UP AGAINST THE BULKHEAD

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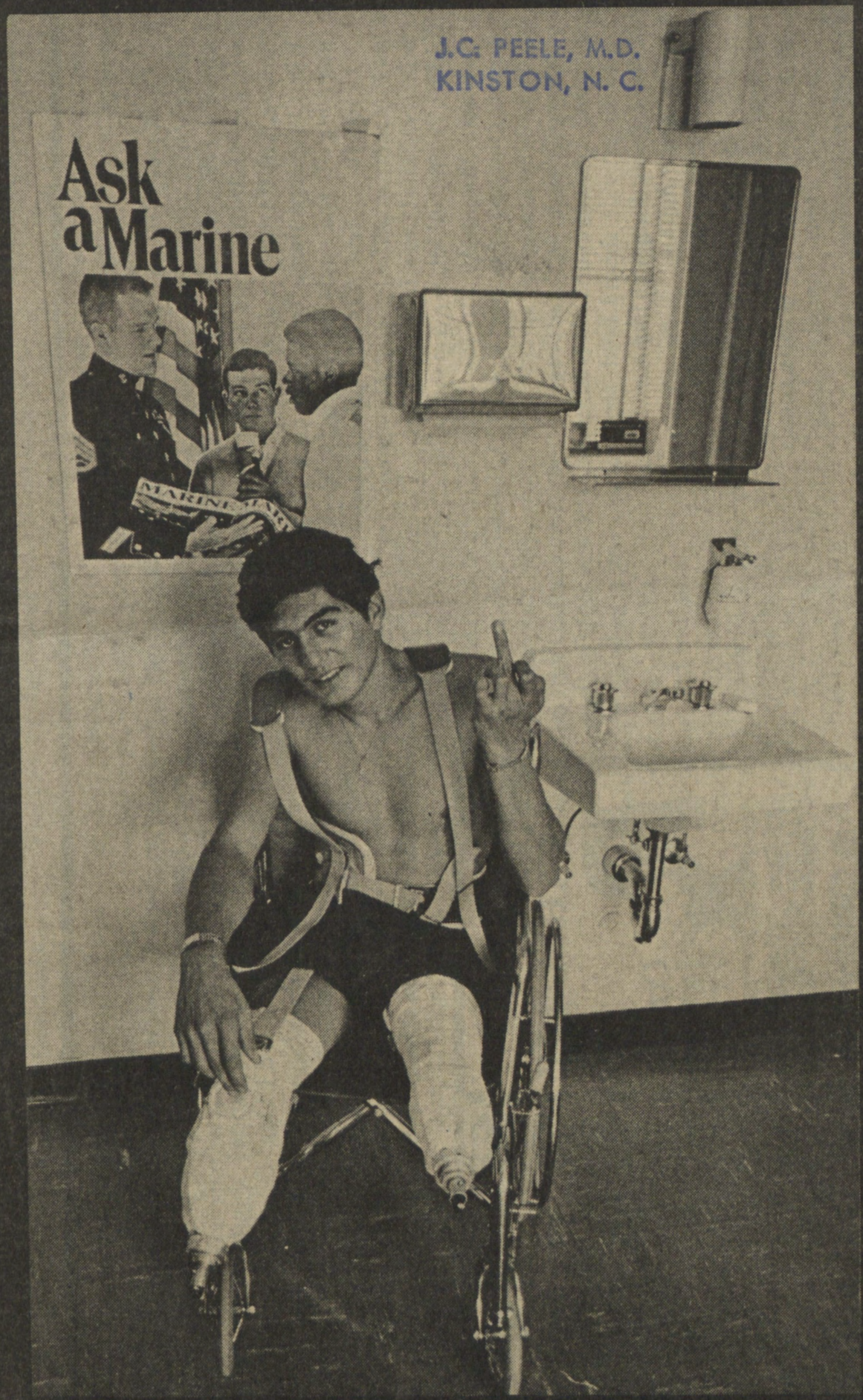
Left Wing



PRISONERS OF WAR 1

J.C. PEELE, M.D.
KINSTON, N. C.

JOHN SWEENEY

John M. Sweeny, 21, arrived in Stockholm, Sweden, August 25 of this year. For 17 months he had worked with the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese. The Marine joined the Viet Cong in February 1969 when he was abandoned by his unit after becoming seriously ill with malaria.

On his arrival in Sweden, Sweeny denounced the U.S. involvement in Vietnam and said he had not been a prisoner of the Viet Cong but "one of them." The Marine Corps had listed him as missing in action and had promoted him to sargent.

"I took part in their propaganda war," he told United Press International. "I asked for permission to take part on the battlefield, but they wouldn't let me because I was ill."

WEST BABYLON

On August 31 Sweeny was visited by his parents who live in West Babylon, N.Y. Within a couple of hours of seeing them he was on a plane headed for the U.S. The details of his unexpected departure are clouded in mystery. Upon arriving in America he was placed in St. Albans Naval Hospital, Queens, N.Y. According to a Marine Corps spokesman he was given a "thorough physical and the normal debriefing conducted in cases of this nature." His military status during the two months he was in the hospital for the "debriefing" was that of a returned prisoner of war.

SAM DOUBLE DEALS JOHN

On November 5 the Marine Corps announced in Washington that Sweeny had been charged with desertion, aiding the enemy and abandoning his weapon in the presence of the enemy. The charges carry a possible death penalty. The date of the trial has not been set yet.

Sweeny was aware of the danger he faced if he returned to the U.S. At a press conference in Hanoi held just before he left for Sweden he said this:

"If I went home directly, the U.S. government would put me in a military prison for a very long time. Being in prison does not scare me, because I went through that during my training. I want to become active and I fear I would not be active in a military prison."

DO NOT FEED THE CHILDREN

Sweeny had no contact with the American movement when he was sent to Vietnam as a private in February, 1969. He was stationed near Hue with M Company, 9th Regiment, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

"My first assignment in Vietnam reinforced greatly my slight anti-war feelings. I was assigned to a convoy security company on Highway 9 in Northern Quang Tri province.

While on operation, I was able to see children standing by the sides of the road begging for food. And outside Cam Lo which is a rear concentration camp for the national minorities I saw a sign which read: 'Do not feed the children.' It began making me wonder if the U.S. government and the Saigon Puppets consider the people of Vietnam as animals. The only place where I had ever seen such a sight was in a city zoo.

