



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/0534
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

Title:

Press release - C.P.V. Derek Healey

Please acknowledge the source as:
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/0534

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

534 / 99

Release date

June 19th.

1969.

PRESS RELEASE

The Campaign for Peace in Vietnam today presented Dr. J.S. SZUSZKIEWICZ, the Director of The United Nations Information Centre for Australia and New Zealand, Sydney, for transmission to the Secretary General of the United Nations for permanent record the following Declaration signed by 500 people :

INDIVIDUALS AGAINST THE CRIME OF SILENCE

A Declaration to Our Fellow Citizens of Australia, To the Peoples of the World, and to Future Generations :

1. We, the undersigned, are appalled and angered by the conduct of Australia in Vietnam.
2. In the name of liberty the resources of one of the World's richest and most developed countries have been used against a small agricultural, under-developed nation, killing and mutilating its people. Australia has supported this action.
3. In the name of peace, Allied forces have been creating a desert.
4. In the name of security, the Allies have been inviting world conflagration.
5. In the name of justice Australia still supports the United States in this most unjust of wars.
6. In the name of "Treaties" and non-existing "obligations", Australia has been prepared to go "all the way" with the United States to infamy.
7. We, the signers of this declaration, believe this war to be immoral. We believe it to be illegal. We will continue to oppose it.
8. At Nuremberg, after World War II, the victors tried, convicted and executed men for the crime of OBEYING their government, when that government demanded of them crimes against humanity. Millions more, who were not tried, were still guilty of THE CRIME OF SILENCE.
9. Australians have a commitment to the principles of the United Nations Charter and to those of the NUREMBERG TRIALS. Our own democratic traditions and our dedication to the ideal of human decency among men demand that we speak out.

We therefore wish to declare our names to the Office of the Secretary General of the United Nations, both as a permanent witness to our opposition to the war in Vietnam and as a demonstration that the conscience of Australia is not dead.

Among the signatories are : Mr. Geoffrey Dutton, Senator G. Georges, Mrs. D. C. Hannaford, Dr. T.H. Allen, Senator J. Keeffe, Rev. J.D. Bentley, Dr. J. Cairns, Senator J.L. Cavanagh, Rev. J.H. Drake, Mr. R. Giffard, Rev. C. Henderson, Rev. K.B. Leaver, Dr. F.M. Mai, Dr. W.E. Mickleburgh, Rev. E.C.A. Nicholls, Senator A.G. Poyser, Rev. K.D. Seaman, Rev. A.E. Vogt, Dr. J.C. Yeatman, Professors H.G. Andrewartha, A.B. Hope, T.O. Browning, R.W.V. Elliott, G.C. Harcourt, S.H. Lovibond, B. Medlin, J.A. Richardson, W.P. Rogers, G. Rude.

As additional signatures are received they are to be sent periodically to the United Nations.

Released by Derek Healey,
Secretary, Campaign for Peace in Vietnam,
Box 32A, Crafrers, South Australia 5152