

DRAFT BILLS READIED

Congress prepares to act



Opposition grows as gov't attempts to prosecute resisters

The recent Supreme Court decision that limits draft registration to men has paved the way for the resumption of a peacetime draft, according to anti-draft activists.

Congress is considering several bills which call for reinstatement of the draft, including Senate Bill 756 and House bill 1210.

Senate Bill 756 aims to "amend the Military Service Act to provide for the reinstatement of the registration. . . and to reinstate the authority of the President to induct persons involuntarily into the Armed Forces."

House bill 1210 would ". . . provide for the induction of individuals . . . for training and service in the Armed Forces."

In addition, many high ranking government and military officials are on record as being in favor of the draft.

Reagan has received some support from Democrats to resume conscription. On June 30 in a speech in Los Angeles, John Glenn (D-Ohio) called for resumption of the draft

On July 8 Reagan appointed a "Military Manpower Commission," headed by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. The commission is to study ways, including a return to the draft, to expand the ranks of the armed forces by 200,000 to 250,000 new recruits. Weinberger called for a draft on July 1. General Edward Meyer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also called for a draft on the same day.

The need for more manpower flows from the Administration's plans to expand its overseas military bases and to prepare the armed forces for intervention in any part of the world. The "rapid deployment" force, now under development by the Pentagon, alone would require 100,000 troops.

It is estimated by the Administration that over 500,000 eligible men have not registered.

"The massive U.S. military buildup of today is not aimed at making our society any safer," Rusty Martin, president of the student body at the Univer-

sity of Northern Iowa, told a press conference on Wednesday. Martin is one of the men who will be prosecuted.

"I will not register for the draft," Martin said, "because its only purpose is to provide a means for a return to the freewheeling interventionism of the past."

Martin added that if resisters are brought to trial by the government, the trials will be a "show that will only heighten resistance to the draft."

Jim Klimaski, a spokesman for the National Lawyers Guild, said the Guild is preparing a "brief bank" of possible legal defense and that Guild lawyers throughout the country are ready to defend any registration resisters brought to trial.

The fight against the reinstatement of the draft, if it is to be effective, must be viewed as part of the overall struggle against Reagan's policies, both domestic and foreign. For example, the fight to maintain Social Security and other

vital social programs is closely linked to the fight against the Administration's military buildup. By reducing the military budget, billions of dollars would become available to meet the needs of the people.



Staten Island Council For Peace And Justice
P.O. Box 509
Staten Island, N.Y. 10314
(212) 761-2446

I would like to participate in local peace activities. Please advise.

I would like to join the S.I. Council For Peace And Justice and receive its monthly publications and other material. Enclosed is \$8.00 for this purpose.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

War machinery oiled, draft boards restarted

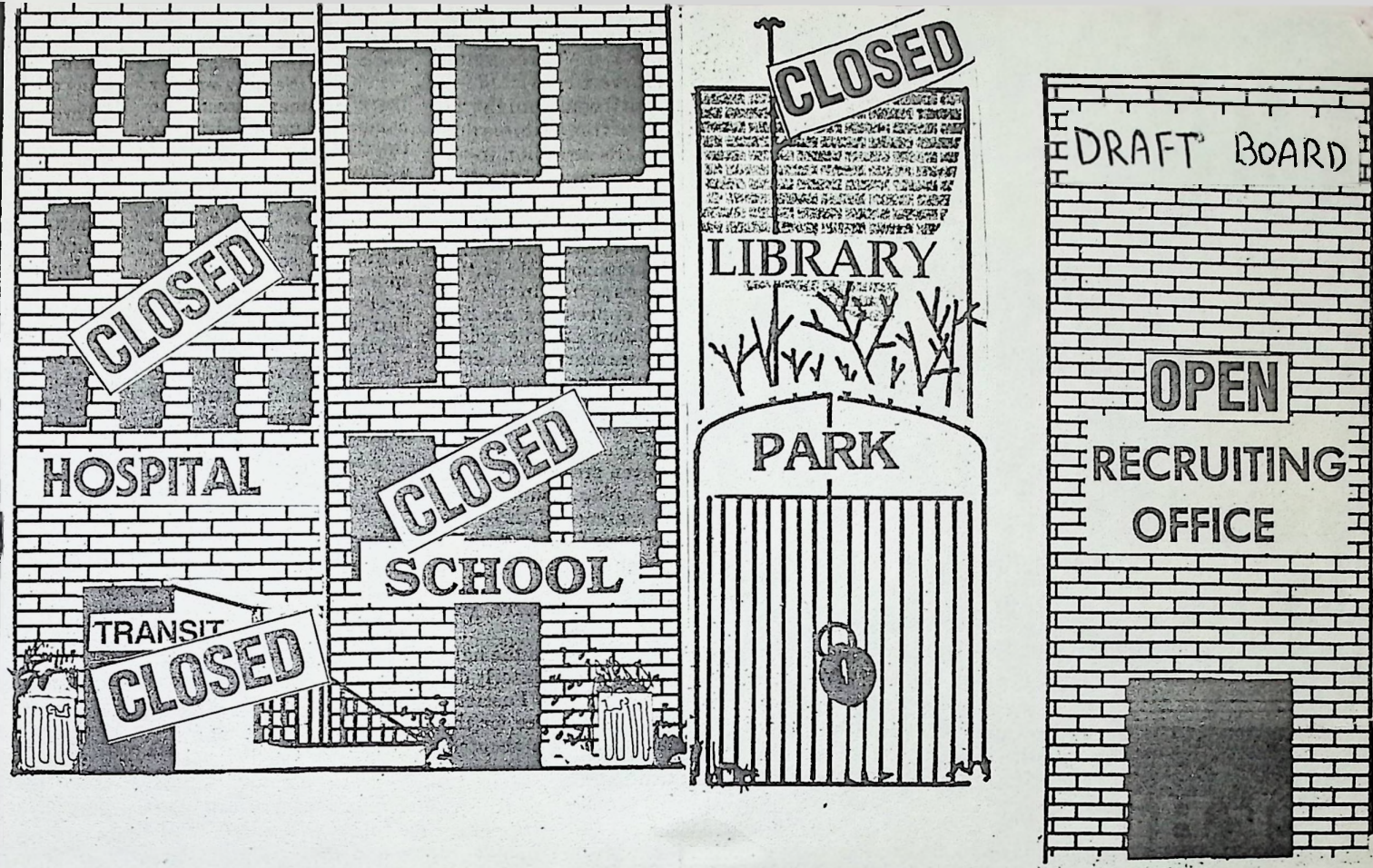
WASHINGTON — Taking another step towards reinstating the draft, the Selective Service recently announced it is launching a nationwide search for civilians to serve on draft boards.

"We will be looking for about 10,000 board members for the country as a whole," said F. Brayton Harris, Selective Service assistant director.

Harris said the program "is to help the governor in each state to get a sufficient pool of volunteer candidates so

he can make selections to help ensure the boards are representative of the community they serve in terms of racial and national origin.

"It is important to select and train the board members now in the relative calm of peace so that in the event of an emergency we will have citizens who are fully knowledgeable in law and policy and can carry out the very important duties of ruling on claims for an exemption from the draft," he said.



YES
to jobs and
education



NO
to draft and
registration