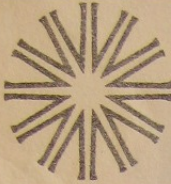


# News Letter

a service to members



## VIETNAM MORATORIUM CAMPAIGN

A MORATORIUM AGAINST BUSINESS AS USUAL TO END THE WAR

MAY 8-9-10

The Vietnam Moratorium Campaign will be conducted throughout Australasia and supported overseas on the weekend of May 8, 9 and 10. It will be the most massive expression of opposition to Australia's participation in the Vietnam war since our involvement began in 1965.

The Campaign was initiated in Australia by the C.I.C.D. following the success of the Moratorium Days in the U.S.A. A national consultation in Canberra last November which launched the Australian Moratorium received the support of 74 Federal Labor M.P.'s. One hundred and thirty organisations are now represented on the Victorian Vietnam Moratorium Committee. They include the Victorian Branch of the A.L.P., along with many local A.L.P. Branches, the National Union of Australian University Students, and other student groups, over a dozen trade unions, church groups, women's organisations, etc. The Chairman of the Victorian Committee is Dr. J. F. Cairns, M.H.R. Twenty-five suburban and country V.M.C. Committees have been set up in recent weeks to give dynamic support to the Campaign.

In Victoria, the highlights of the Campaign will be . . .

- \* The distribution of nearly one million educational broadsheets to householders, students, workers, etc., commencing on the weekend of April 18. The broadsheet contains facts, figures and photographs on the Vietnam war, and an outline of Moratorium Campaign events.
- \* A door knocking programme in many suburban and provincial areas inviting participation in the Moratorium Campaign.
- \* A massive demonstration in the city on Friday afternoon, May 8, involving thousands of worker and student strikers, and the general public. The rally will assemble in the Treasury Gardens at 2 p.m. to listen to songs and speeches, and at approximately 3 p.m. the assembly will move down Bourke Street to Elizabeth Street, where the entire body of marchers will be encouraged to sit down in the street for a period of 15 minutes, symbolizing a desire to stop the nation in order to stop the destruction of Vietnam. At the conclusion of the 15 minute sit down, the marchers will resume their march to the City Square, where leaflets will be available so that participants can continue to remain in the city distributing leaflets in streets, stores and elsewhere, and participating in other actions of their choice.
- \* A series of suburban and provincial church services on Friday night, May 8, at 8 p.m.
- \* Suburban demonstrations, Saturday morning, May 9, e.g. residents of the Diamond Valley electorate will be forming a two mile "line of conscience" around the Doncaster shopping complex involving over 1,000 persons. Similar actions will occur in many other suburbs.



VIETNAM MORATORIUM CAMPAIGN

EXECUTIVE MEETING, V.R.I., ROOM 52, APRIL 20, 7.30 P.M.

Chairman: Dr. J. F. Cairns.

It was moved and agreed that the Minutes of the previous meeting be confirmed.

Correspondence:

1. South Australian Committee re Gallup Poll. Mr. J. Ryan moved "that we contribute \$50 towards the cost of gallup poll being arranged by the South Australian Committee."  
Carried.
2. Society of Friends, re request for support of Vietnam Moratorium Campaign for programmes being initiated by Society of Friends. Roger Wilson moved "that matters raised in the letter be deferred until after May 8, 9 and 10".  
Carried.
3. New Theatre. It was noted that a performance of "Face of an Enemy", an anti-Vietnam play, has been produced by the New Theatre for Saturday, May 9, for the Moratorium.
4. The Reverend Stewart Reid re use of black "M's" to be stuck on cars supporting the Moratorium. Agreed that no action possible at this stage.
5. Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act.  
Agreed -
  - (i) That the Melbourne Arts Co-operative be asked to support the Campaign.
  - (ii) Anti-conscription activities be encouraged at particular stages of the May 8 march.
  - (iii) Moved that no action be taken with regard to a Moratorium Campaign candidate for the State elections.  
Carried.
6. Woodcroft. Moved that no action be taken.
7. M. G. Leveson, Maryborough, letter noted.
8. Dr. Cairns indicated that he had just received a telephone call from Ken Carr indicating that he had been misquoted in "The Age", which had stated that Mr. Carr saw no purpose in the sit-in, and that there was a split in the Moratorium Campaign as a result. It was moved that the Seamen's Union be asked to apply diplomatic pressure on the newspapers with a view to rejecting the misquote of Ken Carr if necessary.  
Carried

It was also moved that the meeting go to "The Age" after the conclusion of business tonight to discuss the matter.

Agreed.

