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ACLU NEWS

san diego

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CHAPLAINCY STILL UNDER QUESTIONNING

Does the presence of chaplain corps in the military pose a civil liberties problem?

The San Diego ACLU Executive Board has voted to probe the question by asking more questions. Does the chaplaincy constitute a civil liberties violation inherently? Are there only aspects of the corps which are violations?

A report by National ACLU (Feb. 17, 1973) concluded that the chaplain corps as presently operated may be violating the rights of servicemen. The Souther California Affiliate position is that, except for the use of public monies to support the chaplaincy, the corps is not objectionable to ACLU unless attendance is compulsory, which it is not at present.

The San Diego Board also decided to urge National to act on its report by attacking the status of the chaplaincy in general and the use of public funds to support it. The Board also agreed that, at this time, our resources are not great enough to pursue such a broad issue legally.

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CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD TO SDPD NOT IMPOSSIBLE

The case for a citizens advisory board to the San Diego Police Department may not be closed.

ACLU, Legal Aid, National Lawyers Guild and five other organizations made a proposal to the Charter Revision Committee which would have provided that "The Mayor may establish in each city department and agency a Citizens Advisory Board and in any case the Mayor shall appoint such a board in the Police Department."

The CAB would hear and consider citizen views, make reports and recommendations thereon, and would be able to request and receive responses from the applicable agency.

The proposal was not acted upon by the Charter Revision Committee.

However, it may be possible for such a proposal to be enacted as an ordinance.

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WANTED: A legislative chairman. Requirements: An avid interest in civil liberties; the desire to see that legislatures maintain and do not deny civil liberties. Duties: To organize a way of being able to communicate with each San Diego legislator. To be a member of the chapter board of directors. Call 223-3863 if you are interested--call today before someone else snatches up this challenging job.

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DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIJUANA INITIATIVE TO BE CIRCULATED AGAIN

The Marijuana Initiative which failed as Proposition 19 will be recirculated in order to be qualified for the June 1974 ballot.

Spenser Wold, San Diego Chairman for California Marijuana Initiative, said that the initiative is in the process of being approved by the Secretary of State's office and that a name change has been asked for. In order to make the intiative more educational and self-explanatory the change would be to the Marijuana Decriminalization Intiative.

Over 325,000 signatures will be required to put it on the ballot.

Volunteers of the office and petition circulator variety and office equipment, including deuplicating machinery is needed. Call 276-5442 if you can help out.

LEGAL BRIEFS

Dragnets-- An injunction is being prepared to prevent the use of dragnet-type raids with the purpose of deporting illegal aliens. Persons who are here legally have been caught up in the nets as well. Legal Aid and the Mexican-American Political Association are working with ACLU on this. Affadavits are being gathered.

Nixon Rally-- A suit has been filed by ACLU objecting to the officials' selectivity in who was to be allowed to take part in a rally for President Nixon prior to his reelection. Individuals were prevented from taking part in the rally and denied their right to petetition for redress of grievances.

Newspaper Vending in El Cajon-- Hearing is slated for Sept. 19 on ACLU's suit objecting to an El Cajon city ordinance prohibiting newspaper vending machines on public streets. The Door is the plaintiff and Richard Circuit is the attorney handling the case.

Desegregation suit-- The San Diego City School District won a continuance of this suit until Spring.

ACLU PLEDGES MONEY FOR AMNESTY EFFORT

ACLU San Diego is cooperating with Michael Pancer, legal panel chairman, in his efforts to help exiled deserters or draft evaders be repatriated.

ACLU Southern California's policy on amnesty is that amnesty should be granted to those who avoided the draft by leaving the country and those who left the military for another country.

For the past year or so Pancer has, as a non-ACLU related project, been researching military records upon request to find ways to enable the exiles to return.

ACLU San Diego Board voted at its past meeting to provide the cost of obtaining military records.

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!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!PUT YOUR PENCIL WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

What areas of civil liberties are you most interested in? What bothers you most?

What do you think ACLU should be doing in San Diego?

Do you have program ideas? Fundraising ideas? Tell us about them!

Would you be interested in serving on a committee? See below for choices.

Membership Telephone Fundraising Military

First Amendment Prison Study Courtwatching

Inactive

Name .....Phone.....

Address.....Zip.....

Use the enclosed envelope to send this questionnaire to us.

If you don't have time or the inclination to write, telephone either 223-3863 or 2957914.

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