After a few days I became sick with malaria. Instead of being sent to the rear, I was ordered to carry twice as much equipment and then brutally beaten by my company commander who later tried to kill me.

After that I decided I was not going to move any more, and he (the captain) decided to leave me in the jungle to die and report me as 'missing in action.'

Sick with malaria, Sweeney spent five nights and four days in the jungle sout of Hue with no food and very little water.

"Before I came to Vietnam I had heard of an American GI who had crossed over to the side of the National Front for Liberation. He was and Afro-American and his name was Mackingly Nallan. When I was in the jungle alone, I decided never to return to the U.S. armed forces again. I started to search for the liberation forces."

THE CURE

Some time later Sweeny met two members of the Viet Cong who carried him back to their base. He was given much needed medical treatment and food.

Sweeny said GIs are told that if they are ever captured, even when unarmed, they would either be killed or tortured. This is not true, he said at the press conference.

"I have been living with the Vietnamese people for 17 months. There have been many things that impressed me. The first thing was that the Vietnamese people consider me as a friend, and they know that their enemy is not the people of the U.S. but their real enemy is the warmongering government in Washington.

NO LIFERS IN NLF

"Also the relationship between the men and officers of the liberation forces impressed me very much. There was mutual love and respect between the men and officers. That is something that does not exist in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"One thing I learned by living among the people of Vietnam is the high esteem in which they hold the South Vietnam National Front. During my trip to the North I was able to see the heavy damage inflicted on North Vietnam by the U.S. Government. It made me angry and ashamed. Seeing the damage, I was ashamed to be an American. I feel personally that making children beg food by not feeding them is a crime in itself. Before Operation Dewey Canyon I was given a briefing. I was told: 'When you are going and you see anything move, you are to shoot at it and ask questions later.' And I asked: 'What if it is a child or an unarmed person in front of us,' and I was told 'Shoot and ask questions later.' "

STORY VERIFIED

Sweeny's account of how he was abandoned by his unit commander has been verified by Craig Thomas who was in the same platoon. Thomas, now a civilian living in Chester, West Virginia, told the Associated Press he was in the rear area on the day Sweeny was abandoned but learned on the incident and later "told the the whole story to an investigating officer." Thomas said he had heard rumors that the commander had been reduced in rank from captain to second lieutenant.

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MICHAEL MAYNARD

Michael Maynard, along with four other Marines, resisted the military back in April of 1969. Mike had been serving time on a desertion conviction at the Third Marine Amphibious Forces Brig in Vietnam. On April 21, 1969, he escaped from a working party with another prisoner, Ron Rouse. The same day they met Pat Burns and Dave Leibold who had also escaped earlier and Les Stewart who was AWOL.

They were given shelter by Vietnamese civilians in the village of Hoa Phat. On April 28, a nearby ammunition dump exploded, causing considerable damage to the village. On the following day, while going through the area to see whether they could be of any assistance to the people following the explosion, Maynard and his four companions ran into a Marine Security Patrol headed by a Sgt. Lantz. Burns and Stewart tried to talk to them asking to let them go. The rest of them said nothing. Stewart stated that they wouldn't let themselves be takne without a firefight. Lantz finally said they could go, but to leave one of their weapons as another patrol was on its way and he needed something to show that his patrol had apprehended the "fugitives".

Stewart surrendered his M-16 and two extra magazines. Lantz said they could go. The two shook hands and Stewart and the others turned around and took off in what Maynard later described as a "jogging trot". After they had gone about 20 yards the patrol fired at their backs. They never said halt. Rouse was wounded in the shoulder, and Stewart was hit four times in the legs and later died on May 1. Everyone was captured with the exception of Burns who turned himself in the next day.

CHARGED,UNCHARGED,& KIDNAPPED

Before their trials, many of the original charges were dropped. But the charges against them still contained mutiny, escape from confinement, resisting apprehension, conspiracy to resist apprehension, and unauthorized absence.

Maynard requested a civilian attorney. His military lawyer, Captain Lanier, said he would write a couple of lawyers stateside he knew and ask if they wanted to take the case. Slightly after this request Maynard was advised that charges had been dropped against him. He was transferred to El Toro, California for his discharge. Here he was placed in the brig, since he still had nine days to go on his previous desertion conviction. The brig officer and brig warden assured him he was going to be attached to spearations to receive his BCD.

Finally his release pay arrived. He was checked out and told that the brig offic er wanted to talk to him. When Mike arrived at his office three chasers were waiting. He was put in handcuffs and told he was being transferred to Treasure Island, San Francisco. From here he was sent back to Third Marine Forces Brig in Vietnam. THE TRIAL

The other brothers involved in the case had already been tried by that time. They had all pleaded not guilty. Burns got ten years at hard labor and a DD. Rouse got 8 years and a DD. And Leibold got one year and a DD. Leibold had been found not guilty of mutiny.

Maynard and his military defense attorney, Captain Lanier, didn't get along too well. He gave Mike a choice of spending his life behind

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2DON'T KNOCK IT TILL YOU'VE TRIED IT.

USS ANDERSON

On May 26, the Richard B. Anderson, a destroyer, was scheduled to depart for Vietnam from San Diego. Its assignment was the offshore shelling of the Vietnamese coast. But while leaving port, something was added to the gears, causing one of the engines to knock out. A handful of nuts, bolts, and chains down the shaft cost the Navy $200,000.

Three men, Passmore and Roberts and Black, were somehow held responsible. They were charged with willful destruction and sabotage. All were detained stateside pending court martials. In October, Passmore was flown to Yakuska, Japan, to be aboard the Anderson for his general court martial. Fortunately, because of lack of evidence, the charges were dropped. The charges against Roberts and Black were also dropped. I imagine it'd be pretty difficult to prove someone dropped a handful of nuts or bolts or chains down a shaft and yet, it's such an easy thing to do!

COLUMBIA EAGLE

Three months before the sabotage of the Richard B. Anderson, the Columbia Eagle, a commerical munitions ship on military charter for Sttahip, Thailand, set sail from Long Beach. On board were 5000 tons of bombs and munitions, including 750 lb and 500 lb bombs, aerial bombs, and napalm.