Reports

1. Special committee of extended Secretariat to recommend details for Friday march. Report included -
  - (i) Mr. Chris Gaffney to organize JP's be available with previously collected money for purposes of bail on Friday, May 8.
  - (ii) Programme at the Treasury Gardens. Agreed that from the back of tray trucks with speakers the folk singers should be presenting items from about 2 P.M. as the people are arriving. Money collections will take place at the Treasury Gardens, but at an appropriate time four speakers should be called upon, namely, L. Carmichael, M. Hyde,



J. Ryan (each 5 minutes), Dr. J. F. Cairns (10 minutes). The Chairman should be S. Goldbloom, who should also direct the march from the microphone as it leaves Treasury Gardens as it proceeds towards Bourke Street.

Marshals. Recommend that four chief marshals be appointed to recruit and plan marshalling programme, and to be available for quick consultations and decisions if changes of tactics are needed during the afternoon. Chief marshals should be Peter Close, Seamen's Union, Ted Poulton, Neville Hill, A.E.U., Robert Dorning. Also that we approach a number of unions to help provide the four hundred marshals necessary. Programme of march should be - proceed down Bourke Street across width of road. When head of column reaches Elizabeth Street, marchers to pack in close together and all sit down for the 15 minute period. After that period, the march will resume to the City Square, where distribution of the broadsheets should proceed, so that marchers can go to all parts of the city to distribute broadsheets to the public, and that street theatre should take place in the City Square, and other events of people's choice should follow. Special sub-committee was appointed by the extended Secretariat to arrange details, and also report to this meeting.

It was moved that a three minute period of silence take place as soon as the sit down commences.

Carried.

It was moved that "we give Chris Gaffney authority to establish a bail fund".

It was moved that "the chief marshals nominated in the report be appointed to recruit marshals".

It was agreed that the extended Secretariat's report be accepted.

The sub-committee report stated that impromptu performances, including student/worker forum, folk songs and La Mama Theatre performances should take place after the march has reached the City Square in the Swanston Street area.

It was moved that "such additional activities stated above be accepted as the responsibilities of the Vietnam Moratorium Campaign be encouraged until about 5.30 p.m."

Carried.

It was moved that we endorse the special committee's report and seek further reports on details.

It was moved that "after the sit down in Bourke Street, the march proceed down Swanston Street to the City Square."

Carried.

It was moved that bail money be appropriately used for any events over the whole weekend.

Agreed.

It was moved that, as far as possible, no negotiations or official communications of plans be made to the police.

Amendment. "That the matter of contact with police be left with police be left with the Secretariat".

The amendment was carried and became a motion. The motion was carried.

## 2. Finance Report

It was reported that Treasurers have received \$1,500 so far towards the \$18,000 appeal. All committees were encouraged to make a statement concerning the amount of money they are prepared to raise urgently to assist the Committee to decide on the nature and costs of the advertising programme to take place during the week prior to the Moratorium.



3. Broadsheet.

It was agreed that 600,000 broadsheets had already been distributed and more were needed. Another 100,000 should be ordered.

Carried.

It was agreed that approaches should be made to suitable persons to see if blow-up photos could be prepared to be carried in the march.

It was moved that the idea of small blow-up photos not be proceeded with, but that large blow-up photographs should be encouraged.

Carried.

Mr. D. Cassidy put a motion of no confidence in the Sunday Committee to the meeting in relation to the production of the four posters. The motion was lost.

It was agreed that a further leaflet be presented to the Secretariat for consideration of use in the Campaign.

It was agreed that posters be distributed to local groups for sale at 25 cents each, and later be distributed free if sales not successful.

Agreed.

4. Church Services.

It was suggested that Peace Quest Forum be asked to take up the matter of Archbishop Knox's statement. J. Lloyd reported that it is hoped about 12 or 14 church services will be conducted in the city and suburbs on Friday, May 8.

Moved that church services report be received.

Agreed.

5. Sunday Report

It was moved that the Secretariat be empowered to advertise the Sunday afternoon.

Agreed.

Mrs. Sandra Zurbo indicated that the Sunday event will take place in the Treasury Gardens at 2.30 p.m., and will involve Wendy Saddington, Ronnie Burns, The Spectrum, Company Kaine, and speakers including Alan Ashbolt, Dr. J. F. Cairns, Myra Roper, and possibly an overseas speaker.

Mr. B. Ramsden put a request for a new agenda item for the next meeting: "Post Moratorium developments be discussed".

It was noted that the extended Secretariat will meet to continue preparation of Friday march at 57, Palmerston Street, Carlton, Saturday afternoon, April 25, at 2.30 p.m.

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