

'Taking to the Streets against the Vietnam War'

A Timeline History of Australian Protest 1962-1972

Introduction

It started as a trickle and became a flood. The first Australians to protest against the Vietnam war in the early sixties could not have imagined their tiny and isolated movement was laying the seeds of what was to eventually become the largest and greatest social movement in the annals of Australian protest. Vietnam was then a far-off obscure country most Australians had not even heard of. Even those activists engaged in 'peace' and anti-war activity were focused on issues – nuclear disarmament, French nuclear tests, foreign bases on Australian soil – seemingly without connection to the strange, confusing and violent events in Saigon.

The Vietnamese people had been fighting politically and militarily for almost twenty years to overcome their colonial oppressors and win liberty and national independence. This epic reality was obscured in Australian political debates. The early Australian anti-Vietnam war protestors were confronted with pervasive and deeply imbedded (and intrinsically racist) myths inherited from the politically conservative, anti-Communist atmosphere of the Cold War: 'The Yellow Peril' and the 'Domino Theory'; the leading role of the United States as 'World Policeman' and last-ditch ANZUS protector of an Australia vulnerable to invasion by the Asian hordes. The protestors were confronted also by deliberately concocted lies – the lie that our Government had been invited to intervene by the South Vietnam Government; the lie of 'Two Vietnams'; the lie of 'Aggression from the North'.

Even as late as 1967, after Australia's thunderous welcome to 'LBJ', and after Harold Holt's Liberals had triumphed in a landslide at the polls in an election fought on the issue of Vietnam and conscription, opposition to the war was still a cause pursued by a minority. And yet barely three years later the continued persistent and committed effort of thousands of ordinary Australians – university students, trade unionists, office workers, housewives, high school students – had turned the country around. Almost 200,000 people marched in the magnificent nationwide Moratorium marches of May 8, 1970. The flooding of the streets on May 8 (and again in the two subsequent Moratoriums of September 1970 and June 1971) were high points but only possible because of the activism that had preceded them – in workplaces, on university campuses, in demonstrations and rallies, in leafleting campaigns. All the nonsense that had been accepted so meekly, readily and unthinkingly by the masses of Australians had first to be overcome.

In the very early years of resistance to Australia's involvement it was the singularly heroic intellectual contribution of our greatest-ever peace campaigner Dr Jim Cairns, backed up by 'adult' peace organisations (CICD, WILPF, Save Our Sons), that eroded the myths and lies fostered by Johnson and Menzies. In the period after 1967 a growing youth radicalisation, sparked in part by the existential threat of conscription to nineteen-year-old males, and more generally by a rebellious 'youth culture', gave rise to a militant student cohort ('the new left') which assumed a leading role in the overall movement against the war. Left-wing student political clubs risked heavy legal penalties to financially support the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam whose admirable political program had been buried in mass media depictions of a featureless, evil "Viet Cong". Conscientious objection to conscription undertaken by individual objectors – among whom were the inspirational Bill White, Simon Townsend, Dennis O'Donnell – soon developed into *mass resistance* to conscription as more and more young men and their many

supporters challenged the legality and morality of the National Service Act that had sent hundreds of young Australian men to their futile deaths in the jungles of Vietnam. Also inspirational was the outstanding example set for the whole labour movement by the Seamen's Union and the Waterside Workers Federation in refusing to carry and load war cargo destined for Vietnam. 'Stop Work to Stop the War' became a major theme as trade unionists in their thousands added their decisive weight to the snowballing movement. More and more people were morally affronted and angered by the barbarity regularly witnessed on their TV screens – the slaughter of innocent civilians, the napalm inflicted on hundreds of peasant villages, the genocidal bombing campaigns which dwarfed the tonnages dropped on Nazi Germany and fascist Japan. It was simply impossible after the exposure of the My Lai massacre committed by demoralised U.S troops, and after the killing of four peaceful student protestors at Kent State University in Ohio, to believe that 'our side' was anything other than immoral, deluded, bathed in blood.

The diverse and widespread social movement that preceded and followed the Moratoriums was increasingly characterised by mass civil disobedience as hundreds, even thousands, decided in their individual consciences and through their collective humanity to defy Government attempts at repression, brave rampant police violence, and ultimately bring about the long-awaited electoral defeat of the conservative coalition in December 1972.

Celebratory anniversary commemorations of the 1970 Moratorium held in 1990 and 2000 revived fond memories, kept the flame burning. In May 2005 a public meeting at the Trades Hall marked the thirtieth anniversary of the 1975 victory of the Vietnamese revolution. The looming fiftieth anniversary – May 8, 2020 – presented an opportunity for another meaningful event. On May 8, 2019, I attended a meeting at the Trades Hall in Melbourne where a representative gathering of Moratorium stalwarts from the seventies committed themselves to the organisation of a fiftieth anniversary celebration. I proposed the newly-formed Moratorium committee should produce an historical timeline of the Australian anti-Vietnam war movement. When I volunteered to carry out my own proposal I scarcely imagined I would be still working on it eleven months later.

Preliminary investigations revealed by far the best source of detailed information about the Australian movement in opposition to the Vietnam war was the Australian communist press – the CPA newspapers *Guardian* and *Tribune*. The CPA had been steadily jettisoning its Stalinist past, haltingly seeking independence from Moscow, and developing new strategic directions. My own socialist political leanings pre-disposed me to focus on the CPA sources. I was to discover the reportage in *Guardian* and *Tribune* was immeasurably more trustworthy and accurate than the coverage in mainstream ('capitalist') newspapers. The Australian communist press benefited from the outstanding journalism of professional writers such as Malcolm Salmon and Alec Robertson, not to mention the timely and myth-breaking epistles of Wilfred Burchett. *Guardian* and *Tribune* excelled in reporting almost every significant and not-so-significant protest event – demonstrations, rallies, public meetings, press statements. Almost every week there was an exposure of Government lies and cover-up. It did not bother me that the Communist press was utterly partisan and biased, unashamedly and passionately in support of the 'liberation forces' in Vietnam. I knew it was not possible to be neutral or dispassionate about Australia's involvement in the war.

I set out to cover the entire period from 1962, when the first small 'Vietnam' protests were held, through to the end of 1972, when the election of a Labor Government put the finishing touches to Australia's official involvement. Starting work in June 2019, I took notes from every weekly issue of *Guardian* from January 1962 through to December 1966 when the paper folded, and every weekly issue of *Tribune* from January 1967 to December 1972. I aimed at producing two distinct timelines, a long version and a shorter condensed version. As I completed each year I would condense a year's worth of notes from the long version – roughly 25,000 words – down to roughly 4000 words for the shorter condensed version.

The aims of the research, and of the timeline, were manifold. I hoped to document

1. The extent, scope and characteristics of the Australian anti-war movement – it's diversity, commitment, sacrifices, divisions, achievements.
2. The forces in opposition to the anti-war movement.
3. The links of the anti-war movement to other contemporary social movements – aborigines, anti-racism (anti-apartheid), women, 'new left', students, trade unions.
4. The growth and key turning points in the development of the anti-war movement.
5. The fundamentally participatory, democratic, and non-manipulative character of the anti-war movement.

The extended chronological timeline of over 150,000 words is quite possibly the most extensive and comprehensive data base of information about the Australian anti-Vietnam war movement in existence. The condensed version is offered below.

The timeline is dedicated to the memory of all – the named and the nameless – who contributed to ending Australia's participation in the obscene imperialist war against the people of Indochina. They were the heroes and they were right.

Ken Mansell
May 8, 2020

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Prologue

1945

August – 'August Revolution' in Saigon ousts Japanese

September 2 – Ho Chi Minh declares Vietnamese independence

French colonial forces re-occupy Vietnam and are resisted by Viet Minh – the first Indo-China war begins

1954

U.S finances cost of French war in Vietnam and uses air force in battle of Dien Bien Phu. Eisenhower Administration considers use of atomic weapons to save besieged French forces

May 7 – French colonial forces surrender to Viet Minh at Dien Bien Phu

July 7 – Ngo Dinh Diem elevated to power in Saigon

July 20 – Fourteen nations sign Geneva Agreement to determine the political future of Vietnam. The United States does not sign. The Agreement temporarily divides Vietnam at 'Seventeenth Parallel' but stipulates democratic election within two years to unify Vietnam under single national government

1955

November – U.S military 'advisors' arrive in South Vietnam to support Diem regime

1956

U.S and Diem scuttle election promised at Geneva (fear of Ho Chi Minh victory)

Wilfred Burchett publishes *North of the Seventeenth Parallel* and explains the epic implications of the Vietnam conflict

1956-60

U.S pours in military combat 'advisors' and money to support Diem army in repressing opposition

1959

November – ANZ Congress for International Cooperation and Disarmament (CICD) formed at Peace Congress in Melbourne

1960

September – Democratic Republic of Vietnam ('North Vietnam') decides to increase support for resistance to Diem in the South

December 20 – Formation of National Liberation Front (NLF) of South Vietnam

Menzies Government legislates for amendments to the Crimes Act. The amendments introduce harsh new penalties for 'Treason'

1961

February 15 – NLF Liberation Army established and begins armed resistance to U.S-backed Diem regime

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1962

March – CND in Melbourne campaigns against atmospheric testing by both superpowers

April – ‘Aldermaston Solidarity March’ organised by ANZ Congress for International Cooperation and Disarmament (CICD)

May – U.S Secretary of State Dean Rusk visits Australia to demand Australian participation in South Vietnam conflict

24 – Australian Government announces thirty ‘military advisors’ to be sent to South Vietnam

June – Melbourne wharf workers refuse to load barbed wire for ‘strategic villages’ (concentration camps) in South Vietnam

July – Menzies Government despatches thirty military ‘advisors’ to support the forces of Diem regime in South Vietnam

August – ‘Cavalcade to Canberra’ organised by CICD delivers petition (signed by 205,000) demanding nuclear-free Southern Hemisphere

October – Cuban missile crisis

1963

January – External Affairs Minister Barwick announces further consignment of wire and ‘equipment’ for ‘strategic villages’ in South Vietnam

March 8 – Jim Cairns denounces ‘military resistance to national-revolutionary movements in economically-retarded countries’

March 26 – CICD launches new nation-wide petition for nuclear-free zone in Southern Hemisphere and against foreign military bases on Australian soil

April 15 – CND march from Dandenong to Yarra Bank in Easter solidarity with Aldermaston

April 21 – CICD ‘Aldermaston Solidarity March’

May 9 – External Affairs Minister Barwick and U.S Ambassador Battle sign agreement providing for U.S ‘Naval Communications Base’ at North West Cape

July – Diem dictatorship cracks down on mass urban oppositional movement led by Buddhists and students

July – A victory at last for the world-wide peace movement – U.S, USSR, UK sign limited nuclear test ban treaty

August 3-4 – CICD Hiroshima Day March starts (for the first time) at Frankston

August 14-16 – CICD ‘Cavalcade to Canberra’

November – Dictator Diem murdered in Saigon coup

1964

March – CND march Dandenong to Melbourne against French nuclear tests

April 5 – CICD launches national petition against French nuclear tests in Pacific and underground nuclear tests

June 6 – Defence Minister Paltridge announces doubling (30 to 60) of Australian military ‘advisors’ in South Vietnam

July 6 – Warrant Officer Kevin Conway from Brisbane becomes first Australian serviceman to be killed in South Vietnam fighting

August 5 – ‘Gulf of Tonkin incident’. U.S forces strike at North Vietnam for first time after deceitful report of clash between torpedo boats of North Vietnam and units of U.S Seventh Fleet

August 6 – 2000 demonstrators at U.S Consulate in Prahran condemn U.S air attacks on North Vietnam and call for re-convening of Geneva Conference

August 8-9 – CICD Hiroshima Day March starts Frankston

October – Defence Minister Senator Paltridge introduces amended Defence Act enabling citizen military forces to be sent overseas

October 25 – 7000 people attend opening Sydney rally of Peace Congress addressed by Professor Linus Pauling and Mayor of Hiroshima

November 10 – **Prime Minister Menzies announces plan to conscript 20-year-old men for overseas service**

1965

January – U.S extends the war to Laos and blasts trails used by North Vietnamese to pass supplies and cadres to NLF

January – ‘National Service’ registration period begins for youths turning twenty January 1-June 30

January – Australian military personnel numbers in South Vietnam rise to 200 (including 81 ‘advisors’)

February 7 – **U.S launches large-scale, regular and unprovoked aerial bombing of North Vietnam and moves to introduce massive numbers of combat troops to Vietnam (over and above existing force of ‘advisors’)**

February – Menzies Government declares full support for U.S air attacks on North Vietnam

February 11 – One hundred Melbourne trade unionists picket U.S Consulate in Commercial Road to protest air strikes on North Vietnam

February 22 – CICD demands re-convening of 1954 Geneva Conference

February – Seven Melbourne youth organisations (at meeting initiated by Unitarian Church Youth Group) decide to form joint campaign committee against Menzies Government conscription scheme

March 10 – ‘Youth Against Conscription Committee’ protest at Department of Labour and National Service office (Melbourne) against ‘death lottery’

March – CICD issues statement against U.S use of poison gas in Vietnam

March 19 – CND Easter Monday march Dandenong to Melbourne

April 20 – President Johnson despatches ‘special envoy’ Henry Cabot Lodge to Australia

April 29 – **Prime Minister Menzies announces commitment of battalion of 1000 Australian combat troops to Vietnam**

May 3 – 250 demonstrators in Sydney stage sit-down protest on Martin Place footpath against Menzies Government decision to commit more Australian troops to Vietnam

May 4 – **Opposition leader Calwell declares ALP’s opposition to the commitment of troops to South Vietnam in a speech to the House of Representatives in Canberra**

May 16 – Thousands of small leaflets (‘No Diggers for Dollars’) rain down on ‘Coral Sea’ parade in Swanston Street

May 20 – New Sydney organisation ‘Save Our Sons’ joins peace vigil outside Parliament in Canberra

May 21-22 – ‘Vietnam Teach-In’ at University of California (Berkeley)

May 22 – CICD Saturday morning mass sit-down at Victoria Barracks against despatch of Australian troops to South Vietnam

May 23 – ALP/THC/ACTU Sunday rally at Richmond Town Hall against despatch of Australian troops to South Vietnam. Cairns explodes idea of ‘aggression from the North’, the major propaganda lie of U.S/Australia military intervention

May 25 – Delegates to 1965 National Conference of Australian Student Labor Federation (ASLF) in Canberra pass motion in political support of National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. Sixteen delegates are arrested following sit-down on pedestrian crossing in protest against despatch of Australian troops to Vietnam

June – U.S conducts genocidal napalm bombing of South Vietnam

June 19 – 150 prospective conscripts sign advertisement in *The Australian* inserted by ‘Youth Campaign Against Conscription’ (YCAC)

June – ‘Save Our Sons’ (SOS) formed in Melbourne

June – General Nguyen Cao Ky emerges as Premier of South Vietnam

June 30 – First Melbourne intake of conscripts Swan Street Army Depot

July 29 – Nine-hour televised Vietnam ‘Teach-In’ at Monash University

August 21 – U.S planes bomb dams in North Vietnam’s vital Red River irrigation system

August 22 – YCAC holds its first meeting (‘The Whip’ Coffee Lounge 124 Lygon Street Carlton)

September 17 – ‘Vietnam Day Committee’ (VDC) formed in Melbourne in response to appeal from Vietnam Day Committee of Berkeley California

September 17 – ‘Vietnam Action Committee’ (VAC) protest at Commonwealth offices (Martin Place) in Sydney calling for withdrawal of all foreign troops in Vietnam and negotiated settlement on basis of 1954 Geneva Agreement

September 29 – Second ‘National Service’ trainee intake Swan Street Army Depot

October 22 – VAC demonstration in Sydney in response to Berkeley Vietnam Day Committee. Sit-down of 300 on Pitt Street roadway leads to fifty-one arrests

November 2 – American Quaker Norman Morrison burns himself to death on the steps of the Pentagon

November 27 – Ex-diplomat Gregory Clark publishes scathing attack on U.S/Australia Vietnam policy in *The Australian*

November 28 – 8000 people attend Sunday afternoon folk concert at Myer Music Bowl (sponsored by CND, ALP, VDC, CICD) and hear Jim Cairns and Rev. David Pope

November – U.S combat troops in South Vietnam now number 150,000

1966

January – Robert Menzies resigns as Australian Prime Minister – Harold Holt takes the reins

January 20 – Francis James (editor of *The Anglican*) returns home to Sydney after trip to North Vietnam

January 29-30 – National anti-conscription conference (Sydney) convened by YCAC (NSW)

February 2 – Third conscript intake Swan Street Army Depot

February 3 – Bombing of North Vietnam resumes after temporary halt

February – **U.S Vice-President Hubert Humphrey visits Australia and meets with Prime Minister Holt. Holt undertakes to despatch a second battalion to Vietnam including a high proportion of conscripts – the first ever Australians to be forced into battle outside Australia’s immediate environs**

March 8 – Harold Holt announces trebling of Australia’s military force in South Vietnam. The expanded force will include conscripts by June 1966

March 14 – YCAC sit-down protest disrupts Moomba procession in Swanston Street

March 24 – ‘Week of Vietnam Protest’ in Brisbane. SOS/YCAC demonstration is met with police brutality and marks the beginning of long campaign to alter restrictive sections of the Traffic regulations

March 26 – VDC demonstration at Post Office Place broken up by police violence

March 28 – Liberal Party bi-election rally at Kew Town Hall for Andrew Peacock is disrupted by anti-conscription demonstrators

April 15 – 2500 protestors march to Garden Island Naval Dockyard in largest Sydney demonstration yet against Vietnam war and conscription

April 20 – **First batch of Australian ‘national servicemen’ to leave for Vietnam fly out of Sydney**

May 11 – Holt Government attempts to cajole Australian civilian seamen to undertake delivery of war materials to Vietnam war zone on merchant ship *Boonaroo*

May – **Private Errol Wayne Noack (of South Australia) becomes first Australian conscript to be killed in Vietnam**

May 22 – 2100 people attend Victorian ALP Vietnam/conscription protest rally in Princess Theatre Spring Street

May – Federal Parliamentary Labor Party endorses foreign policy manifesto opposing Australian troop presence in Vietnam

May 25 – YCAC vigil outside Prime Minister Holt’s home in Toorak

May 26 – *Boonaroo* sails for Vietnam manned by merchant seamen members of Seamen's Union under strong protest

May 28 – VDC public rally Post Office Square observes one-minute silence for Errol Noack

June 8 – Nadine Jensen smears red paint over Colonel Preece as Australian Vietnam veterans march in Sydney

June 21 – Attempted assassination of Opposition leader Arthur Calwell outside Mosman Town Hall

