

Vietnam

solidarity campaign

july bulletin 16

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FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

JULY 6th.

Surrey V.S.C. Rally against withdrawl of grants of students involved in demonstrations.

Assemble Sth. Wimbledon Tube St. (Northern Line) At 2-3Op.m.

JULY 7th.

Anti-fascist demonstration. This coincides with a pro-Powell demo. from Smithfield Mkt., organised by known fascists.

Assemble Clerkenwell Green at 2-00pm. Speakers include: Fenner Brockway; Oscar Abrahams (C.A.R.D.); Pat Jordan (V.S.C.); Terry Barret (I.S.); a speaker from the R.S.S.F.

JULY 20th.

Durham Miners Gala. Demonstration on Saturday following meeting on Friday 19th. at 8pm. Details from; Durham V.S.C., 14, The Avenue, Durham.

July 19th-21st

Friday 19th in the evening. Mass meeting to discuss demonstration on the 21st.

Saturday 20 th in the evening. Vietnam happening in the West End.

Sunday Afternoon. Trafalgar Square 2-30pm.. March to Grosvenor Square.

Details of the weekend of activities see article in this issue of the Bulletin.

Bradford July 13th

A protest is being organised against the fact that the rector of Paris Univers M. Paul Roche is to receive an honorary degree from the Chancellor of Bradford University H. Wilson. Anyone wishing to take part should contact. Pete Smith, 14, St Andrews Rd , Deepcar Sheffield. Tel. 074 137 2641.

WANTED URGENTLY

A GOOD TYPEWRITER
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NOTE The new telephone number for V.S.C. will be 480 6789.

VOLUNTEERS FOR HELPING IN THE NEW OFFICE ARE ASKED TO CONTACT US AS SOON AS THEY CAN. THE NEW OFFICE NEEDS TO BE DECORATED. BUT MOST IMPORTANT; WE NEED REGULAR HELP IN THE OFFICE, ESPECIALLY FROM TYPISTS.

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Editorial Address of the Bulletin is now 120 , Commercial Rd, E.1. This will be the new office of the V.S.C., within a few days (assuming that the G.P.O. gets round to connecting the telephone). Meanwhile we are still working from 8, Toynbee St. (Tel. 247 9845).

Editorial

The Campaign is preparing for the 'autumn offensive' on the basis of some internal indecision and an inadequate organisational base. This is not a pessimistic estimation, but a necessary appraisal of the movement at this time. A healthy movement should be able to discuss and question the course it is following, in order to avoid being impelled into repetitive actions through the fear of jeopardising gains already made. This discussion, however must start from an understanding of the development, popularity, and potential of V.S.C..

Much of the debate on the future of the V.S.C. and its place in the spectrum of the British Left is based on a misunderstanding of the movement, which is either belittled or exaggerated. This misunderstanding stems from a more basic mistake in the analysis of the importance of the Vietnam "issue". Gunday Therborne has convincingly argued (New Left Review 48), that the war in Vietnam cannot simply be regarded as an issue on which the left can mobilise and propagandise. In destroying the ideology of the cold-war period, the struggle of the Vietnamese revolutionaries has created a political crisis in every industrial country. The repressive nature of the Western 'democracies' has been rediscovered by a new generation. Sympathy for the Vietnamese has been transformed into hatred for a system which makes such bestiality possible. A movement which came into being as an act of solidarity with the Vietnamese revolution increasingly takes a revolutionary position towards its own government.

For many, V.S.C. is the first experience of organised political action, and its non-factional unity in action character accounts for a great deal of its success. It is important that the campaign is not seen as a recruiting milieu for the existing factions on the left. Few predicted its growth; many wish to feed upon its success. Recruit by all means, but do so in the process of building and strengthening the movement. V.S.C. focuses on the Vietnamese revolution as it is there that humanity is most directly confronting imperialism. A victory for the N.L.F. will both release the people from centuries of oppression and hearten oppressed people everywhere. A single issue movement has many failings, but not nearly as many as those which cannot distinguish between immediate and long-term perspectives. The function of V.S.C. may be limited, but only the theoretically moribund would assume its potential to be exhausted.

