

back viet moratorium

Ending the war in Vietnam is the most important task facing the American nation. Over the last few years, millions of Americans have campaigned, protested, and demonstrated against the war. Few now defend the war, yet it continues. Death and destruction are unabated; bombs and fire continue to devastate South Vietnam. Billions of dollars are spent on war while the urgent domestic problems of this country remain unattended. Moreover, the war has had a corrupting influence on every aspect of American life, and much of the national discontent can be traced to its influence.

The credited policies of the past which have brought about this American tragedy have not been changed. We follow the same military advice which has created a futile and bloody conflict while we cling to the same policies which have caused the Paris negotiations to falter. The token displacement of 25,000 troops over a three month period simply is not the substantial change in policy that is so desperately needed.

Thus it is necessary for all those who desire peace to become active again and help bring pressure to bear on the present Administration.

We are asking you to participate in a periodic moratorium on "business as usual" in order that students, faculty members and concerned citizens can devote time and energy to the important work of taking the issue of peace in Vietnam to the larger community.

If the war continues this fall and there is no firm commitment to American withdrawal or a negotiated settlement, on October 15 students participating in the Vietnam Moratorium will spend the entire day organizing against the war and working in the community to get others to join us in an enlarged and lengthened moratorium in November. This process will continue until there is American withdrawal or a negotiated settlement.

We are asking all members of the Monmouth College community to support the moratorium, and we commit ourselves to aid in organizing this effort on campus and in the surrounding communities. We ask others to join us.