This issue is dedicated to Mr. Bruce Patterson and Mr. Allen Hallmark formerly of the United States Army, Vietnam and the Editorial Board of Bragg Briefs. Mssrs. Patterson and Hallmark were honorably separated from the Armed Forces of the United States in December, 1969.

BRAGG BRIEFS is published in the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. It is a free press published by active duty GI's stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina dedicated to establishing responsible alternatives to the current military system.

Vol. 2 No. 5 Christmas 1969

20¢ Donation

Free to Serviceman

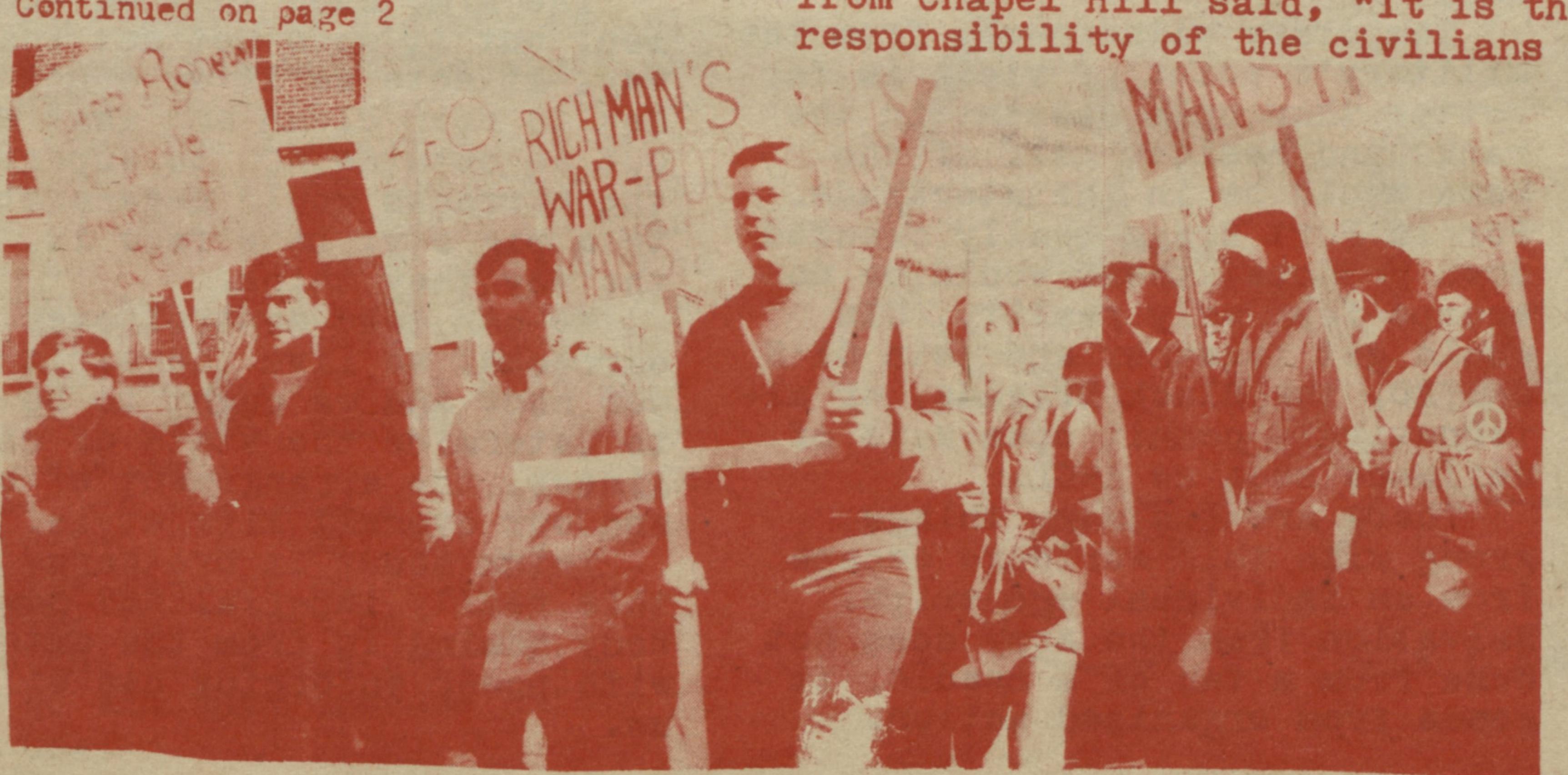
O'BRIEN CHARGES

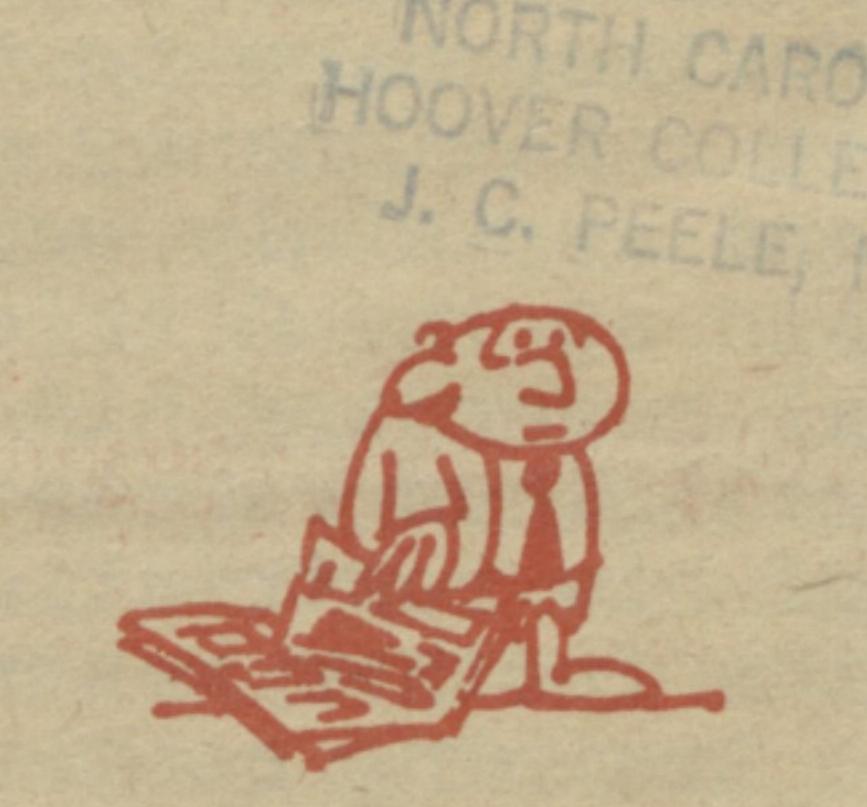
On the 19th of December, CPT Landis R Coates of Special Training Company, a basic training unit at Fort Bragg, informaed PVT David H. O'Brien that court-martial charges against him for a 21 day AWOL in January 1969 had been dropped.