There is room for serious discussion within the Campaign on the form, target and politics of the October mobilisation. We are starting the discussion in the current issue of the Bulletin. To prepare for the mobilisation and to ensure that the advances made by the movement in the course of it are permanent, the following steps are necessary:

1) the preparation of general meetings in each area, where the potential demonstrators can be involved before the mobilisation (we must recognise that between large demonstrations we have been in contact only with the deeply committed; a circumstance which could easily lead to hasty sectarian decisions).

2) an immediate membership drive (VSC has only approximately 850 paid-up members! we need at least 4,000 by October, a large proportion of active supporters are not members of the Campaign).

3) an increase in income (this needs to be more than doubled to cover our current rate of expenditure. Every branch and supporting organisation should accept responsibility for a monthly Bankers Order; in addition, sympathisers should be asked to subscribe individually in each locality).

FRENCH EMBASSY CASE

Many VSC members took part in the march to the French embassy on May 26th. A number of comrades were arrested on this occasion and fined heavily (one worker was given a three month suspended sentence). Comrades will remember Tom Hillear, who successfully urged people to stop trying to get through the cordon, and organised them to regroup for a meeting in Hyde Park.

Tom Hillear was arrested on May 31st, a week after the demonstration, and charged with 'assaulting Chief Inspector Donnelly'; new charges have since been laid against him for 'incitement to riot' and 'using threatening words in a public place whereby a breach of the peace may be occasioned' (charges which are now made under the Race Relations Act 1965). He is at present on bail for £100 pending a preliminary hearing on July 5th at Marlborough Street magistrates court.

Due to the severity of these charges, and the fact that Tom is in danger of a jail sentence and has a wife and three children dependent on him, it is very urgent that anyone who was on the French demonstration and saw the incidents in relation to which he is being prosecuted should get in touch with him at 59 Denzil Rd, N W 10. But this is also a test case, which could establish the right of the government to prosecute anyone who plays an organising role, however 'responsible', on a demonstration on which incidents occur, under the Race Relations Act, which was supposedly established for quite other purposes and which carries heavy penalties. It is therefore important for all sections of the left to fight against the principle of victimisation, and to come to the aid of Tom Hillear in whatever way they can.

OCTOBER MOBILISATION

As members should know, plans are now in motion for a mobilisation in October. Organizations are being invited to participate in an Ad Hoc Committee to prepare for the mobilisation. The date is provisionally fixed for the weekend of October 26/27. Between now and then it is essential that the Campaign carry on a massive drive to mobilise support. It is equally essential that there be an ongoing discussion as to the form which the mobilisation should take, the strategy and the tactics which we should adopt for October. This discussion should be political. Suggestions as to tactics should be related to strategy, and both should be related to the goals of the Campaign. Ideas and position papers should be sent as soon as possible to the Campaign so that they can be printed in the Bulletin. The success of the mobilisation in October depends on the widest possible participation in the organization of it now.

Below are some initial contributions to this discussion.

THE OCTOBER MOBILISATION: Proposals adopted by Glasgow VSC, 19.vi.68

1. We accept all the arguments put forward in Ernie Tate's conference paper: "Our Next Step, the Autumn Offensive of VSC" and in Geoff Crossick's article: "The Paris Talks" which both appear in VSC Bulletin No. 15, June 1968. In other words: "The VSC's responsibilities have been increased by the talks." Our job is to maintain the impetus of and extend the scope of the protest movement in Britain. The success of the last two demonstrations and their galvanising effect on activity around the country show that we should continue to see the mass mobilisation as a central rallying point for our activity around which local groups can build their own campaigns.
2. The aim of the autumn mobilisation should be to assemble in the streets of London the maximum possible number of people around the principled political slogans of support for the NLF and the DRV. We should never lose sight of this aim in discussing the tactics and techniques of the demonstrations. Because its impact is to be determined largely in terms of its size we reject the idea of proposing illegal targets, e.g., the taking over of certain buildings. Such commando-type operations only become realistic as mass actions in the context of pre-revolutionary situations (e.g., Paris May 1968). In the likely political context of Britain in October such a proposition would be open to intimidation by the authorities of a kind which would undoubtedly significantly reduce the number of participants in the demonstration. We cannot afford such losses. We should not allow the authorities to pin the responsibility for illegal actions upon

