

tes and free elections

to permit double voting and denied transportation to his opponents. The army then supervised the voting. Thieu's membership in the Free World is now attested by his having won a plurality-34% of the vote—in that election. But with that kind of help, Stokely Carmichael could have been elected governor of South Carolina.

A M B A S S A D O R
Ellsworth Bunker has already moved to support Thieu's re-election campaign. Sen. Stevenson, who really believes that a United States goal is to let the South Vietnamese decide their own future, wants Congress to affirm that goal, publicly, and to get that message to our allies, loud and clear.



William F. Buckley, Jr.

The quiet youth of America

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Kids are flexing their muscles, and every now and again you will run into one of them who will ask you, shyly, "How're we doing?" The student who asked the question had traveled, with two friends, four hours from his campus to participate in the demonstration in San Francisco over the weekend. He and his companions were full of praise and blame. They did not think highly of Congressman Burton, who had taken the better part of a half hour trying to raise money from the participants. It wasn't only that he had given a rather material aspect to the demonstration — by going on and on about the \$35,000 it had cost to arrange the facilities for the demonstration. It was that he had threatened the crowd. Used, in fact, the highest sanction: until the crowd came through with the necessary money, said Burton, he wouldn't permit the rock band to return to entertain them. This was twice painful. The students had, many of them, come a very long way. Here they were listening to someone talk about money. And if money wasn't forthcoming, they wouldn't be permitted

their music. Hardly a way to acknowledge the gravity of the occasion.

Then there was this Chicano leader. They didn't like him much, but for different reasons. He was very militant. In fact, using unpleasant language, he had ordered the musicians off the stage, so as not to distract from his message. But then the Chicano leader had gone on and on not about the Vietnam War, which after all was the reason for the protest, but about other things — many other things — and it was the judgment of the students that he had diffused the gravamen of the protest.

It was very badly arranged, the students said. There was no planned climax. The rally ended in a rather inconclusive way. There was no Martin Luther King there to dream a dream that would send the participants home dizzy with pride and resolution. It simply petered out.

There was a high point, they agreed. It was Dick Gregory, who turned in a dramatic pledge. He would not again eat solid food, he said, until the Vietnam War was over. Several years ago Mr. Gregory gave up meat, in protest against the killing of animals. He is now escalating, and he greatly

moved the crowd.

Congressman Pete McCloskey, who is the anointed leader of the anti-war group during this season, was present. But there is disagreement about why he did not actually speak. And some disagreement, even, about the exact circumstances of his disappearance. Suddenly, according to one student, he simply walked off the stage: and was not seen again. There are those who interpreted his walkout as in protest against the obscenities being uttered by the man who had the microphone at the moment.

It was then that the question was blurted out: did I think that the demonstrations had any effect on Mr. Nixon? I replied I did not know, adding that I am qualified only to say what are the demonstrations that affect me. I was affected, I said, by the White House-sponsored Youth Conference which just now finished meeting in Colorado Springs. The newspapers inform us the students voted for three things, and very nearly unanimously: 1) a fixed-date retreat from Vietnam, 2) legalized pot, and 3) legalized sex in any variety between, or for that matter I suppose among, consenting

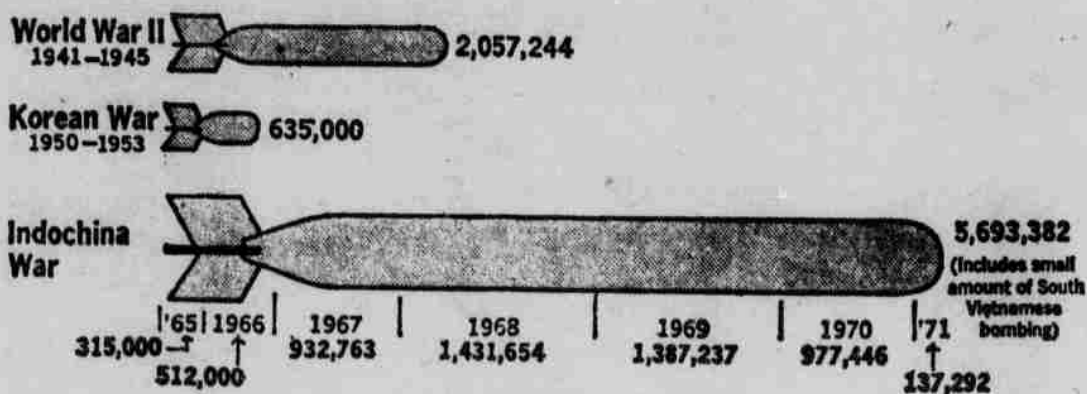
adults. What is interesting is that the participants of this congress were picked as nearly as possible by scientific means. It isn't just the bellicose doves, who swarm in to any scheduled demonstration. It was young America, the same young America that Mr. Nixon and Mr. Agnew and so many of the rest of us have assumed is in silent, but acquiescent, equilibrium.

That — I venture — is news, in the sense that 300,000

students in Washington or San Francisco to hear the 300,000th speech by Coretta King, is not news. If it is, we finally have fully representative expressions of student opinion.

At any rate, the sap is running. We shall know soon whether the bustle is merely a seasonal imperative, or whether the students are prepared to heighten their manifestations of dissatisfaction to correspond with Mr. Nixon's deceleration of the Cold War.

U.S. Bombing Tonnage in Three Wars



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