June 23 – South Australian Liberal Senator Hannaford announces his opposition to conscription and Government Vietnam policy

June – Australian merchant ship *Jeparit* also bound for Vietnam with crew opposed to Government policy

June 27 – **Harold Holt visits Lyndon Johnson in White House and utters the famous 'parrot cry' - 'All the way with LBJ'**

June 29 – Eight-hour 'National Forum on Conscription' at Monash University

June 29 – U.S begins bombing raids on Hanoi and Haiphong

July – Sydney University ALP Club steps up campaign to collect money to purchase medical supplies for victims of war in Vietnam (including medical aid to NLF)

July 4 – Nine young people arrested and charged with obstruction for protesting against bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong at U.S Consulate in Sydney

July 21 – **NSW teacher Bill White refuses to accept his call-up for 'National Service' and faces possible two years detention in military prison**

August – Vietnam Action Committee (VAC) in Sydney publishes *American Atrocities in Vietnam* by Eric Norden

September 1 – Vice Squad detectives confiscate copies of *American Atrocities in Vietnam* from Melbourne's International Bookshop

September 5 – Twelve clergymen sell 300 copies of VAC pamphlet *American Atrocities in Vietnam* in fifteen minutes to lunch-time shoppers in Melbourne CBD

October 21 – **U.S President Lyndon Johnson receives tumultuous welcome from people of Melbourne but his motorcade is held up by protestors in St. Kilda Road. Uniformed police and security personnel (Australian and U.S) launch unprovoked violent attack on demonstrators. Brothers David and John Langley burst red and green paint on Johnson's car in South Yarra**

October – 15,000 demonstrators jeer Johnson in Sydney. Some throw themselves on road in front of Presidential car. Demonstrations also in Canberra, Adelaide and Brisbane (where demonstrators lie in front of motorcade in Queen Street)

October – Forty Victorian anti-conscription organisations launch 'Vote No Conscription Campaign' with aim of turning Federal election into referendum on the draft

November 4 – Monash University SRC prints 10,000 copies of pamphlet *Facts About the anti-LBJ Demonstration*

November 22 – Civilian police arrest Bill White at his home in Gladesville. White's supporters in Melbourne stage all-night vigil at Harold Holt's home in Toorak

November 26 – **Federal election result shocks Australian peace movement. Liberal-Country Party coalition is returned with big majority**

November 29 – Bill White sentenced to 21 days detention in Holsworthy Army detention centre

December – U.S combat troops in South Vietnam number 360,000

December – 81 Australians killed in Vietnam war so far

1967

January 4 – John Lindsay Anderson is first conscientious objector to apply for exemption solely on objection to the Vietnam war. His application fails

January – Monash Labor Club members (soon dubbed the 'Caulfield Cong') establish household at 7 Jasmine Street South Caulfield. 'Jasmine Street' spawns off-campus 'Anti-Ky Action Committee' (AKAC) to lead Melbourne protests against impending visit of South Vietnam dictator Air Vice-Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky

January 10 – 21-year-old Queensland University student radical Brian Laver is gaoled for five days in Boggo Road for refusing to pay two \$6 fines imposed for his part in October 5 (1966) anti-conscription/civil rights march from St Lucia to city

January 13 – Sydney *Sun* journalist Simon Townsend is arrested after his refusal to attend Army medical examination (and his refusal to pay \$20 fine imposed for non-attendance)

January 18 – Simon Townsend gaoled in Long Bay for refusing to attend Army medical examination

January 18-19 – 1000 demonstrators gather at Canberra Hotel to protest presence of Nguyen Cao Ky and then march to Parliament House lawns for address by Arthur Calwell

January 20 – Brisbane 'Anti-Ky Protest Committee' holds demonstration against Ky opposite Lennon's Hotel in George Street to protest the official reception inside. The demonstrators are attacked brutally by police and seventeen are arrested

January 21 – Anti-Ky rally in Sydney attended by 5000 who gather at North Shore pylon of Sydney Harbour Bridge and march short distance to Kirribilli Avenue where Ky is staying

January 22 – Demonstrators attending 'Anti-Ky Action Committee' protest in Melbourne assemble at Trades Hall and march to Government House for rally. 7000 at Domain are addressed by Arthur Calwell. 100 protestors maintain all-night vigil outside Government House for duration of Ky's stay

January – **An estimated 20,000 protest nationally against the visit of Ky**

January 27-28-29 – **Anti-war Activists Conference in Sydney organised by Vietnam Action Committee, AICD, YCAC**

January 28 – North Vietnam Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh tells Wilfred Burchett that talks could start between North Vietnam and U.S if U.S bombing of North Vietnam comes to an end

January 29 – 2000 protest outside Pentridge Gaol against hanging of Ronald Ryan

January 30 – 3000 protest outside Pentridge Gaol against hanging of Ronald Ryan

February 1 – Brisbane SDA members Mitch Thompson, Barbara Jane Gaines and Gail Salmon gaoled in Boggo Road for refusing to pay fines arising from October 5 (1966) anti-conscription/civil rights march

February 2 – 97 arrests among the 7000 anti-hanging protestors keeping vigil outside Pentridge overnight

February 3 – 'Hangman Henry' gets his way. Ronald Ryan is hung just before 8 am (Friday morning). 3000 protestors are outside the gaol at this time. 100,000 Victorian workers stop work for two minutes in protest

February – U.S casualties in Vietnam pass 50,000 mark (8673 killed)

February 14 – U.S resumes bombing of North Vietnam

February 19 – Simon Townsend completes 32 days in Long Bay Gaol

February – Gough Whitlam takes over from Arthur Calwell as Federal Opposition (ALP) leader

February 26 – Gough Whitlam on ABC *Four Corners* program declares himself against the withdrawal of Australian troops from Vietnam – 'until an overall settlement'

February – **Seamen's Union members of *Boonaroo* crew refuse to transport cargo of bombs and detonators to be used by RAAF squadron in attacks on Vietnam towns and villages**

February – **Seamen's Union members refuse to carry bombs and ammunition to Vietnam on *Jeparit***

March – The Administration at Monash University astonishes the student body and staff members by announcing decision to award an honorary degree to Premier Henry Bolte. The Monash Labor Club rises to the occasion by bringing a piglet ('Sir Henry Pig') onto campus and into Administration Building

April – First issue of *Vietnam Action* (Vietnam Action Campaign) appears

April 15-16 – Sixty young people set out on 50-mile 'Walk for Peace' from Queensland University to Ipswich and back

April 23 – RAAF in Vietnam for first time used to bomb NLF forces in South Vietnam

June – David Monaghan becomes the first conscientious objector to gain exemption from National Service on non-pacifist grounds

July – Lyndon Johnson's emissaries Clark Clifford and General Maxwell Taylor visit Australia

July 3 – 24-hour vigil begins U.S Consulate in Commercial Road Melbourne. Secretary of Vietnam Day Committee Humphrey McQueen presents protest statement to Consul demanding withdrawal of U.S troops and end to bombing of North Vietnam

July 4 – Rally outside U.S Consulate in Commercial Road Melbourne followed by march to meeting at Assembly Hall Collins Street. Highlight is debate 'LBJ' v 'Thomas Jefferson' – 'U.S independence 1776- Vietnam independence when?'

July – Monash Labor Club executive appoints steering committee to make recommendations on question of aid to the NLF

July 14 – Monash Labor Club steering committee reports to Labor Club general meeting on NLF aid issue. The committee recommends the establishment of two funds: 1. 'Unspecified fund' (expression of support and solidarity); 2. Fund for medical aid to civilians in NLF areas. (The steering committee emphasis is on the former fund). The committee further recommends Labor Club set up 'autonomous committee' for aid to the NLF. The Labor Club executive recommends the three motions to the club meeting on July 21

July 21 – **Monash Labor Club meeting passes three NLF aid motions recommended by club executive. The Labor Club's 'unspecified fund' is widely interpreted as military support for the 'Viet Cong' and 'treason.' Monash Vice-Chancellor Mathieson threatens dire consequences if funds are collected for other than medical aid**

July 27 – Meeting of 800 Monash students considers DLP Club motion to dissociate student body from Labor Club. A substantial majority at meeting recognises Labor Club's right to collect NLF aid as they see fit

July 28 – Committee to Aid the NLF (CANLF) starts at Monash. The decision lets loose a storm of lies and vitriol from Government, press, RSL, Liberal Party and DLP

July 31 – Monash Labor Club issues the first of many statements insisting 'money sent through the "unspecified fund" will not be used for military purposes'

July – State political police (Special Branch) visit homes of Monash Labor Club members

August – U.S planes bombard Hanoi causing death and casualties. The Americans are using napalm and cluster bombs in South Vietnam

August – 133 Australian servicemen so far killed in Vietnam and 521 wounded. The figures include 44 National Service conscripts killed and 139 wounded

August 6 – 2000 march in Melbourne on Hiroshima Day from Alexandra Avenue to Princess Theatre Spring Street and are addressed by Jim Cairns and Alan Ashbolt: 'No More Hiroshimas – Stop Bombing Vietnam'

August 10 – DLP Senator McManus calls for the laying of treason charges under the Crimes Act against students supporting the NLF aid proposal

August 13 – March of 5000 from Hyde Park to Rushcutters Bay Stadium for public rally of 7500. It is the largest march and rally of protest against Vietnam war yet in Sydney

August 18 – Twenty demonstrators hold sit-down protest inside U.S Consulate in Wynyard Street Sydney to protest U.S bombing of Vietnam

August – Labor clubs at Monash, Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra (ANU) universities have all now opened fund campaigns for medical supplies to NLF. They are backed by Australian Student Labor Federation

August – Francis James in *The Nation* claims to have sent to Vietnam \$33,877 since August 8 debate on aid to NLF at Melbourne University

August – Monash Labor Club's 'Committee for Aid to the NLF' publishes brochure *Which Way Treason?*

August – U.S publication *Ramparts* publishes pamphlet *Children of Vietnam* with horrific illustrations of children burned by napalm

August 30 – 'Campaign for Peace in Vietnam' (CPV) established in Adelaide

August 31– **Federal Attorney-General Bowen introduces Defence Forces Protection Bill in Federal Parliament. The Bill makes it illegal for students or church aid bodies to send medical or civil aid to North Vietnam or the NLF and carries a penalty of up to \$2000 fine or two years imprisonment. Red Cross or other prescribed organisations are excepted. The ALP in Parliament moves some amendments but supports the Bill**

August 31 – Monash University Vice-Chancellor Louis Mathieson declares any collecting of monies on campus for the NLF is illegal

September 5 – Monash Labor Club defies Vice-Chancellor Mathieson's NLF collection ban and establishes a stand in the Union foyer to collect medical aid

September 8 – Friday afternoon civil liberties march in Brisbane protesting against unjust and restrictive Queensland Traffic Act. SDA defies 'obligation' to obtain permit and leads 4000 students/staff

demonstrators from University campus into central Brisbane. They encounter wanton brutality in police response to mass sit-down. 120 are arrested

September – Prince Sihanouk of Cambodia writes to Melbourne University Labour Club (in reply to a letter from the club) informing them how aid can be transmitted to the NLF through Cambodia

September 20 – Monash University student meeting votes overwhelmingly to condemn Vice-Chancellor Louis Mathieson for banning collection of funds on campus for NLF of South Vietnam when this is not illegal in the general community.

September – Fourteenth National Congress of EYL held in Sydney changes name of organisation to Young Socialist League (YSL)

October 2 – Monash University holds 'National Vietnam Teach-in' attended by 4000 and lasting nine hours with thirteen main speakers

October – Commonwealth Police in Melbourne visit the homes of Monash University students associated with the sending of a sum of \$100 for medical aid to the NLF of South Vietnam. The money has been sent to the 'British Medical Aid for Vietnam Committee' headed by Lord Boyd Orr and will be used to buy medical supplies in Britain which will be sent direct to the Liberation Red Cross of South Vietnam

October 8 – 1200 attend CICD Sunday afternoon meeting at Princess Theatre in Melbourne addressed by Brigadier-General Hugh B. Hester. Monash Labor Club spokesperson Peter Price is strongly applauded when he appeals for support for the eight Monash students who last week announced they had sent \$100 for medical aid to the NLF

October – Holt Government sends another Australian battalion (1700 troops) to South Vietnam. Australia now has 8000 in Vietnam

October 21-22 – 150,000-200,000 march in Washington for peace in Vietnam. It is Washington's biggest-ever peace demonstration. A significantly large number of demonstrators confront the Pentagon with civil disobedience and sit-ins and are faced with thousands of armed troops. Demonstrations are held in other U.S cities. Folksinger Joan Baez is arrested at Oakland Draft Depot

October 22 – Sydney's 'October Mobilisation to end the war in Vietnam' culminates in the city's biggest peace demonstration yet. An estimated 9000 people brave threatening weather to 'stop the war in Vietnam' and 'bring the troops home'

October 24 – Former Federal Liberal Senator from South Australia Douglas Clive Hannaford dies after collapsing in Senate. Hannaford resigned from Liberal Party in February 1967 over conscription and was the only member of Parliament to oppose the Defence Forces Protection Act

October 24 – MedicAid – a newly-formed committee for sending medical aid through the Red Cross to the NLF areas of South Vietnam – holds Tuesday evening public meeting at Assembly Hall in Melbourne

October – Cuban revolutionary Ernesto 'Che' Guevara killed in Bolivia

November – Queensland University lecturers Dan O'Neill (English) and Peter Wertheim (Philosophy) spend three days in Brisbane's Boggo Road jail rather than pay \$10 fines arising from September 8 civil liberties demonstration

November – Glen Tomasetti appears in Melbourne District Court charged with refusing to pay one-sixth of her income tax (a proportion roughly equal to that part of the Commonwealth Budget spent on war and its preparation)

November 16 – Fifty Form Four boys at Kingswood College (Methodist school) Box Hill South stage 55-minute sit-down strike against conscription and the Vietnam war after marching to school sports oval and sitting down

November 22 – 'Women for Independent Action Committee' holds public meeting Lower Melbourne Town Hall. Glen Tomasetti urges opponents of the war to move from 'dissent to resistance'

November – Twenty-one-year-old Dennis O'Donnell of Oak Park testifies in County Court on his reasons for appealing for exemption from National Service. The young Roman Catholic conscript has seen the pictures in *Ramparts* magazine and believes war crimes are being committed in Vietnam

November – Orbost farmer Brian Ross writes letter to Registrar of National Service defying efforts to conscript him. Ross has twice refused to attend medical examinations and twice returned his unsigned certificate of registration to the Registrar

December 17 – Prime Minister Harold Holt drowns at Cheviot Beach. Senator John Grey Gorton takes over as new leader of parliamentary Liberal Party and Australian Prime Minister

December – Glen Tomasetti appears again in Court and defies order to pay. She believes Australia's participation in Vietnam war breaches U.N Charter and therefore law of the Commonwealth

December – Dr Benjamin Spock is one of 200 people arrested for picketing a draft induction centre during anti-Vietnam war demonstration in New York

1968

January – Vietnam Action Campaign (VAC) and Sydney University Labour Club establish Third World Bookshop and off-campus youth centre 'Resistance' at 35 Goulburn Street

January 17 – Prime Minister Gorton holds press conference and echoes Lyndon Johnson - 'It is only reasonable to stop the bombing of North Vietnam if the North stops sending troops and supplies to the South'

January 30 – National Liberation Front (NLF) in South Vietnam launches sweeping nation-wide offensive – the 'Tet Offensive'. U.S bases all over South Vietnam are under attack and many are ablaze. The credibility of the U.S (and Australian) Vietnam policy is shattered. The established anti-war movement in Australia is forced to debate support for NLF. The movement is revitalised by 'Tet' and its consequences

January – Monash Labor Club members Michael Hyde and Peter Price personally hand over \$500 collected at Monash University to the NLF Consulate in Phnom Penh

January – Monash students re-assert their right to send aid to the NLF and risk prosecution under the Defence Forces Protection Act by posting money orders to Doctor's Committee in London

January – Draft Resistance Movement (DRM) is formed in Melbourne 'not to oppose conscription, but to wreck it by all available means'

February 1 – Cold-blooded murder in a Saigon street as General Nguyen Ngoc Loan (police head) shoots alleged officer of NLF armed forces. The gruesome photo of the shooting soon becomes world-famous

February 8 – Draft Resistance Movement holds confrontational protest at Swan Street Army Barracks conscript intake. Margaret Files, Dave Clark, Roy Lacey, Adrian Desailly padlock themselves to main entrance gateway

February 13 – Draft Resistance Movement holds demonstration at Caulfield Town Hall where Prime Minister Gorton delivers his policy speech for Higgins bi-election. Plain-clothes police direct uniformed men to arrest people. Detectives call at home of DRM President Des Files with aim of intimidating him and extorting information he is not required to give by law

February 18 – 131 Australians have now been killed in Vietnam, the majority of them conscripts

February – U.S forces in South Vietnam bomb ancient city of Hue in order to regain control from NLF

February – General Westmoreland in South Vietnam requests 100,000 or 200,000 more troops

February – 'LBJ' tours Dallas and exclaims 'No American President ever lost a war and I'll be damned if I'll be the first'

March 3 – 400 young people attend opening Sunday night of FOCO youth club organised by SDA and YSL at Brisbane Trades Hall

March 8 – DRM President Des Files receives 7.00 am visit from two CIB men who make ham-fisted attempt to entrap him into making seditious statement under Crimes Act

March – Disclosure that an Australian Army officer had personally tortured a teenage Vietnamese woman shocks the nation. Army Command and former Army Minister Fraser appear to have kept a lid on a blatant violation of Geneva Agreement covering prisoners of war – for eighteen months

March – CPA in Perth distributes leaflet quoting the extraordinary statement made by major in U.S army – 'It became necessary to destroy the town to save it'

March – Australian Council of Churches (ACC) meeting in Sydney calls for sweeping liberalisation of National Service Act in keeping with UN Declaration of Human Rights

March – Famous U.S child doctor and anti-war activist Dr Benjamin Spock charged with 'conspiracy' (with four others) to aid youth resisting the draft in U.S

March – After a thirty-month fight through the Courts to be recognised as a conscientious objector Sydney journalist Simon Townsend has been officially called up by the Army

March – Radical students at the University of Adelaide break from the established campus clubs and form Students for Democratic Action (SDA)

March 16 – **My Lai massacre of 400-500 Vietnamese civilians in U.S 'Tet' counter-offensive (the massacre does not become public knowledge until late in 1969)**

March – Gorton Government decides to drop planned inquiry into water torture of Vietnamese woman by Australian warrant officer

March – General Westmoreland's request for 200,000 more troops is rejected by President Johnson and he is removed from overall U.S command in Vietnam