any organisations or individuals. None of this excludes that such actions can have a dramatic value out of all proportion to the number of participants.

3. Arising from the above we propose:

Date: Saturday Oct. 26 (Saturday to ease return travelling problems for provincials and to make a greater impact in Central London; late October to allow for mobilisation on the campuses)

Meet: Trafalgar Square, 1 pm. This should not exclude London groups from organising marches into the Square if they wish but the main body of demonstrators should meet there. An early start is essential to avoid being trapped by the police in the dark at this time of year. Speeches at the rally should be short and the march should move off as early as feasible.

March: We reject the idea that this should be split up. If we get 100,000 people many will never have taken part in such a demonstration before. Numbers alone give these people a sense of solidarity in the demonstration. Splits in the march give the police an opportunity to isolate groups and individuals. The march should proceed everywhere possible as a solid body ranged across the whole breadth of the roadway.

Route: To (1) Downing Street via Whitehall where a letter will be handed to the PM.

(2) To Grosvenor Square via Parit. Sq. then either Birdcage Walk and Constitution Hill (unlikely to be granted because it means passing Buckingham Palace?) or Victoria St. and Grosvenor Place to Park Lane, Upper Grosvenor St. March past the US embassy exiting via Brook St. to Park Lane and Hyde Park. A letter should be handed into the embassy. It should be noted that if this route is accepted the embassy will be surrounded on three sides by demonstrators for almost the entire duration of the march past.

Rally: If the march is to be 100,000 strong it is essential there be a rallying point for people to repair to after the march. This should be Hyde Park and the right to use loudspeakers should be insisted upon. VSC should disclaim any responsibility for persons disregarding the regulations regarding the distribution of literature in the park.

Teach-In on the situation in Vietnam and the lessons of the demonstration should be held immediately afterward, i.e., that evening, in the Westminster Hall or some similarly large venue with the full right of all organisations and individuals to participate in the proceedings. This assembly should continue throughout the night if there is the demand.

Marshalling should be organised on the basis of local groups of people well-known to each other and able to carry out the policy of 'no arrests' effectively.

4. Preparations. We were distressed that a decision as to timing was not made at the last National Council. It goes without saying that the march should be finalised at the July 13/14 meeting. As was reaffirmed at Conference a call should be put out for an ad hoc committee to organise it. Special attention should be paid to the involvement of organisations of the labour movement in this committee.

The main responsibility for assembling the targeted 100,000 people should rest with the local groups who should immediately launch local ad hoc committees for this purpose and to whom the details should be left. The national offices' role should primarily be of a servicing nature. A standard poster should be produced plus sets of leaflets directed at various groups in the community, e.g., trades unionists and students. We suggest the impact of the demonstrations be capitalised upon by the production of a special leaflet to be handed out if possible the following Monday entitled 'Why we demonstrated.' In our opinion this is far the most favourable moment to engage in mass distributions outside, e.g., factories. One side of such a leaflet could be printed beforehand and the otherside duplicated on immediately after the demonstration in an all-night operation if necessary so that local groups leaving for the provinces on Sunday could take supplies.

It should be a principle that all the finance for these ventures is raised locally, i.e., the publicity material is bought from the centre by local groups.

