

UNC Strike Press Release 1

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This UNC-Chapel Hill Student Government press release outlines the strike activities in which students and faculty could participate on the campus to show their dissatisfaction over President Nixon's expansion of the Indochina war. It also mentions people and organizations the strikers could contact to help publicize the strike. This document is part of the UNC Libraries online exhibit, "I Raised My Hand To Volunteer, Students Protest in 1960s Chapel Hill."



Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

THE STRIKE CONTINUES...

"The massive rallies, marches, and convocations of last week effectively aroused awareness and organized concerned students. However, we must now channel our efforts toward more constructive action. Rallies alone will not end the war in Southeast Asia or prevent arbitrary repression in the United States. They must be supplemented by every possible means of political influence, even if it means talking to every voter in this town, in this state, in this nation."

-- Tommy Bello, President of the Student Body

Concern over Nixon's expansion of the war and the deaths at Kent State mobilized UNC students, both undergraduates and graduates, last week more rapidly and extensively than any comparable event or issue since the 1963 Speaker Ban Law. An informal poll conducted by several professors estimated that by Thursday about half of the student body was striking. That estimate has increased considerably since the Faculty Council passed the Amnesty Resolution and Faculty Council Chairman Dr. Okun released his supplementary statement to all faculty Friday afternoon.

The extreme concern and unprecedented political consciousness are certainly impressive. Yet they are useless unless they serve to facilitate some concrete action, to reach some goal. The purpose of the strike is to express and to voice our dissatisfaction with American participation in the Indochina war. But more importantly, the strike frees students from normal academic commitments so that they can use this time for constructive action. Many such actions are being organized and deserve widespread support: canvassing, letter writing, raps, and making appointments where possible with Congressmen in Washington.

FACULTY SPEAKS OUT ON NIXON'S NEW INDOCHINA WAR

To facilitate greater effectiveness in each of these actions, five distinguished UNC professors joined by Tommy Bello will examine the issues raised by American involvement in Indochina and Nixon's latest military venture. At 3 p.m. Monday, May 11, in Memorial Hall, Doctors Samuel F. Wells, James R. Leutze, Andrew Scott, Daniel Pollitt, and David Lapkin will discuss the diplomatic, military, political, legal, and economic aspects of the war. Those who have questions concerning the war and student reaction to it, no matter what their political persuasion, are encouraged to attend an objective, factual examination of Viet Nam and Cambodia. Canvassers and participants in the Washington Witness are strongly urged to attend.

Specific activities this week and possible people to contact include:

CANVASSING DORMS -- See Bob Schwab, Dept. of City Planning, New East, 968-9175

CANVASSING FRATERNITIES -- See Peter Hall, 968-9305; Matt Smith, 933-3047.

CANVASSING CHAPEL HILL AND STATE -- See Chuck Patrizia or Richie Leonard, Suite A of the Carolina Union, 933-1157. Workshops to train canvassers in the Door to Door for Peace drive will be held at 10 a.m. in the Great Hall of the Union.

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