

Students, POW Kin Seek Candidates' Pullout Vow

An organization of families of American prisoners of war and student body presidents joined in a campaign yesterday to obtain pledges from political candidates for a definite date for withdrawal from Vietnam.

The new drive, announced at a Fairmont Hotel press conference by "campaign '72 -- Bring Them Home Now," involves an agreement to provide campaign volunteers only to those candidates supporting the goals of the coalition.

Mitch Jones, speaking for the Washington, D.C.-based POW-MIA (Missing in Action) Families, said the date for withdrawal should be contingent "only on release of our POWs" and an accounting of those missing in action.

San Jose attorney Jim Stewart, who initiated the campaign, said the proposal for setting a definite withdrawal date has already been endorsed by presidential candidates Shirley Chisholm, Hubert Humphrey, Paul McCloskey, John Lindsay, George McGovern and Edmund Muskie. None of the



MITCH JONES
POW's wife

candidates, however, has yet proposed a specific date for withdrawal.

The campaign '72 group claims the support of 400 families of American POWs and 72 student body presidents.

Larry Diamond, Stanford University student body president, noted the coalition statement not only has the support of students in

areas usually considered liberal but that 23 student body presidents from the "so-called hawkish South" also endorse the group's goals.

In its statement, the group does not ask for "surrender" of South Vietnam, North Vietnam or the Viet Cong. Instead, the pledge emphasizes that "the time has come for the Vietnamese to decide their own political future."

Stewart said the project can have a big impact on political candidates.

"The life-blood of every political campaign is the strength of the precinct organization and volunteer workers," he said.

"College students represent a substantial portion of most precinct and volunteer groups working actively for political candidates, and they are expected to be even more active in the first year of the 18 to 21 year old voters."

Mrs. Jones, wife of Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Louis F. Jones who has been missing in action since 1967, said her organization "feels the prisoner of war issue should be the number one issue . . . this election year."