Fortunately, the ship didn't reach its destination. On Friday, March 13, two members of the Columbia Eagle crew, Clyde McKay and Alvin Glatkowski took command of the ship and ordered the captain at gunpoint to order an abandon ship. Conseuqently, 25 members of the crew left the ship in lifeboats in the Gulf of Siam, and the remaining 13 were informed they were on their way to Cambodia where McKay and Glatkowski would seek political asylum from the neutralist Sihanouk government. After commandeering the ship for four dyas they finally anchored 8 miles off the west coast of Sihanoukville. The tw men demanded and received pay and additional money for transportation totally $992.97.

Clyde McKay, a 25-year-old mess attendant and Alvin Glatkowski, a 20-year-old steward assigned to officers quarters, had met only two days before they set sail. The hijacking plan developed under McKay's direction as the ship slowly headed for Bangkok. Glatkowski had been described by his stepfatheras a "hippie-yippie" who hated police, the war in Vietnam and the US. Mr. Hugers said, "He called the Federal government a bumch of stupid idiots. He also said he was a prisoner in this country because he asked the draft board for permission to go to Spain and they turned him down." The only thing he considered good about his stepson was that he was "outstanding in school, an awfully smart kid." But he quickly added, "He's easily led, he will believe anything anybody tells him." Kind of an ironic statement coming from the mouth of a man who just retired from twenty years in the Navy.

Both McKay and Glatkowski made it quite clear that what they had done was a protest against the war in Vietnam. Glatkowski saw the act as a revolutionary one, not a criminal one. "Morally," he said, "I believe I was 100% right." McKay stated, "We are sympathetic with the Asian people and while I'm not an authorty on the war in Vietnam, I respect the opinions of people who were authorities like Bertrand Russell and Jean Paul Sartre who said the war in Asia was genocide. I feel myself in the position of A German sailor during World War II and from the example of what the Nuremberg trials showed I feel myself guilty if I were just to comply and be a part of threatening the people of Asia. I thoght it much better to threaten by force the few people who were around the ship and prevent myself being part of a much larger scale threat against the people of Asia by delivering these thousands of napalm bombs." He said they realized they had threatened murder and been guilty of mutiny and piracy but he thought this was "on a smaller scale" than being party to "outright murders of delivering napalm bombs."

After being granted asylum in Cambodia by the Sihanouk government, the two men were joined by a 22-year-old American soldier, Cpl Larry Humphrey, who had crossed the border from the Thailand side, where he had been based. He said he had neither defec ted nor was he seeking asylum. "I hope to stay with my partners," he said, "and my heart was with them when they came to Cambodia because I too oppose the war. I don't think any of us expect self gain, it will be downhill individually all the way. But it's something we must do or we wouldn't be able to live with ourselves."

The neutralist Sihanouk government was overthrown by a military coup headed by the right winger, Lon Nol, only three days after their arrival. McKay, Glatkowski, and Humphrey became political prisoners and were put on a prison ship in the Mekong Delta. They also discovered a little later that Lon Nol was going to return the Columbia Eagle to the Americans. They had intended to destroy the ship where she was anchored if they had thought the Cambodians would have returned the bombs.

Meanwhile, on board the prison thip they asked several times for a Soviet correspondent or diplomatic courier, especially from the Soviet or Polish embassies, to come arrange asylum for them. McKay stated, "We want to leave Cambodia. There is nothing we can do from where we are now. I just con't walk down the street and go away. We are prison es. And if the US attempts to extradite us, I don't know what we'll do. If the US gets me they will sentence me to death or at least make life not worth living. I won't go back until the present form of government in the US is overthrown."

Glatkowski added, "If we go back to the United States we won't get a fair trial. They won't give us a trial. The only way to go back is with a gun. I'll go back to participate in a guerilla war." Both men attempted in July to renounce their American citizenship. But because of many legal formalities, they are still considered Americans.

In September, US officials said Glatkowski was confined to a mental hospital near Pnompenh after going on a hunger strike and complaining of hearing voices. They said he attempted suic ide in the hospital and also that he had indicated no desire to return 'home'. American embassies were considering asking for extradition for medical treatment in the US, but were concerned that the move will be criticizec as illegal extradition from a country with which the US has no extradition treaty.

In late October or Early November, two of the three men escaped. Unfortunately, press coverage was so inadequate that we still don't know which two escaped, or the condition of the third. If any of you have further information on their situation, contact us immediately. If we are actually to make our own history, then we must accept responsibility for our own people. McKay, Glatkowski, and Humphrey must be freed!

USS RANGER

The Navy has tried to cover up the fact that there was a strike on the U'S'S' Ranger last summer.

Anger, fatigue and resistance to back-breaking, murderous work schedules resulted in a brief walkout by over 200 of the 350 men in the engineering department. The huge carrier was delayed four days in San Diego by the spontaneous strike.

The RAnger carries 5,000 men and makes regular tours of duty off Vietnam. Although the sailors aren't in direct combat with the Vietnamese, it is from such ships that the deadly air raids over Indochina are carried out.

The men who service the planes and run the shop work 12, 14, 18, even 20 hours a day, many times at the arbitrary whim of their immediate commander.

The strike was part of what is a "morale problem" for the Ranger command.

The number of AWOLs and incidents of "accidents" aboard ship have prompted the captain, Joseph L. Oleman, to order captain's mast for anyone AWOL for more than eight days.

One man who was gone for 25 days was fined $213, given 30 days custody and busted to the lowest pay grade.

The severity of the sentence for what is a common violation indicates that, at least on the U'S'S' RAnger, the Navy isn't pulling together.

The crew was given three lectures on preventing "accidents" which one sailor called warnings about sabotage.

Bridles used to help launch planes of a catapult were disappearing at an alarming rate. They cost $500 each. T-bars, also used in launching, were reportedly being dumped overboard. $14,000 worth of cable, used to snatch the planes as they land, was fouled. "It happens all the time," one sailor said, "and people get away with it."

When the Ranger was in Vietnam two years ago, a cable was fouled and an $8 million Phantom jet was lost.

Of the four men listed as dead on the last Vietnam cruise, two were killed in accidents, related to the flight deck operation. One man was sucked up into the jet intake of a plane and another was blown overboard during a jet's takeoff.

In order to keep awake during the 12 hour shifts, to relax after they're over, and keep sane despite constant harrassment by officers, amny of the sailors use drugs. "You gotta do something," one man said, "because if he (the officer) gets in your system, that's just what he wants."

