

WRI

The War Resisters' International, founded in 1921, is a federation of individuals and pacifist groups. WRI has affiliated national sections in 18 countries with its headquarters in London, England. It condemns militarism and the use of war as a means to an end and works for nonviolent alternatives to international disputes and to solve problems of human oppression around the world. The broken rifle which appears on the cover of this pamphlet is WRI's symbol.

On Wars of Liberation

This article is the text of a working document prepared by the Council of the War Resisters' International at its meeting in Vienna, August 12 to 17, 1968.

The WRI is first of all a freedom movement. We work for man's right to freedom: freedom to live without hunger, war, pestilence; freedom to live without economic, social, racial, and cultural exploitation; freedom for the individual to express himself and to develop to the full his powers as a creative human being; freedom to develop social capacity, so often cramped and distorted by authoritarian structures, which enables men to live in community and to rise above egotism.

From this belief in freedom stems our opposition to war, and to systems which exploit and corrupt, such as colonialism, capitalism, and totalitarian forms of communism. Positively, the implications of our belief touch every aspect of human activity. We want an educational system which liberates rather than cramps the human spirit, economic organization which is democratic and gives power to the workers involved. We work for nothing less than a total nonviolent revolution. Our paci-