March 29 – Fifty people demonstrate outside Watsonia Army camp against court-martial of conscientious objector Denis O'Donnell

March 31 – **Lyndon Johnson declares his withdrawal from U.S presidential race. He raises the possibility of peace talks and will curtail bombing of North. The Gorton Government is not informed in advance of U.S decision to de-escalate**

April 4 – Dr Martin Luther King assassinated by sniper's bullet in Memphis Tennessee. Nation-wide upsurge in black struggle begins

April 4 – Conor Cruise O'Brien and Felix Greene arrive in Australia to address audiences on Vietnam war

April 5 – Central Committee of Communist Party of Czechoslovakia adopts action program of 'radical democratic' reforms along lines recommended by recently elected First Secretary Alexander Dubcek. The 'Prague Spring' begins

April – Young people assemble in Melbourne CBD to talk to passers-by about Vietnam. They wear saucer-shaped cardboard label – 'I am against the Vietnam war. I would like to talk to you if you would like to talk to me'

April 11 – 'Mock Crucifixion' at Monash University. An innocuous event in the long tradition of student pranks sparks a furore when it is reported in Melbourne's *Truth* newspaper. The incident turns out to be the spark that starts a prairie fire – 'student power'

April 15 – 'Week of Shame' protests commence in Melbourne against Vietnam war

April 17 – University students march through Melbourne CBD streets from University to GPO in lunch-hour for vigil in sympathy with conscientious objector Denis O'Donnell at present in Holsworthy Military Prison

April 26 – Twenty people arrested after Friday sit-in demonstration in support of Denis O'Donnell at Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Melbourne

May 10 – **'Night of the barricades' in Paris – France explodes in revolt**

May 10-11 – Hundreds of students injured in Paris street battles as Gaullist regime strikes back. The May-June upheavals in Paris have their immediate origin in anti-Vietnam war demonstrations by students from the Sorbonne annexe at Nanterre

May 13 – Three buses carry 120 high school students on peace ride from Sydney to Canberra

May 15-16 – Leaders from thirty-five unions attend 'National Trade Union Lobby Day for Peace' in Canberra organised by AICD Trade Union Committee in Sydney

May 15 – Conscientious objector Simon Townsend is taken into Army custody after special Federal Court hearing in Sydney

May 16 – Australian casualty figures in Vietnam – 189 killed in action, 828 wounded

May – Bolte Government in Victoria takes advantage of 'Mock Crucifixion' of April 11 to threaten takeover of Monash by State government and crack down on students with police action. A press report of proposed new 'draft discipline statute' suggests Monash University is considering punishing students for acts of misconduct outside the University

May 16 – The student body at Monash University in Clayton springs into action in rebellious response to proposed Draft Discipline Statute. A mass general meeting of over 2000 students votes for a sit-in inside Administration building. It is the first of many sit-ins at Monash. The Campaign for University Freedom (CUF) forms and rallies are held daily

May – **Amendments to National Service Act (the 'National Service Act Amendments Bill') are introduced into Parliament by the Gorton Government. The legislation gives the government the power to demand**

from a parent (or other person or organisation) disclosure of information to assist in prosecuting those suspected of avoiding the military call-up. The draconian legislation – before long dubbed the ‘pimping provisions’ – is met immediately by widespread community opposition

May 19 – Nationally-coordinated demonstrations are held in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra as part of ‘National Mobilisation against Conscription and Vietnam war’ prompted by the incarceration of conscientious objector Denis O’Donnell in Holsworthy military prison. In Canberra sixty-nine protestors are arrested for sitting down and blocking road in front of Prime Minister’s Lodge

May – Court-martial at Victoria Barracks Sydney finds Simon Townsend guilty of disobeying military order. He is sentenced to 28 days in Holsworthy military prison

May 29 – Bowing to pressure, Gorton Government decides to omit Clause 22 from the National Service Act Amendments Bill. ‘Clause 22’ compelled ‘educational institutions’ to give details of potential National Service trainees to Department of Labour and National Service

May 31 – 1000 people attend Friday evening poster parade for Simon Townsend outside Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices Martin Place. Townsend has been in solitary confinement and subjected to ‘refined’ psychological torture

June 5 – Robert Kennedy assassinated in Los Angeles

June 7-10 – Victorian State Conference of ALP carries motion moved by Dr J. F. Cairns and calling for ‘a reassessment of Australia’s relations with America.’ The conference narrowly rejects amendment proposed by Sam Goldbloom for an independent foreign policy position of ‘non-alignment’

June – Trade unions revolt against treatment of Simon Townsend in Holsworthy. Seamen in Melbourne hold up sailing of container vessel MV *Kooronga* for ninety minutes and delay departure of *Princess of Tasmania* by 75 minutes

June 10 – Protest march from Liverpool station to Ingleburn (NSW) military camp where Simon Townsend is now held

June – Desmond Phillipson is now at Army training centre Kapooka NSW. Denis O’Donnell is now cook at jungle training centre Canungra Queensland. Phillipson’s parents charge that their son has been psychologically abused in Holsworthy

June 13 – Huge meeting of 3000 students at Monash University hears Vice-Chancellor Dr L. Mathieson attempt to justify a new disciplinary code seeking to empower the administration to punish students for off-campus activities

June 14 – Simon Townsend wins his long battle for military exemption as a conscientious objector

June – Vietnam Coordinating Committee (VCC) in Melbourne plans July 4 ‘day of protest’ – slogans ‘Independence for all nations’ and ‘Vietnam independence 1968’

June 21 – Dr Jim Cairns issues invitation to a discussion at his Hawthorn home on the subject of ‘current student protest movement’

June 21 – Sydney University Labour Club member John Percy publishes pamphlet *How Not to Join the Army* and is given the sanctuary of Sydney University campus. Commonwealth Police raid combined Goulburn Street premises of Third World Bookshop, ‘Resistance’ youth organisation and Vietnam Action Committee

June 24 – *Ubique Underground* appears at University High School in Melbourne. It is the first of many ‘illegal’ ‘underground’ news sheets produced by high school students across Melbourne

July 2 – Commonwealth and State police charge in military-type formation against students who are sitting down in Martin Place to protest Vietnam war and conscription. NSW District of Australian Journalists Association considers legal proceedings against certain police and Askin State government

July 4 – **The violence of Melbourne’s 1968 ‘July 4’ demonstration outside the U.S Consulate makes the Sydney July 2 police crackdown look like a garden party. The cutting of U.S flag from mast sparks free-for-all as demonstrators express unbridled rage and smash windows of Consulate with rocks. Police gallop their horses into crowd and resort to use of batons. It is the most violent Australian protest within living memory. Fifteen participants are charged with ‘riot’**

July – ‘High School Students Against the War in Vietnam’ (HSSAWV) associated with Vietnam Action Campaign (VAC) at 35 Goulburn Street Sydney prints 20,000 copies of first issue of *Student Underground* covering eighty schools

July – Melbourne University anti-war activists split from Melbourne University Labour Club in frustration at the Club's lack of action and establish Centre for Democratic Action (CDA) at 57 Palmerston Street Carlton

July – Melbourne University pacifists Michael Hamel-Green and Frances Newell both go to jail for five days in early July rather than pay fines arising from May 19 Canberra 'Lodge' demonstration

July – Victorian government lays charges under ancient law of 'riotous assembly' (punishable by jail terms of up to 25 years) against fifteen alleged participants in July 4 demonstration outside U.S Consulate.

Melbourne University student Harry Van Moorst issues strong statement – 'maybe we shouldn't smash windows but what the hell is this compared with the napalming of children or the defoliation of crops'

July 24 – *Sydney Morning Herald* reveals NSW Premier Askin telling U.S Chamber of Commerce luncheon in Sydney he had told a policeman 'ride over the bastards' when demonstrators had thrown themselves down in Liverpool Street to block LBJ motorcade in 1966

July 30 – Thirteen people out of fifteen before Prahran Court are freed from facing judge and jury on indictable offences ('riotous assembly') arising from July 4 demonstration. Magistrate L. Froude commits 19-year-old Albert Langer to stand trial before judge and jury on charge of 'riotous assembly' and commits waterside worker Dave Rubin to stand trial before judge and jury on a wounding charge

August 2 – Students at Sydney University detect two Special Branch detectives (Special Branch chief Fred Longbottom and Det. Sgt R. Farmer) tape recording a campus meeting from a distance. The students surround the car, let down the tyres, and imprison the detectives for two hours in their own Mini. 2000 students barricade campus roads to prevent ten police wagons from reaching the Mini

August 2-4 – Anti-war movement in Brisbane holds conference for ending Vietnam war supported by forty organisations including Queensland Trades and Labour Council

August – Students in Dissent (SID) formed as a network of radical young secondary students in Melbourne high schools. SID's news sheet is *Tabloid Underground*

August 22 – CPA newspaper *Tribune* prints special four-page edition strongly protesting against occupation of Czechoslovakia by armies of Warsaw Pact

August 24 – Anti-war activists based at Centre for Democratic Action (57 Palmerston Street Carlton) form Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and Secondary Students for Democratic Action (SSDA)

August 28 – Chicago Mayor Richard Daley unleashes brutal police onslaught on peaceful (mainly youthful) anti-war demonstrators outside Democratic Party convention

September 23 – Four non-compliers with National Service Act (Sean Foley, Len Truscott, Graham Mowbray, Robert Mowbray) appear in Special Federal Court in Sydney on charges of failing to register

October 11 – Demonstration outside Fitzroy Town Hall premises of Special Branch (political police) after Government admits the premises are used to store files on dissenters

October 16 – Annual Conference of Methodist Church of Victoria and Tasmania passes resolution calling for repeal of the National Service Act in its entirety

October 16 – 21-year-old Pascoe Vale postman John Francis Zarb is sentenced to two years in Melbourne's Pentridge Gaol for failing to comply with a call-up notice under the amended National Service Act. He has studied the Vietnam war and cannot in conscience take part in it. The law however still does not recognise objection to a particular war. Zarb is the first conscientious objector to the National Service Act to be gaoled in a civilian prison. The Zarb sentence sparks an immediate outcry from the entire anti-war movement. Sales of white paint skyrocket as night patrols prepare to paint the town with 'Free Zarb'

October 19 – Melbourne City Council officers take the names of six members of Young Socialist League who hand out leaflets on Saturday morning opposing the National Service Act and offering to help those who refuse to register

October 22 – High school students in Melbourne demonstrate in City Square for freedom of expression and against the suspension of Melbourne High student Michael Eidelson

October 25 – Mass demonstration in St. Kilda Road outside offices of Australian subsidiary of Dow Chemical Company of U.S (makers of napalm). An effigy is burned and Fire Brigade rushes to douse it. The charred effigy is lifted onto coffin and carried off by four clergymen

October 25 – Youth-based ‘October 25 Committee’ holds demonstration in Brisbane’s Queens Park. Hundreds of uniformed and plainclothes police make 44 arrests

October 27 – 100,000 people march through London to Trafalgar Square in Britain’s largest ever demonstration against the Vietnam war

November 1 – Washington abandons the bombing of North Vietnam to clear the way for talks on the Vietnam war

November 6 – Reconstituted peace talks begin in Paris and most importantly involve a delegation representing the National Liberation Front (NLF) of South Vietnam. The NLF delegation is led by a woman – Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh

November 10 – Demonstration of 1000 people outside Pentridge Jail in support of John Zarb

November – ‘Campaign for Conscience on Conscription’ launched by fourteen trade union officials in Victoria aims at establishing the right to object to a particular war (Vietnam)

November – Richard Nixon campaigns on promise to end the war and defeats Hubert Humphrey in U.S Presidential Election

November 25 – Fifty trade union officials and others demonstrate outside High Court Building in Sydney in support of John Zarb whose appeal is being heard in the court

November 25 – Conscientious objector Laurie Carmichael junior appears in Melbourne City Court and pleads not guilty to charge of refusing to register for ‘National Service’. ‘Campaign for Conscience on Conscription’ (now backed by representatives of twenty-five unions) holds demonstration at High Court building (for Zarb) and at City Court (for Carmichael). A conference on ‘conscience and conscription’ commences in Trades Hall Council chamber attended by 300 credentialed delegates

November 25 – Monash University student Jill Jolliffe and her partner Ron Lawson open *Alice’s Restaurant Bookshop* in Greville Street Prahran

November 27 – Monash Labor Club members hold general meeting at *Alice’s Restaurant Bookshop* and serendipitously notice two doors away an old empty Bakery shop

December – Conscientious objector Maxwell John Beddow, a miner from Liston (NSW), is sentenced to two years jail for not complying with call-up notice

December – The trial of Albert Langer and Dave Rubin over charges arising from 1968 July 4 demonstration in Melbourne is abandoned due to police interference with jury member in corridor of law courts

December 28-29 – National SDS/Draft Resistance Conference at 57 Palmerston Street Carlton lays the groundwork for intensive national campaign urging young men to ‘refuse to register’, an initiative pioneered earlier in 1968 by the YSL in Melbourne

1969

January – Interstate conference in Melbourne sets up National Campaign Against Conscription (NCAC)

January 3 – Twenty-year-old medical student Sean Foley begins serving 29-day sentence at Long Bay jail for refusing to pay a fine arising from failure to attend medical examination for National Service

January – Conscientious objector Desmond Phillipson alleges brutal treatment at Holsworthy Military Detention Centre

January – Formal negotiations on Vietnam begin in Paris

January 20 – Posters reading ‘Don’t be a Machine – Don’t Register’ begin appearing on Post Offices all over Melbourne

January 25 – Police in Melbourne fire at four young poster-pasters engaged in early-morning pasting-up of ‘Don’t be a Machine – Don’t Register’ poster in lane off Collins Street

January 25 – Anti-conscription demonstrators in Melbourne distribute ‘Why register for National Service?’ leaflet at GPO. Commonwealth Police arrest Sydney SDS Secretary Mike Jones and Hobart SDS Secretary Nick Beams under the Crimes Act

January – Twenty-year-old Melbourne University SDS member Diana Crunden fined \$10 (in default two days jail) for her part in October 25 anti-Vietnam war demonstration. Crunden refuses to pay fine and spends seventeen hours in cell at City watch-house

January 28 – Anti-conscription protest at Hobart office of Department of Labour and National Service. SDS members John Tully and Dennis Rider are arrested under Crimes Act for distributing leaflet urging the filling out of false registration forms

January 29-30 – Skirmishes on the steps of GPO in Melbourne as anti-conscription protestors persist in leaflet distribution despite efforts of Council officers to deter them

January – Cambodian Government again protests against violation of its borders by U.S and South Vietnamese (Saigon) forces

February 1 – Young people distribute ‘*You have a choice – Why Register for National Service?*’ leaflet on steps of Melbourne GPO. They are joined by members of Young Socialist League (YSL) handing out their own leaflet ‘*Evade the draft – Refuse to register*’. Nine of the protestors are arrested by Commonwealth Police on Crimes Act charges

February – In Melbourne a new anti-draft leaflet urging young men not to register for ‘National Service’ has been authorised by 183 citizens from three states. They are defying the Government to prosecute them under the Crimes Act

February 8 – Mass Saturday morning hand-out of anti-draft leaflets at Melbourne GPO. Five young people are arrested on ‘obstruction’ and other charges relating to alleged breaches of City Council by-laws

February – UNSW student Geoffrey Mullen is released from Long Bay jail after serving twenty-nine days for refusing to take medical examination

February 15 – Over 100 students and trade unionists hold Saturday morning mass distribution of anti-conscription leaflets at GPO in Melbourne

February 22 – Another mass anti-conscription leaflet distribution at Melbourne’s GPO

February – Adelaide student teacher Bob Hall suspended after being charged with distributing leaflets against National Service Act

March 1 – Adrian Desailly (17) and Ken Mansell (23) caught painting ‘Free Zarb’ sign on railway bridge in Urquhart Street Northcote. They are kept in Northcote police cells overnight and taken to Pentridge jail next morning

March – The list of conscientious objectors who defy the National Service Act by refusing to register is growing

March 2 – ‘Campaign for Conscience on Conscription’ kicks off a month of planned action with big Sunday afternoon public meeting at Melbourne Town Hall

March 4 – Anti-conscription painters Desailly and Mansell are fined \$200 each (in default three months jail) in Northcote magistrates court

March 5 – Huge *Zarb Hero* sign visible from railway line (Glenferrie, Melbourne)

March 5 – **Monash Labor Club establishes off-campus headquarters at ‘The Bakery’, 120 Greville Street Prahran**

March – Earl Ingleby and Julie Ingleby of Williamstown fined for distributing anti-conscription handbills

March 7 – 2000 Sydney University students march against conscription and are joined by workers from city building jobs

March 7 – 500 Monash and La Trobe students distribute anti-conscription leaflets in defiance of City Council by-laws

March 8 – Demonstration at railway bridge in Urquhart Street Northcote in support of Mansell and Desailly. Adelaide poet Robert Tillett arrested for completing ‘Free Zarb’ sign

March – Eighteen-year-old Brisbane high school student Margaret Bailey expelled from Inala State High School

March – Robert Tillett sentenced to three months jail (without option) for painting two letters

March – Billy Graham Crusade opens in Myer Music Bowl. As Graham rises to speak ten SOS women and two Ministers of religion parade with anti-Vietnam war placards

March 15-16 – ‘Campaign for Conscience on Conscription’ in cooperation with CICD holds weekend of deputations to all Victorian members of Federal Parliament

March – Sydney SDS leader Mike Jones is serving concurrent sentences totalling 125 days for refusal to register for National Service and for 1968 protest against *Green Beret* film

March 21 – Queensland Education Reform Committee sponsors ‘Teach-in’ at University of Queensland on Margaret Bailey case. Bailey has been blackballed from every State high school in Brisbane

March 25 – City Court hearing in Melbourne dismisses Crimes Act charges against ten young people for handing out anti-conscription leaflets in Melbourne

March 25 – National (anti-conscription) Cavalcade to Canberra

March – Six students arrested in Hobart for alleged breaches of the Crimes Act by handing out leaflets opposing ‘National Service’

March – Young Sydney barrister Murray Sime (employee of Deputy Crown Solicitor’s office) victimised by Commonwealth Public Service for sponsoring March 7 students’ anti-conscription march

March 28 – 500 high school students demonstrate in Brisbane for immediate reinstatement of Margaret Bailey. The demonstrators defy police orders and refuse to move from the entrance to Education Department building

April 1 – Hobart demonstration organised by University of Tasmania students against National Service Act and recent Crimes Act charges

April 3 – **Anti-conscription leaflet distribution in Melbourne. Dr Jim Cairns is arrested on charge of violating City Council by-law prohibiting handing out of leaflets. At least 120 people have been convicted for defying the by-law. Twenty-seven unions threaten boycott of *Courage* beer whose chairman Sir Maurice Nathan supports the by-law**

April 4-7 – **791 people attend ‘Left Action Conference’ in Sydney. The Conference endorses proposal by Brian Laver for campaign in support of NLF**

April – 500 delegates attend ‘Australia, Vietnam and the Asian Revolution’ Conference in Adelaide organised by Campaign for Peace in Vietnam (CPV)

April – SDA in Brisbane dissolves into Revolutionary Socialist Alliance (RSA) and Revolutionary Socialist Students Alliance (RSSA)

April 8 – Demonstration outside Victorian Government Tourist Bureau (Sydney) in solidarity with Melbourne opponents of City Council by-law

April – **Melbourne City Council rescinds anti-leafleting by-law 418 after unions threaten ban on *Courage* beer and Paterson’s furniture stores**

April 11 – Australian casualty figures so far in Vietnam – 274 killed, 1267 wounded

April 11 – American academics Professor Herbert I. Schiller and Professor Urban Whitaker begin CICD-sponsored tour

April 11 – **Student anti-conscription march in Sydney turns nasty after 800 police respond viciously to occupation of Government offices and arrest 110**

April 11 – Demonstration in Adelaide against Crimes Act and City Council by-law restricting distribution of leaflets. Police respond to occupation of Department of Labour and National Service office by wading into demonstrators and making 54 arrests

April 18 – Hundreds of students in Adelaide march to Department of Labour and National Service in protest against Vietnam war and conscription

April 20 – CICD’s American guests Professor Schiller and Professor Whitaker address big Sunday meeting at Melbourne Town Hall on Vietnam

April 23 – **Student organisations and unions in Sydney hold demonstration to protest April 11 police brutality against anti-conscription demonstrators. Violence erupts again**

April 23 – Sit-down demonstration on railway line delays train taking conscript intake out of Wollongong station

April – Mike Jones released after serving 25 days for refusing to register for ‘National Service’ and (allegedly) assaulting cinema manager

May 1 – Organised right-wing squads bash 100 students holding sit-down demonstration against Sydney University Regiment. State Governor Sir Roden Cutler is hit by tomato. Premier Askin orders expulsion of ‘hooligans’ (by which he means the left!)