It all adds up to a deteriorating situation which the Navy is trying to keep a lid on. Maybe when the whole crew of over 3,000 men walk off the job we'll hear about. Until then, the ship's command and the Navy is trying to pretent that the lone Ranger is charging off into the east with all its silver bullets intact.

SPD ID

NAME

FT. ORD SPD

LAST FIRST MI

UNITY NOW!

Signature

HAIR_____

EYES_____

The brass' attempt to crush the SPD resistance has only resulted in stronger organizing activities by the GIs in SPD. They have gotten together in the last six weeks to not only write but also print from WITHIN the SPD prison three issues of their paper UNITY NOW! The following is an explanation of UNITY NOW! reprinted from the second issue:

This paper has been borne within the fence of SPD for SPD. The principle reason is to enlighten the people who are now being held in SPD.

We have roots but like anything else, we need food and help to grow and develop effectively. All we are asking is for our rights as free men in a free country. We don't want to KILL, MAIM, OR DESTROY anyone or anything.

We are the revolution, and as the revolution we must work and stand against the pigs as one. We can never let our want for freedom die. If we do, our lives will be worthless. Speak to me of how much freedom we have now, and I'll cry. It's sad how the people are so brainwashed. We have few rights now and will never have our rights unless we do something about them.

Being in SPD we have chosen life over death. By representing life and love with peace as a goal, we must learn to unite. All of mankind, be he black, white, red or yellow, must learn to collectively fight the man for true justice and freedom. We all want and need a free life in which to live and love!

Ah, downers, there's so many of them and they're so pretty, blue and red and yellow sparkling in their jolly little shining gelatin overcoats. How you want to take all of them, all the time! Perhaps even all at once! Yes, Life's such a gas when you're strung out on downers, ask any downer freak--he probably won't be coherent enough to tell you, but he'll probably make some sort of appropriate grunt or gesture feebly with one or two of his appendages--maybe he'll even start a fight! Downers have a peculiar tendency to make you loud mouthed & fucked up. Hell's Angels for example, eat lotsa downers, and they're some of the most loud mouthed, buddy-fucking, obnoxious chumps we know.

DOWNERS

Well, what did you expect me to tell you, anyway? That they build strong bodies twelve ways? I know people who couldn't put together coherent thoughts for two or three MONTHS after kicking a goof ball habit, and that was after kicking! You don't speak straight, you can hardly keep your eyes focused, your coordination falls apart, nothing you do comes out right while INSIDE, away goes your heart, away goes your liver, away go your kidneys, away, away, rotten and wasted and you can't get it back, you know. Have you seen any old barbiturate freaks around lately? If the cosmic realization you're seeking is of the variety Jimi Hendrix found, go ahead, but otherwise, stick with safe drugs like reefer, you ll be a whole lot better for it.

3 EM's Power Grows in Germany

July 4, Heidelberg. One thousand black GIs meet at the university there and form the Unsatisfied Black Soldiers (UBS). In their paper, ABOUT FACE' they write "...black people will assemble to show the world that black GIs are not satisfied. In a sense we are holding a trial...we charge UNCLE SAM with genocide, mass murder of millions of people, political murder, economic murder, social murder and mental murder. The world will be the jury. Every individual present...will serve as prosecutor."

In the four months since that meeting, brothers have been carrying out the sentence by organizing at Heidelberg. Schweinfurt, McNair, Berlin, Aschaffenburg, and Bad Hersfeld. When the word reached the White House and Pentagon, Herr Nixon freaked, and sent out his crack "racial tension investigating team," headed by Nixon's balck mouthpiece, Frank Render. GIs who came in contact with the team were left with the impression that the "investigation"was odd, to say the least. They did not sit down with EMs to discuss conditions. They came to sell a program designed to "order harmony" among the troops. Render's mission: improve the efficiency of the military.

But why is it that the Pentagon went to all that trouble? The investigation must have cost them thens of thousands of dollars. The answer in that EM solidarity in Germany--black, brown, yellow, red, and white--is almost daily proving that the command of USAREUR is made of fools and dinosaurs who, in their tyranny, ahve become inhuman and anti-human. A summary of the last month's news from Germany bares this out. Let the events speak for themselves:

FULDA: A Puerto Rican soldier, Pvt. Hernandez Rodriguez, resisted threats and intimidations from members of a KKK cell. For defending himself against these racists, he was charged with attempted murder. A white GI who hung out with some balck brothers was first beaten by KKK members, and then jailed by his commanding officer. Many brothers of all races are getting themselves together to fight the KKK elements in their own ranks and in the generals' corps.

HEIDELBERG: In August, black and white EMs met together. The black GIs, already organized into UBS, told the white EMs: "We are ready and we're moving. What about you whites? We can fight racism in isolated instances, but to get to the cause of it, the same causes responsible for the general deterioration of our country, we need you whites. What about it?" A group of whites responded, and Soldiers for Democratic Action (SDA) was formed. They now have a paper CALL UP, and are organizing successfully around local conditions at the Patton barracks.

ASCHAFFENBURG: A multi-racial group of EMs met and decided to strike because of brass harassment and lousy billet conditions. A council of room representatives was elected. They met the next Saturday evening, formulated a list of grievances, and devised an alternative to the strike: a meeting with Col. Hatch. The battalion commander agreed to set up the meeting. The colonel did come to this meeting, but as soon as he lost control, he said he had another appointment and walked out. This is the most recent information we have.

BAD HERSFELD¾ (Sept.-Oct.) This is an isolated base at the East German border in the north of the American zone. It has been the scene of mass protest before when EMs took things into their own hands. Last winter, a racist Sgt. got tossed out of a window. Two weeks ago, on Tuesday, tensions again exploded when

PFC. Brown, a black EM, was manhandled by some Sp/5s and a racist Sgt. A brother, Sp/4 Barnett, was nearby when Pfc. Brown was messed with. Barnett made a point of carefully observing the Sp/5s' and the Sgt's behavior.

