Ehrlich Links Racism, War with Environment

The Vietnam war and racist war are both involved in the solution-resource environmen
tic," Stanford University profes
tor of biological Prof. R. Ehr
ti told an "Earth Day" ser
t last Wednesday at Bowd
clear State University.

"Any politician who thinks
that the ecological inter
test should involve making
these dirty issues is
ning in a dream world," declared the well-known au
tor of "The Population
earthly."

A major determinant of US
sign policy around the world
the need for cheap raw ma
tals to support our industries,
a most of the other overpop
countries we are re
over.

"In order to keep our
central economic system
we, in essence, are
natural resources
from our children and from the
poor people of the
world," Prof. Ehrlich said.

"It helps, therefore, to be
military, if we wish to
compete with other overpop
countries, such as those of
western Europe, the Soviet
ion, and Japan, in a game of
global thievery.

"In an unprecedented acuity
the United States is murdering
the people of Vietnam and de
stroying the ecology of that
country primarily to protect
American interests in the natu
al resources of southeast Asia," said Prof. Ehrlich. "Racism may
have been a much more effi
cient and heartless murderer,
but he lacked the technology —
especially the herbicides — with
which we have been destroying
the environmental fabric of Viet
nam.

"The story is disappointingly si
ilar in Latin America, the

Middle East, and elsewhere
where we often intervene, spee
dy and secretly, to see to it that
the economic interests of the
United States are pursued over the interests of the human
beings of the area.

"As the world population
gives larger, the per capita
availability of resources will
shrink, and the world will
continue to deteriorate.

There will be more interven
on by overpopulated or imagin
or threats to
their monopoly on the ma
terial basis of all human beings.

"Scrapbooking about ecological
disasters will also increase, and
small wars will become more
dead.

Prof. Ehrlich predicted, "Sooner or later
they will lead to the thermo
nuclear war that is being pre
pared for so vigorously by scien
ts who have sold their souls
to the military-industrial com
cerns of their countries.

"Racism is involved in
crises in a different way," Ehrlich went on. "We
cannot expect minorities of
color, the poor, or any group which is not given
a fair shake in our society
to cooperate in an effort to
save our civilization — es
cially we can make it their
civilization too.

The same goes for the poor
and non-white nations of the
world. Unless we make it clear
that the rewards of saving the
world will be honestly shared
they would be stupid to cooper
ate with us.

"The battle to save our
planet is not just a battle for
population control and environmen
taxi," Prof. Ehrlich concluded. "It is al
so a battle against explana
tion, against war and against
racism. That is, it is a batt
le for equality, peace and justi
tion. Without which the
world would hardly be worth
saving."