May – Louie Christofides fined \$10 for April 23 sit-down action at Wollongong station

May 4 – **Labour Day (May Day) procession in Brisbane. 300 youthful demonstrators heckle Gough Whitlam and alienate Trades Hall bureaucrats. It is the end of ‘new left’ ties with ALP in Brisbane**

May 6 – Monash students demand input into proposed Discipline Statute. 500 gain entry to Administration building and 5000 gather around the steps – the biggest student meeting ever held in Australia

May 7 – President of Queensland Trades and Labour Council Jack Egerton imposes ban on radical students marching with union members

May 7 – Night-time demonstration in Adelaide in support of NLF is broken up by unprovoked and violent police action

May 8 – Margaret Bailey spends ten hours chained to stairs of Treasury Building in Brisbane

May – **Australian Prime Minister Gorton visits President Nixon in Washington – and makes obsequious pledge: ‘We’ll go a Waltzing Matilda with You’**

May 14 – U.S President Richard Nixon proposes ‘eight-point plan’ for Vietnam settlement

May 15 – **Tramways Union Victorian State Secretary Clarrie O’Shea is jailed. This provokes greatest national strike wave in Australian history – on a political issue. O’Shea had received summons to appear before Industrial Court to be questioned on his union’s finances**

May 15 – Shotgun and tear gas assault on student demonstrators at University of California (Berkeley) leaves 128 students injured (three in critical condition and one dead). The National Guard assault was ordered by California Governor Ronald Reagan

May – Federal Attorney-General Nigel Bowen threatens ‘full range of measures’ against ‘deliberately manipulated student protests.’ He predicts large-scale occupation of high schools by students in July

May 16 – 500,000 workers are on strike in all states of the Commonwealth. 5000 workers hold mass rally at Olympic Park in Melbourne. Violence erupts in Little Bourke Street when police charge demonstrators outside Industrial Court

May 17 – Protest meeting at Pentridge jail for John Zarb. The half-hour meetings are held on third Saturday of every month

May 19 – Ho Chi Minh celebrates his 79th birthday

May 23 – Students from Adelaide University and Flinders University hold lunch-hour demonstration in defence of the right to assemble and conduct a peaceful protest

May 25 – Vietnam Coordinating Committee Sunday afternoon rally outside Pentridge jail in support of John Zarb

May – Over one million Australian workers have taken strike action against the penal powers of the Arbitration system. O’Shea is released after \$8600 payment to Industrial Court by stranger

May 28 – Students demonstrate in Melbourne against trial of Albert Langer and Dave Rubin. Both are charged with inciting to riot. Rubin also faces malicious wounding charge

May 28 – 315 Australians killed to date in Vietnam, 1344 wounded

June 2 – Trial of Monash student Albert Langer begins in Melbourne’s County Court. (Dave Rubin has decided to conduct a separate trial with his own lawyer). Langer is conducting his own defence

June – Queensland Trades and Labour Council forces FOCO out of Brisbane Trades Hall

June 12 – Occupation of University of Queensland Senate Room by twenty-five students pressing for ‘staff-student control’ of University Council

June – U.S President Richard Nixon announces plan for withdrawal of 25,000 U.S troops from Vietnam. There is no sign of Gorton Government following suit

June – **Revolutionary Provisional Government (PRG) proclaimed in South Vietnam**

June – **Ninety Australian academics defy National Service Act by publicly declaring full support to students who refuse to register for ‘National Service’. They are led by Sydney University Professors L.C. Birch and C.B. Martin**

June 20 – 600 demonstrators march through Adelaide streets (the ‘Ho Chi Minh Trail’) against Vietnam war and conscription and in defiance of City Council edict against peak-hour demonstrations

June – Trial of Albert Langer in Melbourne’s County Court ends after jury fails to agree on verdict. Langer’s unorthodox defence had prosecution on back foot from outset and turned proceedings into political trial of the Government

June – Sydney University students hold anti-conscription sit-ins at offices of Treasurer McMahon and Attorney-General Bowen. Forty students manage to invade Bowen’s office despite strenuous efforts by police

July 3 – Newly-formed ‘Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act’ holds press conference and ‘sign-in’ at Sydney Town Hall where 68 prominent citizens sign ‘Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act’

July 4 – 4000 demonstrators march down St. Kilda Road towards U.S Consulate in tight formation. Police on horseback charge protestors at barricades. The following afternoon twenty Consulate windows are smashed by ‘Melbourne People’s Liberation Army’

July 4 – Sydney’s 1969 July 4 (‘Freedom Day’) rally highlighted by burning of U.S flag and effigies of Prime Minister Gorton outside U.S Consulate

July – Waterside workers in Sydney seek exemption from working on *Jeparit* which plies to and from Vietnam with war supplies. The ship is crewed by Navy sailors because Seamen’s Union members refuse to ‘man’ her

July 10 – Twenty-year-old student David Day of 57 Palmerston Street Carlton fined \$40 in Melbourne City Court for refusing to register for ‘National Service’

July – Seamen’s Union delegates in Sydney threaten newsprint ban on *Sydney Morning Herald* after ‘SMH’ refuses to accept advertisement for ‘Statement of Defiance’

July – ‘Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act’ begins mass campaign in registration period July 21-August 4 to collect signatories to the ‘Statement of Defiance’

July – ‘Fill in a false’ campaign begins. Students at Monash, Latrobe and Melbourne Universities fill in 10,000 National Service registration forms with names taken at random from telephone book

July 20 – Ho Chi Minh issues statement to mark fifteenth anniversary of Geneva Agreements

July 21 – Monash erupts again over proposed clause in new discipline statute enabling ban on anyone with criminal record from the University. 100 militants stage sit-in outside Council Chamber. Mass meeting of 1500 students votes overwhelmingly to reaffirm its opposition to objectionable clause

July 25 – 2000 people have signed ‘Statement of Defiance’ issued by ‘Committee in Defiance of National Service Act’. All are in breach of the Crimes Act

July 25 – Adelaide teacher Bob Hall is jailed for refusing to comply with National Service Act. Hundreds march through the city to protest at Adelaide jail

July 26 – Australia’s Vietnam death toll now stands at 305 killed in action. 1513 Australians have been wounded

July 27 – 21-year-old Adelaide teacher-student Ann McMenamin chains herself to iron fence at Adelaide’s Parliament House and begins 60-hour vigil in protest against jailing of Bob Hall

August 4-5 – Eight Monash students charged with breaches of discipline arising out of July 21 sit-in. In response students twice occupy Administration building – on the nights of August 4/5

August 6 – CICD demonstration in Melbourne CBD to mark Hiroshima Day and in support of draft resisters

August 10 – CICD Sunday afternoon ‘Mass Walkathon’ Alexandra Avenue to Pentridge for John Zarb and repeal of National Service Act. Application has been made for release of Zarb on compassionate grounds due to illness of his parents

August 14 – Brisbane students demonstrate in support of people of Bougainville and are met with unprecedented violence from Special Branch and uniformed police. Special Branch Detectives smash windows and damage stock at ‘Red and Black Bookshop’

August – Dave Rubin appears in Melbourne’s County Court charged with malicious wounding of a policeman and resisting arrest at 1968 July 4 demonstration. He is found guilty on the lesser charges of ‘common assault’ and ‘resisting arrest’. Earlier the jury had thrown out the more serious charges

August – United States Federal Appeals Court dismisses all charges against Dr Benjamin Spock

August – Conscientious objector John Zarb is released from Pentridge Jail on compassionate grounds after serving ten months of two-year sentence

August – U.S promises withdrawal of 50,000 troops by year’s end but still no move from Gorton Government to scale back Australia’s Vietnam troop commitment

August 25 – Forty-two waterside workers in Sydney refuse to start work on *Jeparit* as protest against Australian involvement in Vietnam war

August 30 – ‘Committee for Defiance of the National Service Act’ formed in Victoria

September 3 – Death of Ho Chi Minh, legendary leader of the Vietnamese people

September 6 – 318 Australians so far killed in action in Vietnam. 1559 have been wounded

September 15 – Michael Hamel-Green appears in City Court and is sentenced to seven days' jail for refusing to attend medical examination

September 16 – RMIT architecture student Tony Dalton appears in Cheltenham Court and is sentenced to seven days' jail for non-compliance with National Service Act

September – Public meeting called in Melbourne to pay tribute to John Zarb

September 19 – Computer technician Laurie Carmichael junior 'appears' at Williamstown Court charged with refusing to answer call for medical examination. Carmichael is whisked away by car into hiding. Police assault diminutive Mrs Laurie Carmichael. Laurie Carmichael senior and others are arrested as they come to her aid. Workers in local factories down tools

September 20-21 – Weekend vigil outside Pentridge jail in support of Tony Dalton and Michael Hamel-Green

September – Dr Jim Cairns returns to sittings of Federal Parliament after recovering from effects of savage attack on himself and guests at party held in his own home

September 26 – Workers in Melbourne's western suburbs stop work and rally at Williamstown Court to support those arrested on September 19. Union officials collaborate with police in moving student protestors away from the Court

September 27 – Laurie Carmichael junior makes himself available for arrest

October 2 – 509,600 U.S troops still in Vietnam

October 14 – Simon Townsend lays 'citizen's prosecutions' in special Federal Court in Sydney against 37 signatories to the 'Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act'

October 15 – **An estimated fifteen million (perhaps twenty million) people demonstrate in 'Moratorium Day' demonstrations in U.S**

October 15 – Cast and audience of musical *Hair* observe minute's silence in Sydney to support U.S Moratorium

October 18 – Pre-election march through Melbourne CBD organised by CICD

October 19 – ALP leader Gough Whitlam commits ALP to amnesty for all opponents of the National Service Act

October 21 – Michael Hamel-Green and Tony Dalton fail to present themselves for induction into Army and take refuge in NUAUS draft sanctuary

October – 300 unionists at Walsh Bay in Sydney protest against having to handle *Jeparit* war equipment

October – An appeal by Commonwealth authorities against the dismissal of Crimes Act charges against six Melbourne students by magistrate in March (1969) is upheld by Supreme Court (Melbourne)

October – **Norman Rothfield, John Lloyd, and Bevan Ramsden, all of whom are associated with CICD in Victoria, hold informal discussion on possibility of a Moratorium campaign in Australia**

October 25 – Big swing against Gorton Government in 1969 Federal election indicates growing support for policies of ALP, including pledges to withdraw from Vietnam and abolish conscription

October 29 – Young Orbost farmer Brian Ross appears in Orbost Court and is jailed for two years for refusing to obey call-up notice

November 1 – March of thousands in Chicago demanding unchaining of Black Panther Party leader Bobby Seale and dropping of charges against 'Chicago Eight'

November – **CICD Secretary John Lloyd sends letter to contacts in all states suggesting 'national consultation' in Canberra November 25 (first day of new Parliament) to discuss possibility of Moratorium**

November – 79 people have so far been charged in Sydney and Canberra for signing 'Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act'

November 9 – *New York Times* carries full-page advertisement calling for immediate withdrawal of U.S troops from Vietnam. It is signed by 1365 active duty U.S servicemen

November 11 – 200 job delegates representing 200,000 unionists meet in Sydney and pledge support for union officials and others who face jail under Crimes Act for signing 'Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act'

November 11 – Printing apprentice Karl Armstrong is convicted of having refused to register for National Service and is fined \$40

November 13 – About 200 executives and members of more than thirty unions hold conference in Melbourne to discuss strategies for opposing National Service Act and Vietnam war

November 14 – Hobart demonstration in support of U.S Moratorium

November 15 – **Second round of Vietnam Moratorium in U.S. 150,000 march against the Vietnam war in San Francisco; 250,000 march in Washington**

November 15 – Saturday demonstrations in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide in solidarity with second round of U.S Moratorium

November 15 – AICD in Sydney sponsors program of action in solidarity with U.S Moratorium

November – **The world reacts with horror to allegations of massacre by U.S forces of hundreds of unarmed villagers in South Vietnam (Song My village, Quang Ngai province). The massacre occurred twenty months previous (March 16, 1968) but has been hushed up**

November 22 – 329 Australians so far killed in action in Vietnam. 1617 have been wounded

November – So far 68 signatories to 'Statement of Defiance of National Service Act' have been sentenced for breach of Crimes Act

November – NSW South Coast signatories to 'Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act' now exceed 2000

November 25-26 – **Representatives of 35 peace organisations from throughout Australia attend Moratorium 'national consultation' in Canberra**

November 26 – Press conference at conclusion of two-day 'national consultation' reveals plans for nation-wide Vietnam Moratorium Campaign to culminate in Australia-wide demonstration on weekend of April 18, 1970. Provisional convenors return to their states and take steps toward establishment of VMC groups in the capital cities

November 28 – Attorney-General Hughes meets deputation from 'Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act' (CDNSA). The deputation draws attention to two young men in jail while 68 others in contempt of the Act remain free

November 30 – Waterside workers in Sydney begin strike over loading ships with materials for Vietnam war. They refuse to work the Vietnam arms-supply ship *Jeparit*

December 4 – Rupert Murdoch's *Australian* newspaper calls for withdrawal of Australian and U.S troops from Vietnam

December 5 – Gorton Government backs away from confrontation with Sydney waterside workers over their strike against loading ships bound for Vietnam

December 8 – **U.S President Richard Nixon outlines his policy of 'Vietnamisation'. The objective of the U.S remains a military victory on the ground in Vietnam**

December 9 – **First meeting of supporters of the Moratorium in Melbourne is held in the Caprice Restaurant in Collins Street and is attended by some 120 interested individuals**

December 9 – Public ceremony in Chifley Square where 67 people sign 'Statement of Defiance'. 8000 people have now signed the 'Statement' and risk prosecution and jail under the Crimes Act

December – 119 people have so far been sentenced and fined for signing the 'Statement in Defiance of the National Service Act'. Almost all have refused to pay the fines but there have been no arrests

December – Newly-formed 'Vietnam Solidarity Committee' in Sydney launches 'Vietnam Solidarity Fund' which is to be sent to PRG of South Vietnam for all purposes it thinks fit, including military purposes

December 13 – Saturday 'freedom ride' to Sale prison in Gippsland in support of non-complier Brian Ross

December 15 – Anti-Vietnam war rally ('Peace Mobilisation') in Sydney organised by 'Vietnam Mobilisation Committee'

December 15 – 'Trade Union Anti-Conscription Committee' backed by thirty-two unions holds Shop Stewards and Delegates rally at Fitzroy Town Hall. The rally adopts resolution calling for Australian troops in Vietnam to mutiny rather than commit acts of barbarism. The Gorton Government begins investigations into possibility of prosecutions

December – First meeting of supporters of Moratorium in Sydney passes motion deploring unrepresentative nature of Canberra consultation

December 16 – First meeting of Moratorium ‘temporary committee’ in Melbourne decides to arrange public meeting of sponsors for February 1, 1970

December – Gorton Government commissions *Jeparit* as Navy vessel for its voyages with Vietnam war supplies and concedes victory to Sydney waterside workers

December 19 – ‘Trade Union Anti-Conscription Committee’ in Melbourne clarifies controversial December 15 ‘mutiny’ resolution by referring to Nuremberg war crimes judgement

December 23 – Protest group ‘Provo’ holds colourful demonstration in Adelaide and burns replica of Song My (My Lai) village

December 28 – Victorian ALP Secretary Bill Hartley suggests Australian troops ‘should disobey and in fact arrest their superior officers’ if given orders of ‘My Lai’ type

1970

January 8 – Plain clothes police pull guns and threaten to shoot Ted Poulton and Phillip Twomey near SDS headquarters in Carlton. The two are interrogated for seven hours at Russell Street

January 11 – Activists at ‘The Bakery’ in Prahran disband Revolutionary Socialist Alliance (‘Rev Socs’) and establish ‘The Worker-Student Alliance’ (WSA)

January 13 – U.S Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew arrives in Canberra to press for vastly stepped-up Australian military role in South-East Asia

January 14 – Protest demonstration against Agnew at Parliament House in Canberra

January 14 – Sydney newspapers refuse to publish Vietnam atrocity photo submitted by ‘Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act’

January – Maritime unions in Sydney demand the return of war-supply ship *Jeparit* to its peaceful trade role

January – New Draft Counselling Centre opens in Sydney

January – Activity is underway in support of proposed nation-wide Vietnam Moratorium

January – Anti-conscription demonstrator Julie Ingleby is jailed for contempt of court after displaying ‘obscene’ placard at trial of husband Earl Ingleby for similar offence. Her point: what is the real obscenity? – the ‘Word’ or the Vietnam war?

