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Antiwar forces plan big offensive to get U.S. troops out of Vietnam

By RANDY FURST The Guardian

The nation's antiwar forces are mapping out a massive fall offensive to get U.S. troops out of Vietnam.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans are expected to participate in the actions — eight large ones are scheduled — culminating in a mass march on Washington Nov. 15 for immediate withdrawal which may be the largest antiwar protest ever.

- In Chicago, supporters of eight movement figures indicted for Conspiracy in last summer's confrontation at the Chicago convention plan a major demonstration as the trial gets underway Sept. 24. Weekly protests are planned thereafter.

- Movement activists are again expected to descent on Chicago Oct. 8 to 11 for a series of SDS antiwar demonstrations despite a widening rift within the radical organization.



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- Liberals operating out of Washington plan a nationwide "moratorium" on college and university campuses Oct. 15 to dramatize opposition to the war.

- More support demonstrations are scheduled in Chicago Oct. 25 for the Conspiracy case.

- Antiwar forces have called for campus protests Nov. 8-15, announced by the SDS Joe Hill Caucus in San Francisco and endorsed by the Revolutionary Youth Movement -2, a national SDS faction.

- Students will strike the nation's high schools and colleges Nov. 14 for immediate withdrawal in an action sponsored by the Student Mobilization Committee. The Vietnam Moratorium Committee has scheduled a second school stoppage this day to coincide with the strike.

- In Washington, the New Mobilization Committee - a mass coalition of antiwar groups - has scheduled a "march against death" Nov. 13-14.

- The fall offensive climaxes in Washington Nov. 15 with a mass march and a second march in San Francisco, both sponsored by the New Mobilization Committee.

In Washington, Mobilization coproject director Ron Young predicted "the most significant demonstrations in American history." He reported response was "terrific" at 50 meetings throughout the country last week to build support for the November 13-15 action. Dr. Benjamin Spock said in New York Sept. 18 that up to a half million people may come to the Washington demonstrations.

Dave Hawk, a member of the liberal Vietnam Moratorium Committee predicted 400 campuses would be shut down Oct. 15.

The fall offensive will get under way in Chicago Sept. 24 where the Conspiracy goes on trial. With

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support from the Black Panther party who will send members from their central committee, demonstrators will mass at the federal building at 10 a.m. Between 5,000 and 10,000 people are expected at a rally.

Outlining plans for the SDS national action in Chicago Oct. 8-11, national secretary Mark Rudd says that "people should come organized to move together in the streets."

The Vietnam Moratorium Committee is pushing ahead with a nationwide school stoppage Oct. 15 on college campuses. Weak on politics, the committee is strong on organizing. Eight full-time workers man telephones eight hours a day in a six-room office in Washington. The group is encouraging students to hold teach-ins, demonstrations and to go into the community and ring doorbells to talk to people about the war.

The president of Rutgers University agreed to close down the campus in New Jersey, Oct. 15. Said Hawk: "We'd like to get other administrations to sanction the action."

While backed and organized by former supporters of Sen. Eugene McCarthy, committee members have called for immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops.

The next major demonstration will be in Chicago Oct. 25, organized by the New Mobilization Committee in support of the Conspiracy. The action includes a march and rally focusing on the war and government repression of peace movement leaders.

On Nov. 14 the Vietnam Moratorium Committee will hold a second day of moratoriums while the Student Mobilization Committee has announced a student strike. The student strike demand is for immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops.

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Workers, students harass neo-Nazi

ESSEN, West Germany (CUPI) — Thousands of workers and students, screaming "Get out of town, you Nazi swine," stormed a police barricade here September 14 in an attempt to silence Adolf von Thadden, head of the neo-Nazi National Democratic party. Von Thadden, hunched behind a bullet-proof plexiglass cage, was manhandled by one of the demonstrators who slipped past barbed-wire barriers, police dogs, and NPD strong-men to grab the right-wing leader, and yell "Nazi criminal" into his microphone. Housewives with shopping bags joined students, miners and steel workers in the vanguard of the crowd.

Radicals picket industrialists

SAN FRANCISCO (Guardian) — More than 500 demonstrators, carrying red banners and pictures of Ho Chi Minh, snaked through the financial district of San Francisco September 15 and picketed outside the Fairmount Hotel where a gathering of international industrial leaders was scheduled to get under way. Riot-equipped police kept a close watch on the marchers who chanted "power to the people, send Rocky to his grave." After keynoting the International Industrial Conference, David Rockefeller told reporters that he and the 700 industrial leaders were "concerned" about the income gap between the rich and the poor.

Coffee and cops calm campus

WASHINGTON (LNS) — University administrators are straining their imaginations to seek solutions to the problem of student unrest. Now that the school year is upon us, new ideas are emerging from all over. William Smith, vice-president for student affairs at George Washington University, has solemnly vowed to meet students informally by joining them for coffee in the student union, and he has urged his staff to do likewise. Meanwhile, the university's administration announced that it was strengthening the campus police force.

Second battle of Chicago opens

CHICAGO (CUPI) - The trial of eight organizers of the 1968 Democratic party convention demonstrators opened here September 24 with a clash between the defendants' supporters and police, and with the issuing of warrants for the arrest of four defence lawyers who failed to appear in court. Judge Julius Hoffman issued bench warrants for the arrest of the lawyers despite the plea of defence attorney Leonard Weinglass that the lawyers had been retained only to prepare pretrial motions, and that they had sent telegrams to the court already withdrawing from the case. The eight defendants are charged under a 1968 law with crossing state lines with the intent to start a riot, teaching about "incendiary devices" for use in a riot, and obstructing law officers. The eight defendants have organized themselves into a group they call "the Conspiracy" to bring as many radicals as possible to Chicago to protest the courthouse. Abbie Hoffman, one of the defendants told a meeting of 2,000 demonstrators in Grant Park, "We'll see a half-million people in the streets of this city before the trial is over. Chicago will see the most massive 'conspiracy' in the streets there's ever been.'



Harvard breaks lecturer's contract

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (LND) — Harvard University has broken the three-year contract of Jack Stauder, a lecturer in anthropology, in punishment for his part in last spring's anti-ROTC building occupation at Harvard. Stauder will not be allowed to teach this term, and his case will be reviewed depending on his "good behavior." The university's contract with Stauder was scheduled to go through June 30, 1971.

U.S. war casualties are heavy

WASHINGTON (Guardian) — The following U.S. casualty figures are based on government statistics. They are lower than casualties claimed by the National Liberation Front. The first figure covers the war from January 1, 1961 to September 13, 1969. The figures in parentheses show the increases from Sept. 6 to Sept. 13, 1969. Killed: 39,593 (143), Non-combat deaths: 6567 (46), Wounded: 250,945 (1343), Missing, captured: 1337 (new figures for the current week are not available.)