

Indochina Report

President Nixon, after expanding the war in Vietnam into Laos and Cambodia thereby destroying 15,000 American GI's and approximately 100,000 Vietnamese, countless wildlife, and foliage, recently suspended the Paris Peace talks because "the other side" has an unreasonable Peace Plan. The truth as it is known in South Vietnam is that there has been a Peace Plan acceptable to both the Hanoi government and the National Liberation Front for some time and the majority of Vietnamese see a political force called the Provisional Revolutionary Government as the solution to the war. President Nixon has continually rejected this proposal because if new elections were held freely, they would be unfavorable to the United States vast economic supportive role.

The Provisional Revolutionary Government which supports the people in Vietnam calls for (1) the U.S. to set a definite withdrawal date from Vietnam including air support and the new \$625 million computer battlefield complex in Indochina to be destroyed and (2) American POW's to be released after the date set for withdrawal.

The Nixon plan calls for all American POW's to be returned in exchange for assurances that the U.S. will withdraw all troops. This plan says nothing about the air support that would be left to aid the Vietnamese and buying of Thai soldiers for fighting in place of the returning U.S. soldiers.

In a book entitled The War Economy of the United States, Seymour Melman traces the development of the military industrial firms which are controlled by a state management. He presents the following points about the warmaking Pentagon economy-

- Proposition 1: The Military industrial firm does not minimize cost.
- Proposition 2: The Military industrial firm does not maximize profit.
- Proposition 3: The military has become a parasite to the American economy by wasting billions of dollars on weapons and returning nothing to the American people.
- Proposition 4: Military industrial firms, as a group, lack flexibility for conversion

President Nixon, plus the two preceding Presidents, stated they would not continue the war if the North Vietnamese completely withdrew from fighting. The Pentagon Papers, Jack Anderson papers, and the Harrisburg Trial have shown that the government continues to hide in secrecy and corruption. The war in Indochina is vital to the military who want a permanent base in Vietnam for the coming decades, while also locating the 7th Fleet headquarters in Formosa. It is this reason that President Nixon uses the television medium to state that he has made "every possible reasonable compromise for peace". President Nixon's duplicity in killing an estimated 300 peasants a day with bombing is finally being opposed by the majority of Congressmen in both houses. The record of involvement in Vietnam must continue to be studied and stress placed on how this war has drained billions of dollars from badly needed environmental research, inner-city funds, and various services. President Nixon has created a huge deficit in the U.S. budget and his economic controls were not known by Congressmen for some time after.

The Government Accounting Office has disclosed that because of our Vietnam involvement, many defense contractors have disguised their profits as Government loans. To diffuse and confuse the American anti-war sentiment, President Nixon was told by his associates to change his image to that of a world leader to ever get elected in '72.