January 24 – Anti-draft protestors in Adelaide fill out false registration papers for ‘National Service’ call-up

January 28 – Leaflet ‘Why Register?’ is distributed in Sydney’s Martin Place

January 28 – CPA National Executive statement declares Communists will seek to initiate debates on why the NLF should be supported

January – Julie Ingleby is sacked by Victorian Education Department

February 1 – Moratorium sponsors’ meeting in Richmond Town Hall passes motion for three-hour occupation of Melbourne CBD streets

February 2 – Sydney SDS leader Mike Jones summonsed to report for ‘National Service’ on February 9

February 3 – Mike Jones is sacked by his employer

February 4 – *Tribune* publishes Wilfred Burchett article denying NLF responsibility for mass graves of Hue

February – Death of Bertrand Russell, 97

February 9 – Vietnam Moratorium sponsors’ meeting in Sydney

February 14 – 383 Australians have been killed on active service in Vietnam. 2387 have been wounded

February 15 – Wilfred Burchett wishes to attend his brother’s funeral but is again barred from entering Australia

February 16 – First meeting of Victorian Vietnam Moratorium organisational representatives (executive) in Melbourne

February – The week ending May 9 is chosen as (national) Moratorium week

February 25 – 700 students at Altona North Technical School sign petition calling for reinstatement of Julie Ingleby

February – Three thousand people demonstrate in Chicago against sentences imposed on ‘Chicago Seven’

February 28 – Wilfred Burchett arrives home at last – after an exile of nineteen years

February 28 – Fifty carloads of protestors arrive in Gippsland town Sale to support Brian Ross

February – ACTU executive gives guarded approval for affiliated unions to take part in Vietnam Moratorium campaign

February – Biology tutor David Mowbray imprisoned in Sydney for refusal to attend ‘National Service’ medical examination

March 2 – Second meeting of Victorian Vietnam Moratorium executive in Melbourne

March 2 – Wilfred Burchett addresses National Press Club in Canberra

March 6 – CICD sponsors ‘welcome home’ to Burchett at Melbourne Town Hall

March – Monash staff members protest against exclusion of Albert Langer

March – Massive U.S intervention in Laos

March – Gorton Government refuses passport to Wilfred Burchett

March – Sit-in at Department of Labour and National Service in Newcastle to support draft resister Geoff Wilson

March – Six people fined in Melbourne City Court on charges arising out of September 19 (1969) Williamstown Court demonstration

March – Right-wing organisation ‘Citizens for Freedom’ publishes leaflet *Unmasking the Moratorium*

March – Sydney University SRC sponsors three-member delegation to North Vietnam (David McKenzie, Doug Miles, David Hill)

March 14 – 400 Australians have been killed on active service in Vietnam. 2473 have been wounded

March 15 – Wilfred Burchett departs from Sydney and flies to Noumea

March – Right-wing forces have stymied the ACTU executive’s resolution on the Vietnam Moratorium

March 17 – Mass meeting at Monash to consider exclusion of Langer ends in confusion after 50-50 division and is adjourned

March 18 – Washington-backed right-wing coup in Cambodia installs General Lon Nol as Premier of post-Sihanouk Cambodia

March 24 – 100 Sydney University students occupy Administration Building for twenty-four hours. The students’ action is a serious attempt to demonstrate the failure of attempts by SRC to obtain the entry of Miss Victoria Lee into the University through the formal channels of communication

March – Fighting has been reported between Cambodian armed forces and Vietnamese liberation forces

April – Hal Alexander and Keith Darwin jailed in Adelaide on ‘contempt of court’ charges arising from December 23 (1969) demonstration against My Lai massacre

April – Victorian executive of Tramways Union withdraws from Moratorium – ‘not militant enough’

April 8 – Seamen’s Union stop-work meeting reaffirms the stand of not carrying cargoes for Vietnam

April 13 – Meeting of Vietnam Moratorium (executive) in Melbourne. It is held at the Victorian Railway Institute (Room 56) 7.30 pm. Dr Cairns motion limiting the occupation of the city to fifteen minutes. The ‘moderates’ win control of the Moratorium

April 15 – Front-page lead article in *Tribune* detailing the weaponry manufactured by Honeywell Inc. of Minnesota (U.S). The article is accompanied by horrendous atrocity photograph

April 15 – Communist Party organiser Hal Alexander is released from jail in Adelaide after 14-day hunger strike

April 16 – Members of House of Representatives in Canberra devote seventy minutes of their time in debating whether or not it is appropriate for the House to sit on Friday May 8

April 20 – Meeting of Victorian Vietnam Moratorium executive

April – U.S President Nixon announces the withdrawal of 150,000 U.S troops within next twelve months

April 22 – Support for Vietnam Moratorium movement is snowballing

April 22 – Nineteen students at Telopea Park High School in Canberra walk out of school assembly rather than take off their Moratorium badges as demanded by the Principal

April 27 – High school students in Sydney defy NSW Education Department attempts to stop them wearing Moratorium badges

April 27 – Meeting of Victorian Vietnam Moratorium executive

April 30 – Seventy girls at Fort Street Girls’ High in Sydney hold lunch-time playground vigil for Vietnam

April – Over one and a half million copies of broadsheet produced by National Moratorium Coordinating Committee

April – Federal Government trots out twin bogeys of ‘violence’ and ‘communist conspiracy’ to discredit Moratorium

April – Victorian Trades Hall Council plans leaflet instructing unionists not to take part in Moratorium

May 1 – U.S forces invade Cambodia and resume bombing in North Vietnam

May – Jack Egerton (THC) threatens to use police to force young radicals out of Brisbane May Day march

May 3 – May Day rally in Melbourne. 400 students march on U.S Consulate to protest invasion of Cambodia and smash windows of U.S company Honeywell

May 3 – Angry demonstration at U.S Consulate in Sydney

May 4 – Four students protesting invasion of Cambodia are murdered by National Guardsmen at Kent State University Ohio

May 5 – Sit-in protest at U.S Consulate in Sydney

May – Victorian THC produces anti-Moratorium leaflet – printed in three languages

May – Principal of Melbourne High School bans badges of Vietnam Moratorium Campaign

May – Victorian THC Secretary Ken Stone berates Dr Jim Cairns for his calls to unionists to stop work

May – Minister of Labour and National Service Bill Snedden warns public about ‘bikies pack-raping democracy’ at the Moratorium

May – Students at University of Queensland establish ‘Tent City’ on campus to organise for Moratorium

May – VMC secretariat in Melbourne appoints 400 marshals to control the march

May 8 – The (Melbourne) *Age* headline is ‘Helmeted police get ready for sit-down’

May 8 – The Victorian Bolte government has 1000 police in Melbourne for the march

May 8 – Stores in Bourke Street (Melbourne) lock their doors

May 8 – Thousands march in nation-wide Moratorium to stop ‘business as usual’. In Melbourne 70,000-100,000 people peacefully take over the city for two hours. 25,000 assemble in Sydney and block the city’s main traffic intersection. 2000 attend Adelaide’s ‘anti-imperialist’ march. 10,000 march in Brisbane, 3000 in Perth, 3500 in Hobart

May 9 – 10,000 march in Adelaide’s Saturday morning demonstration

May 9-10 – Massive student turn-out in U.S against Indo-China war

May – Hall Greenland and Haydn Thompson expelled from Sydney University

May 18 – Sydney University student Meredith Burgmann attacked by fascists at Australia-Rhodesia Association meeting (Sydney)

May – Education Department in Sydney confirms earlier suspension of Robert Colley for wearing Moratorium badge at Ibrox Park Boys High School

May 21 – Meredith Burgmann released from Long Bay jail after serving part of ten-day sentence for failure to pay fine (January 14 anti-Agnew demonstration)

May – Australian Army quashes sentences on soldiers charged with violence against peaceful May 8 Adelaide Moratorium demonstration

May – Minister for Labour and National Service Snedden proposes ‘civilian’ service for conscientious objectors to National Service

May – Vietnam Moratorium executive bodies from six states hold National Consultation in Melbourne and recommend Second Moratorium September 18-20

June 5 – South Coast (NSW) painter and docker Louie Christofides sentenced to 52 days in Long Bay jail for defiance of conscription law.

June 5 – Meeting in Melbourne to discuss July 4 demonstration. The meeting divides: Friday July 3 or Saturday July 4?

June – Francis James goes missing while touring in the Peoples’ Republic of China

June – Monash students occupy Careers and Appointments Office during Honeywell interview session

June – 118 members of ‘Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act’ have been convicted under the Commonwealth Crimes Act of urging young men not to register

June 11 – Six NSW South Coast women chain themselves in House of Representatives (Canberra) to protest imprisonment of Louie Christofides

June 17 – *Tribune* article by Harry Van Moorst urging support for ‘Wreck the Draft Campaign’

June 17 – Sydney University students call for reinstatement of Greenland and Thompson

June – ‘The U.S Government is going crazy. People have to stand up against it’ (Dr Benjamin Spock)

June 18 – Prime Minister Gorton states the law will be enforced against all young men who defy the National Service Act but dodges implementation of Crimes Act against thousands of adults who have urged non-compliance with the Act

June 18 – Large mass meeting in Melbourne endorses Saturday July 4 demonstration

June 21 – Demonstration outside Long Bay jail for release of Louie Christofides

June – Queensland BWIU recommends establishment of a ‘draft resistance centre’ in Trades Hall

June – Latrobe University Vice-Chancellor Myers ‘suspends’ six students for year after Defence Department recruiting agents are ‘escorted’ off campus

June 22 – Publication of broadsheet *The Communist Party is Behind the Moratorium – Way Behind*. The broadsheet offers an analysis of the ‘Laver Incident’ at Brisbane’s May 8 Moratorium rally

June – Adelaide anti-war activist Alexandra Fricker (who is expecting a baby in August) is arrested and forced to spend night in jail for non-appearance in legal case about leaflets

July 2 – Occupation of central trading chamber of Sydney Stock Exchange by anti-war activists

July 3 – ‘Independence from America’ rally in Sydney organised by ‘Independence from America Day’ Committee

July 3 – 500 demonstrators march through Melbourne CBD and stage sit-down at Flinders Street intersection

July 4 – 2000 demonstrators march in Melbourne and occupy road in front of Pan-American Airways building (Collins Street)

July 4 – 600 march in Adelaide in militant demonstration against U.S imperialism

July 6 – Draft resister Karl Armstrong sentenced in Melbourne to eight days jail for defying fine imposed for refusing to register

July – Armed guerrilla forces (‘Red Khmers’) confront Lon Nol regime as Civil War flares in Cambodia

July 8 – Twelve people appear in City Court in Melbourne charged by private citizen Rev. Stanley Moore with inciting breaches of the National Service Act

July 8 – Deputation led by Dr Jim Cairns to (Victorian) Chief Secretary’s office is refused permission to deliver protest against treatment of Brian Ross

July 10 – Demonstration outside Oakleigh Court to support Bob Bissett who is facing charge of not paying fine for refusal to register. Speakers announce formation of Draft Resisters’ Union (Melbourne)

July 11 – Nineteen-year-old black ex-GI Andrew Pulley speaks at public meeting in Sydney organised by ‘Resistance’

July 11-12 – Over 100 draft resisters and supporters from four states attend draft counsellors’ school in Sydney organised by ‘Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act’

July 12 – Draft resisters Tony Dalton and Michael Hamel-Green return to Melbourne from trip to Saigon as part of international delegation to investigate repression by Thieu regime of peace forces

July – Sixteen students occupy office of NSW Premier Askin to protest proposed anti-demonstration law (‘Summary Offences Act’)

July – 1000 members of Monash Association of Students vote overwhelmingly to support non-compliance with the National Service Act

July – National Coordinating Committee of Vietnam Moratorium campaign meets in Melbourne and endorses September 18-19 for next Moratorium

July 19 – Richmond Town Hall meeting decides September Moratorium should be based on concept of bringing ‘the life of the nation to a standstill’

July 22 – Demonstration in Sydney to protest against NSW Government plan to increase penalties and restrictions on demonstrators and sit-in protestors

July 22 – Several hundred students in Melbourne protest against Vietnam war and conscription by occupying GPO and then raiding filing cabinets at Department of Labour and National Service

July – Publication of *Silence Kills – The Vietnam Moratorium May 8, 1970* by Dr J.F. Cairns

July – Queensland TLC establishes Draft Resistance Centre in Brisbane Trades Hall

July – Labor MHR Gordon Bryant visits Cambodia as member of Australian parliamentary delegation and accuses North Vietnam of ‘aggression’ against Lon Nol regime

August 1 – Saturday morning peaceful demonstration outside Melbourne GPO to urge people to fill in false registration forms for 'National Service'. Commonwealth police launch vicious unprovoked attack

August – Federal executive of ALP convenes in Broken Hill (NSW) and adopts special resolution in full support of the Moratorium. NSW Labour Council and NSW ALP State executive still deny full support

August 7 – Sydney conference for young workers in the transport industry on subject of conscription

August 7 – Friday night public meeting 'Focus on Conscription and Vietnam' arranged by St. Kilda Committee in Defiance of the National Service Act

August 7 – Twenty-four students and workers chain themselves together inside Department of Labour and Industry in Perth in demonstration against Vietnam war and conscription

August 8 – Railway track sit-down demonstration by thirty people at Caulfield Station blocks the *Gippslander Express* for twenty minutes. The train passes the Sale jail where draft resister Brian Ross is imprisoned

August 14 – Bio-chemist and anti-war activist Robert Muntz is sacked from his Victorian Public Service job in the Agriculture Department

August – The Bolte Government in Victoria is about to follow its NSW counterpart and introduce new get-tough legislation (penalty of two years jail) for 'resisting or obstructing' a policeman

August – Gough Whitlam 'repudiates' invitation extended by National Moratorium Coordinating Committee to representatives of Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam and Government of Democratic Republic of Vietnam

August 16 – Anti-conscription demonstrators visit Bellevue Hill home of Federal Attorney-General Tom Hughes to present him with list of 182 names of people who have publicly refused to register for 'National Service'. Hughes emerges with cricket bat and throws punch. Six of those arrested (including Mike Jones and Michael Hamel-Green) are sentenced the following day to fourteen days hard labour for contempt of court

August 23 – Demonstrators play cricket match on road outside home of Federal Attorney-General Hughes

August 24 – Over 200 unionists attend 'Combined Unions Shop Stewards and Delegates' Moratorium Conference to End the Vietnam War' in Sydney

August 25 – A worker is hospitalised due to police brutality in Brisbane against a militant worker-student demonstration during national stoppage against the Federal Budget

August – Over 8000 people from many walks of life have signed the 'Statement of Defiance of the National Service Act'

September 2 – 'Vietnam Solidarity Fund' launched in Sydney to commemorate 25th anniversary of Vietnamese independence declaration by Ho Chi Minh

September 2 – 'Sacking' of University of Queensland Regiment (CMF) building by RSSA members

September 4 – Diplomat of Saigon Thieu regime is 'kidnapped' after making an appearance at Queensland University campus. Six students are later charged by University of Queensland administration

September – Gorton Government refuses to grant entrance visa to U.S comedian Dick Gregory who is listed to address Moratorium meetings

September – Monash mass meeting condemns heavy sentences for seven activists following 'occupation' of Careers and Appointments Office in July

September – David Keane of Randwick is serving 31-days' jail term in Long Bay for failing to attend medical examination

September 7 – Commonwealth police in Brisbane seeking students involved in the sacking of Queensland University Regiment headquarters take RSSA member Jim Prentice to isolated cemetery and terrorise him at gunpoint

September 7 – Sydney SDS leaders Mike Jones and John Landau refuse to pick up their summonses to appear in court for failure to obey call-up notices. Janice Jones is dragged out of court in the middle of reading statement of resistance written by her husband

September – NSW Askin Government refuses Moratorium use of (Sydney) Domain

September – South Australian ALP executive withdraws from September 18 Moratorium demonstration and acting Premier Corcoran hopes no ALP members will participate

September – Sculptor Earl Ingleby sentenced to month in jail for breaching National Service Act. It is alleged Ingleby urged the filling in of false registration forms at Melbourne street meeting

September 16 – Queensland police hunt four student leaders involved in occupation of CMF headquarters (and clash with Saigon diplomat)

September 16 – Police ambush Latrobe University students marching peacefully in Waterdale Road. Nineteen students are arrested and many others are injured. Two students are clubbed unconscious and one woman has suspected broken arm. Inspector K. Plattfuss says 'They got some baton today and they'll get a lot more in the future'

September – Liberal politician Peter Coleman (NSW MLA Fuller) publishes booklet *Caution! School Power in Australia – Is your child being manipulated by Political Operators?*

September 18 – Moratorium marches encounter determined effort by police to reassert their dictatorship of the streets. In Sydney police use flying wedges against 20,000 people marching from Wynyard Park. There are over 200 arrests. In Adelaide police horses break up occupation by 4000 of North Terrace-King William Street intersection. There are 141 arrests. In Melbourne police block off march route after 70,000 occupy Bourke Street for half an hour. 4000 march in Brisbane, 3500 in Perth, 2000 in Hobart

September – The South Australian (Dunstan) Government decides to hold Royal Commission into the events of September 18

September 21 – Draft resister Brian Ross is released from Sale prison after serving eleven months of two-year sentence

September – Federal Opposition leader Gough Whitlam advises young men to refuse to comply with the draft and is accused of 'treachery' by Gorton Government

September 23 – Warrants for the arrest of non-compliers Ian Turner and Paul Fox are issued in Melbourne City Magistrates' Court when the two men fail to appear on summonses charging them with failure to obey call-up notices

September 26 – Hastily-convened rally of 3000 people in Sydney's Hyde Park calls for public inquiry into police violence against Sydney Moratorium demonstrators and the dropping of all charges against the 200 people arrested

September – Demands are coming from many quarters for an open inquiry into the September 16 police attack on Latrobe University students

October 1 – Draft resister Charles Martin is serving two-year prison sentence in Adelaide for refusing to obey call-up notice

October – National Moratorium Coordinating Committee proposes national anti-war conference (February 18-21 in Sydney) and third national Moratorium (April 1971)

October – The Federal ALP has 'intervened' into the Victorian ALP and dissolved the branch

October – Saigon Students' Union calls for world protests against the brutal repression and jailing of South Vietnamese students by Thieu-Ky regime on August 30. 117 students were beaten, dragged, thrown into trucks and jailed

October 8 – U.S President Nixon broadcasts 'peace offer' to North Vietnam and the PRG of South Vietnam. Nixon's speech is welcomed by Prime Minister Gorton and Opposition leader Whitlam

October 9 – Draft Resisters Union holds anti-conscription meeting in Melbourne at National Mutual Centre theatre

