

~~NEWS~~ RELEASE

NEW COLLEGE

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578

813/355-7131

1 - 79 - 1/2/68

Ref.: Furman C. Arthur

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SARASOTA-- A young fighter against totalitarianism, recently enlisted in a campaign in support of the U.S. position in Vietnam, will make a special appearance on the New College campus on Monday, January 8 at 8 p.m.

Charles Stephens, organizer of the Thomas Jefferson Club on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles, and more recently appointed a member of the national Citizens Committee for Peace with Freedom in Vietnam, will address a meeting open to the students and faculty of the college and to the general public. The meeting will be held in Hamilton Center on the college's East Campus.

The 30-year-old doctoral degree student came into prominence this fall when he was asked to join the committee which strongly supports the nation's commitment in Vietnam. The Citizens Committee lists such members as former presidents Truman and Eisenhower and the invitation to Stephens came from former Sen. Paul Douglas, a Democrat of Illinois.

Stephens was invited to the New College campus by President John Elmendorf.

- more -

Stephens, the brother of a former New College student, holds bachelor's degrees in history from the University of Wisconsin and in international relations from the University of California. He also has studied at Oxford University and now is working on his Ph.D. in political science from UCLA.

He is the founder of the Jefferson Club at the latter university and he hopes these clubs will expand to other campuses.

"We believe the U.S. stand in Vietnam is justified," he said of the club's purpose, "and we seek to rally student-faculty support for it."

"We all share an aversion to totalitarianism which we believe represents a danger to our liberal, pluralistic society and to mankind. We are therefore opposed to and condemn all totalitarianism, be it of the Fascist, Nazi, or Communist variety."

Stephens, who was married last March, took his new bride on a trip to Thailand and then the two spent an entire month in South Vietnam visiting refugee camps and U.S. civilian aid projects.