The rather sudden change came soon after a meeting between Commanding General John J Tolson and members of the Black Brigade and GI'S UNITED in which mention was made of injustices against O'Brien and PFC Frederick Penn both members of the Bragg Briefs editorial board. Penn has also been instrumental in organizing the Black Brigade. The meeting was the result of the so-called "Wachter Initiative", a personal letter from GI'S UNITED member David Wachter to General Tolson. The day after the meeting, Military Intelligence came in full force to Special Training Company to conduct interviews with those who have known and worked with O'Brien during the

past 10½ months. O'Brien was restricted to the Fort Bragg Military Reservation for 82 months, then further restricted to the basic training center following an appearance at the GI'S UNITED anti-war march in Fayetteville on October the 11th and press conferences in Baltimore while he was on leave. The original restriction was imposed while O'Brien was pending court-martial for the AWOL. The court-martial was postponed by a restraining order from the Federal Courts, pending decision on the legality of his induction, the writ being based on O'Brien's claim to conscientious objection and subsequent procedural errors made by his draft board in handling the case. O'Brien is still waiting for a decision from the Fourth

Circuit Court of Appeals. Continued on page 2





"Words may show a man's wit, but actions his meaning."

Ben Franklin



SOLDIERS MARCH IN STREETS

With chants of "One, Two, Three, Four. We don't want your lousy war," and "What do we want? Peace! When do we want it? 'Now!" approximately 600 marchers once again shook up citizens of Fayetteville, North Carolina as they paraded down the main street of the town. Led by approximately 150 GIs, the protest, which started at the Quaker House on Ray Avenue moved through town in an orderly march which terminated at Rowan Park. There the people were entertained by speakers and folk singers, among them were Barbara Dane, Andrew Pulley, and Dr. Gordon Livingston, formerly of the 82d Abn. Div. and West Point graduate.

The crowd, which consisted primarily of students from surrounding colleges gave the GIs a standing ovation, and most when questioned about their participation, indicated that they had come to show the GIs that they had not been forgotten in their struggle for freedom from military oppression. As one student from Chapel Hill said, "It is the

to show the soldiers that the civilians have not forgotten them. We must show them that we not only care, but are willing to support their struggle."

When those GIs present were warned that they were under surveillance, the general attitude was one of contempt, and the air was filled with cat-calls and jeers.

MI which was present was flatly challenged to do something about participation, and legally their hands were tied. Nothing

(Continued Page 6)

Three soldiers have died as a result of a flash fire in the 612th Quartermaster Company on November 26th.

On the morning of November 26 the 612th had the monthly full field inspection. The Company Commander, Major Greer, noticed in the course of his inspection that there was adhesive on the floor of the Headquarters platoon latrine. This adhesive had been there for several months because the tile had been removed when the latrine was renovated. Major Greer suggested that this adhesive be removed. Staff Sergeant Gomez was in charge of the latrine cleaning and he set a crew to work. They did not have much progress so Sergeant Gomez had them secure a flammable liquid to use on the floor along with the electric buffer they had been using. The floor was saturated with the liquid and the men began buffing; a spark from the buffer ignited the liquid and set the barracks on fire. PFC George H Jessun.

(Continued Page 2)

HAIRCUT REG CUT

On December 3, to the surprise of most, a Policy Letter on Haircuts descended from XVIII Airborne Corps & Ft Bragg. The letter came on strong, reminding everyone that this is a citizen's Army and as such should reflect the modes and customs of our society "within reason". Other highlights of the letter: hair would be well groomed 2-4 inches, sideburns could be full and extend to approximately the middle of the ear, and bangs should be # inch to one inch above the eyebrows.

The letter was a great source of jubilation for the EM's who read it. Comments such as these were recorded. "Hey man, this is great." "I'm not getting a haircut." "The Army is a changing."

The lifer's had quite a different reaction. The letter was met with great consternation and scrutinization. CO's at battalion level scratched their ears and shook their heads. Company Commanders failed to read the letter to their men. One First Sergeant thought it was a trick by the clerks up at Personnel.

After this befuddling initial reaction the lifers adjusted to this perversion of Army discipline. CO's pointed to the sentence that stated: "Decisions ... (on lenght of hair) should be made by commanders on an individual basis." This was interpreted as justification for the continuation of their present haircut policies. Other lifers ignored the letter and a few openly stated that they would not follow:

Moral: Old soldeers never change, they just harass away.

POSTSCRIPT: CORPS G-1 WILL SUPPORT EM AT IG INVESTIGATIONS IF THEIR HAIR LENGIA IS WITHIN THE LIBERAL GUIDELINES AND WELL GROOMED.



"How about putting ALL of war on trial?"

O'Brien continued

It is difficult to know exactly what or who effected O'Brien's release from restriction and charges. In all probability, the charges against him have been dropped in order to facilitate his transfer; Coates has already informed him that he will be leaving Ft Bragg in early January. Individuals who are pending court-martialed cannot be transferred without prior approval of Department of the Army. There is certainly also the effort to prevent further harm to the Army's public relations by what could have and certainly would have been said at the O'Brien court-martial regarding his political and religious repression, the nature of his restriction especially the further restriction to the basic training center in October, and the fact that O'Brien had been more than adequately punished through the restriction and other harrassment.

dope

Bragg and permeate the entire base. It is much more than a few joints made of Hanoi Gold. As the recent SP5 Partridge/Sp4 Delfoss ; (50th Sig Bn) bust in Fayetteville's Haymont District indicates, heroin, opium, methedrine and LSD whose origin is New York are now easily obtainable.

The publicized busts in Fayetteville are the top of an iceburg. Dope abounds in the Fort Bragg/Fayetteville area yet busts are rare on the military reservation itself. Any GI can tell you that many barracks on the weekend smell of the opium dens of old China. There is great fear of the CID and MI, but how many people get busted on Bragg?

In the Nam dope is in wide use GIs get caught every now and then and face relatively light penalties. It is tolerated by the military and in combat zones very open. This is so primarily because of the terrifying consequences of messing with men armed with automatic weapons.

At Fort Bragg the military has a related, but different reason for tolerating dope. Dope is an escape from things as they are and the Fort Bragg reality is not the best of worlds. The military uses dope to keep Fort Bragg cool.

