

NATIONS PRESSED TO AID DESERTERS

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200 From 17 Countries Open
Drive for Americans

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LONDON, Oct. 11 —A campaign on behalf of American servicemen who desert because of their opposition to the war in Indochina was launched here today by 200 prominent men and women from 17 countries.

The campaign, organized by War Resisters' International, an organization that actively encourages United States servicemen to resist participation in the Vietnam war, has decided to urge world governments to grant asylum and aid to American deserters.

American supporters of the campaign include Hannah Arendt, Leonard Bernstein, the Rev. Daniel Berrigan and the Rev. Philip Berrigan, Noam Chomsky, Erich Fromm, Allen Ginsberg, Norman Mailer, Linus Pauling and Dr. Benjamin Spock.

Nuremberg Trials Cited

A spokesman for War Resisters' International, a London-based organization founded 50 years ago, said tonight that the campaign would be financed by members and sympathizers in various countries.

The group said in a statement that deserters faced years of insecurity and hardship. There were tens, possibly hundreds of thousands of them, the organization said, but only Canada, France and Sweden openly pro-

vided asylum.

"The Nuremberg trials established the responsibility of individuals to refuse to obey illegal and unjust orders," the statement said. "The war in Vietnam is both illegal and unjust and the time has come for a worldwide campaign on behalf of those who, for personal or political reasons, leave the

U.S. forces rather than take part in this war."

Among other supporters of the campaign are Vanessa Redgrave of Britain; Dr. Conor Cruse O'Brien of Ireland; Jean Genét of France; Dr. Martin Niemöller of West Germany; Mikis Theodorakis of Greece; and Prof. Gunnar Myrdal of Sweden.