October – The Council of Monash University ignores results of referendum of all University members and reaffirms harsh penalties on students involved in occupation action on campus

October 10 – Denis Freney appears in Central Court (Sydney) after receipt of summons for publishing 'obscene' Vietnam atrocity photo

October 15 – Westgate Bridge disaster in Melbourne shocks the nation. A span of the Westgate Bridge over the lower Yarra River collapses. 35 workers are killed. Boilermakers and Blacksmiths' Society organiser Jim O'Neill declares the accident is a 'classical example of the need for workers' control'

October 21 – The figures for Australian Army casualties in Vietnam war are 550 dead, 2000 wounded

October – Lynn Arnold, Tony Dalton, Michael Hamel-Green and Graham Jensen produce booklet – *HOA BINH* (Vietnamese for 'peace') – on the subject of the 'third force' in South Vietnamese politics

November 1 – Victorian ALP members hold special rank-and-file (Sunday) meeting at Melbourne Town Hall attended by 800 people

November – Newcastle CPA official Darrell Dawson appears in court (charged with putting up Moratorium posters on telegraph poles) and refuses to plead or cooperate with the court

November – The U.S Airforce is still using prohibited defoliant 'Agent Orange' (made by Dow Chemical Company) in Vietnam

November – Queensland DLP Senator Vince Gair calls for the resumption of the bombing of North Vietnam (including the bombing of Hanoi)

November 9-10 – National Vietnam Moratorium Committee adopts plans for national anti-war conference in Sydney (Wednesday February 17-Sunday February 21)

November 21 – **The United States resumes the bombing of centres in North Vietnam and claims this is in retaliation for the shooting down of a U.S plane over DRV territory on November 13**

November 22 – ALP membership (Sunday) meeting in St. Kilda Town Hall called by intervening Federal ALP authorities as reaction to rank-and-file anti-intervention meeting at Melbourne Town Hall on November 1

November – Robert Colley, Sixth Form student at Ibrox Park Boys' High School, has his application for a Teachers' College scholarship rejected on political grounds

November – Police in Melbourne are harassing students at Carlton headquarters of SDS. They are pursuing anti-war activist Bruce Cornwell who has failed to pay \$150 fine arising from Caulfield station sit-down protest (for Brian Ross) in August

November 27 – Draft resisters Barry Johnstone and Peter Clark are convicted in Oakleigh Court and taken into custody by police

December – The Draft Resisters' Union in Melbourne is meeting every Thursday night at Unitarian Church (Grey Street East Melbourne)

December – Unionists and students demonstrate on steps of Parliament in Melbourne against proposed new amendments to Summary Offences Act. Mounted police charge at the demonstrators

December – 22-year-old Spencer Turner of Albury (conscripted October 1968) has deserted from the Army and is on the run

December 11 – Protestors in Sydney denounce resumption of U.S bombing of North Vietnam

December 12 – Demonstrators outside Melbourne GPO demand the release of 24-year-old South Australian draft resister Charles Martin who was jailed on September 25 for two years for refusing to obey call-up notice

December – Dr Jim Cairns confirms the U.S is still committed to seeking a military victory in Vietnam

December – National Vietnam Moratorium Coordinating Committee decides on two-month campaign to begin April 30 (1971) and end June 30. The culmination on Wednesday June 30 will include call to 'Stop Work to Stop the War'

December – Meeting in Sydney to launch an anti-Apartheid movement decides to focus attention on Rugby Union Springboks tour in June 1971. The movement will model itself on the Vietnam Moratorium

1971

January – Commonwealth police interrogate signatories to Christmas anti-conscription advertisement in *The Australian*

January 9-10 – National Moratorium Coordinating Committee meets in Melbourne to plan February 17-21 National Anti-War Conference

January 15 – 'Black Power' demonstration by GI's in South Vietnam

January 18 – Brian Glover to serve seven days at Long Bay jail for refusing medical examination

January 23 – Dr Cairns among speakers harassed by police at film screening on Lorne foreshore

January – Gorton Government refuses visas to two representatives of PRG of South Vietnam to attend February 17-21 Anti-War Conference

January 29 – National Moratorium Coordinating Committee meets in Sydney

January – Grand jury in U.S indicts Berrigan brothers of plot to kidnap Henry Kissinger

February – Graham Potter appears in Port Kembla court charged with refusal to comply with National Service Act

February 3 – Draft Resisters Union in Brisbane announces formation of underground ‘escape’ network

February 8 – **U.S and Saigon forces invade Laos and escalate Indochina war. RAAF bombers target Laos**

February – Professor Noam Chomsky suspects Pentagon plan to invade North Vietnam and use tactical nuclear weapons

February 17 – 1800 people attend public rally at Sydney Town Hall to hear seven overseas speakers attending National Anti-War Conference

February 17-21 – **1300 registered delegates at National Anti-War Conference in Sydney plan nation-wide mass actions (April 30, May 30, June 30) and adopt Aims and Strategy for application by National Vietnam Moratorium Campaign**

February 19 – Protest march in Sydney against arrest and jailing of Darrell Dawson for pasting Moratorium posters

February 25 – Anti-Apartheid demonstrators in Sydney occupy office of South African Airways in protest against South African surf lifesaving tour of Australia

March 1 – Demonstration outside Box Hill courthouse in support of draft resister Mark Taft who has refused to register under National Service Act

March 3 – International Moratorium speakers (Bala Tampoe, Peter Wiley, Michael Uhl, Patti Iiyama) address Melbourne public meeting

March 10 – Brisbane DRU poster *‘To Arms!’ capitalists, politicians, newspaper editors and other stay-at-home patriots – Your country needs you in Vietnam – Workers follow your masters! Refuse to register for National Slavery! – Refuse to fight the Bosses wars!*

March – **William McMahon replaces John Gorton as Prime Minister of Australia**

March – Harsh new penalties against demonstrations and sit-ins written into Public Order Bill presented to Parliament by Attorney-General Hughes

March 19 – Draft resister Karl Armstrong is dragged by police from City Court to serve seven days in jail

March 22 – Geoff Mullen is sentenced to two years in prison for not registering and refusing to obey call-up notice

March 23 – Demonstration at Coburg Court in support of draft resister Alan Walker who has refused to register

March 24 – Dr Jim Cairns addresses 500 people at Melbourne University and warns U.S is prepared to use nuclear weapons in Indo-China war

March 24 – Occupation of Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Melbourne to protest the jailing of Geoff Mullen

March 27 – Anti-Apartheid protestors successfully disrupt surf carnival at Coogee Beach (Sydney)

March 29 – Draft resister John Varley sentenced to seven days jail for failure to attend medical

March 29 – Victorian Vietnam Moratorium Campaign elects new executive body. Dr Cairns and John Lloyd are elected unopposed as President and Secretary respectively

March – Chinese Government openly supports Yahya Khan’s brutal suppression of revolt in East Bengal

April 4 – ‘Freedom ride’ to Adelaide jail demanding release of draft resister Charles Martin

April 8 – **Five SOS women (Jo McLaine-Cross, Jean McLean, Renee Miller, Joan Coxsedge, Chris Cathie) sentenced to fourteen days in Fairlea Women’s Prison for breach of trespass provisions of Summary Offences Act while urging young men not to register during demonstration at Department of Labour and National Service**

April 9 – Demonstration at Fairlea Women’s Prison in support of the five incarcerated women

April 16 – Draft resisters David Franken, John Martin, Bill Cochrane appear in Brisbane court charged with refusing to comply with provisions of National Service Act

April 17 – Moratorium movement in Melbourne demonstrates at ‘Herald and Weekly Times’ offices over misreporting and suppression of anti-war news

April – Charges of manslaughter laid against two policemen over death of Neil Stanley Collingburn

April – American ‘ping-pong’ players visit China

April – Melbourne wharf workers and seamen stop work in protest against jailing of ‘Fairlea Five’

April 18 – ‘The Fairlea Five’ are released and appear at welcoming rally in City Square

April 19-20 – Melbourne Moratorium Committee decides to set up draft counselling centre in foyer of Department of Labour and National Service during draft intake

April 22 – Over 1000 Vietnam veterans pack lawns around Congress building in Washington to protest the war

April 24 – Massive protest demonstrations in U.S – 500, 000 in Washington, 250,000 in San Francisco

April 26 – Moratorium rally in Adelaide launches appeal for medical aid for Indo-Chinese forces

April 30 – 6000 students participate in Moratorium march from Sydney University to Belmore Park

April 30 – 3000 participate in Adelaide Moratorium demonstration despite official ALP and trade union proscription

April 30 – 100,000 copies of the newspaper *Moratorium News* have been distributed in Victoria

May 1 – Forty Moratorium protestors march fifteen miles out of Adelaide to Salisbury Weapons Research Establishment

May 2 – Victorian Special Branch detective Robert Larkin is identified by the Chairman on the May Day platform and is pursued by angry crowd

May – Perth students charged with ‘wilfully obstructing Commonwealth police’ at Department of Labour and National Service

May 7 – Perth Moratorium Committee pickets Parmelia Hotel used by U.S Admiral John McCain as command centre

May – Members of Third Form class at Roman Catholic convent school in Gosford ‘stop work to stop the war’

May – Queensland branch of BWIU publishes printed booklet *Don't Register*

May – Berrigan brothers now charged with conspiracy to ‘blow-up’ Federal buildings in Washington

May – Sydney University Senate expels Hall Greenland

May 21 – 187 students arrested during demonstration against conscription in Canberra

May 24 – Tony Dalton and Michael Hamel-Green called to Melbourne Magistrates Court for refusing to register for National Service and failing to obey call-up notice. Hamel-Green does not appear

May – Michael Hamel-Green announces intention to go temporarily underground. Hamel-Green is encouraging *mass* resistance to wreck the draft

May – Melbourne DRU aims to get 1000 young men to not register

May 30 – Demonstrators in Canberra plant 470 small white crosses on Parliament House lawns to symbolise number of Australians killed in Vietnam

May 30 – Supporters of Victorian Vietnam Moratorium Campaign distribute 50,000 leaflets to churchgoers

June – Twenty-one NSW unions and two Labour Councils (Newcastle, South Coast) declare support for ‘Stop Work to Stop the War’

June – Brisbane draft resister Ken Howard ordered to perform non-combatant duties

June 9 – Dr Spock arrives in Melbourne

June 10 – Draft resister Peter Graf carried from his bed to serve eight days in Pentridge jail for non-payment of fine (failure to register)

June 10 – Dr Spock draws 2000 to Exhibition Buildings

June 13 – Dr Spock draws 1500 to Moorabbin Town Hall

June 14 – Dr Spock draws 400 to Geelong West Town Hall

June – 1000 hear Dr Spock at Perth University

June 18 – Tony Dalton issued with summons to appear in court for failing to obey call-up notice. He does not appear and joins Michael Hamel-Green ‘underground’

June – **Release of *Pentagon Papers* reveals successive U.S administrations have lied to the American people about Vietnam war**

June – South Australian Moratorium leader Professor Brian Medlin jailed for refusing to pay \$20 fine received for failing to obey constable during September Moratorium

June 20 – 8000 hear Dr Spock in Sydney’s Lower Domain

June 26 – Anti-Apartheid demonstrators ‘greet’ the ‘Springboks’ in Perth

June 28 – Melbourne waterside workers and seamen place ban on Dutch ship carrying South African cargo

June 28 – Dunstan Government endorses court decision refusing Vietnam Moratorium Committee permission to use streets as requested June 30

June 29 – Dr Jim Cairns claims only 37% of Australian population support continued involvement in Vietnam

June 30 – Official trade union movement in South Australia bans Moratorium. ALP Government proscribes 'Stop work to stop the war' plan

June 30 – Eighty arrested as anti-Apartheid campaigners in Adelaide disrupt 'Springboks' versus South Australia rugby union match Norwood Oval

June 30 – *Princess of Tasmania* delays sailing for hour from Devonport while public Moratorium meeting is held

June 30 – **Melbourne Moratorium march converges on City Square for mass rally estimated at 100,000. Dr Spock is flown from Adelaide to speak. Draft resisters Garry Cook (WA), Tony Dalton, Paul Fox, Michael Hamel-Green address the rally – the first serious 'underground' action**

June 30 – 20,000 Moratorium demonstrators in Sydney block George Street for nearly two hours

June 30 – Dr Spock addresses 5000 in Victoria Square Adelaide. There are 40 arrests

June 30 – 8000 people stage ten-minute sit-down in Brisbane's Queen Street

June 30 – 6000 march in Perth

July 2 – Dr Spock leaves for New York

July 3 – **5000 people rally in Treasury Gardens and march to Olympic Park for 'Springboks' versus Victoria rugby match. Twelve protestors invade arena despite three fences, thousands of police, and charges of mounted police**

July 4 – Police bash demonstrators at U.S Consulate and South African Trade Commission in Melbourne

July 4 – 1000 protestors picket outside Squire Inn Motel Bondi Junction as 'Springboks' arrive in Sydney

July 5 – 200 demonstrate at Sydney Town Hall against reception for 'Springboks'

July 5 – Death of Melbourne peace movement stalwart, the Rev. Frank Hartley

July – Australian Labor Party delegation visits People's Republic of China

July 6 – 3000 demonstrators cause mayhem at first 'Springboks' match in Sydney (Sydney Cricket Ground). There are 59 arrests

July – Albert Langer faces committal proceedings on charge of 'riot' arising from 1971 May Day rally at Yarra Bank

July 10 – 6000 demonstrators disrupt 'Springboks' match at Sydney Cricket Ground despite mobilisation of 1000 police (400 *inside* the arena) and 142 arrests

July 14 – **Queensland Premier Bjelke-Petersen declares State of Emergency ahead of arrival of 'Springboks' in Queensland**

July 17 – Carloads of plainclothes police make early-morning preventative arrests of three anti-apartheid activists

July 17 – 600 police posted inside arena at rugby 'First Test' match (Sydney Cricket Ground). There are forty arrests

July – U.S President Nixon to visit Peking before May 1972

July – 200 girls at Angle Park Girls Technical School in Adelaide strike to protest sacking of anti-war/anti-apartheid teacher Nell Thayne

July 21 – Queensland TLC involves 40 unions in 24-hour state-wide protest strike against State of Emergency decree

July 21 – 2000 students march from University of Queensland to Roma Street and Parliament House. Skirmishes and police brutality result in 33 arrests

July 22 – Brisbane anti-Springboks demonstrators in Wickham Terrace are forced back by violent police attack at Tower Mill

July 23 – **Students and staff at University of Queensland start extended strike – the first political strike at an Australian university – to express outrage at previous evening's police action**

July 24 – 3000 Brisbane anti-Springboks demonstrators rally at Victoria Park, march to city, and hold sit-down demonstration in Queen Street

July 24 – Thirteen people are arrested during city hand-out of 'Don't register' leaflets in Melbourne

July 26 – University of Queensland campus strike is re-endorsed at strike meeting of 5500 in Great Court. The strike will end when ‘Springboks’ leave Australia

July 29 – Ten Victorian trade union officials are arrested outside offices of Department of Labour and National Service. They were handing out ‘Don’t register’ leaflets in solidarity with the first thirteen (arrested July 24)

July 30-31 – Dozens more are arrested in Melbourne for handing out ‘Don’t register’ leaflets. Over 100 people now face Crimes Act charges of inciting breaches of the National Service Act

July 31 – Saturday morning march of 8000 in Adelaide against Vietnam war sponsored by forty organisations

July 31 – Saturday anti-Apartheid rally at Victoria Park in Brisbane against rugby union ‘Second Test’

August 3 – Anti-Apartheid protest in Toowoomba at rugby match South Africa versus Queensland Country

August 5 – Ten Victorian trade union officials charged under Crimes Act with incitement attend court but refuse to enter the witness box

August 5 – Waterside workers in Port Kembla refuse to load cargo of galvanised iron on ship *Atsuta* bound for Saigon

August 9 – Meredith Burgmann sentenced to two-months hard labour for running onto SCG July 6

August – The ‘Springboks’ front up to play Australia in the rugby ‘Third Test’ in Sydney. There are 28 arrests

August – Errol O’Neill of Brisbane declares his non-compliance with National Service Act

August – Mark Aarons declares he will not comply with the National Service Act

August 18 – CICD General Secretary John Lloyd welcomes moves towards normal relations with People’s Republic of China

August – Bill Hartley faces jury trial in County Court on spurious charge of causing actual bodily harm to member of Victorian police force at July 3 anti-Springboks protest

August 27 – Kenneth Ferrier sentenced to seven days jail in Brisbane for failing to register for National Service

August 30 – DRU demonstration at Federal Court Sydney for Laurie Carmichael junior who is facing two years jail for failing to obey call-up notice

September 1 – **McMahon Government announces early withdrawal of Australian combat troops from South Vietnam. Australian military ‘advisors’ will remain**

September – Melbourne DRU produces draft resistance manual – *Downdraft*

September – Overflow audience at Sydney Town Hall hears Professor of Biology (Stanford University) Dr Paul Ehrlich address question of ‘Zero Population Growth’

September 6 – Denis Freney is fined \$200 for throwing smoke bomb outside Sydney Town Hall civic reception (July 5) for ‘Springboks’ rugby team

September – The Australian Cricket Board of Control cancels 1971-72 South African cricket tour

September – Death of former Soviet premier Nikita Sergeievitch Khrushchov

September 14 – Port Kembla waterside workers strike for twenty-four hours in support of draft resister Louie Christofides who appears in Wollongong court for failing to undergo medical examination for ‘National Service’

September 18-19 – National Draft Resisters’ Conference at Melbourne University

September – Vietnam Moratorium Campaign supporters meet in Richmond Town Hall and decide to organise ‘Don’t Register’ demonstration on December 3

September – Perth draft resister Derek Schapper is imprisoned for four days for refusing to pay fine

September – Perth draft resister Garry Cook is jailed for two years. The other non-compliers in jail at present are Geoff Mullen and Charles Martin

September 25-26 – Eighty Commonwealth and state police raid headquarters of ‘Radical Action Movement’ at 57 Palmerston Street Carlton

September 29 – ‘People’s Parliament’ outside Parliament House in Canberra organised by ACT (Canberra) Vietnam Moratorium Campaign

September 29 – Four ‘fugitive’ draft resisters for whom arrest warrants have been issued come out of hiding and set up temporary headquarters in Melbourne University Students’ Union. They are Tony Dalton, John Scott, Michael Hamel-Green, and Mike Matteson

September 30 – 100 Commonwealth police officers attack Union building at Melbourne University in early hours of morning. They smash doors and plate-glass windows (causing \$10,000 damage) but fail to find Hamel-Green and Matteson who are concealed in a custom-built alcove behind sheet of plasterboard. Dalton and Scott had already escaped