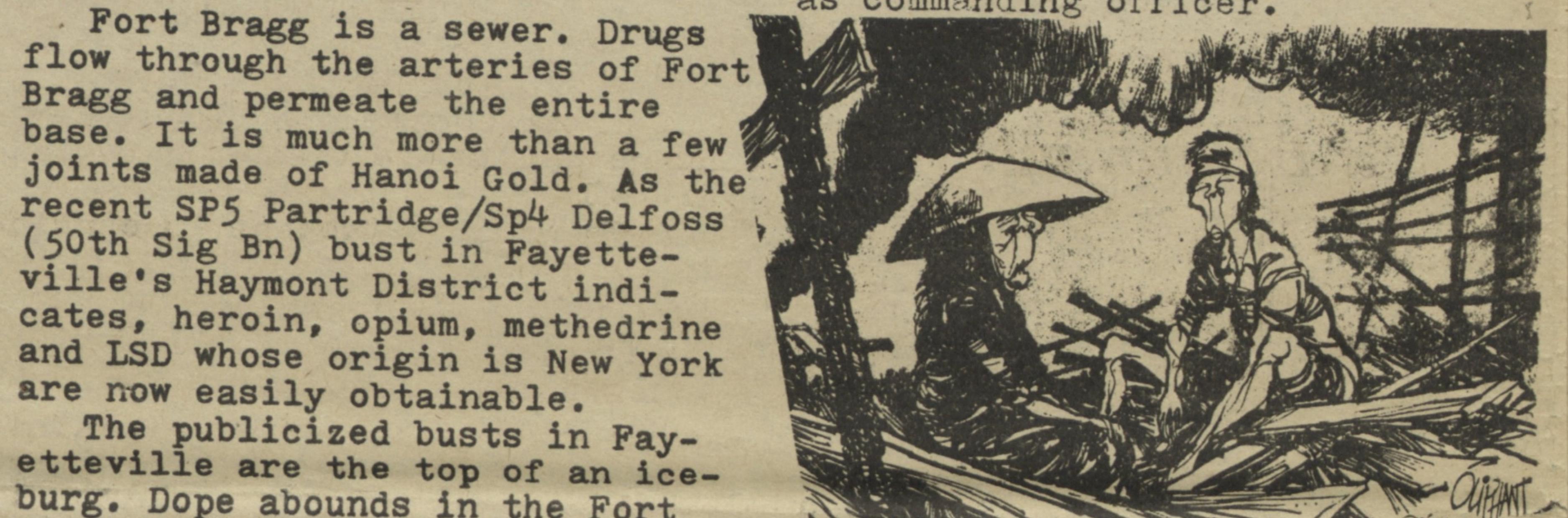
Temporary withdrawel, from the military's point of view, is far better than opem dissent in the ranks and besides half of the base would be in the stock Made. For is Fort Bragg really cracked down on dope, there would be no escape from ugly reality. GIs would get together and join GI'S UNITED, the Black Brigade, or alternatively commit open acts of defiance such as AWOL.

There are too many things wrong with this world to escape from on individual ego .trips. Salvation from the Army does not come from a tab or a needle. It comes from organized action.

(Continued from Page 1)

SP4 Gregory C King, and PFC Larry Salmon died from burns suffered in this blaze. The fourth man, SP4 James Willford received relatively minor burns and was returned to duty. GI's UNITED feels that SSG + Gomez, who has been formally charged with criminal negligence by the Army, should be punished if he is found guilty.

We have a few more things to say about Major Greer. Like where was the ambulance on Holland Drop Zone November 29th when SP4 Lawhorn was run over by a forklift during an airdrop? Like why were the platoon sergeants permitted access to sulfuric acid for use on the shower room floors? In our opinion, Major Greer may also have been criminally negligent in the running of the 612th in regard to the safety of his men. We charge that he has let the "career enlisted men" run his company without regard for the men's safety. We demand an investigation into the workings of the 612th and the advisability of removing Major Greer as commanding officer.



"What is a massacre? Is it anything like a war?"

GIPOWER

Throughout American society people are getting together to exert some control over the anonymous institutions that direct their lives. Students, blacks, chicanos and Indians are doing their thing. GIs, perhaps the most oppressed group in all of society, are no different.

We can get together and it does not have to be around such abstract, though highly important issues as imperialism. Look around you in the barracks. Who tells you how to live, how shiney the floor ought to be, the arrangement of our wall lockers and so on? It is probably an E-6 who lives off-post. Who inspects him?

The Army says that we are all men, but it does not act that way. It acts as if we don't know how to keep clean and that without an outside NCO to supervise, the barracks would degenerate into a pig sty. Lets face it, thats the way they think.

We can take control over our barracks. We live there. It is our home and we ought to be able to determine the state of cleanliness, the arrangement of bunks and our overall life style.

Think about it brothers. Isn't this really imperialism? Somebody coming in from the outside with power enforcing his will on us.

THE BIRTH OF THE BLACK BRIGADE

In those fleeting days since the last issue of Bragg Briefs, The WBlack Brigade has formed it's hard-tively to the demand for immediate ting those concerned in sividuals who make up the backbone of the mi-and not tommorow for to wait for litary establishment. Black people tommorow is to wait for a rerun of in the ailitary have been so complacent and passively non-thinking for so long that the mere whisper rebellion, of any sort, becomes a booming challenge to their manhood. the Army wants of all it's draf-So far, the challenge has been met from every unit on post, and as the sun rises each morning it shines upon a new face in the Brigade. The defect in moral character. And Brigade was very late in coming, in fact, terriby so, but as the old enough gall to stand up and raise

Before the advent of The Black Brigade the only real outlet for grievances against the oppressiveracist nature of the military was "barracks talk", 'latrine bitching' and letters to congressmen that would usually end up in file 13. However, private and public interrest has increased and the channels of communication are more di-

Racial Seminars a Beginning?

The brass at Ft Bragg have recently admitted that there is a race problem in the Army and especially here at the home of the Airborne. To combat this problem, seminars were held in the various units here at Bragg. The purpose was to find out to what extent there is a problem and how it can be solved.

The seminars were attended by black militants, uncle toms, white militants, white racists, and a hand full of high ranking officers and enlisted men. As the militants tried to point out, racism is a leach in todays Army. They also made some demands to end this disgusting reality, such as a new haircut standard that would let the men look like the individuals they are. This has been accomplished and hair is now allowed to grow four inches on the top and two inches on the sides for both black and white. Other demands were that the Army quit channeling the black man into dirt MOS's such as infantry, artillery, and cook and start giving them clerical MOS's, that the Army initiate black studies. It was pointed out that the Army could curve some of the racism by giving black studies that would show that American history is white washed and that both the black and the white man have been led to believe that the black man has been the blood sucker on the Great Society. It was also brought up that any leader in the Army should read both The Autobiography of Malcolm X and Eldridge Cleaver's Soul On Ice, that this would be prerequisite to a better understanding of the black man.

Whether anything will be done is difficult to say; but if the military leaders do not attempt to solve this problem, then it is up to the black and white militants to end this disease before it ends us.

rect. Now is the time for all black are being loosened and many of our G.I.'s to add their voices collec; brothers are walking out on the core center and is steadily attrac- and constructive changes within the current military system. NOW! Now yesterday. And this is exactly what a lot of brothers intend to do, to wait for tommorow(EES) and 'tom' in between. This is exactly what tees and enlistees! Complete and total submission to the system! Any thing less would be considered a whenever some individual generates saying goes' better late than never his fist at the monster he is then said to be in need of discipline to correct the defeciency in his moral character. Thus one to the principle of the system. of the Brigade is to serve as a per manent reminder to the Westmorelands systematic genocide to continue! Throckmortons, and Tolsons that as Black men in a racist society our moral commitments in life are not ended where our indentur-ed lives begin.

