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SUBJECT: Third Session of International Commission of Inquiry (ICI) into U.S. Crimes in Indochina

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1. [redacted] the attached two documents which were distributed at the ICI meeting held 10-16 October 1972 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The documents, entitled Position Paper on Repatriation and The New Program of the American Deserters' Committee (ADC), were originated by the American Deserters Committee of Stockholm, Sweden, whose representatives attended the ICI meeting.

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(b)(3)

2. For further information on the American Deserters Committee and the International Commission of Inquiry please see our memorandum, B-3621 dated 27 October 1972, Subject as above.

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3. The above information is being provided to your Bureau with the understanding that it will receive no further dissemination other than to your appropriate field offices, without the prior approval of this office; and that any reference to it in internal Bureau documents will state only that it was obtained from a confidential source.

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POSITION PAPER ON REPATRIATION

In response to the demands of the majority of the American people that the U.S. get out of Indochina now, the U.S. government is frantically searching for new tactics to disguise the continuation of the war and to immobilize public opinion to accept further escalation of the aggression, Vietnamization, Protective Reaction, the POW's, the "winding down of the war myth" - these tactics of deception are jamming the airwaves, which should be telling of war-profiteering and technological exaltation.

The development of the electronic battlefield means greater profits for the "defence" industries and greater destruction of human life while at the same time lulling the people with the decrease in conventional land warfare. While U.S. casualties become fewer, the blood of Asians slaughtered by mass death-machines runs over the cratered landscape of Indochina.

While we take positive note of the concern of humanitarian Americans for the repatriation of war-exiles, the discussion is being used by the war-profiteering establishment as a ploy to cover up the basic issue: continuation of U.S. aggression in Indochina.

Seen in this context, the present debate on amnesty not only misses the point but avoids it altogether. To speak of "amnesty" and to speak of it in terms of "second chance and forgiveness" ignores the basic fact that there is nothing criminal about resistance to genocide. To divide deserters, resisters, and other political exiles into separate categories combined with a "conditional amnesty" is part of the strategy to divide our collective resistance and to attempt to give a false aura of legitimacy to the government's criminal policies.

We see as our main responsibility to re-emphasize the fact that U.S. aggression continues in Indochina and that the repatriation of war exiles as well as P.O.W.s cannot be discussed realistically until the aggression has ceased. The 7-point peace proposal presented by the Vietnamese provides the only logical and honourable solution to this question. The U.S. must set a date for a total withdrawal of all its troops, completely halt the bombings and end all support for the oppressive Thieu regime. The concern of humanitarian Americans for those of us in exile is best channelled into actions to end the war now.

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~~SECRET~~The New Program of the AMERICAN DESERTERS' COMMITTEE (ADC)

The basis for the work of the ADC rests on three contradictions: First, that between the Indochinese peoples and American imperialism. Second, that between the legitimate rights and interests of American political refugees on the one hand versus the Swedish servile class allies of U.S. imperialism on the other. Third, that between the will of the American people for peace and social justice versus the ruling class' vested interests in maintaining monopoly capitalism.

The ADC, therefore, is a working group whose aims are to assure the victory of the Indochinese peoples, the interests of American political exiles, and the achievement of the goals of the American people. These aims are inseparable from each other.

1. U.S. out of Indochina

The struggle in Indochina today is of central importance for all peoples struggling for independence and peace. The heroic people of Vietnam are fighting not only for themselves but for all the world's people. Indeed, their struggle is the focal point in the struggle against American imperialism. Full support must be given to the people of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos on their own terms. Our major task at moment, therefore is to mobilize mass support to force the U.S. out of Indochina.

2. Political Asylum to all American political refugees

As aggression abroad and repression at home increase, the number of Americans to the actions of their government has also intensified. Many have chosen or been forced to flee into exile. The illegal and arbitrary refusal of the Swedish government to recognize the political nature of the acts of desertion, draft resistance and those of other American exiles not only makes them subject to deportations but result in their being denied the rights and opportunities necessary for all refugees. An important task therefore is work to expose the development characteristics of political repression and persecution in the United States and give our actual support to all American political refugees.

3. Support the American People's fight for peace and social justice. The movement for peace has led many Americans to realize that the war in Indochina is but the otherside of a war at home against workers, minorities and the poor. We fight then, to organize a mass movement to resist and change the illegitimate exercise of power by the military corporate structure, to radically transform America and place power in the hands of the people. Real justice for all cannot exist alongside rule by a few. Monopoly capitalism must be crushed. All efforts must be made to strengthen the fight of the American people and develop the solidarity of the Swedish people with their struggle.

In conclusion, we are organized as an American group because we are an integral part of a mass movement in the United States. Since we find ourselves in Sweden because of resistance to American aggression, we therefore cooperate closely with our friends in the Swedish solidarity movement for Vietnam whose aims are the same as ours. We express our full support to the United FNL groups of Sweden who stand in the forefront of the struggle here against American imperialism and

for the strategy of united front which they have successfully proved is the best way under Swedish conditions to mobilize the majority of Swedish people to demand U.S. out of Indochina.

There is no contradiction between the goals of the United FNL group in Sweden and that of the ADC, we are like different fingers in the same fist. We therefore encourage all to work with their local FNL group whenever possible.

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An essential part of our new program is not only to continue in the direction that AEC has worked for during the last few years, but also to earnestly intensify and expand our efforts to mobilize mass support for the Indochinese peoples and opposition against U.S. aggression.

Our major tasks are the following:

1. To increase support for the political solution to the Indochinese question as outlined in the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam (PRG)'s seven point proposal at the Paris talks and all further clarifications thereof.
2. To actively participate in Swedish campaigns to mobilize mass demonstrations, rallies, etc. and oppose U.S. escalation and continuation of the war.
3. To work to bring about a Swedish recognition of the PRG as well as an end to Swedish support to the U.S. dollar.
4. To fight for the rights of every genuine exile opposed to the ruthless policy of the American government to political asylum, and to ensure with the Swedish people their rights to gainful employment as well as physical, educational and cultural opportunities.
5. To continue and expand programs of serious ideological study for all members and other interested people.
6. To join with all progressive Americans who are seriously interested in building an independent mass movement led by working people to defend democratic rights and to oppose racism, sexism, economic exploitation and violent repression in order to radically transform the basis of our society so that power is justly exercised by the people.
7. To learn from the Swedish people and at the same time to promote mutual understanding and cooperation in our joint struggle.
8. To criticize and oppose all forms of decadent American "culture" which poisons our people and prevents them from effectively waging the struggle for our own liberation, and to promote a healthy, vigorous people's culture.

U.S. out of Indochina now, recognize the PRG!

Political asylum to all political refugees!

All support to the American people's struggle for peace and social justice!

October 1972

the AMERICAN DESERTERS' COMMITTEE

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