

UVa Student Group Sets Up Antiwar Lobby in Washington¹

WASHINGTON – About 20 University of Virginia students have opened an office in Washington to lobby for the passage of an amendment to get all U.S. troops out of Southeast Asia by June, 1971.

The students say they hope to coordinate antiwar efforts on Capitol Hill by Virginia students, and to link with student groups from other parts of the country in a massive move to make Congress cut off funds for the Indochina war.

The legislation on which they would cut off all military funds, except those to be used for withdrawal from Southeast Asia, by the end of this year, and require that American troops be out of Indochina by June 30, 1971.

Frederick T. Stant III of Norfolk, a UVa law student, and Mark Favorman, a graduate architectural student, also of Norfolk, are among the organizers of the new group, the Virginia Students for Legislative Coordination.

They have rented space, for \$2 a month, in the National Students Association headquarters and plan to stay in Washington at least until the Hatfield-McGovern amendment

comes to a vote, probably in five to six weeks.

“Just since Tuesday,” said Stant, “we’ve gotten 2,700 signatures on petitions for that amendment. We circulated petitions on campus and in the Charlottesville community.”

The UVa contingent has its own intelligence apparatus in two ex-U.S. Senate pages, who, Favorman said, “are running undercover for us, getting all kinds of inside information.”

Favorman said the coordinating committee is contacting 36 senators “who may vote for the Hatfield-McGovern amendment,” and 21 who already have endorsed it.

The committee also is setting up appointments for next week with Virginia’s House members.

Students are continuing to call on various senators, including Virginia’s William B. Spong Jr., who has said he is inclined toward another amendment – to forbid future introduction of American ground troops into Cambodia. Spong has said he does not like specific withdrawal timetables, but has not declared himself definitely against the Hatfield-McGovern amendment.

¹Article written by Wayne Woodlief
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