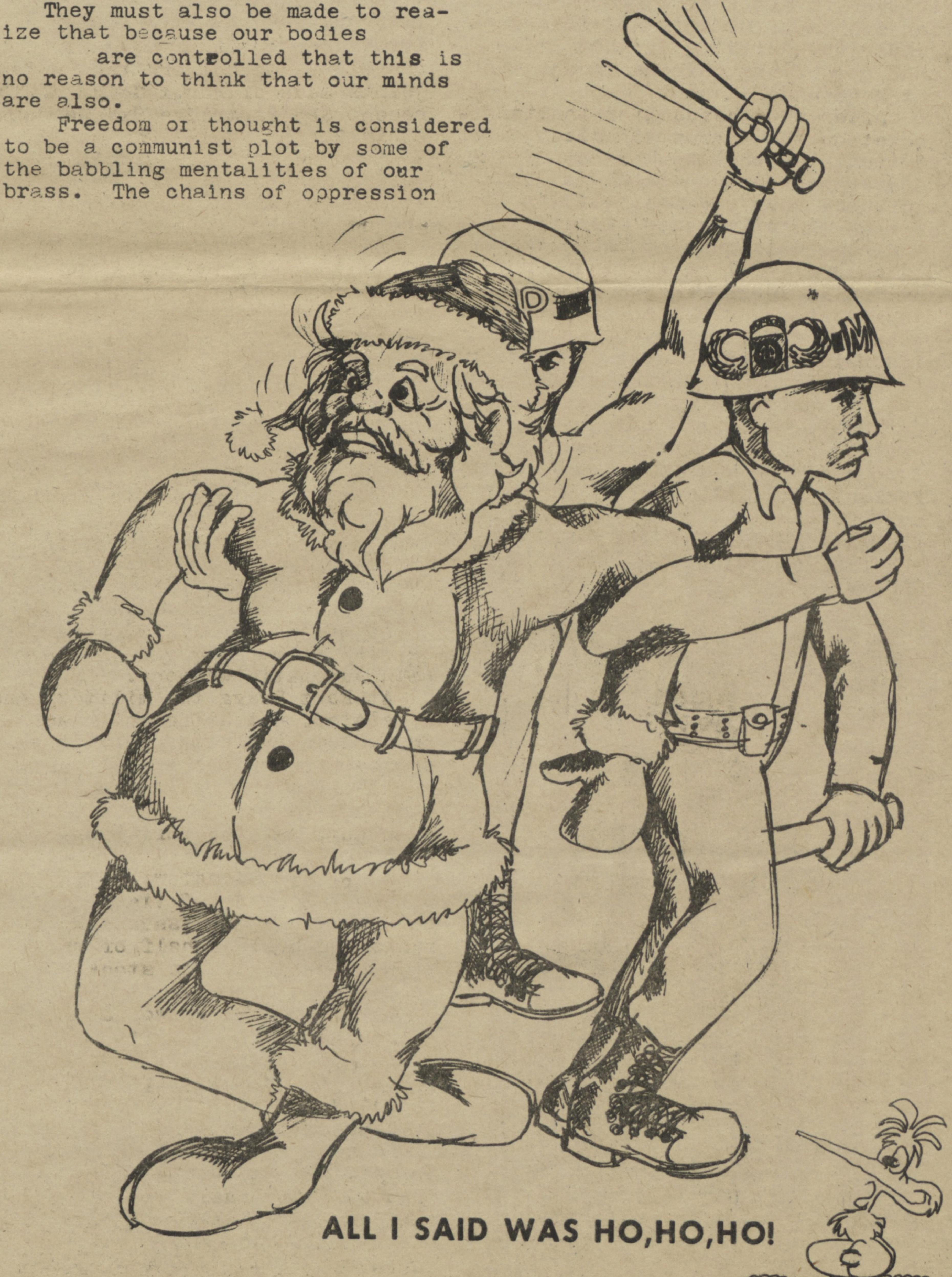
They must also be made to realize that because our bodies

no reason to think that our minds are also.

entire scene of being a military minded brainwashed uncle tom. These people have no desire to suffer those thousand unnatural shocks which their minds are not heir to. They have seen how a training program (Airborne, Ranger, Green Berets, etc.) laced with nationalistic propoganda can instill a mechanical like obediance to the point of actually substituting his normal behavior.But other Black Soldiers are still being sent to Nam to protect America's myths. Black Brothers are still dying over seas as a result of obeying the prime directive established for a finished and brainwashed product

There is no need for such Ideas have been put forward, letters have been written, telephone calls have been made,

(Continued Page 7)



Paul J. Wykes, 21, from Indianapolis, Indiana, was discharged from the Army December 5, 1969.

The information concerning his military offenses, confinement and subsequent general discharge; including his interpretation of the stockade situation at Fort Bragg, was transcribed from several interviews which followed his release from the Fort Bragg Stockade on Thanksgiving Day.

To review, Wykes decided, after some 18 months in the Army, 12 of these in Special Forces Training Group, that he and the military were unalterably incompatible and that he would pursue an administrative discharge on whatever grounds and of whatever description the Army needed to justify his elimination.

During his first year in the Army, Wykes collected three Article 15's; one in basic training, one in AIT (91A, medical) at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and another during 913 Special Forces Medical Aidman's Course, also at Fort Sam Houston--all for AVOL.

Last August, en route from Fort Sam Houston back to Fort Bragg, Wykes took another unauthorized absence, this time to Canada for 29 days.

"This going to Canada," Wykes said, "was kind of foolish, really. I wanted out of the Army, not just freedom to visit Canada. With what I think I want out of life and from myself, the Army is a pretty useless investment and a very degrading one personally. Vietnam and the political situation had very little if anything to do with it. I'm against the war, as everybody seems to be, and not very proud of our system of government, but I don't see that as a valid issue when what you're trying to say has nothing to do with buildings in Washington or a war thousands of miles away. I think there are better and more basic reasons for being against the Army than the Vietnam war.

"I tried to get this across to my CO when I got back from Canada the first time. We talked about this a few times but I couldn't get it over to him that I wanted out. I was fined twenty-nine dollars for the AwOL. That's a dollar a day. I don't know if that was intended to pacify me or what. The CO seemed a little exasperated that one of his charges didn't want to be a green beret anymore. I think he understood my wanting to get out of the Army easier than he could understand my having to get out of Special Forces in order to get out of the Army. It was hard to talk with him because we obviously weren't talking about the same things. They just can't understand what you mean when you get into the area of patriotism and where your responsibilities lie. It's a cut and dried issue to someone who's invested his life in the Army.

"It became apparent the CO wasn't going to do anything," Mykes continued. "He came right out and said, 'I can't get you out on just this,' referring to my record of AWOLS. He kind of left it hanging there. The implication was pretty obvious, though I would be the last one to say he was telling me to take off again, which I did-this time for about 20 days. When I got back he acted pissed off and so on. I think he was hoping against hope that I was bluffing. I actually had to prove to them, by my actions, that I was incorrigible. He (the company commander) offered to forget the last AWOL if I'd agree to be trained in another MOS, in another company of course. He even offered to send me back to Fort Sam for another crack at medicine. It was at this time that I demanded a special



"It was kind of funny. They were terminating guys (from Special Forces) for putting their hands in their bockets."

