

## Activities To Be Held Against Draft Registration

Vigils, marches and rallies will be held at Post Offices throughout the country by the American Friends Service Committee and numerous other organizations during the weeks of July 21st and 28th, when millions of young men face military draft registration.

"Under the leading of our religious faith, we reach out to be of service to all young people who face registration, assisting them to make informed decisions based on individual conscience wherever it leads," said Asia Alderson Bennett, AFSC Executive Secretary.

The AFSC National Board has approved a statement encouraging young people to follow the dictates of their consciences, and supporting both (1) conscientious refusal to register for the draft, and (2) conscientious objection to military service within the law following registration.

The Quaker organization will not participate in acts of civil disobedience related to registration. Asia Bennett said, however, that the AFSC will do its utmost to assist non-registrants and all conscientious objectors to participation in the military. She added that "The goal throughout our commitment and our service associated with military registration is to oppose violence and war and to raise up the power of peace and life."

AFSC has learned that many of the anti-draft activities across the nation will focus on providing 19 and 20-year-old men with opportunities to think about what registration means and the options open to them.

Many people across the nation who are not required to register for the draft, will present themselves at Post Offices to purchase a card on which to write a message of protest. The "Register for Peace" cards will be sent to President Carter. This is a project sponsored by the national Committee Against Registration and the Draft (CARD), of which AFSC is a part.

The Quaker organization also has learned that some activities are being carried out by Black, Hispanic and other groups who historically bear the burden of service under a military draft.

In New England, AFSC has trained 400 new draft counselors, who will give young men information about conscientious objection and other alternatives. In Baltimore and some other inner-city communities, AFSC is involving minorities and the urban poor. Community meetings are planned for every evening of the two registration weeks.

"We want you to think before you register," is the theme of a month-long campaign of the Emergency Peace Committed of Delaware, in which an AFSC person, Charles Zoeller, Wilmington, is active.

Some programs are already under way, having started last week and continuing this week. Leafleting by a Task Force Against Conscription began in Des Moines, Iowa, on July 10th. A town meeting at a community center this Thursday was scheduled to present both sides of the draft question, providing information from veterans and from previous conscientious objectors.

The AFSC in Pasadena is working with a coalition to distribute leaflets at all Post Offices in Southern California. The Quaker organization in Austin, TX, is supplying a telephone hotline for counselling, in addition to other services.

Among efforts in Denver was an exhibit in late June at the Annual Conference of the National Association of Student Councils with more than 1500 high school leaders and their adult advisors present from across the country.

The AFSC is supported by individuals of different faiths who care about social justice, peace, and humanitarian service. Its work is based on a profound Quaker belief in the dignity and worth of every person, and a faith in the power and love of nonviolence to bring about change.

## Harris Will Address Black Women's Convention

Honorable Patricia Roberts Harris, Secretary of Health and Human Services, will address the Awards Banquet of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs at its 42nd Biennial Convention at the Capital Hilton Hotel on July 31, 1980. Other speakers of the convention are Mrs. Margery Gaillard, and Dr. Rev. Deborah P. Cannon-Wolfe, Professor of Education at Queens College in New York.

"We are delighted to have the Secretary as of keynote speaker," said Inez W. Tinsley, president of the association.

Patricia Roberts Harris was sworn in as Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare by Justice Thurgood Marshall on August 3, 1979. President Carter nominated her for the post, her second cabinet appointment, on July 20. She was confirmed by the Senate on July 27.

Mrs. Harris had served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development since January 23, 1977.

She is a former Ambassador to Luxembourg, serving in that diplomatic post from 1965 to 1967.

She served as Alternate Delegate to the 21st - 22nd General Assemblies of the United Nations, and was a member of the Commission on Causes and Prevention of Violence and the Advisory Committee on Reform of Federal Criminal Law.

Born in Mattoon, Ill., she received her AB degree, summa cum laude, from Howard University and the Juris Doctor degree, with honors, from George Washington in 1960. A member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Coif, she has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Mrs. Harris was admitted to the D.C. Bar in 1960. She served as a trial attorney in the Department of Justice from 1960 to 1961 and joined the Howard University staff as associate dean of students and lecturer in law, and later became a professor of law and dean of the School of Law.

This year, NACWC has declared the convention week of July 27 - August 1 as National Black Women's Week. This newly instituted, annual observance is designed to recognize the invaluable contributions of black women in the United States, and has received the support and active participation of several leading national and community-based organizations. In addition, the 1,000 national clubs of NACWC will spearhead this historic and long overdue tribute in cities across the country.

NACWC, as you may know, is the nation's oldest black women's volunteer services organization, with its founding year in 1895. For Convention information call 202-726-2044.

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