The next day, an unrelated but similar incident occurred when a guy out of uniform provoked a fight with Sp/4 Clark. The un-uniformed guy turned out to be a lieutenant. EMs broke up the fight and demanded that the Battery Commander (BC) put the lieutenant in the stockade. The BC told the EMs to go through the chain of command. The EMs said no. The BC then called the then called the Sgt. of the guards. When Lt. Allen saw MPs. The MPs called the OD, A Lt. Allen. And Lt. Allen five EMs coming to see him, he pulled out a gun and in his terrified conceit waved it around screaming, "I can stop you!" The EMs disarmed the ridiculous lieutenant just when the Sgt. of the guards appeared. So the Sgt., obviously a John WAyne fan, pulled out his pistol and shot several times through the ceiling (what if some brother were sleeping directly above him?). Faced with another madman, the EMs quickly and effectively disarmed the Sgt. When post commander Howitz appeared, overyone split.

Now all EMs--black, white Puerto Rican, and Mexican-American--were together demanding that Lt. Allen be sent to the stockade. When Commander Howitz did nothing, three EMs themselves took command and escorted Lt. Allen to the Frankfurt stockade, locked him up, and returned to Bac Hersfeld.

When they got back on Thursday, they found that Sp/4 Barnett, the guy who watched Pfc. Brown's incident, had been arrested for assaulting an NCO. The next day, thrity brothers went as a group to different orderly rooms to ask questions about this and other instances of racial discrimination. The officers were so paranoid that the First Sgt. hopped in his car and drove away, and the battalion commander left the orderly room to lock himself in the S2 bay.

About 50 men from the entire kaserne went on a sitdown "no work" strike until the issues of the past few days would be resolved. On Saturday, Colonel Howe of V Corp, Fulda, came to Bad Hersfeld and held a meeting in the gym. Not too much came from that meeting. Since then, things have quieted down. Many people have been burned with ARticle 15s. Others have been transferred. Four EMs were court-martialed. Sp/4 Barnett was one of them. If the brass at Bad Hersfeld thinks they've seen trouble, they haven't seen nothing yet. Compiled from THE NEXT STEP'

talks was lack of information on POW's, and complaints about the "standards of treatment". This from the representative of the US whose forces have standing orders not to take prisoners except for a few of those who will be tortured for information and then slaughtered. Then Bruce had the gall to add that the US policy is to ensure that the South Vietnamese people decide their own future "free of the use of force and the threat of force from whatever quarter."

Duc, manager of Saigon's Morning News, confirms the new Eight Point PRG program and states that only the presence of the US occupation army prevents the establishment of a government in Saigon representing the people of South Vietnam.

And it seems that the US occupation army is going to be around for some time when one considers Nixon's so called Peace Proposal. In contrast to the widely supported PRG plan, Nixon's Five Point Plan offered on October 7, far from being a peace initiative, is a complete farce. This can be seen upon the simplest examination.

Nixon's Lies 4

Nixon's first point proposes a standstill cease fire. This is ridiculous. As a spokesman for the DRV pointed out, "This is not a conventional war. Despite all thier efforts, the Americans have never succeeded in establishing a battlefront. It is a people's war in which Nixon's concept of a ceasefire is impractical." A Nixon type standstill cease-fire would force the NLF to expose their positions in the contested areas and to be wiped out by the vastly superior US firepower under the guise of "suppressing terrorism" provided for in the Nixon plan. A cease-fire in the absence of US withdrawal would amount to suicide or surrender, the choice resting on the tender mercies of Thieu, Ky, Kiem, and Nixon. As Mme. Bihn pointed out, "A true cease-fire can only go into effect when the US halts its aggression, withdraws all its armed forces and those of its allies and repudiates the Thieu-Ky-Kiem regime so that the South Vietnamese can settle their own affairs."

In Nixon's second proposal he calls for an Indochina conference which must be seen as another attempt to downgrade the importance of the Paris Peace Talks and divert attention away from the PRG Eight Point Initiative; as well as an indication of US preparation for an even longer involvement--since the task of organizing it, let alone the pace at which discussions would proceed would be time consuming.

Nixon's third point concerning troop withdrawals only shows again the US intention to continue present policy of transferring ground fighting to ARVN mercenaries under closer US supervision while the US military continues the bombing and strafing of the Vietnamese population. Furthermore, when Nixon talks about troop withdrawals he means mutual troop withdrawals which both the PRG and NLF, from the first days of the Paris Conference have strongly refuted. The concept that Vietnamese should withdraw from Vietnamese soil as a counterpart to US withdrawal from Vietnam is absurd.

Nixon's fourth point dealing with a "political settlement" of the war means maintaining Thieu, Ky, Kiem, and Nixon's opposition to a coalition government and an insistence that elections (if there are any) be carried out by Thieu, Ky, and Kiem. How would Nixon have reacted if the PRG had demanded exclusive rights to organize the elections in the south?

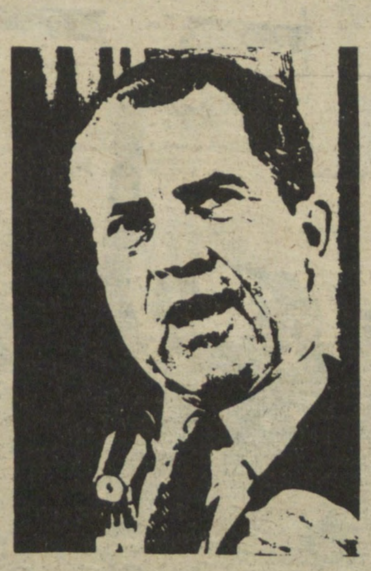
And finally, there is Nixon's last point demanding the "immediate and unconditional release of all POW's held by both sides" but he neglects to mention that US troops are ordered not to bring back prisoners. They shoot them instead. Also in all wars until now, freeing of POW's has always taken place after agreement on the cessation of hostilities which is precisely what Nguyen Thi Bihn proposed at the September 17 sessions of the talks.

Needless to say the reaction to Nixon's "peace" plan was negative and rightfully so. In Hanoi on October 12, DRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trihn sharply condemned the Nixon plan, which he described as "aimed at forcing the peoples of Incochina to lay down their arms, accept American occupation, and accept American neo-colonialism This is the content of a Pax Americana' an agressor's peace, a peace with slavery. It is nothing but a piece of trickery." He also warned Nixon and his allies that "No force, no pressure, no demagogy can force the Vietnamese people from pursuing the correctness of their struggle. If the US imperialists prolong this war against the peoples of Indochina, the Vietnamese people...are determined to intensify their struggle in the military, political, and diplomatic fields and to wage their resistance war until total victory".

