August 10, 1972

An Occasional Memo

HONEYWELL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS REPORT

The Honeywell Campaign of Clergy and Laymen Concerned (CALC) is almost six months old. In the last couple of months it has begun to branch out into other areas of concern beyond just direct contact with the corporation. It would be difficult to describe in this limited space all of the activities of our local groups and of our allies in this struggle during the last six months, but let us just take a look at some of the things that have happened and what the impact of the campaign seems to suggest.

Work within Religious Institutions. Over the last several months, local Clergy and Laymen groups have had some successes in working within local religious institutions--congregations and judicatories. This work has ranged from consciousness-raising to getting the congregation or judicatory to make the decision to confront Honeywell on the issue of anti-personnel weapons. Specifically, the United Church of Christ Conferences of Massachusetts and of Southern California and the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles have passed resolutions opposing Honeywell's development and production of anti-personnel weapons. In the case of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, a task force has been set up to carry on a year-long program to expose what Honeywell is doing and to interpret the campaign to churches within the denomination in that state.

Visits to Honeywell Offices. Many local groups from coast to coast have had a series of meetings with Honeywell sales office and plant representatives in the past several months. The response of the Honeywell representatives has varied from the "company line" (we do whatever the government asks us to do, etc.) to more open responses and questions. We have found that there are many Honeywell employees who know little about the development and production of anti-personnel weapons by the corporation.

Honeywell responded to Clergy and Laymen's campaign by printing a brochure, "Should Honeywell Be in the Munitions Business?" which sets forth the "company line." The corporation has distributed this brochure to its stockholders and its employees throughout the country. As a result of this feedback from Honeywell about our campaign and the research on which it is based,
CALC has updated its research ("Honeywell Research Update--July 1972") and has further clarified its position in light of some of Honeywell's misinterpretation of it ("A Response from Clergy and Laymen Concerned to Honeywell"). Both of the documents mentioned above are available from the National Office of CALC--475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10027--for a minimal charge. A copy of "A Response from Clergy and Laymen Concerned to Honeywell" will be in the mail to you within a week.

Camera Stores. Local CALC groups--in Phoenix, Chicago, and Ann Arbor, to name a few--have already begun to go to camera-store owners who sell Pentax cameras and other camera equipment distributed by Honeywell to talk to them about Honeywell's production and development of anti-personnel weapons. As a result, some of the camera-store owners have decided that they will no longer sell Honeywell products and have sent back their stock to Honeywell. In the Hyde Park section of Chicago, the owner of a camera store put a sign in his window saying the store no longer carried Honeywell merchandise because of Honeywell's involvement in the anti-personnel weapons business.

At the national level, a letter was sent to the President of the Asahi Optical Company in Japan which produces Pentax cameras and equipment; his reply is still expected. In that letter, we simply began to ask questions about the relationship between the Asahi Optical Company and Honeywell and whether he knew of Honeywell's development and production of anti-personnel weapons. We assume that, come the fall, camera stores will begin to feel more and more pressure from local CALC groups and various allies that we have built by that time.

Allies. A group of architects from California and Arizona who have come together under the name Architects Allied for Life are developing a program to involve architects in the Honeywell Campaign. Although Architects Allied for Life operates as a separate organization, it has a close liaison with CALC. The architects are presently planning a mailing in early fall to 10,000 architects in certain selected states which will call upon them to consider (1) writing Honeywell about its development and production of anti-personnel weapons, (2) having "Honeywell programs" in their local AIA meetings, and (3) not specifying the use of Honeywell equipment in the blueprints of buildings they design.

Another groups of allies who are beginning to join the Honeywell Campaign are people in the medical professions--for whom Honeywell produces oscillographs, patient monitoring systems, and other kinds of measuring and recording instruments. The Faculty Senate of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (in Bronx, New York) passed a resolution directing its Purchasing Office to "stop all purchases from the Honeywell Corporation and to buy from other sources where available and to express to Honeywell our displeasure with its war complicity." The resolution also established a committee to carry out those directives. Other
groups of the medical professions who we are just beginning to contact are the Medical Committee for Human Rights and the Medical Aid for Indochina Committee.

