

20 Congressmen Planning Tour To Stimulate Antiwar Sentiment

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WASHINGTON, April 29 — More than 20 members of Congress have agreed to travel around the country in a new antiwar program designed to bring constituent pressure on Senators and Congressmen reluctant to push for an early withdrawal of American forces from Vietnam.

The first barnstorming tour will take place May 7, 8, 10 and 11, with visits to Waterbury, Stamford and New Haven, Conn.; Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Cleveland.

According to a spokesman for the newly formed sponsoring organization, the committee for Peace and New Priorities, the first impetus for the tour came from officials of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

"They and some other union people," said the spokesman, Theodore W. Johnson, "got worried that some of the Washington demonstrations might turn the rank-and-file off just when they were beginning to develop some opposition to the war."

Money Raised by Ad

Money for the first tour was raised through a newspaper advertisement. If more money can be raised, there will be a second and possibly third trip, Mr. Johnson said.

The Cleveland visit will be typical, with the Congressional group holding a joint news conference, then fanning out across the city for meetings with businessmen, lawyers, factory workers, church leaders and suburbanites.

If the plan works, members

of these groups will be prompted to bring pressure on their representatives in Congress — for example, Senator Robert Taft Jr., a Republican — to change their positions and support the Hatfield-McGovern resolution to end the war or similar legislation.

The idea of one set of Congressmen appealing to the constituents of another could produce political problems, but the committee said that it had not yet encountered any, probably because its plans had not yet received wide publicity.

Tour Members Listed

Among those who have reportedly agreed to visit one or more of the stops on the first trip are the following:

Senator Mike Gravel of Alaska and Representatives Jonathan B. Bingham of the Bronx, Lester L. Wolff of Nassau, Don Edwards of California, William F. Ryan of Manhattan, Parren J. Mitchell of Maryland, Bob Eckhardt of Texas, Bertram L. Po-dell of Brooklyn, Henry S. Reuss of Wisconsin and Bella Abzug of Manhattan, all Democrats.

Also, Edward I. Koch of Manhattan, Abner J. Mikva of Illinois, James H. Scheuer of the Bronx, John Dow of upstate New York, Herman Badillo of the Bronx, Robert F. Drinian of Massachusetts, William S. Moorhead of Pennsylvania, Patsy T. Mink of Hawaii, Michael J. Harrington of Massachusetts and Benjamin S. Rosenthal of Queens, all Democrats.

Also, Ogden R. Reid of Westchester, Donald W. Reigle Jr. of Michigan and Paul N. McCloskey Jr. of California, all Republicans.