October 1 – AICD demonstration outside U.S Consulate Sydney to protest increase in U.S bombing in Indo-China (particularly September 21 air raid on North Vietnam)

October 4 – Albert Langer is sentenced in County Court to eighteen month's jail after being found guilty of charge of 'attempting to incite an assault' on a member of the Victoria Police Special (political) Branch

October – George Petersen (ALP) campaigns for removal of draft resister Geoff Mullen from maximum security prison at Cooma

October 8 – March of several hundred from Melbourne's City Square to Special Branch headquarters in Fitzroy

October 13 – Simultaneous demonstrations outside U.S Consulates in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide demanding freedom of Angela Davis and all other political prisoners

October 15 – Denis Freney is sentenced to three months hard labour in Sydney Central Court of Petty Sessions for possessing flare

October – Kerry Langer is fined \$200 (or month's jail) for her reaction to her husband's jailing

October 29 – Recently-formed 'Bangla Desh Solidarity Committee' in Melbourne holds demonstration at City Square

October – Representatives of various trends in Australian Left release statement condemning sentence imposed on Albert Langer and demanding his release

October – Seamen unionists in Adelaide pledge to man ships *without wages* to transport relief for East Bengal refugees

October – Leader of Cambodian National United Front Prince Norodom Sihanouk claims two-thirds of Cambodia has been liberated

November – United Nations invites People's Republic of China to take the China seat in the U.N

November – McMahon Government proposes that Australian military advisors train elements of Cambodian counter-revolutionary (Lon Nol) forces

November – Vietnam Moratorium Campaign committee in Victoria condemns proposal that Australian troops train Cambodian forces to fight against their own countrymen

November 12 – Waterside Workers Federation announces donation of \$10,000 to Gurindji tribe in Northern Territory 'with no strings attached'

November – The United States still has almost 200,000 men in South Vietnam

November – Experts calculate more than 12,000,000 tons of explosives have been expended on Indochina peninsula between January 1965 and July 1971

November 23 – Brisbane march in protest at racist Queensland Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders Acts

November – Albert Langer successfully appeals to Victorian Supreme Court against eighteen-month jail sentence

November – Melbourne draft resister Bob Scates is fined and jailed for seven days for refusing to attend medical examination

November – Commonwealth Police in Sydney are searching for draft resister Mike Matteson but fail spectacularly to apprehend him when he appears on ABC TV program *This Day Tonight*

December 3 – Vietnam Moratorium Campaign anti-conscription rally in Melbourne takes charge of main city streets for two hours. Mass sit-down in Flinders Street blockades Department of Labour and National Service building

December 3 – 500 demonstrators led by group of 100 Koories hold 'March Against Racism' in Sydney

December – Geoff Mullen is moved from Cooma maximum security prison to prison farm at Emu Plains

December 8 – Draft resister Mark Taft is summoned to Melbourne Magistrates Court to face charges of failing to attend a medical examination

December 13 – Draft resister Bob Muntz appears in Melbourne Magistrate's Court and faces seven days jail for refusal to attend medical examination

December – Lyn Rendell of Sydney and Peter Lammiman of Brisbane have arrived in Hanoi for a two-week visit to the DRV

December – The U.S requests Australian military advisors remain in South Vietnam to train Cambodian (Lon Nol) troops after the majority of U.S troops are withdrawn

December – Lyn Rendell and Peter Lammiman return from visit to DRV and report stepping up of U.S aggression – the continued bombing and strafing of villages and hamlets north of the Seventeenth Parallel

December 24 – Mark Aarons appears in Sydney court charged with possession of article capable of causing bodily harm (smoke flare) at anti-Springbok protest. The case is dismissed when prosecution fails to produce expert witness

December 25 – Commonwealth police raid Matteson family home in Sydney on Christmas Day

December 27 – DRU ‘Summer Offensive’ begins at Point Leo surf carnival

December 30 – Anti-war activists in Melbourne respond to renewed U.S bombing of North Vietnam during Christmas period. Meeting at home of Dr Jim Cairns considers the response of anti-war movement

December 31 – 200 demonstrators with placards gather outside U.S Consulate in Sydney at mid-day and picket for hour to express anger at renewed U.S bombing of North Vietnam. A leaflet reads: ‘While Western world celebrates Christmas with orgy of spending, ‘Christian’ leader Nixon orders orgy of death and destruction for Vietnamese, Laotians and Cambodians’

December 31 – Anti-war movement in Melbourne conducts spirited and angry late-night demonstration in City Square against renewed U.S bombing of North Vietnam. Dr Cairns calls for breaking off diplomatic relations with USA. At 11.45 pm bonfire lit, Nixon effigy burnt, march through city streets. Rally highlights picked up by U.S media

1972

January 2 – Anti-war activists in Melbourne meet at Shrine and proceed to U.S Consulate for rally against renewed U.S bombing of North Vietnam

January 7 – Further demonstration in Melbourne against renewed U.S bombing of North Vietnam

January 10 – Draft resister John Scott arrested in Adelaide and remanded on bail until February 9

January – Draft resister Ian Turner sentenced to eighteen months jail in Pentridge for non-compliance with National Service Act

January 21 – ‘Don’t register’ leaflets handed out in Melbourne CBD

January 28 – ‘Don’t register’ leaflets handed out in Melbourne CBD. Earl Ingleby, Mike Donahue, Harry Van Moorst, Les Dalton, Dorothy Dalton, Jean McLean among those arrested

January – U.S President Richard Nixon announces eight-point ‘plan for peace in Indochina’

February 3 – Harry Van Moorst fined \$10 in Melbourne Magistrates Court on charge of ‘incitement’

February 5 – Saturday morning demonstration on Melbourne GPO steps urging young men to refuse to register

February 7 – High School teacher and DRU member Ken McClelland arrested by Commonwealth Police at his school (Hawkesdale, Victoria) for refusing to obey call-up notice. McClelland joins Garry Cook, Geoff Mullen and Ian Turner in serving eighteen-month jail sentence

February 7 – ‘Underground’ draft resister Barry Johnstone summoned to appear at Melbourne Magistrates Court for refusing to obey call-up notice. He fails to appear and warrant is issued for his arrest. Johnstone is ALP candidate for Hotham in Federal elections and faces eighteen months jail if convicted

February 8 – Demonstration in Melbourne’s City Square against visit of Indonesian dictator Suharto

February 9 – Protests in Sydney against visit of Suharto

February 9 – Earl Ingleby sentenced to fourteen days’ jail on ‘incitement’ charge but released on bail pending appeal

February 9 – Draft resister John Scott decides not to appear in court in Adelaide (for failure to comply with National Service Act)

February – Draft Resisters Union (DRU) formed in Sydney

February 13 – Supporters of Vietnam Moratorium Campaign in Victoria meet at Richmond Town Hall and decide to hold mass demonstration at U.S Consulate Friday April 21. Several hundred travel to Pentridge to support Ian Turner and Ken McClelland

February 14 – Draft resister William Robert Wood turns up for ‘National Service’ medical examination at Bankstown Hospital accompanied by nine members of DRU and a stuffed dummy of a soldier with sign around neck ‘I won’t go’. Wood burns his medical notice in front of twenty-five other young men

February 16 – Geoff Mullen released after serving ten months and three weeks in NSW jails

February 19-20 – **Representatives of anti-war organisations meet in Sydney for ‘National Consultation’ and agree to adopt proposal from U.S peace movement for international action April 21-22**

February 21 – **U.S Administration shocks the world by announcing President Richard Nixon will visit China**

February 23-27 – Five-day ‘National Symposium on Imperialism’ at Sydney University organised by AICD

February 28 – Sydney draft resister Garry McDougall fails to appear on charge of failing to register. Fined \$100 (or 21 days jail)

March – U.S President Richard Nixon visits China

March 1 – Anti-conscription forum at Sydney University (Orientation week). ‘Underground’ draft resister Michael Matteson defies police and speaks to students. Jack Page and Michael Parsons burn draft cards

March 2 – DRU members in Sydney leaflet Army recruiting exhibition at Grace Brothers store in Broadway

March 3 – ‘Underground’ draft resister Paul Fox arrested and jailed for eighteen months

March 8 – Melbourne draft resisters Bob Bissett and Bob Scates arrested by Commonwealth police at their work places. They have not obeyed call-up notices and face eighteen-month jail sentences if convicted

March 9 – Rally outside Latrobe University administration building to protest repression of student radicals. University Council has sought Supreme Court injunction to freeze funds of SRC with aim of forcing SRC to sack President Brian Pola

March 11 – Women’s marches in Australian cities organised nationally by ‘Women’s March Action Campaign’ to protest ‘double exploitation’ of women (by sex as well as by class)

March – Meeting of anti-war activists in Sydney sets April 20 as date for march and public meeting against Indochina war

March 20 – DRU members in Sydney demonstrate at Phillip Street Court in support of Ian Davis

March 22 – DRU members in Sydney demonstrate at Phillip Street Court in support of DRU Secretary Peter Galvin

March 27 – CPA Twenty-third Congress receives greetings from National Liberation Front of South Vietnam

March 30 – **Major new military offensive (perhaps greater than ‘Tet’) launched by Vietnamese liberation forces in northern region of South Vietnam**

April 8-9 – General meeting of anti-war organisations in Adelaide decides on April 22 actions and carries resolution condemning U.S bombing of North Vietnam and supporting current Vietnamese offensive

April – Chairman of Vietnam Moratorium Campaign Dr Jim Cairns calls for massive public support for nation-wide April actions against Vietnam war

April 12 – Dr Cairns tells Parliament that North Vietnam has derived the right of self-defence, the ‘right to strike back’. ‘How long do people have to sustain attack and occupation by foreigners before they get some rights?’

April 14 – Vietnam Moratorium Committee holds forum in Melbourne’s City Square to publicise April 21 march on U.S Consulate

April 15 – ‘Schools’ Anti-Conscription Committee’ conducts protest march from Melbourne’s City Square to home of Attorney-General Senator Greenwood

April 16 – **Nixon responds to March 30 NLF offensive by resuming bombing raids on Hanoi and Haiphong. Five years of LBJ – 2,865,000 tons of bombs dropped on Indochina. Three years of Nixon – 2,916,000 tons dropped**

April 16 – American freelance correspondent Timothy Allman arrives in Sydney from Laos to begin four-state speaking tour for AICD

April 18 – *Tribune* publishes DRV version of Nixon’s ‘Eight-Point Plan’

April 19 – Demonstration at National Service intake Swan Street Barracks Richmond

April 19 – Right-wing terrorists celebrating Hitler's birthday blow up CPA headquarters in Brisbane to intimidate anti-war marchers

April 19 – Main passenger booking office of Pan American Airways in Martin Place (Sydney) is shut down for hour in lunch period by lightning raid of anti-war activists

April 20 – Vietnam Moratorium demonstration in Sydney. 3000 occupy George Street intersection

April 21 – Vietnam Moratorium Campaign demonstration in Melbourne. 10,000 people confront U.S Consulate. Pan Am windows smashed

April 21 – 2500 Vietnam Moratorium demonstrators in Brisbane chant 'Victory for the Vietcong' and occupy Queen Street

April 21-22 – Vietnam Moratorium demonstrations in Wollongong

April 22 – Vietnam Moratorium demonstrations in Adelaide outside Department of Labour and National Service and U.S Chamber of Commerce

April 22 – Vietnam Moratorium demonstration in Perth

April 24 – Students at Goulburn High School boycott Anzac Day ceremonies because of their militaristic nature

April 24 – 'The Great Escape' at Sydney University. Students surround police and use bolt-cutters to free handcuffed 'underground' draft resister Mike Matteson from Commonwealth police

April – Latrobe University student Fergus Robinson in Pentridge jail 'at the court's pleasure' after conviction for contempt of Supreme Court. Three other students – Brian Pola, Barry York and Rod Taylor – face similar proceedings

April 26 – U.S journalist T.D. Allman who uncovered CIA war in Laos speaks Assembly Hall Collins Street (Melbourne)

April 26 – 'National Anti-Conscription Campaign' inaugural planning and policy-making meeting Belmore St. Enmore

April 27-28 – T.D. Allman visits Hobart

April 28 – *The Australian* reports new type of anti-personnel bomb being dropped on Hanoi by U.S aircraft

April 29 – T.D. Allman begins three-day visit to Brisbane

May 1 – Major offensive launched March 30 has widened and forced U.S to return to negotiating table in Paris

May 2 – 'A feature of April demonstrations was that slogans of open solidarity with NLF emerged more clearly than ever before' (*Tribune*, May 2, 1972)

May 2 – *Tribune* interview with draft resister Mike Matteson who has been 'underground' since August 1971

May 2 – Sydney University student Lyn Regan pulled out of bed and charged with obstructing police arrest of Mike Matteson April 24

May – Australia still has 150 'advisors' in South Vietnam

May 4 – Lyn Regan speaks at Sydney University front lawn meeting and recounts bashing by police

May 5 – Social Services Moratorium in Melbourne Initiated by 'Victorian Action Committee for Pension and Social Service Justice'

May 6 – 68,000 U.S combat troops in South Vietnam (April 27, 1972). (*New York Times*, May 6, 1972)

May 9 – Fifty people convicted July 1971 and fined for 'incitement' meet in Melbourne and reaffirm intention not to pay fines

May 9 – Nixon decides to blockade North Vietnam. Threat to use delayed action sea mines risks armed confrontation with USSR and China. The decision sparks angry protest demonstrations in Australia

May 9 – Seamen and 'wharfies' in most Australian ports stop work to protest Nixon blockade decision

May 9 – Sydney University students protest Nixon blockade. Demonstrators confront U.S Consulate in Pitt Street

May 9 – Demonstration in Melbourne's City Square against Nixon blockade. Windows smashed at Pan Am. Police charge horses into crowd. Batons break up demonstration

May 9 – Firebombs thrown at military vehicles in Adelaide. Premises of U.S-based industries painted up

May 10 – Maritime workers on NSW South Coast stop work and call on ACTU to organise urgent nationwide stop over Nixon blockade

May 10 – Queensland Trades and Labour Council demands ACTU call for embargo on all U.S shipping and communication services

May 10 – 1000 anti-Nixon protestors occupy city streets for two hours in Adelaide

May 10-11 – Anti-Nixon demonstrations at U.S Consulate office in Perth

May 12 – Several thousand anti-Nixon protestors march through city to U.S Consulate in South Melbourne

May 12 – 5000 demonstrators respond to call by AICD and gather at U.S Consulate in Sydney. Savage and frenzied bashing of peaceful protestors by police results in seventy-two arrests

May 12 – 1500 anti-Nixon demonstrators assemble in Brisbane's City Square and head for U.S Consulate until Riot Squad wades in

May 12 – 1000 march in Adelaide after assembly in Victoria Square. The police attack marchers and make forty arrests. In most state capitals the police have turned violent bashings into an art form

May 15 – **Daring raid on Stock Exchange in Brisbane by eight anti-war activists who throw animal blood on the blackboards**

May 16 – *Tribune* article by Malcolm Salmon – 'Nixon's reckless gamble in mining North Vietnam's harbours adds new and alarming international dimension to the war. The real crunch will come when Soviet and other vessels attempt to run Nixon's blockade'

May 18 – Commonwealth police arrest draft resister William Robert Wood in Canberra

May 19 – **10,000 occupy Bourke Street/Swanston Street intersection in Vietnam Moratorium Campaign rally**

May 20-21 – Sixty draft resisters and supporters from four states attend national anti-conscription action conference in Sydney and demonstrate outside Long Bay against jailing of William Robert Wood and Brian Childs

May 21 – Thirty-five representatives of main active anti-war organisations attend interstate consultation in Sydney

May 22 – U.S President Nixon due to visit Moscow

May 29 – Draft resister and Sydney DRU Secretary Peter Galvin refuses to appear in Sydney Court to answer charge of failing to attend a medical examination. He is sentenced to two weeks jail

May – **Nixon and Soviet leaders emerge from week-long Moscow summit with joint statement of twelve principles for relations between the two superpowers. Nixon cultivates image of sincere peacemaker while washing his hands in the blood of thousands of Vietnamese men, women and children**

May – Bertrand Russell War Crimes Tribunal considers trial of Nixon for war crimes

May – Latrobe University students Brian Pola and Fergus Robinson still in jail for 'contempt' of the Supreme Court and can be kept there indefinitely with no right of appeal or trial by jury

June 4 – Anti-conscription demonstration at Long Bay jail in Sydney

June 4 – Car cavalcade to Yatala jail near Adelaide organised by 'Campaign for Peace in Vietnam' to support draft resister Robert Martin

June 5 – Draft resister Brian Childs appears at court in Sydney charged with failure to pay fine for non-registration

June – Draft resister Charles Martin released from jail in South Australia

June 6 – Draft resister Steve Padgham arrested on ANU campus

June 7 – ANU students march to Canberra courthouse to protest arrest of Steve Padgham. He is released on bail and remanded to June 9

June 7 – Twenty draft resisters in Melbourne chain themselves together and take tram from Pentridge Gaol to city. They enter offices of Department of Labour and National Service – chains and all

June 9 – Sydney demonstration against planned (French) nuclear bomb tests at Mururoa Atoll

June 9 – ACTU calls for ban on services for French shipping or aircraft

June 9 – Students at ANU conduct general strike and boycott of lectures in protest against treatment of Steve Padgham. His case is adjourned to August 16. Draft resister Simon Cook burns summons

June 13 – *Tribune* article by Wilfred Burchett – 'at least two thirds of South Vietnam is either wholly or almost wholly 'liberated'

June – U.S air force begins systematic bombing of dykes in Red River delta region – Nixon’s act of revenge to compensate for U.S military and political humiliation. Millions in North Vietnam are threatened with flood disaster of unprecedented proportions – genocide and ecocide

June – Melbourne protestor Sharon O’Connell jailed for two days for refusal to pay \$10 ‘incitement’ fine

June – Five Australian anti-war activists chosen to visit North Vietnam: Dr Robert Catley, Harry Van Moorst, Ken McLeod, Deirdre Hunter, Leo Lenane

June 15 – Sydney rally in support of Lyn Regan

June 15 – Press conference in Sydney hears report of discussions between CPA delegation (Laurie Aarons, Bernie Taft, Judy Munday) and representatives of PRG, DRV, United National Front of Cambodia

June 16 – 200 protest against nuclear tests outside French Embassy in Canberra

June 16 – 200 march through Melbourne streets against French tests

June 16 – Fifty students from Oak Flats High School in Wollongong hire bus to Sydney to deliver protest at French Consulate – during school hours

June 17 – 2000 march in Adelaide against French tests

June 20 – General meeting of National Anti-Conscription Campaign at AICD (Sydney)

