

## Garment Union Deplores War But Endorses Policies of U.S.

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— Delegates to the convention of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union here deplored today the "human and material cost of the bitter conflict in Vietnam." At the same time, however, they warned that the world faced the danger of other Vietnams as long as totalitarian movements remained "determined to impose their system of government and ideology on others, by force if necessary."

During the years of the struggle in Vietnam, the policy statement said, every American Administration has sought to end all bloodshed by reconvening the Geneva Conference through direct negotiations. But the statement said that Hanoi and its Vietcong forces, "aided and abetted by Moscow and Peking," had militantly opposed a settlement that would permit the people of South Vietnam to enjoy the right of self-determination promised them by the 1954 Geneva Conference.

### Offer of Aid Cited

"Throughout this bitter and costly war," the statement continued, "the United States has not sought an inch of territory or a single dollar of advantage. Our country has repeatedly offered generous economic assistance to North as well as South Vietnam and Laos and Cambodia to enable their peoples to cooperate for the improvement of their working and living conditions."

The statement, presented to the delegates by Shelley Appleton, a vice president, cited the cost of 45,000 American lives and hundreds of thousands of wounded in the war, but took the position that the United States was "finally ending" its military involvement in the war.

The delegates, in approving the document, emphasized that the withdrawal from Vietnam "must be conducted in a manner consistent with the safety and the ultimate freedom of Americans now held prisoner by North Vietnam."

Louis Stulberg, president of the union, said later that the statement basically reaffirmed the union's previous position, which was in line with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization's firm support of the war in Vietnam.

Other statements approved by delegates supported Israel and her efforts to achieve a peace guaranteed by secure borders. Delegates also condemned, in another policy statement, Soviet persecution of its Jewish population.

### Jackson Applauded

Earlier, delegates applauded Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, when he said that he favored bringing the war to "an honorable conclusion in a way that will not tempt the enemies of the United States to engage in adventures elsewhere which could be upsetting to the peace."

They also applauded his criticism of Soviet moves in the Middle East and his emphasis on the need for the United States to maintain a strong defense posture.

"We as Americans above all else," he said, "have a responsibility to see to it that we maintain a credible defense posture so that we can preserve our own freedom and make it possible for others to enjoy freedom and to extent freedom wherever that's possible."

Senator Jackson was critical of those who sought to belittle advocates of military preparedness. Prior to World War II, he said, various investigating committees concluded that all wars were started by "merchants of death." Now, he said, the critics, in looking for a scapegoat, placing the blame on "the military-industrial complex."

"In dealing with totalitarianism," the Senator said, "you have to be strong and prudent. And the first priority is survival, the preservation of individual liberty."

Senator Jackson was the third Democrat mentioned as a possible candidate for President in 1972 to make an appearance at the I.L.G.W.U. convention, at the Fontainebleau Hotel here, following Senators Edmund S. Muskie of Maine and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. Delegates gave the Washington Senator an enthusiastic welcome, as they had the other two. The delegates interrupted his address 35 times with applause and gave him a standing ovation when he finished.

### Statement of Goals

As the end of the war approaches, the statement said, recriminations serve no national purpose. It said, further, that American labor must now prepare to mobilize all of its energy and influence for programs to end urban blight and poverty, to provide adequate medical care, and to reshape the nation to make it worthy of the sacrifice so many have made in Vietnam.

The Vietnam statement was approved by unanimous standing vote of 1,000 delegates.

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