

David Kline speaks on Afghanistan

Santa Cruz, Ca.—Nearly 450 students and faculty crowded an outdoor symposium at the University of California Jan. 25 to hear journalist David Kline describe his recent visit to Afghanistan and the significance of the Soviet invasion of that country.

Kline, who spent a week behind Afghan rebel lines last October, is currently on a national speaking tour that will bring him to nearly 20 cities. His talks are being variously sponsored by student and faculty clubs, progressive political organizations, and business and professional groups concerned with foreign policy.

Standing before a wall spray-painted

with a huge "Stop the Draft" sign, Kline urged Santa Cruz students to oppose President Carter's attempts to use the situation in Afghanistan to bolster its own aggressive aims. He also called on Americans to demand that Carter take concrete steps to help European and third world countries stand up to the immediate threat of Soviet aggression.

"Reschedule Pakistan's debt to the U.S. so their economy will be strengthened; make Israel recognize Palestinian rights so the Mideast can enjoy greater stability; provide arms and economic aid with no strings to countries whose national independence is being threat-

ened—these are just a few things U.S. ruling circles should do," Kline told the crowd.

"Sending troops would increase the risk of superpower conflict and world war," the journalist added. "But so will doing nothing; so will appeasing Moscow; and so will ignoring third world demands that Washington help them protect their stability and independence.

"That is the lesson of the Second World War," Kline emphasized. "Aggression unopposed leads to war."

Speaking with Kline at UC Santa Cruz were two campus professors specializing in West Asian affairs. Though all three speakers did not agree that the Kremlin was intent on world domination, they all noted that Moscow's brutal takeover of Afghanistan signaled the growing threat of a catastrophic world war.

It was this concern over the possibility of global war that produced the large crowds for Kline's talks that week at three Portland, Oregon, campuses, as well as in Berkeley, Cal. The Berkeley event, sponsored by the Committee to Send the Shah Back, also featured an Afghan expatriot and a spokesman for the committee.

New Pamphlet

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