OFFICIAL BRAGG BRIEFS INTERVIEW

Wykes was tried in Special Court, convicted of 20 days ANOL and fined over 3200.00 with two months confinement at hard labor, during which time his discharge was to be processed.

Private E-1 Wykes first entered the stockade in October.
"I got an orientation the first day," he said. "I was told by the captain, 'You're not here to be punished, you're here to be rehabilitated.'"

"You said you requested solitary confinement."

"Yes. I didn't know what the stockade was going to be like. I wanted to be alone and I didn't want to be in a position where I'd be tempted to escape.

"Of course requesting A-block was a direct threat to their system of punishment. If you ask for something you obviously aren't threatened by it. If it got out that all the prisoners were requesting solitary, and few of them do, the stockade would have nothing to threaten the prisoners with, since presumably that's the worst place to be in the stockade...so we joked about it and he (the captain) suggested I go to B-block, which I did. I made a point of telling him I didn't consider myself a run-of-the-mill prisoner. He said, 'Yeah, everybody thinks he's special.'"

dykes remained in 3-block and later C-block (minimum security) for approximately two weeks until he was released to the parolee barracks. While on parolee status dykes performed as a fireman at the Spring Area Theatre. He was returned to the stockade when his brother's automobile, which he was not authorized to drive, was discovered parked outside the parolee barracks. The car was inspected and a shaving kit, which he had been holding for an Adol, now deserted, friend, was found to contain some pills. ("I think they were tetracyclene.") The pills were examined and though they were apparently found harmless and charges were dropped, dykes remained in the stockade until Thanksgiving Day, some two weeks later.

He again requested A-block.
"They let me right in this time," said Nykes.

"What goes on in A-block?"

"In the sweat box nothing goes on. You get rabbit food and a lot of sleep. In the cell block the guards come around once in a-while and talk philosophy with you."

"What kind of philosophy?"
"Confinement ethics."

"What else?"

"The major comes around about once a day. It's just a chore he has to do every day. You're supposed to have bloused boots, a shave and a haircut. Nobody does. He inspects. He's usually accompanied by a lieutenant colonel.

"Picture a long building with twenty individual cells. They kind of go through there and ask everybody if they're being treated OK, how they're doing. Everybody says fine and they just scoot on, especially if someone looks like he wants to say something....

"One day the Provost Marshall was coming around to see that the

place was secured, to see that the guards were doing their jobs, that the place was clean and the cells locked.

"Always, before they come through, the block commander shakes you down. All they want you to have in there is the dible. J left my cell unlocked. Lieutenant Colonel came by and asked me if I was getting the information I needed for my article. I'd told them I was thinking of doing an article on stockade conditions. Lieutenant Colonel asked me how I was doing and I said fine and kicked the door open into his face. Knocked his hat down over his eyes. He told the guard to shut the door and walked out."

"Did you have any trouble in the stockade?"

"We would be a stockade?"

The well things I got in a couple fights I

"I told him he didn't drop the weapon. I admitted it could have gone off by accident. I don't know if they took any action on that guard or not. I know they unloaded his shotgun. I don't even think they're supposed to have loaded guns in that situation. The way the whole thing was ignored, after Doremus was thrown in A-block for throwing a piece of wood in the fire, is a little absurd."

wow I LLLI, Made

KINSTON, N. C.

"You see so much compromising in the stockade, so many contradictions. They're aware of drug traffic to the point that if they wanted to they could get a lot of guys busted. I think that's a form of compromise on their part. If they went in there and really made an effort to do something about it they'd have a lot more trouble with the prisoners than they do now. I think it's good that they don't bust everybody but they're not doing it for benevolent reasons. The stockade can't afford to do that.

"Another example of this is the way they deal with the Christmas season. With say, two hundred guys in the stockade, they know
a lot of these guys are going to escape around Christmas. If they
don't let these people, go, they go anyway. Christmas is a bad
time to be in the stockade."

"In December a young man's fancy turns to escape?"
"That's funny. No, guys just don't care. The people in charge

"That's funny. No, guys just don't care. The people in charge aren't stupid. They're fairly lenient in the courts with guys coming in around this time. If too many people escaped it would bring a lot of heat down on the major and the captain, so if you go AWOL in December you might get an Article 15. The same offense in January, after the holidays, might get you six months."

"You spoke of racial tension in the stockade."
"Tho's this guy, Colonel Deane? who says there's no racial trou-

"I think it's General Deane."

"Well, he's right. They're all in the stockade. Most of the people in the stockade are black and I'd say most of these are from the 82nd.

"You take a guy out of Marlem or Matts. He spends time in Vietnam, he comes back. To be discriminated against after he's been over there, to be thrown in the stockade for a relatively minor of fense...when a bunch of these guys are thrown together in the same environment it's a particular letdown. Maybe some national pride had been instilled in them in Vietnam. A lot of them feel this way. And then to come back and get shot right back down. To be told, 'Yeah, man, it's all right for you to fight for us,' but let one of them miss a formation or a detail. The company commanders sense the violence in these guys, they're afraid of it, they can't deal with it.

"Instead of the service recognizing this, it throws them in an environment exactly suited to get them in more trouble. All the prisoners are shown no regard as human beings, but blacks even less.

buck the white guy, any white guy, just like the guys in the regular units get bissed off at the first sergeant or the KP busher. You attack the wrong thing. This feeling is directed more towards the other prisoners than the guards. It's been a major cause of near riots. Nothing dramatic, but you can see it developing. It's going to continue to develop until you get someone in there who's less concerned with bunitive measures and more concerned with rehabilitating these prisoners, if that's possible in the Army. This should be their purpose, especially when most of these guys are in there for such betty things. I'm aware that any prisoner is hard to deal with but there are a lot of borderline cases that could have gone either way if someone had been there with something besides handcuffs. It's something you can't ignore while you're in there."

"If they see any sign of a disruptive quality in a person, like hoore, who was capable of inciting riots, they do their damndest to pacify him. When that doesn't succeed they send you to A-block, a-way from the sheep who, by Army criteria, are not dangerous. They

A DETERMINED MARCH IN A SOUTHERN TOWN













we urge the GIs who failed to come for fear of official retaliation to take this into consideration and come to the next march.

With the exception of minor neckling by the YAF (Young Americans for Freedom) wno stood on the hill top shouting traitor and communist, the rally went as moothly as anticipated. Barbara)ane, protest folk singer was vell received as was Andrew Pulley, one of the main speakers of the day. Infortunately, by ghe time Dr Livingston was scheduled to speak, the veather had turned cold, and people vere beginning to leave. For this, re extend our apologies to Dr Livngston and will ensure that if he omes back again, he will be one f the first speakers. Also resent were Bill Carmichael of taleigh, North Carolina who enter-

will be done to the GIs who were present at the demonstration, and 13 DEC 1969 Additionally, it will show President Nixon that concientious Americans FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.

tained the crowd with guitar and singing, and Grace Paley who just recently returned from North Vietnam after negotiating the release of several American prisoners. Grace told of the feelings of the North Vietnamese people toward the American peace movement, and described some of the chaos and destruction brought down upon the Vietnamese people by American bombing missions over the North.

