

## I S T H E D R A F T I N Y O U R F U T U R E ?

During the next year, according to plans of the Selective Service, about 200,000 students shall be inducted into the army. We, a few draft-eligible students at Cal, conducted a poll similar to one which is being used on some other campuses to ascertain the feelings of those who will be draft-eligible. In the brief time we polled, about 500 people responded. Our sample was probably not completely representative, but it shows what many people feel who will be in the army next year. The responses of those who are now or will be eligible this summer show that:

- 81% figure they will stay out of the army somehow
- 59% think that 2-S is discriminatory and should be abolished
- 94% are for withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam
- 35% will go into the service if drafted
- out of those who will go if drafted, 78% will do all they can to avoid being drafted
- out of those who will go in if drafted, 19% will refuse orders for Vietnam
- out of those who will not go in if drafted, 60% will leave the country and 31% will go to jail

Summarizing, of those draft-eligible, 20% will go to jail, 35% will go in if drafted and 40% will leave the country.

Several points stand out in these figures. Mainly, the vast majority of draft-eligible people (81%) feel they will not end up in the army. This figure is about the same as the per cent of students who are not immediately eligible, who feel they will not end up there -- 79%. What this indicates is that everybody figures he has a way out -- whether it's refusing induction, flat feet, or as one respondent said, "disguising myself as a banana." But these "individual" solutions people have certainly won't deter the army from getting its 200,000. We feel, therefore, many students are deluding themselves -- are too optimistic about the chances of getting out: lots of that 81% will be in boot camp next November. Even if "negotiations" ensue in Vietnam, or Kennedy or McCarthy is elected, plans are to boost troop strength to 550,000; McCarthy says the troops should stay in Vietnam for 5 years even with "peace talks." In Korea, the actual fighting continued for some 2 years while negotiations were going on.

We feel it is short-sighted not to face this situation squarely. We are calling for a Draftable Students' Union, of all those who feel they will have to face the draft sometime in the next few years. This group will serve as a union for those who end up in the army or in jail, supplying people with information and legal aid, acting as a communications network connecting people in the army with those outside, and publicizing and supporting GI protests. Right now, there are a number of activities we can do: talking with GIs and Vietnam veterans to find out the situation in the service, building the circulation of anti-war GI newspapers in the army by going to airports and handing them out to soldiers, and whatever people want to do. With thousands of anti-war youth in the army, such a union would have a good potential for becoming strong.

IF YOU ARE AGAINST THE WAR AND THINK YOU MAY FACE THE DRAFT, COME TO THE FIRST MEETING AT

2 LE CONTE

THURS. APRIL 18

7:30 P.M.

or phone 845-5068.

DRAFTABLE STUDENTS UNION

Sponsored by SDS.