From Nixon's position shown through Ambassador Bruce in Paris, one can conclude that Nixon is preparing for an extremely long stay in Indochina and has no interest whatsoever in a negotiated settlement. His Five Point Plan completely ignored the popular realistic Eight point peace initiative of the PRG. Our fearless leader Nixon is going all the way for a military victory without regard to the wishes of the people of Vietnam or the majority of the American people.

unfamiliar with the CIA's relationship to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, MACV, the National Security Council, and Nixon's Washington Special Action Group, we may have no way of knowing the real political intentions of the CIA in this case.

Where the American government goes now from this open admission of defeat is the real question. A together GI civilian movement at the end of World War II brought the boys back home. It was called the Back Home Movement. Maybe it's time for that again. Don't let Nixon decide for you. You decide for Nixon.**COME BACK HOME**



FLASH!

While we go to press, we learn of Nixon's grandiose attempt to free American POW's which was obviously a coverup of his escalation of the war by resuming the bombing of the North.

Nixon's alternatives were either allowing withdrawal to proceed which means the crumbling of the Saigon Govt. or once again giving into military pressuring. In the past this has meant 1. the bombing of No. Vietnam, 2. the bombing of Haiphong and 3. the invasion of Cambodia. All have failed!

This time his only option for escalation aside from using nuclear-atomic land-mines was resuming the bombing of the North. Full coverage will be given in the next issue.

Paris & The Truth

Since the beginning of the Paris Peace Negotiations the US government has given the impression that it is more than willing and eager to negotiate a peace settlement while the "other side" is extremely unreasonable. The hard,cold facts tell a different story. The US government is constantly degrading, stalling and diverting attention away from the talks and then blaming the slow progression on the enemies' "unreasonableness",

Certainly the National Liberation Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam are firm and cautious in their negotiations, and for good reason, but this does not mean they are unreasonable. Their battle is a battle for national survival, they are fighting in defence of their own country and people against the intrusion of the world's powerful military machine. Furthermore, their past experience with international settlements of Indochinese affairs (such as the Geneva Accords, to which the US government gave no credence and instead supported and encouraged a separatist Saigon government) leave them understandably wary of further agreements. The NLF-PRG's "unreasonable" position at Paris can be simply stated--Vietnamese alone should determine Vietnamese affairs.

The US government's false willingness for a negotiated settlement is easily shown by its demand that the present Saigon government of Thieu, Ky and Kiem or some twin must dominate the future of South Vietnam. This demand is equivalent to insisting on a continuing American voice in the affairs of Vietnam since Thieu, Ky and Kiem are supported solely by the US' Ngo Cong Duc (manager of Saigon's largest newspaper *Tin Sang* (Morning News) while in Paris explained that his and other Saigon newspapers had been seized or suspended because they all have "taken a stand against the US" which is the position "of the South Vietnamese people." "The Moment has come" he continued, "when not only NLF supporters but the entire South Vietnamese people are rising up against the US and generals Thieu and Ky." Duc was representing views of the parliamentary opposition, Catholics, The United Buddhist Church, the Movement of Wounded Vets and the Student's Union of Saigon and Hue, among other groups. Duc stated "At the present the Thieu government severely represses all opposition movements. Several hundred students were taken to military training camps, the president of the Student Union of Saigon-Hu is in prison. All are subjected to the most savage kinds of torture." His conclusion was that the "US is trying to transform Vietnam into an American type society...to Americanize the Vietnamese, to turn Vietnamese into foreigners in their own country...US is not looking for peace, but rather forcing the Thieu government to try to achieve military victory." Thieu seized the issues of *Tin Sang* carrying the text of Duc's statements and threatened to arrest him when he returned to Saigon. It's a measure of Thieu's isolation that this did not deter Duc's immediate return. Public protest over the threat has been so great that Thieu has not yet dared to arrest Duc.

Given this background it is possible to evaluate the recent proposals put forth at the Paris negotiations. The PRG's Eight Point Peace Initiative presented by Mme Bihn on September 17, 1970 in Paris is the only realistic basis for peace in Vietnam in the forseeable future. The cornerstone of this proposal is acceptance by the US of the principle of total US military withdrawal by a reasonable and specified date. While the PRG set this date at June 30, 1971 (clearly inspired by the McGovern-Hatfield amendment) they have indicated that the date is subject to negotiation as long as *some* date is set. If the US accepts this principle, immediate steps could be taken to safeguard US troops during the withdrawal period and talks to effect the release of US POW's could begin. If Nixon really intends to get out of Vietnam as he insists all he has to do is set the date and the shooting could stop.

Another significant point of the PRG's plan is the proposed inclusion in a provisional coalition

IT'S A LOT OF TALK.

government of "personalities of differing political and religious tendencies, including those who live abroad for political reasons." The NLF has fought for ten years not to impose its policies on the South Vietnamese but to insure Vietnamese self determination. Saigon and Washington have continually tried to obscure this issue but now Mme Bihn has again brought out the truth of the matter in her September 17 statement.

Even though the PRG's proposal covered realistically the main themes, the US delegation at Paris has been hammering away at it for over twenty-eight months(security of American troops, the question of POW's, and self determination for the South Vietnamese people). US Ambassador David Bruce, head of US delegation to Paris Conference on Vietnam, quickly dismissed the proposal as "nothing new", shocking the diplomatic corps as well as editorial writers in the US and Europe. All Bruce could find to talk about at the September 25

CIA Admits Defeat! Nixon Eats Shit

For a long time now, movement newspapers, Congressional liberals, and highly respected international journalists have claimed that the Saigon government of Thieu-Ky has nothing in common with the Vietnamese people. Well, this claim is now supported by a month-old CIA intelligence report on the presence of NLF cadre within all levels of the Saigon government. The top secret report which found its way into the hands of New York Times reporter Neil Sheehan, systematically demolishes the mythical "encouraging signs" Nixon sees in Vietnam. Below we've summarized the CIA's findings.

*30,000 agents, most of them natives of South Vietnam, are spread throughout the ARVN, the Saigon police, Saigon's various intelligence agencies, and the government machinery itself.

*During the 18 months of the survey, only 348 ARVN soldiers reported they had been contacted by the NLF, even though hundreds of thousands of approaches had been made. This happens because only the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam (PRG) has the true sympathies of the people.