Just what will result from this demonstration is debatable. According to the majority of those who actively participated, nothing major will come of it. The only real accomplishment will be to further unite the solders in their movement against the war in Vietnam and show them that the civil-

have not forgotten the issue and will continue to put pressure on the United States to change its foreign policy and stop international aggression in the name of "Freedom".

According to the YAF hecklers (all seven of them that showed up for the rally), everyone who participated in the demonstration are communists and should be shot. They sincerely believe that movements of this type hurt the American war effort and that they will do nothing more than prolong the war. We sincerely hope that rather than prolonging the war, they will put enough pressure on the administration to make them adopt a more realistic withdrawal plan than the one presently in effect.

(Continued Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

Also speaking at the rally were Dave Shulman, GI's United; Jim Wann, Chapel Hill Folk Singer; and MC, Jim Seiler, also from GI's United.

The demonstration, which was approximately 650 strong would have been much larger except for the fact that several busses chartered by supporters from Winston Salem were cancelled at the last moment by the bus company. Could this have been done because of outside pressures from some governmental organization?

In addition, the Fort Bragg brass apparently became rather paranoid over the entire situation, because many of the units on post who are normally off duty on Saturdays were put on such transparent details as "area beautification". To these suppressed GI's, we extend our sincere hope that they will be able to fight their way through military oppression and make it to the

next demonstration. All in all, however, the march was an outstanding success and we of GI's United hope to be able to hold several more in the near future. Keep your eyes and ears open and perhaps you will hear of the next one in time despite the censorship and oppression practiced by the military dictatorship we presently live under.

Rumor: One of the five basic trainees now suing the government from Ft. Bragg USATCI, is suing for a sum of \$85,000.00 due to the illegality of his induction.

85GRAND85GRAND85GRAND85GR (Continued from Page 3)

but still the same racist rhetoric abounds. Now is the time for action, the chains are loosening and the coming changes will bury those who refuse to find out where it's at. The Black Brigade is offering directions, plans are being made for the publishing of a newpaper for the Black G.I., Do It Loud!; the first issue should appear in January. The Black Brigade is offering every Brother a chance to do something for his people! The Black Brigade is here to stay until every vestige of racism has been destroyed! "A slave who dies of natural causes cannot balance the weight of two dead flies on the scales of eternity!" Eldridge Cleaver. JOIN USPOWERTOTHEPEOPLEJOINUSPOWER

BRAGG BRIEFS

"Ah am the Ghost of Vietnam Past ... !"

PUERTO RICAN BISHOP TO VISIT FAYETTEVILLE

exploited American Territory of Puerto Rico, is to visit Fayetteville January 7, 1969.

Bishop Parilla is touring the entire East Coast speaking out against American Imperialism and Viet Nam.

While in North Carolina the Bishop will speak at stockades in Camp Le June and Ft. Bragg.

Bishop Parilla will be attacking the corporate interest in the American Government. The corporate interest that has put us in Viet Nam and kept us there for 45,000 lives. The same corporate interest that is keeping the wages of Puerto Ricans, Guatemalians, Asians, and countless others at a sub-standard level.

He will attack every lie the Government has thrown the American people for its inexcusable involvement in Viet Nam.

Arrangements are underway for a speaking engagement in Fayetteville, also.

G. I.'s United recognizes this as extremely beneficial to the soldiers of Ft. Bragg as well as

Bishop Parilla, a native of the the citizens of Fayetteville, for now even the Catholic Church is stepping in and pointing a finger at the many imperialistic policies of our United States Government.

ARE YOU A CO?

CO counselling is now taking place at the Quaker House, 324 Ray Ave., Fayetteville. Tel. 483-5279. 27% of all in service co applications have been approved by DA.



ELECTA MAN AND RIGHT AWAY YOU THINK SOME SORT OFCLAIM ON HIM-

POEM BY THE MAIL

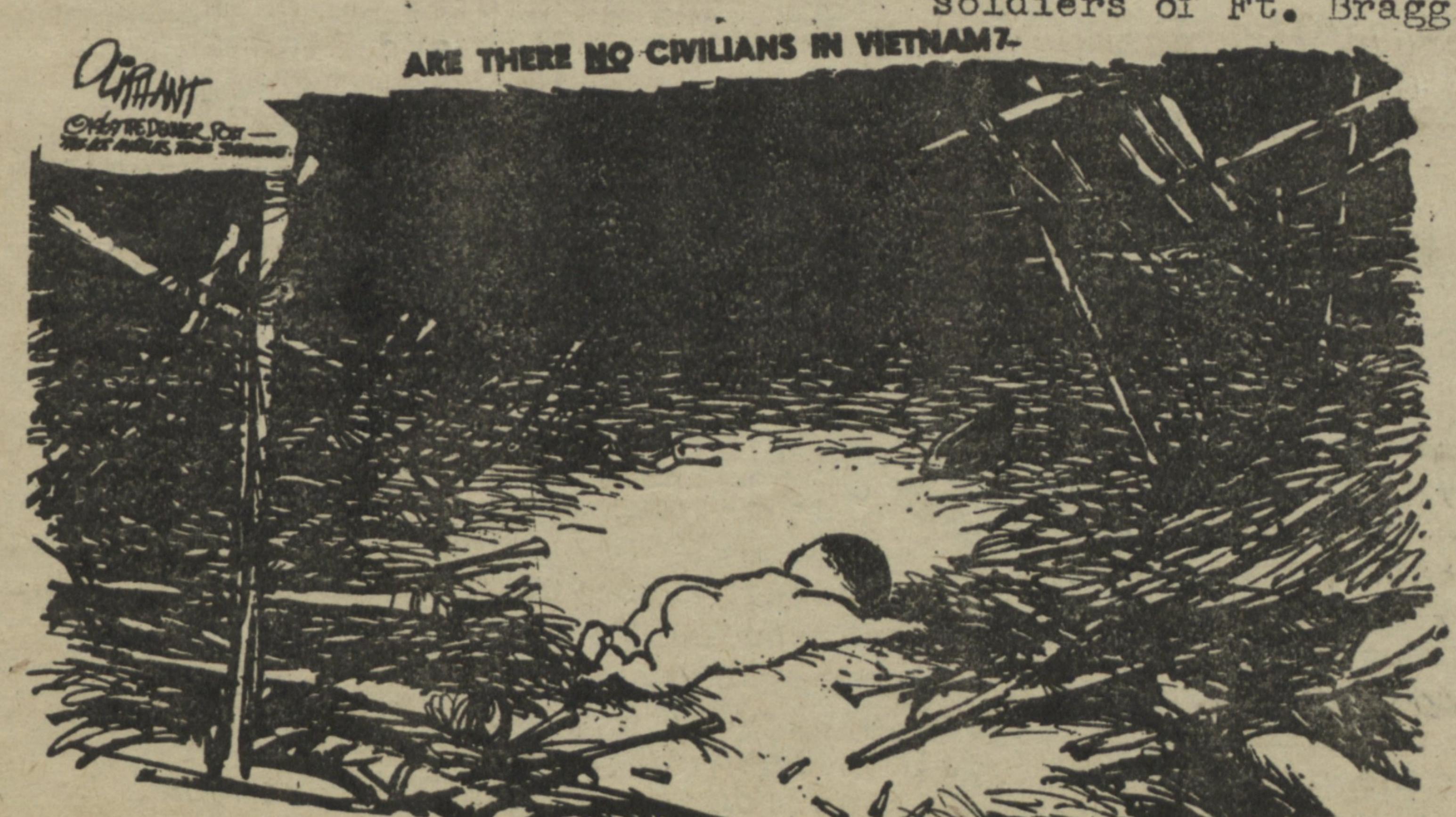
ARMY GREEN

Army green, army blue While in the army there's nothing to do Army green, Army red After the shot the soldier bled.