We have also received letters of interest in and support of the Honeywell Campaign from individuals and organizations overseas. One of the most notable of these was a letter from a group of nuclear physicists in Daresbury, England for whom the English government purchased some Honeywell computers. Although they do not have direct responsibility for such purchases, they did send a letter to Honeywell in England saying that they are urging that in the future "the computers of your slightly more compassionate competitors be purchased."

Plans are under way to go to the upcoming meeting of the National Student Association in Washington (August 12-19) with information about the Honeywell Campaign. Mike Riesch, CALC staff person in Washington, D.C., is coordinating the Honeywell Campaign input to this conference.

What all of the above indicates is that the Honeywell Campaign is gaining momentum. At a time when the movement seems very silent, the Honeywell Campaign seems to be giving a great number of Americans not only pause for thought but also a clear mechanism through which to act on their concern about the unabated bombing of Indochina.

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THE NEW UNSELL

Phase II of Help Unsell The War is now available to local groups, radio and television stations across the country. The new material concentrates on the continuing air war in Indochina which belies the common belief that American involvement in the war is "winding down." We feel that it is important to balance the record on this issue of vital concern to the American people--their nation and its resources are still inextricably involved in a war halfway around the world which has gone on far too long. These new commercials present the facts about the air war, and ask, "Isn't there something we can do about it?" "Yes, this is still a democracy, isn't it?"

The response to Unsell has been enthusiastic and the spots are already being shown on stations around the country. Support from such groups as Another Mother for Peace and American Friends Service Committee has helped in distributing the material to local media.

Print ads are also available and Playboy, which donated a full-page ad in the March issue, has requested another ad for the November issue. Articles about Phase II have appeared in the New York Times, Rolling Stone, TV Digest, and major advertising magazines.

The commercials, 12 TV, 11 radio, and 18 print ads, feature Henry Fonda. In the commercial titled "Citizen," Mr. Fonda talks
about his feelings concerning the war and his country. Three of the spots show planes dropping bombs on villages and forests while the announcer talks about the tonnage of bombs and the philosophy behind the bombings. The print ads also pertain to the air war with copy detailing the various facts about the air war.

Unsell is a non-partisan effort involving hundreds of concerned people across the country. But the message that Unsell is relaying to the people is very important in this election year. The American public needs to be informed of the "invisible war" that is being waged in Indochina now. The media coverage is concentrating on the domestic political campaigns and the Pentagon and Defense Department are selling the idea that the war is winding down. We need your help and support to keep publicizing, via the media, that the war is still going on.

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NEW RESOURCES

1. The NARMIC slide show, "The Automated Air War," is now available in filmstrip form with an accompanying record or cassette of the narration. The filmstrip, produced by two agencies of the United Methodist Church, sells for $10.00 per set. For a fuller description of the filmstrip and an order form, see the enclosed brochure.

2. "The U.S. Involvement in Indochina: A Fact Sheet" gives a capsule summary of the war--historical and statistical--as well as definitions of some of the military terms used to describe methods and weapons used in waging the war (useful in decoding newspaper reports of the war). This fact sheet--a copy is enclosed for your perusal--is available from the National Office of CALC. Prices are listed on the back of the fact sheet.

3. CALC now has available a 50-page booklet entitled "Documentation of U.S. Bombing of Dikes and Dams in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam." The booklet is a compilation of most of the recent news clippings in the last few months relating to American bombing of dikes in North Vietnam. Part I consists of eyewitness reports by western observers; Part II, corroborating material appearing in the western press, such as the full text of Eugene Carson Blake's open letter to Nixon; and Part III, historical precedent for the bombing of North Vietnam's dikes. The booklet was prepared by Project Air War and Indochina Summer-AFSC. It is available from the National Office of CALC for $1.00.

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WE'RE MOVING... As of September 1st, we are moving our offices to the third floor of the New York Theological Seminary which is at 235 E. 49th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. Dr. George Webber, president of the seminary, is a member of our National Steering Committee.

(We'll have a new phone number too--but we don't know yet what it will be.)