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TOWARDS BUILDING A MOVEMENT: COMMENTS ON ORGANISATION
OF THE PROPOSED DEMONSTRATION IN OCTOBER 1968

By Igor Webb for the Stop-It Committee

Our task as organisers is, first, to transform latent opinion into public action, and second, to make certain that action is not merely symbolic, an operative gesture of great volume, but an actual exercise of our power. March 17th succeeded and failed on both counts: we should maximise its successes and minimise its failures. Centrally, March 17th was the perceptible token of a new feeling of militancy up and down the country. This militancy expresses: 1) massive discontent, especially among younger people, with the quality of life in Britain now; 2) unwillingness to contain dissent and disgust about both the insular and international policies of Britain and the U.S. within the emasculating confines of bourgeois debate--no more symbolic acts, no more gentlemanly letters, petitions, walks, camp-outs; 3) the overwhelming fact that people's tentative, unformulated sense of their own various oppressions is crystallised in their identification with and support for the NLF. Allegiance to international revolution is thus not simply a piece of ideological altruism but a concrete manifestation of people's own discontent. This identification, reinforced by the memory of the October 22nd demonstration, accounts for the size and temper of the action on March 17th. Within the context of this analysis, these are the demonstration's major achievements:

- 1) 25,000 people marching in solidarity with the NLF--that is, the successful marshalling of a huge radical population.
- 2) The national character of the demonstration.
- 3) The occupation of the streets of London. This stands as the single most important human achievement of the march: we all for a few hours lived within the spirit of the collective which is definitive of socialism.

Along with these successes, there are serious failures, failures arising from our erroneous manner of organising. Our failure to organise properly is demonstrated by the fact that, of the thousands of new people who came out in March, very few have been incorporated into VSC. That VSC has a membership of 900 and can call out 25,000 shows that the way we have organised has been directed not towards the realisation of a vital movement but towards occasional public acts. (The charismatic quality of these protest, joined with people's sense of outrage, has created two major demonstrations and has acted as an energiser for the extra-parliamentary left. But the conjoining of factors has been fortuitous: we have failed to concretise into a movement the widespread radical feeling that so palpably exists.) For this reason, our organising towards October must be seen not in terms of getting people out for one event but as a vital step in the construction of an

ongoing movement. Taking this error in attitude as the basic shortcoming of our previous work, these are some other problems that arose in regard to March 17th:

1) The way in which people were mobilised for the march tended towards manipulation rather than participation. Who decided the key questions about objectives, destination, discipline? The marchers? Obviously not; but why not? Provision for substantive discussion and decision-making participation on any scale, never mind on a scale adequate to include most of the people who ultimately turned out, was disastrously absent. This was not because of a shortage of staff or because of the loose nature of the ad-hoc committee or because the people who turned out were unaffiliated or because no means of "enforcing" decisions was unavailable; the root of the problem was a misconception basic to VSC organizing: again, we directed our energy and creativity towards a single event as if it were an end in itself rather than towards the building of an ongoing movement. Consequently, there was a chasm between the "leadership" and the participants, and the experience of most marchers precisely mirrored their experience within capitalist society: they were insignificant cogs in a grand machine; they were swept along to an end they could not control because no means of effecting a mass decision had been established. We cannot allow this kind of irresponsibility to our own people, and short-sightedness about our own organization, to recur.

2) The choice of Grovesnor Sq. as the focal point for the march was an error. A march to the square can only be symbolic: there is nothing tactical to do there. However because people are in fact no longer willing to act symbolically, clashes with the police naturally occurred both in Oct. and in March. The leadership may have expected such an eventuality but it argued publicly for a symbolic walk and refused to prepare and plan for the inevitable clashes. Consequently, the confrontation was artificial in the sense that the police were not obstructing us in the attainment of a goal we had declared, but served simply as the cause of a fracas in which many were hurt and about 250 arrested, in which the marchers were disorganized and isolated from one another. In March, the demonstration became a conflict with the police which the police controlled and therefore won. This was our fault. In Oct., we must hold a demonstration which has a declared tactical goal and we must make concrete plans, known to everyone participating, directed towards achieving that declared goal. Only in this way can we and not the police control what occurs; only in this way will we eliminate arrests.