Army green, army white Someday the chief will see the light Army green, army brown There's lots of bodies on the ground.

Army green, army black Army lifers stab you in the back Army green, army tan Eating C-rations from a dirty can.

Army green, army pink I think the army really stinks Army green, army true A lifers poem just for you.



Christmas 1969

BRAGG BRIEFS

(Continued from Page 5) "The guy in the cell next to me in A-block had a variation of the Catch-22 theory. For the benefit of the lifers, "Catch-22 is a book by Joseph Heller. This guy said the odds are stacked five to one against you in the Army. For every inch you gain you lose five. That's why you have to make big gains. But all the big gains are illegal. Every time you put one over on the Army they throw your ass in the stockade. You can do anything you want to make your life better in the Army, but for every hour of freedom you get five hours of confinement. Of course stockade time is bad time. This gives you more time to think of new and better ways to be free. what it boils down to is that you're destined to lose. ETS becomes your only victory."

"Do you think anybody is going to believe what you've been say-

ing?"

"The ones who already believe it will. Most of the people at the stockade are going to be relieved this is Bragg Briefs and not Paris liatch. Not to discredit your paper, but I don't think they're going to let it bother them much."

"Are they going to bother denying what you're saying?"

"They can do as they like. They always do. If they want to attack the honesty of this, let them. Agnew attacks lewsweek, I guess these guys can attack Bragg Briefs. If I feel guilty about anything it's that I've been paid to be in the service. I can't gear my sense of honesty to accommodate 3ragg Briefs, General Tolson, or whoever. If I choose to try not to be dishonest it's not going to make any difference. I can afford to be fanatical about this. There are worse things than to be fanatical about your convictions.

"The paper should be a symbol of this integrity. Repercussions for printing this, from the standpoint of who's going to get burned and who isn't -- all that's pretty petty if you're trying to do what

you say you are." "Did you see any efforts being made to improve stockade condi-

tions?"

"I talked with several officers while I was there. Major felt like he was being sandwiched. He's a sociologist and he probably knows what to do, but those who have authority over him aren't going to let him do anything that interferes with their job, which is to keep things as quiet as possible. The prisoners don't see him as a friend. They see him as puppet.

"Do you think General Tolson, for instance, is aware of conditions

in the stockade?"

"The stockade was here long before Tolson. In that sense he isn't responsible for what goes on there. Tolson does make a point of seeing every general court martial prisoner, I know that, I don't know what his motives are. You can say that Tolson's only a general. I don't feel safe talking about Tolson but I think "ou'd have to say he knows about these things.

"He might see the futility in trying to deal with it. Fort Frage's isn't the worst stockade. It's easy for a lot of these incidents to get lost on the way to Tolson. As far as I'm concerned, Major

could keep everything right in the compound.

"As soon as you start looking for someone to blame, or someone to change it, you've got to look to yourself. If you can sense that something is wrong and you're bothered by it, then you've got to assume other people are aware of these problems too. Ideally, they should 30 away, but instead of looking for other people to do the right thing, be a little egotistical if that's what it takes."

"An Army full of egotistical privates isn't going to change any-

thing, is it?"

"No, it's very negative. Look at me. I've been in the stockade, I've been in the Army. What am I going to do? Nothing, I guarantee you. You can attribute that to selfishness. You've got to look a little beyond the Army to resolve some of these things. The problem in the Army, everyone's biggest goal is getting out."

A liberal is a man who leaves the room when the fight begins. Heywood Brown Journalist

You can jail a revolutionary but you can't jail a revolution.

