coalition to stop funding the war
action agenda:

April 1, 1974

As you read this, the House may be involved in its first floor fight on the Pentagon's request for an additional $474 million to spend in Fiscal Year 1974. Your help is still needed on the important votes in early April. Here is the schedule as we now see it.

IN THE HOUSE, H.R. 12565

April 3: House Armed Services Committee version is due on the Floor. Rep. Pike or Neldz is expected to offer an amendment to delete the Vietnam funding.

April 9: House Appropriations Committee version is due on the Floor. Rep. Addabbo has indicated he will offer an amendment to delete the Vietnam funding.

IN THE SENATE, S. 2999

April 10: Senate Armed Services version is due on the Floor. Kennedy-Pearson Amendment to delete Vietnam funding will be offered and voted on.

If you've already written to your Representative and Senators, organise your friends, clubs, and church groups. If you act before any of the above dates, you have a chance to stop the use of your tax dollars to support Gen. Thieu's military. (If you're close to the deadline, call or send telegrams. Otherwise, write.)

This is a winnable fight; but it will be difficult. The Pentagon and the government of South Vietnam are putting heavy pressure on Congress to approve the excess funds. Congressmen need to know that their constituents oppose paying taxes to support the Saigon government.

Senator Barry Goldwater commented (at a hearing on the Kennedy-Pearson amendment), "I think I can support the amendment."

If Barry Goldwater can support our side, other Congressmen and Senators can too---if they hear from you back home.
CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION IS GROWING
TO VIETNAM MILITARY SPENDING

Fiscal conservatives and anti-war liberals are joining to oppose the Pentagon's request for an additional $474 million in Vietnam funding for Fiscal Year 1974.

The opposition first developed in the Senate, although the first floor fight will be in the House. Senators Kennedy and Pearson (R. Kansas) offered an amendment to delete all $474 million. Then Senator Cranston organised Senators to testify against the supplemental Vietnam funding. Senators Kennedy, Cranston, Abourezk, Clark, Hart, Hartke, Haskell, Huddleston and McGovern testified in person. Senators Pearson, Metzenbaum, Gravel and Proxmire entered statements for the record. (Even Senator Barry Goldwater said he could support the Kennedy-Pearson amendment.)

Now the opposition in the House is gathering steam for a major fight. Four Democratic and three Republican Congressmen, led by Rep. Pike (D. N.Y.) and Rep. Esch (R. Mich.) are circulating a Dear Colleague letter opposing the $474 million. As of Friday, March 29, they had 75 co-signers.

When the Pentagon request was considered in the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Pike moved to delete the $474 million for Vietnam. The motion was defeated 26 - 8. (However, getting 8 votes in the conservative Armed Services Committee isn't bad.)

THE FIRST BIG FLOOR FIGHT WILL COME IN THE HOUSE

When the Armed Services bill comes to the floor, probably some time this week, Rep. Pike or Rep. Nedzi is expected of offer an amendment to delete the $474 million.

Rep. Addabbo has indicated that he will offer a similar amendment when the Appropriations Committee version reaches the floor around April 9.

In the Senate, the Pentagon supplemental request is still in the Armed Services Committee, with mark up scheduled for April 3. Floor consideration should follow a week later.

The Saigon government has sent a team of high officials to lobby Congress for more military and economic aid for South Vietnam.

The United Auto Workers, Common Cause, the National Council of Churches, the National Conference of Mayors, and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees are among groups sending letters to Congress opposing the extra money for Saigon.

TV NOTE: April 4 (hope this is not too late), The Advocates, on your educational TV station, will present a debate on Military aid to Saigon. Following the program, remember to vote! Results are sent to Congress.