

# 1200 in Toronto celebrate Nixon's inauguration

By PETER MATILAINEN  
Old Mole Correspondent  
Over 1200 demonstrators took to the streets in Toronto last Saturday to protest U.S. aggression in Viet-

nam and show their solidarity with the revolutionary forces in Indochina.  
Protestors called on the Canadian government not to send troops to

Vietnam and demanded an unconditional halt to bombing by the "U.S. imperialists forces."  
Saturday's march against American actions in Vietnam was

the largest in Toronto since 1970 following the invasion of Cambodia. It was called by the Vietnam Mobilization Committee and the Indochina Solidarity Committee to take place in conjunction with Nixon's inauguration.

onto the street. Police attempted to use motorcycles and a cruiser to block the street but were unable to stem the protesters who avoided the motorcycles and pounded with fists against the cruiser.



Protestors move from a meeting at Metropolitan United Church to the American consulate.

Addressing a pre-march rally at Metropolitan United Church Dennis McDermott, Canadian director of the United Auto Workers, compared Nixon with the "blood thirsty monarch as the past", for his continuation of the bombing.

He spoke against Canadian intervention saying; "There's no guarantee that the first contingent would not be the first step to armed Canadian intervention. Canada's military idiots are no better than anyone else's."

Claire Culhane, a Canadian nurse who had worked in a hospital in Vietnam; "I'm glad to see people calling for solidarity with those who are doing the fighting" in Indochina.

She praised the Vietnamese for their courage and determination in fighting against "the rotten system that can only survive by creating wars and profiting from wars."

The demonstrators leaving the church held aloft red banners with such slogans as 'No Canadian Troops'.

As the march went up Yonge Street many spilled onto the street and added to the chaos of regular Saturday traffic. Police and VMC marshals eventually were able to push demonstrators back on the sidewalk.

On College Street some marchers once again led the demonstration

The demonstrators were greeted at the American consulate by a small contingent from the CPC (M-L) (Communist Party of Canada - Marxist Leninist, who demanded that the Americans sign the proposed ceasefire and also called for 'Victory to the Vietnamese people'.

At the consulate, speakers from the League for Socialist Action and the VMC called on those present to defend the right to self-determination of the Vietnamese by opposing peacekeeping troops who would act as agents for the Americans.

Joe Flexer, representing the Red Circle and the Old Mole who are both members of the ISC, saw the only solution to achieving lasting peace in Indochina would be the "unity of Vietnam under a workers and peasants government."

He charged the Chinese and Russian Soviet governments with "again placing their supposed national interests above the duties of revolutionary internationalism", by not giving every possible aid to the Vietnamese.

He challenged David Lewis, NDP federal leader, to speak out against the use of Canadian troops in Vietnam, a position already supported by the Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia provincial New Democratic parties.

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