

1939

# STRIKE AGAINST WAR

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11 A. M.

## Students of the United States:

War fears haunt the world. Two great areas are torn by conflict. Fascism marches across Europe. Imperialism cracks the whip in restive Africa and Asia as the "democratic" empires prepare their colonies to support wars at the expense of colonial freedom. Latin America feels an iron fist in the handclasp of its "Good Neighbor". Every nation arms, though its people go hungry.

And what happens in America? The President of the United States pictures American frontiers as the Rhine on the East and Guam on the West. Increasingly his drift toward war becomes a conscious drive. Billions are spent on armaments and war preparations. Youth is being militarized for the army of a coming war. The fight against fascism, for American students, must begin with the struggle against militarism and oppression at home.

War for empire, thinly disguised as a new "war for democracy", must not enlist the support of American youth. On the 22nd anniversary of U. S. entrance into the World War, we call upon American students to demonstrate their opposition to war and the oppression it brings through a nation-wide Student Strike Against War. We call upon student organizations to strike on that day to express their solidarity in anti-war action with students throughout America and with anti-war forces throughout the world.

### STRIKE TO SUPPORT A PROGRAM OF ACTION AGAINST WAR:

1. **Let the people vote on war!** A war referendum amendment will help take power to determine foreign policy out of the President's hands!
2. **Keep America out of war!** Take from the President the power to manipulate foreign policy in the name of neutrality. He has mis-used his power in relation to loyalist Spain; he has refused to apply a policy of neutrality to the Sino-Japanese war. Compulsory and strengthened neutrality legislation will lessen the danger of war through preventing American commercial and military involvement in war situations.
3. **Stop the super-armaments program!** Billions for arms and munitions of war mean diversion of funds from sorely needed WPA, conservation and education projects. An armaments economy will be the first step toward collapse of what democracy and well-being we now enjoy. Keep America from becoming the munitions factory for the world! Demand jobs and homes, not guns and battleships! Stop militarization of youth! Oppose ROTC, CAA flight training, CMTC, and militarization of CCC and NYA.
4. **Pledge** that youth will refuse to support the government of the United States in any war it may undertake.
5. **Unite all peoples against war!** Not the false internationalism of imperialists and greedy national states, but the real internationalism of peoples throughout the world who struggle against war and for freedom, must win! The strike is our pledge of solidarity with them, of aid to their fight against fascism and all oppression, for colonial freedom and for relief to refugees. Extend the strike to other fields!
6. **Support a world conference** of all nations, for disarmament and settlement of international disputes, on the basis of equality of all nations. Support conferences of the peoples' organizations fighting war and oppression, as steps toward real unity against war.
7. **Organize for the day-by-day fight against war!** Build a powerful youth movement in the United States which can work with labor, farm, and church anti-war movements to check the drift to war! Each participant in the strike must dedicate himself to work against war trends in the months ahead.

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF METHODIST YOUTH  
STUDENT PEACE SERVICE  
WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE  
AND FREEDOM  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE  
YOUTH COMMITTEE AGAINST WAR