WORKFORPEACEWORKFORPE

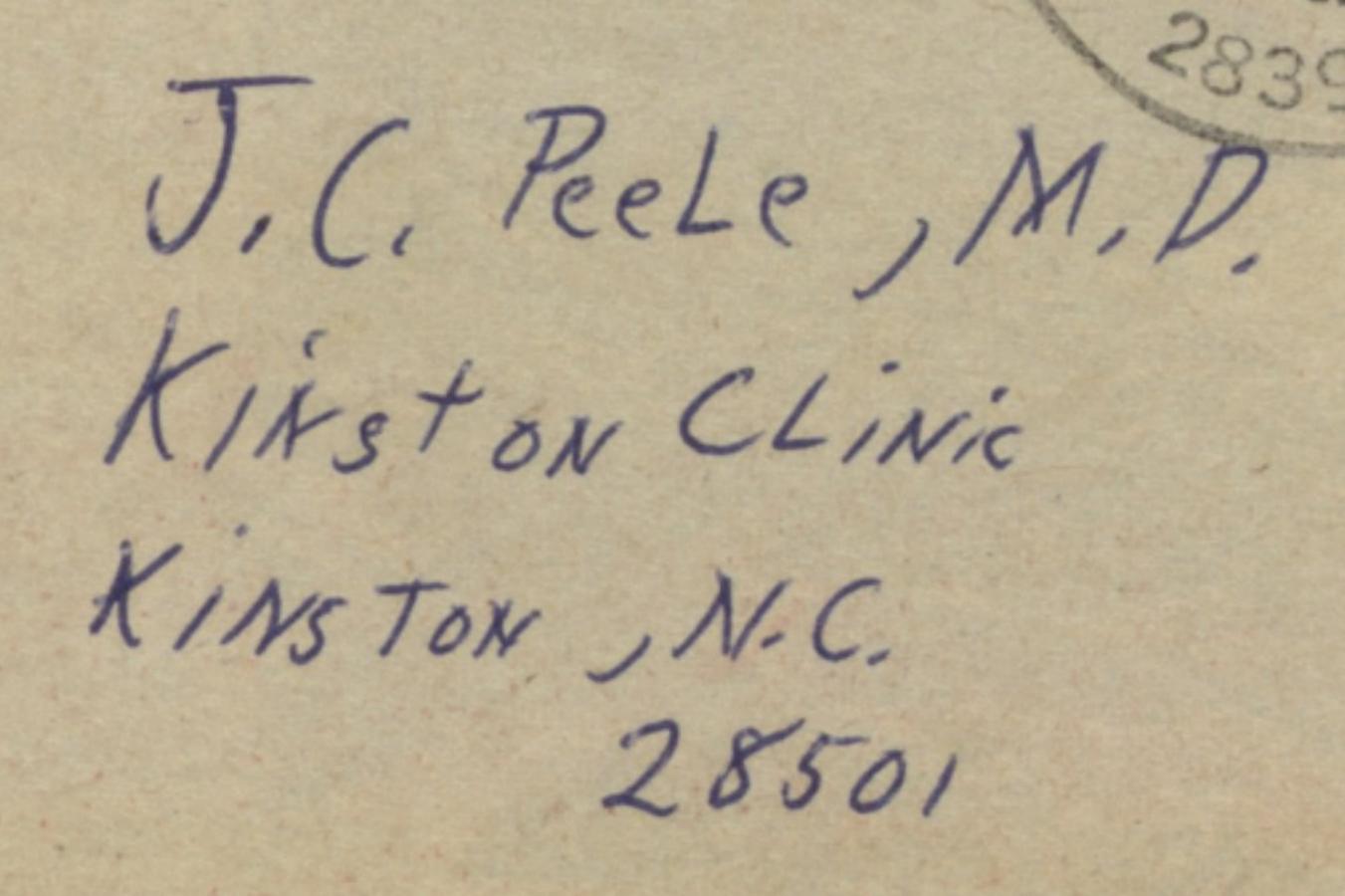
DON'TLEAVETHEROOMDON'TLEAVETHEROO

SMASH

IMPERIALISM



BRAGG BRIEFS P.O. BOX 437 Spring Lake, NC



Page 8 SUBSCRIBE

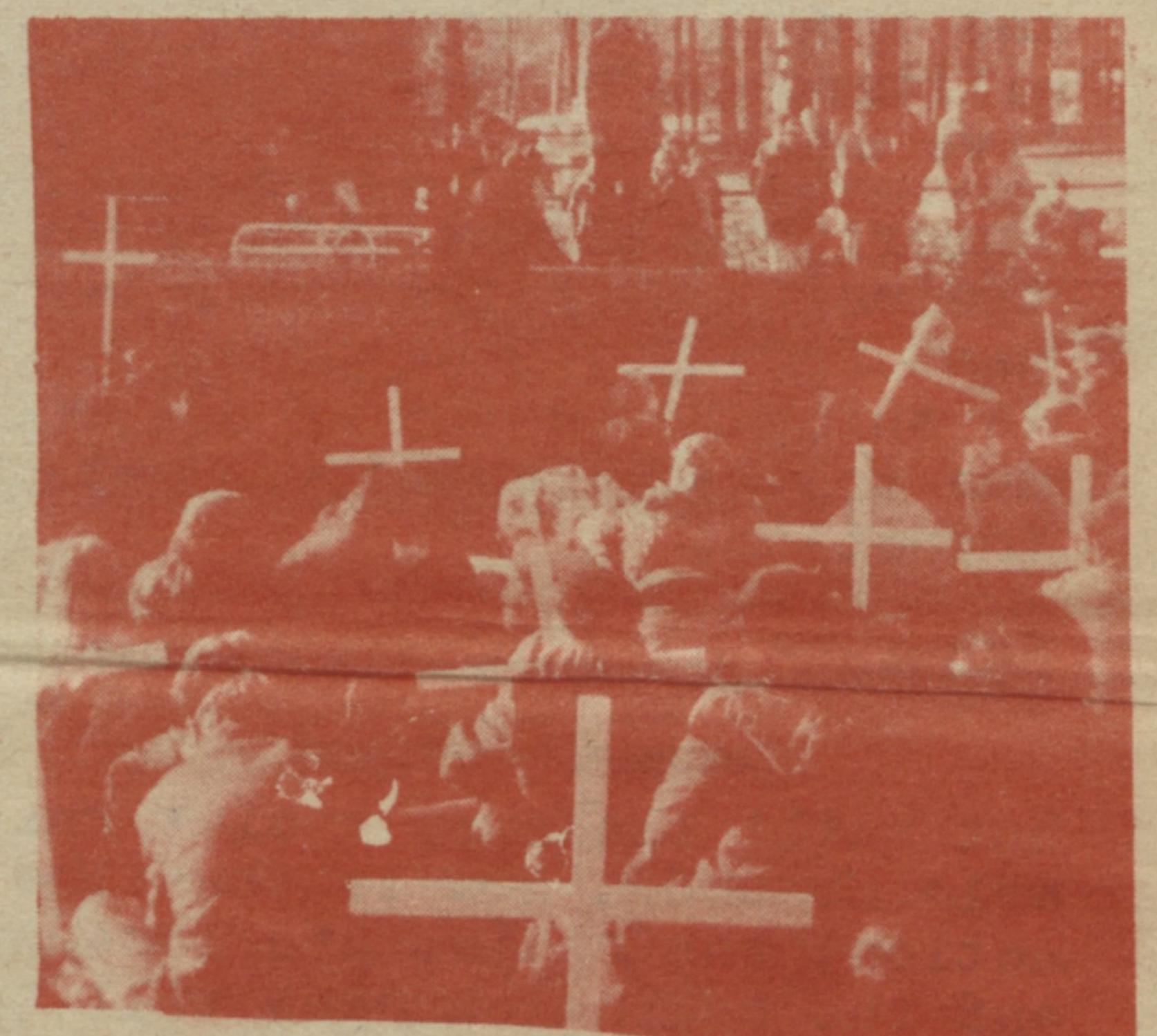
Since there is a tremendous shortage of truth in literature for GI's, students, and concerned civilians in the Fayetteville-Ft. Bragg-Spring Lake area, Bragg Briefs has unfurled its banner for the purpose of establishing responsible alternatives to the current military system by publishing the news of truth, the events of a new "awokening" in order to expose the oppressiveness of the present system and to provide a public forum for the opinions of its readers.

For those who would like to receive Bragg Briefs, mail for your subscription today! Send your name and address to:

> GI's United Box 437 Spring Lake, N.C.

To help mailing costs, the following donations:

> pl Active Duty GI's 3 Students \$5 Civilians



We Will Bury You!

Quote by: 1. Richard M. Nixon 2. Nikita S. Khruschev

Bragg Briefs is published by:

GI'S UNITED Against the War in Vietnam P.O. Box 437 Spring Lake, N.C. 28390

Letters to the Editors are encouraged.

EDITORIAL BOARD

ACTIVE DUTY GIS: Richard A. Yahr-JFK Center, David G. Shulman-USAGTC, David O'Brien-USATCI, John I.B. Vail-USATCI, James Seiler-SAAFC, David J. Wachter-50th Sig, J. Spooky Gerlat-12th Spt, Bill Fossat-JFK Center, Harold Price-JFK Center, William Carothers-12th Spt, Frederick Penn-50th Sig, |Walter Guntharp-35th Sig Gp., Jim Parish-50th Sig.

|CIVILIAN: Aaron Means(PFC-ret), Dean Holland(SP4-ret), Allen | Halllmark(SP5-ret), Bruce Paterson(SP4-ret)

Additional Poems by "The Mail"