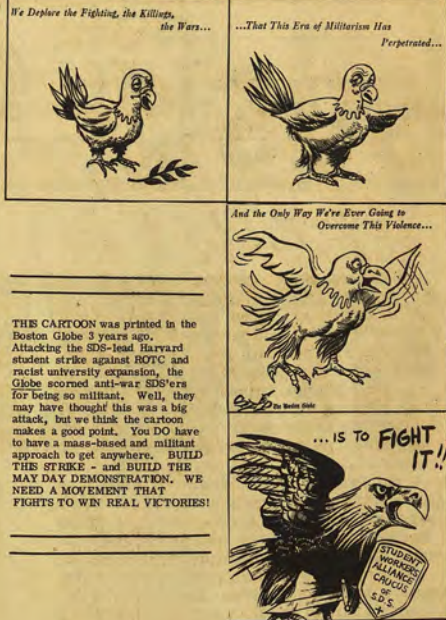
Los Angeles, (213) 885-7394
 Maine, (207) 277-5335
 Minneapolis, (612) 377-8286
 Missouri, (314) 721-0773
 New Haven, Ct., (203) 387-5865
 New Jersey, (201) 923-9752
 New York City, (212) 280-6926
 Oakland, Calif., (415) 532-1559
 Philadelphia, (215) V13-9616
 Pittsburgh, (412) 681-0232
 Rensselaer, Ind., (219) 866-7111
 San Diego, (714) 264-4346
 San Francisco, (213) 841-3657
 Seattle, (206) EM5-5530
 Salt Lake City, (801) 364-9182
 Stony Brook, (516) 273-8085
 Storrs, Ct., (203) 429-3748
 Toronto, (416) 921-7937
 Washington, D. C., (202) 667-7429

- _____ I would like more information about SDS.
 _____ I would like to join SDS (\$5 membership includes sub to New Left Notes).
 _____ I would like to start an SDS chapter at my school. Please send someone from SDS out here.
 _____ I would like a list of literature available from SDS.
 _____ I would like a complete copy of the resolutions presented at the Convention.

NAME _____ SCHOOL _____

ADDRESS _____

(zip) _____
 clip and mail to: SDS, P.O. Box 423, Prudential Center, Boston, Mass. 02119



THE CARTOON was printed in the Boston Globe 3 years ago. Attacking the SDS-led Harvard student strike against ROTC and racist university expansion, the Globe scorned anti-war SDS'ers for being so militant. Well, they may have thought this was a big attack, but we think the cartoon makes a good point. You DO have to have a mass-based and militant approach to get anywhere. BUILD THE STRIKE - and BUILD THE MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION. WE NEED A MOVEMENT THAT FIGHTS TO WIN REAL VICTORIES!

VIETNAM IS A RACIST WAR!

NEWSPAPER STORIES PUSH racism in a big way. They want to turn people in the U.S., Canada and elsewhere against the Vietnamese. We're always being told about "hordes of Viet Cong swarming into South Vietnam". (The fact is the North and South Vietnamese are one people - it's their land. The only "outsiders" around are the U.S. government and its puppets in Saigon). Cartoons and news stories portray the Vietnamese as pitiful wrecks who think with their bellies and don't give a damn who runs things or as "inscrutable, eastern fanatics" who sweep forward, robot-like, wave upon wave - demented, savage sub-humans. The HISTORY of Vietnam shows this is a bunch of racist crap. Vietnamese workers and peasants are united around driving the U.S. out - north and south. They have suffered long and fought with unbelievable bravery, collectivity, initiative and resourcefulness to get the U.S. out of southeast Asia. We have EVERY REASON to support the Vietnamese people. We're oppressed by the same enemies. In a show of real international unity - of INTERNATIONALISM - strike to support Vietnamese!

STUDENTS, SDS: NOT SO SILENT AFTER ALL!

THE PRESS USED TO BOAST ABOUT HOW SDS was dead and the student movement was a thing of the past. "Students have become apathetic and cynical" was the idea they pressed for - to try to get us to give up the fight. The only trouble is, people see what's happening with their own eyes. Over 1,000 in Boston demonstrated this week against the war. U. of Minneapolis SDS lead a meeting of 300 this past Monday night to call a demonstration Tuesday. Thousands struck recently at Boston University against military recruiters and a savage police bust. The BU president singled out an SDS'er for special attack, but hundreds rallied to his defense. We just heard that Holy Cross students attacked the high school ROTC building and have called a strike. Hundreds "greeted" Nixon last weekend in Ottawa. And what can they say about the 2,000+ students and workers too, black, latin, asian, white and native-American, at the SDS CONVENTION AGAINST RACISM 2 weeks ago in Boston? What can they say? They can't say anything at all! They're speechless. But WE'VE GOT PLENTY TO SAY AND DO. STRIKE AGAINST THE WAR! SMASH RACISM!

Martie Riefe East Coast Sec.
 K.K. Washington, Central Sec.

Hear From SDS This Summer

FILL IN YOUR SUMMER ADDRESS so SDS can keep in touch.
 Name _____

Address _____

Clip & mail to SDS