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133

SPECIAL INFORMATION REPORTProspects for Disruptive Demonstration in Washington

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War marched from Morristown, New Jersey, to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, over the Labor Day weekend. Reportedly the march was poorly supported and most small towns that the marchers passed through were hostile to the participants. At a concluding rally attended by about 1,000 persons at Valley Forge, speakers included actress Jane Fonda and her touring companion radical attorney Mark Lane; New York Congressman Allard Lowenstein; and Mike Lerner, a leader of the militant and revolutionary Seattle Liberation Front.

It was Lerner who, with Rennie Davis, promoted the plan to prevent the government from functioning on 1 May 1971 if the war was not ended at the National Student Association's mid-August convention at St. Paul, Minnesota. In addressing the group at Valley Forge, Lerner stated that antiwar groups have set next 1 May as the deadline for complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam. If the troops are not withdrawn by that date, antiwar groups (not further identified) will assemble at Washington in an effort to obstruct the functioning of the government.

It is believed that Lerner's Labor Day address to this veteran's peace group (as Davis' presentation to the National Student Association) constitutes additional evidence that any major plan to obstruct the government will take place next spring rather than this fall.

The original plan for this October and/or November authored by Arthur Waskow, well-known Washington radical, originated at the New Mobe's Milwaukee conference last June (the plan was not adopted by a plenary session). Davis, Lerner, Waskow and others have apparently experienced difficulty in creating sufficient sympathy for such an action before next spring. The Davis-Lerner group which identifies with the New Mobe is presently at serious odds with the Socialist Workers Party's Student Mobe. The Student Mobe is planning a so

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far ill-defined mass demonstration in urban centers throughout the country for late October. Student Mobe publicity, however, for the October effort can be described as sparse and low-key. Unless the Trotskyite Student Mobe gets cracking in the weeks remaining, it would seem that a significant and successful demonstration at Washington or elsewhere would be difficult to pull off. - FBI IN 158-771

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It is too early to evaluate the impact on the federal government of a possible Black Panther meeting in Washington tentatively scheduled for 4 November. Although Negro groups have not actively participated in mass antiwar oriented demonstration in the past, the Panthers are coming under ever-increasing white radical influence.