What kind of demonstration should be held in October, and how should we prepare for it?

1) Local campaigns by local branches should be

initiated now. These should be actual projects and not just leaf-lettings. They should incorporate as many experimental techniques as the members and people such as Agit-Prop can think of. Some possibilities: campaigns against war producers, including research pamphlets, direct actions, wall posters and newsheets to counter the managed view of the public media; campaigns directed towards establishing contact with the neighborhood, perhaps using sale of the NLF bags as a tool. In all cases the VSC newsletter should be used to exchange ideas. Our thinking should be directed towards organization- towards the discovery of the most rewarding means of involving all of our own membership and of communicating with unaffiliated comrades and the public in general.

2) Integral in local campaigns must be continuous discussion of tactics and strategy, both within VSC meetings and in large public meetings. We must dispel the notion that a demonstration is something static, something which one accepts as given and comes to, or rejects and goes away. Demonstrators must be the ones to decide the form of demonstrations. Therefore, months of debate should precede the autumn march, and a series of public meetings up and down the country during the last week must decide the final tactics, the tactical objectives, the destination of the march. Under no circumstances should participating individuals be asked simply to endorse an irrevocable decision made previously at the top.

3) Tactical discussions should be tested in practice. Local actions should therefore be held well before the autumn demonstration.

4) Finally, and most important: the march should NOT be symbolic. We should organize the march around a demand and take action to see that the demand is fulfilled. The specifics of the demand and action should be decided on the very eve of the march, by mass meetings of participants, and after months of preparatory discussions. Some suggestions: 1) a march, on Sat., to the South Vietnamese Embassy with the demand that it be handed over to the NLF; 2) a mass encirclement of Dow, ICI, etc., distribution centers with the demand that war production be stopped; 3) a march to the BBC with the demand that it show the war tribunal film. Obviously none of these suggestions is perfect. The best suggestion would be one which articulated a demand that could be met before the marchers dispersed. This needs discussion.

The major points we emphasize are: 1) major decisions should be made by participating groups and individuals; 2) the march should be organized around a tactical goal; 3) this goal should be seen in terms of a demand that can be met; 4) we should define our own situation and not allow the police to define it for us; 5) most important, the march should be an organizing tool directed towards the building of a movement.

VSC BADGES

1s per badge...bulk orders from local VSC groups- 8d per badge

THE AUTUMN MOBILISATION OF VSC

- by Dave Clark, Manchester VSC

At the last meeting of the VSC national council, it was agreed that all the members present should be encouraged to present a position paper on what they thought we should do for the Autumn mobilisation. These would then be printed in the Bulletin, and we would be prepared for the next council meeting where we could discuss them in full. The view of the paper below is that of the writer alone, and does not necessarily represent the view of the Manchester branch of VSC.

It is my opinion that to just prepare for another massive Grosvenor Sq. demonstration on the March 17 model would be suicidal for the movement. We will have had six months from the last one during which time we should have been pushing the movement forward politically all the time, as well as increasing the membership of VSC. If all that we can come up with after six more months of experience is yet another massive fuff beating battle outside the Embassy, then we shall not only be acting in an irresponsible manner towards the people who have come on the demonstration, but we shall also be illustrating only too clearly the paucity of a theoretical approach that merely ties us to a twice yearly demonstration outside the US embassy. I think that we have to look at the definite aims and bases of our political position before we can come up with the correct approach to any demonstration that we contemplate.

Basically, we are in the VSC because we support wholeheartedly the struggle of the Vietnamese people against American aggression. We accept the slogan of "Victory to the Vietcong", not merely out of an emotional opposition to the war, but as a reasoned theoretical position. We know that the class struggle that is built into an industrialised society is complemented by the struggle against imperialism of such countries in their dealings in the Third World. I am aware that a glib generalisation is no substitute for the differing interpretations of the National Liberation Movements, but the uniting fact of the slogan is the one that matters. It shows that we are aware that the class struggle is waged in different forms in different situations, and that at the moment the Vietnamese people are right there in the front line. Thus, we are quite correct to support them wholeheartedly; their fight is, indeed, our fight.

