wars- Vietnam war.

Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1967

Santa Cruzans Oppose Vietnam War, According To Peace Action Poll

A poll recently completed by the Santa Cruz Peace Action Committee indicates that most residents of Santa Cruz County are opposed, in varying degrees, to the Vietnam War, according to Dan Miller, committee chairman.

Miller said the peace census found that of the 80.3 per cent of persons responding, 14.8 per cent were in favor of the war, 22.1 per cent "disapproved" of the policy but felt the U.S. has a commitment to fulfill, 30 per cent were opposed and 13.4 per cent were uncertain of their opinion.

The committee chairman reported that the Detroit racial riots had a profound effect on results of the poll, which was in progress when the disturbances occurred. He maintained that the riots brought home the fact that America should be attending to its own problems, rather than pouring millions into an Asian conflict.

Before the riots, he said, 25.8 per cent of the respondents were in favor of the war, with 12.6 per cent disapproving and 33.3 per cent in direct opposition. After the racial flare-ups, Miller continued, the 11 per cent drop in those in favor persisted in all precincts canvassed.

Only 48.6 per cent of those interviewed would offer a solution to the conflict, Miller

said. Of those, 13.3 per cent wanted escalation, 20.4 per cent favored negotiations and 14.7 per cent wanted immediate withdrawal.

The single group most in favor of the war, according to the census, was middle aged and elderly men. Middle aged and elderly women supplied fewest supporters for the conflict. Young men, including students, were most in opposition to the war policy, Miller stated.

Democrats favored the war more than Republicans. Non-registered voters were more in opposition to the conflict than those eligible to vote. Those opposed to the war were in favor of placing the question on public ballot, while those in favor of the conflict were opposed to a vote.

Miller said the survey was based on 1074 random home interviews. Results of the poll, he indicated, will be used by his group to launch a drive to end the war.

The chairman said his committee's whole aim is to end the conflict but proposes no ultimate solution to the Vietnam dilemma.

Other committee officers are Vice Chairmen Richard Moore and Paul Dragavon, Secretary Ruth Hitchcock, Treasurer Richard Smith, Vigil Chairman Carlie Stevens and Speaker Chairman Betty Barnhart.

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