June – Amalgamated Postal Workers Union places black ban on all French mail to Australia. ACTU imposes ban on French shipping

June – Young Communist Movement (YCM) launches appeal in Australia to raise finance for building of hospital in Hanoi

June – Draft Resistance Union (DRU) formed in Goulburn (NSW)

June 22 – 2000 attend public meeting in Brisbane City Square against French tests

June 22 – ‘Statement of Opposition’ to French tests prepared by AICD and signed by 250 prominent people is delivered to French Consul-General in Sydney. 600 students march from Sydney University to 1000-strong rally at Wynyard Park

June 23 – Pupils at girls’ high school in Sydney’s western suburbs strike in protest against French nuclear tests

June 25 – 1500 protest in Sydney Domain against French tests

June 25 – 4000 respond to CICD call and march from Melbourne’s Alexandra Gardens to Joan of Arc statue in city

June 25 – Demonstrators leave Melbourne in buses hired by CICD to attend national protest against SEATO conference in Canberra

June 27 – 200 high school students gather in Sydney’s Martin Plaza to protest French nuclear tests

June 27-28 – Demonstration against SEATO conference in Canberra

June 28 – Thirty-four people appear in Melbourne Magistrates Court for refusal to pay 1971 ‘incitement’ fines. Most are sentenced to four days’ jail. Gwladys Bird and Ted Bull receive ten days

June 30 – Protest demonstration at Mascot airport International Terminal against French tests

June – Federal Council of WWF extends existing ban on French ships to French cargoes and containers, whatever the flag flown by carrying vessel

June – Three Latrobe University students are in jail with indefinite sentences. Fergus Robinson has been in Pentridge for over three months, Brian Pola two months, Barry York for more than a week. The three are in jail merely for entering the campus

July 4 – Lunch-time demonstration of over 200 young people in Adelaide to mark American Independence Day with emphasis on U.S bombing of dykes and dams in North Vietnam

July 5 – Commonwealth police raid ABC TV studios at Gore Hill Sydney thirty minutes after underground draft resister (and DRU Secretary) Peter Galvin is interviewed on *This Day Tonight*

July 6 – Commonwealth police raid DRU headquarters Belmore Street Enmore looking for Peter Galvin

July 7 – Seven anti-war protestors in Brisbane sentenced to jail (at weekends) for May 15 Brisbane Stock Exchange action

July 7-9 – Trade Union ‘Don’t Register Festival’ in Sydney

July 10 – Australian anti-war delegation (of five) returns from packed seven-days visit to Hanoi and Haiphong. Customs and immigration officers at Sydney airport seize movie films showing destruction by U.S bombing raids

July 10 – Draft counselling program begins at Trades Hall in Sydney

July 14 – Moratorium for Black Rights in Sydney. Students and Blacks hold joint march to Sydney Town Hall. Racist police aim punches at Blacks on march from Redfern Park

July 14 – Moratorium for Black Rights in Melbourne. 1000 protestors rally at Cook Cottage in Fitzroy Gardens and march to City Square. Sit-downs at two city intersections

July 14 – Moratorium for Black Rights in Brisbane. 2500 march to Parliament House. Five-minute sit-down in Adelaide Street preceded and followed by meetings in King George Square

July 14 – Moratorium for Black Rights in Adelaide. 1000 whites and eighty aborigines rally outside Australia Hotel in North Adelaide and march to Victoria Square

July 14 – Moratorium for Black Rights marches in Newcastle, Wollongong, Canberra, Darwin

July 15 – ‘Don’t Register’ leaflet distribution in Sydney

July 17 – Jack Munday, Pat Clancy and ten others (arrested July 15) appear in Special Federal Court in Sydney on charges of attempting to incite persons to fail to register for National Service. All are remanded until August 28

July 17 – Sydney draft resister Ian Davis arrested after he appears on charge of ‘incitement’ in Federal Court and will serve seventeen days in jail for refusing to pay fine (for refusing medical examination). Draft resister Chris Shanley served with summons after the hearing

July 18 – AICD public meeting to hear report-back from anti-war delegation to Vietnam. The meeting launches civilian and medical aid fund for Vietnam

July – Collections forms circulate for ‘Vietnam Appeal’ (world-wide move to raise \$500,000 in donations for the building of a children’s hospital in Hanoi)

July – Three Australians in Paris to protest to French Government over nuclear tests – Dr Helen Caldicott (Adelaide Children’s Hospital), Dr Jim Cairns, Ken Newcombe (Australian Union of Students)

July 19 – Students at Sydney University vote to establish draft resisters’ sanctuary in Union Building. Five draft resisters (for whom arrest warrants have been issued) camp overnight with 100 supporters

July 20 – Aboriginal Embassy tents pulled down at Parliament House in Canberra

July – Five draft resisters at Monash University stay for several days in the Union building conducting meetings and press conferences. They are Michael Matteson, John Halpin, Peter Galvin, John Varley, Tony Dalton

July 21 – National Anti-conscription Mobilisation in Sydney. Rally outside Department of Labour and National Service. Protestors defy Crimes Act by distributing leaflets inciting 20-year-olds not to register for ‘National Service’

July 21 – **National Anti-conscription Mobilisation in Melbourne. Two separate marches converge to blockade DLNS offices in city. Police push into crowd with horses and cars. Protestors punched and manhandled**

July 21 – National Anti-conscription Mobilisation. Blockades of DLNS in Adelaide, Perth, Wollongong, Canberra

July 23 – Concert for Red Cross relief for North Vietnam at Camberwell Civic Centre organised by CICD

July 23 – **Police riot in Canberra. 300 aborigines from all over Australia rally to Canberra over weekend to defend right to establish Aboriginal Embassy. Demonstrators (mainly aborigines) viciously attacked by 250 police. Court hearing for injunction against Government (for pulling down Embassy tents) due to be heard July 25**

July 28 – Melbourne anti-draft demonstration organised by DRU. 200 protestors distribute leaflets urging young men not to register and 51 are arrested

July 29 – Anti-conscription demonstration at Sydney Town Hall. Seven protestors arrested for incitement to violate National Service Act

July 30 – Mass demonstration outside Parliament House in Canberra to support Aboriginal Embassy. 2000 marchers led by 500 aborigines leave ANU campus and march to Parliament House

July – Fines imposed on sixteen people in Melbourne Magistrates Court on charges of inciting breaches of National Service Act. Gwladys Bird faces ten days jail for refusal to pay previous fines

August 2 – The three gaoled Latrobe University students are released – Fergus Robinson after 118 days, Brian Pola after 103 days, Barry York after 39 days

August 5-6 – Thirty protestors arrested at weekend during anti-conscription demonstrations on steps of GPO in Melbourne. They are charged under the Crimes Act with incitement to breach the National Service Act. The total number arrested during present intake period is well over 100

August – Draft resisters David Hayhow, Chris Shanley, Peter Galvin, Bob Wilton arrested in Sydney while distributing leaflets outside Sydney Town Hall

August – Four-man trade union delegation chosen to visit North Vietnam – Neville Hill (AMWU Victoria), Ron Arnold (AMWU NSW), R. Giffard (Secretary Seamen's Union South Australia), George Crawford (Federal Secretary Plumbers Union, Victoria)

August – Dr Jim Cairns elected new Chairman of CICD replacing Rev. Alf Dickie

August – Three draft resisters currently serving eighteen-month prison terms in Pentridge – Bob Scates, Ken McClelland, Ian Turner

August 14 – Proceedings against Hal Alexander in Sydney Magistrates Court arising from demonstration over the mining of Haiphong harbour by U.S. Alexander is convicted of using 'unseemly words' and fined \$40 or eight-days jail. He has no intention of paying the fine. If arrested to serve the eight days, he will not cooperate with the authorities

August – Commonwealth police raid Enmore headquarters of DRU looking for resister Ian Davis who has been 'underground' for two weeks

August 21 – NSW BLF President Bob Pringle and ironworker John Phillips appear before judge and jury for allegedly sawing down goalposts at SCG on eve (July 8, 1971) of first South Africa v Australia rugby 'Test'

August 23 – Pringle and Phillips both fined \$500 and put on \$1000 bonds to be of 'good behaviour' for three years

August 28 – Thirteen people, including union leaders Jack Munday and Pat Clancy, convicted under Crimes Act of inciting young men to break the National Service Act and fined \$60 each (Chris Shanley fined \$30)

September 2-3 – Seven young people spend third weekend in Boggo Road jail after being sentenced over Brisbane Stock Exchange protest (May 15) against Nixon's blockade of North Vietnam ports

September – Draft resister Steve Padgham sentenced in Canberra to eighteen-months jail for refusing to obey call-up notice. He is now in Goulburn jail

September 6 – Banned Michael Matteson interview broadcast on ABC radio current affairs program *Fact and Opinion*. ABC staff had threatened further action if it was banned a second time

September 22 – Jack Munday appears in Supreme Court (Sydney) charged with 'contempt of court' over alleged August 23 statements about the recent sentencing of anti-apartheid activists Bob Pringle and John Phillips. The case is adjourned to October 12

October 3 – General meeting of anti-war activists in Sydney to plan action on November 18

October 3 – Prominent trade unionists and other progressives launch statement of support for Jack Munday and propose immediate formation of 'Jack Munday Defence Committee'

October 10 – Article in *Tribune* by Malcolm Salmon outlining the content of September 12 statement by PRG of South Vietnam clarifying its negotiating position in Paris. The September 12 declaration is composed of two parts – the first refers to the right of the Vietnamese people to true independence and effective self-determination. The second part of the declaration insists on the formation of a 'provisional government of national concord with three equal segments to take charge of affairs in the period of transition and to organise truly free and democratic general elections.' Salmon explains the offensive of the liberation forces in South Vietnam has entered its seventh month. 1000 hamlets are now fully controlled by them (compared to seven before the offensive began)

October 12 – Rally to support Jack Munday who appears before Judge (but not jury) at Supreme Court. Builders' labourers and others march from Phillip Street to Macquarie Street for first day's hearing of 'contempt' case

October 14 – AICD receives cable from Vietnam Peace Committee: 'The Nixon Administration is misleading public opinion, while re-Americanising the war and increasing its barbarous air and naval attacks against our country'

October 15 – Sunday march to Pentridge in support of draft resisters assembles outside Carlton Football Ground (Royal Parade)

October – ‘National Anti-war Consultation’ in Melbourne convened by Australian Union of Students (AUS) issues call for demonstrations on November 18 and adopts resolution expressing solidarity with Indochinese people. Over seventy representatives from anti-war organisations in all states except West Australia are present

October – Ad-hoc ‘Anti-War Action Coalition’ formed in Sydney to organise November 18 march from Circular Quay to U.S Consulate and Hyde Park

October – Federal Attorney-General Greenwood replies to May 23 (1972) question from Senator Turnbull: up to January 1972, 695,000 youths were required to register for National Service, but 13,000 had failed to do so. 147,000 were required to submit to an army medical but 441 had failed to do so. 55,000 were required to enter the Army, but 110 had not done so

October 17 – (*Tribune* editorial): ‘The Nixon Administration has designed a campaign to raise hopes that a breakthrough in the Paris negotiations on Vietnam may be imminent. No confidence can be placed in the peace hopes that Nixon is deliberately raising. Nixon seeks to contain, cajole and hoodwink public opinion in the USA’

October 20 – Demonstration outside Fairlea Women’s Prison in support of Jean McLean. McLean has been sentenced to six days jail following her refusal to pay fines for ‘incitement’ to breach the National Service Act

October 21 – 200 anti-war protestors march through the streets of Armidale (NSW) in response to initiative of ‘Socialist Action Movement’ at University of New England

October – Munday Defence Committee circulates ‘Statement of Defiance’ with 428 signatories

October – AICD in Sydney establishes ‘Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Vietnamese People.’ A main objective will be to launch a medical aid program in coordination with the Health Ministry of the DRV, and the PRG Liberation Red Cross in the South

October 24 – (*Tribune* editorial): ‘There is speculation concerning an imminent settlement in Indochina. Kissinger has met with DRV representatives in Paris and Thieu in Saigon’

October 26 – The Democratic Republic of Vietnam in Hanoi dramatically announces that DRV and U.S have reached a ‘nine-point agreement’. According to the DRV, the agreement was reached in Paris on October 8 and is to be formally signed there on October 31

October – Labor parliamentarians Jim Cairns and Kep Enderby call for Nixon to sign ‘nine-point agreement’ by October 31

October – Thieu threatens to bring before a military tribunal anyone displaying an NLF flag in Saigon

October – Representative anti-war delegation from three cities calls at U.S Embassy in Canberra

October 30 – AICD in Sydney receives cable from ‘Stockholm Conference on Indochina’ stating Thieu has begun to slaughter NLF prisoners. The cable calls for organisations to pressure Nixon to sign ‘nine-point agreement’ by October 31

October 30 – 200 protestors respond to call by AICD and gather outside U.S Consulate in Sydney, chanting ‘1, 2, 3, 4 – sign the peace and end the war’

October 30 – VMC and CPV hold vigil in Adelaide

October 30 – Demonstrators protest at U.S Consulate in Melbourne

October 31 – Meeting at AICD organised by ‘Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Vietnamese People’ to help sponsor advertisement launching Medical Aid Fund

October 31 – Demonstration at U.S Consulate in Brisbane demanding U.S sign ‘nine-point agreement’

November 2 – 100 protestors respond to call by AICD and demonstrate in lunch-hour against Thieu regime special envoy Tran Kim Phuong when he visits Sydney to speak to Foreign Minister Bowen at Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Martin Place

November 7 – Demonstration in Adelaide calling on U.S to sign ‘nine-point agreement’

November 7 – Gough Whitlam delivers ALP Federal Election policy speech and pledges to abolish conscription

November – AICD in Melbourne reacts to breach of ceasefire agreement and organises campaign of cables to US Ambassador, deputations to Consul-General in Melbourne, picket of U.S Consulate

November – Barrister Ted Laurie QC returns from ‘Third Session of the Committee of Enquiry into U.S Crimes in Indochina’ (Copenhagen, October 10-17)

November 9 – Draft resisters Michael Matteson, Sandy Thomas, Peter Gunning give themselves up. Commonwealth police finally arrest Matteson at his parents' home in Enmore. Matteson is sentenced to eighteen months on the same day and is now in Long Bay jail

November 12 – Public meeting organised by CICD at Nicholas Hall to hear reports by Ted Laurie and Tasmanian Derek Roebuck on Copenhagen war crimes enquiry

November – **Richard Nixon defeats George McGovern in U.S Presidential Election and wins a second term in the White House**

November – Sandy Thomas sentenced to seven days jail in Sydney for refusing medical under National Service Act

November 15-17 – Jack Munday appears before Justice Hope in Supreme Court on 'contempt of court' charge

November 17 – Deputation representing ten unions arrives at U.S Consulate in Sydney and presents letter calling on U.S Government to sign for peace in Vietnam without delay

November 18 – **Saturday morning anti-war march of several hundred in Melbourne (Trades Hall to U.S Consulate) organised by Vietnam Moratorium Campaign**

November 18 – Saturday morning anti-war march of 400 in Sydney (West Circular Quay to Hyde Park) organised by anti-war coalition in Sydney

November 29 – United Nations General Assembly votes to outlaw use of napalm and other incendiary weapons. U.S and Australia abstain from voting

December 2 – **Liberal-Country Party coalition routed in Federal election. Massive swing in favour of ALP**

December 3 – **Attorney-General designate Senator Lionel Murphy pledges imprisoned draft resisters will be freed 'within 24 hours of the Government being sworn in'**

December 3 – Draft resisters visit Pentridge jail to hail Bob Scates and Ken McClelland

December 12 – **Anti-war forces in Melbourne meet at Trades Hall and conduct post-mortem on the small protest turn-out on Saturday November 18**

December 12 – Sydney anti-war activists meet to plan for projected 1973 visits of delegations from PRG and DRV

December – Whitlam Government restores passport of Wilfred Burchett

December 17 – Draft Resisters Union (DRU) in Melbourne celebrates end of draft at Sunday get-together in Richmond

December – Sydney DRU Secretary Peter Galvin declares DRU in Sydney will not close shop

December – Kissinger and Le Duc Tho leave Paris and return to their respective capitals without any announcement of a date for future meetings

Postscript

The electoral victory of Labor in December 1972 marked the end of twenty-three years of Liberal-Country Party dominance in Canberra. A resurgent ALP immediately abolished conscription and put the finishing touches to Australia's *official* involvement as a servile United States ally in Vietnam. The new departure in Canberra did not however signal an end to *public* campaigning against the Vietnam war. U.S aggression in Indochina did not abate. Anti-war organisations in Australia continued to 'take to the streets' and mobilise for an end to the war – in 1973, in 1974, and right through to the glorious moment on April 30, 1975 when the final complete victory of the Vietnamese people in their thirty-year struggle for national independence was achieved.

My decision to terminate the above chronological timeline at December 31, 1972 was convenient and arbitrary, prompted by sheer mental fatigue. Time did not stand still for the people of Indochina, or for the U.S Administration still bent on military victory. May the following supplementary timeline of the period 1973-75 provide a satisfactory glimmer of the final chapters of Australia's Vietnam War.

1973

January 27 – Paris Accords signed. The Paris Agreement gives equal recognition to PRG and Thieu regime

March 7 – CICD campaigns for Australian Government to establish diplomatic relations with Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG)

1973 – CICD establishes 'Vietnam Aid Appeal'

1973 – The presence of foreign (United States) military bases on Australian soil (in particular Omega) re-emerges as key political issue for anti-war movement

April 6 – 'International Conference on Vietnam' held in Stockholm to address the danger to peace in Indochina. The U.S and Saigon regime are sabotaging the Paris Accords. The U.S bombs Cambodia and Laos and Saigon refuses to abide by the terms of ceasefire agreement

April 13 – 'Information Centre' established in Melbourne's City Square to publicise situation in Indochina and inform public about PRG

April 28 – Arrival in Australia of three representatives of PRG of South Vietnam and three representatives of Vietnam Peace Committee (DRV). The two delegations are welcomed at Tullamarine Airport on May 5 and remain in Melbourne until May 10. Highlight of the busy schedule organised for them is the May 8 public meeting at Dallas Brooks Hall. The Vietnamese visitors are not able to meet Prime Minister Gough Whitlam

May – CICD continues to press for Australian Government recognition of PRG of South Vietnam

December – CICD public meeting. Dr Cairns reports on controversial trade mission to DRV

1974

March 23 (Saturday) – Moratorium march in Melbourne in response to threats against Paris Peace Agreement

1974 – CICD maintains 'Vietnam Aid Appeal'

1975

May 11 – Celebration of victory of Vietnamese people at Unitarian Church, East Melbourne (speaker John Lloyd CICD)