So, if this is the theoretical position that most of us take, then we have to use our demonstration to point out our theory to the mass of the people who will either be participants in or observers of it. We have to be able to demonstrate in our propaganda before the demonstration, in our activity on the demonstration, and our follow-up meetings and propaganda afterwards, just what the aims and methods of our campaign are, and how it is opposed to the monopoly capitalism system of world imperialism. We have to so act in our demonstration that we can make people's own experiences and consciousness real in terms of what we are both demonstrating about and what we are demonstrating at. I don't think that yet another demonstration in Gros. Sq. fulfills these functions at all, and may well be counterproductive in the long run, as riots and injured police horses are remembered, and political slogans and activity forgotten.

Thus, we have to find a way of implanting a somewhat esoteric political position firmly into the political consciousness of the working class. I think that the best way of doing this is to assemble the demonstration as usual in Traf. Sq. to hear speeches, buy papers, link up with other groupsetc. From there, people should be led out by the better organised groups- for example, LSE Soc-Soc could lead one group, the Northern Universities another, the May Day committee another and so on- in four different directions. They should go to the following places: i) 10 Downing St. ii) The Stock Exchange iii) Dow Chemical iv) The US Embassy. I choose these four places because I think that they demonstrate to the best advantage the links between High Finance, International Capitalism, and the Capitalist system of Government. We then have the added advantage of the emotional overtone of Dow Chemical as well, although people might think it a better idea to demonstrate against the First National City Bank or some such institution. It might even be possible to add two or three other places, although it makes the task of making connections that much harder.

The aim of the demonstration would be, nominally, to hand in a letter, the text of which should be issued to the press: but practically to declare our intention of peacefully immobilising these places for one hour. The importance of the demonstration is the effect it has on increasing political awareness and feelings of solidarity of the demonstrators themselves. But more than this, the importance of the whole exercise from start to finish should be that we make an immense amount of propaganda both before and after the demonstration in our branches, outside the factories and trades union meetings, in the universities and council estates and all the rest of it, demonstrating the nature of the connections between the war in Vietnam and the wage freeze, the nature of International Monopoly Capitalism, of the interconnection of bourgeois governments. The field is enormous, and we should make the fullest opportunity of it in our propaganda.

At the moment we are facing the problem that students may well join VSC on an intellectual basis, or even on the emotional appeal, but workers do not seem to do so unless they are already in some form of left wing grouping. This is easily explained in terms of the differing levels of consciousness amongst differing levels of the class, but it still means that any demonstration that we run will have to be seen to be real in terms of their perceptions as well as our own. This is why I am convinced that our next demonstration has to be an advance not only on the size of the last one, but also on the theoretical approach.

The organisation of such a demonstration should not be too difficult if we start to lay our plans now. We should not go out to engage the police in battles- I am opposed to such a tactic and think that it would not advance our political line one bit. I think we should announce well in advance to all and sundry through every means of communication possible that we intend to hold a meeting at Traf. Sq. on Sun 27 Oct., at which we intend to invite certain people to speak. We are then going to march to the above four places and peacefully immobilise them for exactly one hour by holding a continuous seminar all around them. After one hour, as a body we will march off again and disperse at an agreed point. There will be no violence, no bombs etc, and as far as we can we will guarantee

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DEMONSTRATION JULY 19-21

V.S.C. views the demonstrations of July 19-21 as particularly significant. These demonstrations, organized by the July 21st Committee, have been called around three slogans:

- Victory to the Vietnamese People; for Freedom, Independence and Peace!
- Solidarity with the National Liberation Front!
- End British Complicity with U.S. aggression!