*US and Saigon agents have had little success in penetrating the NLF infrastructure. So this results in a permanent imbalance in tactical military intelligence. The NLF usually knows ahead of time what Washington and Saigon have planned. But NLF plans are well-kept secrets. One example is the failure of Project Phoenix, a US attempt to uncover and destroy the NLF cadre and its political apparatus. It flopped because Saigon agents are known by the NLF well in advance of their appearance.

*The 20,000 full-time organizers inside the South Vietnam Army (ARVN) are busy turning on ARVN 's to the NLF program, helping ARVN soldiers desert, and occasionally eliminating gung-ho officers despised by their men. Agreements are also worked out between ARVN and NLF units not to attack each other.

The elected village council in a supposedly 'pacified' district were all members of the NLF. Here's how that happened. It seems that Saigon had an amnesty program last year for those 'defecting' from the NLF. Many of those (and there were 50,000 last year alone) became 'legalized cadre' in pacified districts. There's no way to tell how many were infiltrators. Likewise, there's no way to tell how many people changed sides because of contacts with infiltrators.

Thieu's special assistant for political affairs, a National Assembly deputy, two Army majors, the assistant chief of ARVN counter-intelligence, the chief medical officer of the national police, a province cheif, a former deputy policy cheif of Hue, a chief of Army communications in Dalat, and the chauffeur for the commanding general of the army corps are all named by the CIA as being NLF contacts.

*Obviously, a different kind of Vietnamization is taking place than Nixon had in mind. But why then was this report released if it undermined the entire US operation? There are several possible answers. First, the US government may be preparing to oust the Thieu-Ky regime as it did with Diem in 1963. Once ousted, Nixon would simply replace the old tyrants with new ones.

Another possibility would be that Nixon has accepted an american defeat in Vietnam, and is in the process of saving face by transferring the blame for this defeat to the Thieu-Ky regime. In other words, if Vietnamization were their responsibility, it was their fault if they blew it, not ours. This second alternative would also mean that the American government has given up Vietnam and Laos, and has shifted its holding line south to Thailand, hoping to consolidate its counter-insurgent activities in Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia, and Thailand.

A third possibility is that this is to become a justification for moving from limited war to lightening war using tactical nuclear weapons on Hanoi, Haiphong, and the Red River Dam. If Nixon's ear has become sympathetic to the whisperings of the most right wing anti-communist vultures who sit at his table, if Nixon has decided that his destiny is to rival Ceasar and Napolean, if Nixon desires to become a greater general than his former boss, Dwight D. Eisenhower, then Nixon will re-Americanize the war on this new level. If you think this is far-fetched, then crank back 25 years. The United States is the only government ever to have used atomic weapons in war.

A fourth possibility is that the CIA released this report in order to affect future policy decision on the war. Because the report details the failings of the CIA - inspired projects like Project Phoenix, they may have also been trying to cover their asses by pointing out the sheer impossibility of the task. Because we are

J.C. PEELE, M.D.
KINSTON, N. C.

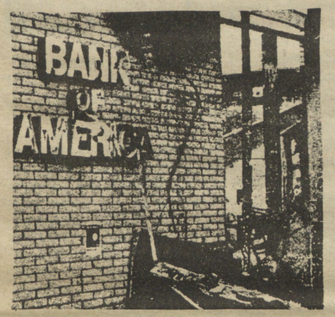
Make Your Own History! 6

FITTING THE PART INTO THE WHOLE . . . fitting our part into the whole

In Case You Missed the Last Three Months

Fort Dix (July 25) - Although this event occurred five months ago, we feel it is important enough to mention here in case you haven't caught the good word yet. On that Saturday, Dix's 900 man Special Processing Battalion (SPB) went on strike. Demands were taken to the men's commanders which addressed themselves to the poor living conditions, police harassment, and lack of black judges and lawyers. As usual, the commanders, rather than address themselves to the issues at hand, threatened the spokesman of the group. That night fires rose to the sky over SPB. All Colonel Bedwell could say two days later was ,"If you don't like the conditions at SPB go AWOL."

The next day, Bedwell fabricated charges of inciting to riot and slapped them on ten black soldiers. The next day he changed his mind, dropped the first charges, and re-charged the same men with robbery. Pre-trial motions are being made, and last we heard, Pvt Poindexter and Sp/4 Collins will be the first to go to trial.



Fort Ord (Aug 12) - Inhuman living conditions, constant police harassment, and finally the beating of two SPDers by MPs caused the captives of SPD to retailiate. MPs were greeted with a barrage of rocks. When the MPs called in a fire truck to douse the brothers, and they responded accordingly, setting fire to two messhalls after chlearing out the food and distirbuting it among the inmates? two messhalls after clearing out the food and distributing it among the inmates. Guys came from all over the base to participate in the luau.

The following day, the charred timbers were cleared away as the Army's bookkeepers figured the loss at $175,000. Since no base commander can suffer this kind of loss without apprehending those guilty of the deed, Gen Davidson threw the same of all SPD inmates in a hat and came up with the names of Porter and Goodpasture and Robinson. On the basis of one man's statement, he charged them all with conspiracy to arson. Not too much later the guy whose statement formed the basis of those charges were dropped, all three men were transferred. Porter and Robinson were shipped to Ft. Lewis, and Goodpasture pulled a single levy to Nam. May fires burn brightly wherever life may find our three adventurers.

Virginia (Aug 27) - A federal court ruled on this day that the Army must show the courts which antiwar artic les it objected to and why the distribution of an underground paper by GIs ". . . constituted a clear danger to the loyalty, discipline, and morale of . . . military personnel." This is really the first time the courts have challenged a commanding officer's power in a First Amendment type case. The decision came on an appeal by GIs at Bragg, who're exhausting all legal means of trying to distribute their paper, BRAGG BRIEFS, on base. But they are not expecting a sympathetic decision on this appeal, since the same court just weeks before upheld a lower court decision which denied Ft. Jackson GIs the right to hold anitwar meetings on post.

Los Angeles (Aug 29) - More than 5000 chicanos, Mexican-Americans, marched against the war in the nation's largest barrio (brown ghetto). When the march reached a park, the LA cops suddenly went wild in a frenzy of clubbings, tear gas, and pistol shots. At least one man, Ruben Salazar, a prominent Spanish language newsman, was killed when a cop fired a tear gas grenade at his head. Reports claim as many as five died.