These demonstrations are important on several levels. In the first place they come at a time when the Paris negotiations are bogged down by U.S. intransigence, when the war has taken second place in world news to the momentous events in France, when the actions of U.S. imperialism have been obscured in a complex internal electoral contest. There is a need, therefore, for an action which can emphasize the meaning of Vietnam. If successful, the demonstration will remind people that the war is the focal point of the worldwide struggle against imperialism.

Secondly, we note that the demonstration is being supported by virtually the entire spectrum of the left. The BCPV, YCND, YCL, the various 'Maoist' groupings, 'Stop-It', and VSC. For many of the supporting organisations participation marks a tremendous ideological advance. It was not so long ago that the leadership of some of these groups accused the VSC of splitting the anti-war movement by advancing the solidarity line. We welcome their adherence to a position of solidarity, and should make every effort to mobilize large numbers of people around such a militant slogan. For some other groups, the demonstration marks an advance in that they have found it possible to work with other tendencies on a specific issue. The demonstration can serve as an example that unity on a principled basis is possible. V.S.C. should do everything it can to bring this about.

The organisation of the demonstrations has several new and positive features. Mass meetings are planned for Friday the 19th and on Sunday, after the march to the U.S. Embassy. These meetings are in the tradition of the German SDS. The first meeting provides an opportunity for tactical planning in which all can participate. In the German experience, such a meeting plays an enormous role in creating militancy and solidarity. The Sunday meeting provides an opportunity for an immediate discussion of the successes and failures of the whole weekend. In addition, it serves as a meeting place away from the demonstration and therefore away from the possibility of arbitrary and random arrests as the demonstration disperses.

An additional new feature is the Vietnam Event on Saturday Night, July 20th. This event is seen as an attempt literally to reach the man on the street with a political message about

Vietnam. Traditionally the British left has attempted to do this by leaflets or poster parades. Success was usually limited by the tremendous reluctance of people to be drawn directly into politics. Recognizing this, the July 21st Committee proposes that the demonstration attempt to simultaneously entertain and propagandize. In other words this part of the demonstration should be viewed as a test of our ability to communicate our message to the politically uninitiated. Some of the means to this end will be: using political cartoons for handouts; having many demonstrators in NLF clothing; using murals and wall painting; using ballons with slogans; featuring musicians, poets and street theatre. Participation in this type of demonstration should be a very valuable experience for local VSC branches. It will provide an opportunity for learning techniques that will be useful in neighborhood work and it will provide an opportunity for working together on a specific project prior to the mass mobilisation for the October demonstration. Therefore, we urge local VSC groups, particularly those in the London area, to participate.

For those interested in further particulars of the Sat. night (July 20) demonstration, ring SWI 3228. Other numbers to call are: 727-0253 for information relating to street theatre; NOR-0155 for information on art work, costumes etc. Call any of the above numbers if you or your branch are willing to participate on any project.

--- Henry Wortis, for the JULY 21st Committee ---

AUTUMN MOBILISATION... concluding Dave Clarke's paper.

that . But that is what we intend to do , and do it we shall - we will not be bugged about by anyone. If we are left to ourselves, then the demonstration will be an enormous success for us politically if we handle the propaganda correctly, no one will be arrested, and no one will get hurt. If on the other hand there is any sort of provocation of the marchers, then they will look after each other. We intend to utilise our right to control our demonstration and the streets through which it passes. If we are allowed to do this , then there will be no breaches of the peace, no disturbance of the public order act etc etc.. If on the other hand the Gorillas take it into their heads to ride their horses straight into our demonstration, draw their clubs or otherwise behave in an irresponsible fashion, then we immediately abdicate all responsibility for the demonstration and for the behaviour of the demonstrators.

If we approach the Autumn Mobilisation in this spirit ,with an idea of our political line, the basis of that idea, the necessity of making the politics real in terms of symbols which people can understand , and relate to, and the tactics which spring from such an analysis , then we shall have the best demonstration that has ever been called in this country. If we dont do something like this , then we shall not have advanced one little bit forward.