Chile (Sept 4) - Marxist Salvador Allende was elected to be head of state. He promises sweeping reforms for the people of Chile. One of his first acts was to give free milk daily to people under 15 years of age.

Valley Forge (Sept 7) - a 125 man unit of Vietnam vets and active duty GIs staged a successful search and destroy mission, clearing the road from Morristown, New Jersey, to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania of enemy forces. They called it 'Operation RAW', short for Rapid American Withdrawal. The operation lasted four days and included ambushes, apprehension of VC-sympathetic villagers, and KIA's. Actors from a Philadelphia theater group took the place of Vietnamese.

Regular people along the route didn't know how to handle the scene. "It shocked people beyond belief that this was actual policy in Vietnam," said Cragi Scott Moore, one of the organizers of the action. Many townspeople didn't even believe that the GIs were Vietnam vets.

Their leaflet read, "A US infantry company just came through here. If you had been Vietnamese we migh t have burned your house. We might have shot your dog. We might have shot you. We might have raped your wife and daughter. We might have turned you over to the government for torture. . . . Help us to end the war before they turn your son into a butcher or a corpse." The guerilla people's company eventually joined a march of 2000 people who marched in a rally calling for an end to the war in Indochina.

Philadelphia (Labor Day weekend) - Ten thousand people, most of them young, jammed the North Philadelphia ghetto community. It was the first large scale meeting of American revoluionaries called the 'Revolutionary Peoples Constitutional Convention Plenary Session.' GIs were present. This is the beginning of the writing of a new constitution for the people of the US.

Amman, Jordan (Sept 12) - Palestinian guerillas blew up three hijacked planes worth $24.6 million after freeing the last of the hostages aboard. Planes had been hijacked earlier in the week. Action was taken to liberate Palestinian guerillas held in West Germany and Israel, and also to call the attention of the people of the world to the Palestine problem.

San Luis Obispo, Calif (mid-Sept) - Timothy Leary of LSD fame excaped from a minimum security prison with the aid of Weathermen.

New Orleans (Sept 14) - Several hundred police, accompanied by helicopters and an armored car, attacked the barricaded office of the local National Committee to Combat Fascism (NCCF). The group is an organizing arm of the Black Panther Party.

Toledo (mid-Sept) - 50 police raided the city's Panther headquarters. They shot out windows, shot two Panthers and a 16 year old man-child. A policeman was killed earlier in the evening and police blamed it on the Panthers.

Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas (Sept 17) - Terry Klug, an organizer for the American Serviceman's Union (ASU) was released from the Army after serving half of a three year prison term for deserting from the Army rather than obey orders to serve in Vietnam. Klug was involved in the Ft. Dix stockade rebellion last year where he was imprisoned after returning to the US from France.

New Haven, Conn. (Sept 18) - Lonnie McLucas of the New Haven Panther chapter, was sentenced to 12 to 15 years on the charge of conspiracy to murder.

Copenhagen, Denmark (late Sept) - For five days, between 3000 and 6000 demonstrators fought police in street battles on the occasion of the World Bank Conference. Barricades were made in the streets and at night, when the battles started erupting, there were fires from Molotov cocktails and phosphorous bombs all around. Several participants in the conference were wounded by rocks. There were over 50 arrests.

Chanute AFB, Illinois (September) - Chanute AP's (read 'apes', the Air Force's version of the white hats) have been playing with fire the last two months. It seems that every few days, several black or Puerto Rican airmen are rounded up, photographed, and then released. No explanations are given. Their other games include search and destroy raids on the lockers of black airmen. This usually occurs when the guy is not around. According to

the Chanute's underground paper, A FOUR YEAR BUMMER, white airmen have not yet been the victims of these provocations.

One brother who has suffered more of this racist harassment than anyone else is Timothy Demby, a black airman of the 47th Student Squadron. He was thrown in jail on fictitious charges, held for more than four dyas in the hole without clothes or soap, and then placed on base restriction pending court martial.

At the court martial on October 5 and 6, a multi-racial group of ASU brothers and civilians turned out to support Tim. They saw his lawyer, Rick Helpern, who happens to be a Marine vet, impeach five of the nine government witnesses. The Chanute JAG office is now having to consider purgery charges against their own witnesses. By the way, Tim was acquitted.

Saigon (Sept-Oct) - 1.446 youths have been forced by the police to cut their hair or have it cut by policemen.

North Chicago (Sept) - a giant party and rally was pulled off by Movement for a Democratic Military at the Naval Training Center above Chicago in spite of a pig judge who demanded a $10,000 bond, an FBI investigating team, and three unwilling companies of helicopter-borne Marines. Between 500 to a 1000 GIs and civilians jammed all afternoon with bands, guerilla theater, and speakers.

The spirit from the festival carried over to October when two dozen sailors from MDM accompanied a brother known as Yossarian who was on his way to pick up his orders for Japan. The lieutenant in the office was so freaked out at this display of solidarity that all he could do was order them all out of the office, totally forgetting to give Yossarian his orders at all.

Quebec (October 6) - James Cross, head of the British government in Montreal and the senior British trade commissioner, is kidnapped by Quebed Liberation Front (FLQ). Four days later, Quebec Minister of Labor, Pierre Laporte is kidnapped also.

The West Coast (Oct. 7) - a San Rafael court room was blown up by Weathermen. National Guard armory in Santa Barbara was bombed. In Seattle at the University of Washington, a bomb exploded at the ROTC building.

Bolivia (Oct 7) - Gen Torres leads a left-wing military coup with the support of the workers and students.

Detroit (Oct 11) - Patrolman Ronald Yedda, who in 1967 killed a black woman, shot and killed a young white worker in full view of the victim's family.

New York City (Oct 1) - Prison rebellion broke out at four NYC jails. Thousands of black, Puerto Rican, and white inmates seized control of the jails, held hostages, and radically challenged not only the prison system but the judicial system as well. Hundreds of prisoners proclaimed their willingness "to die for justice" as revolutionaries. One demand was freedom on bail for Black Panther Afeni Shakur.

Cambridge (Oct 13) - a bomb exploded in Harvard University's Center for International Affairs. The center did counterinsurgency studies connected with the Vietnam war. Action was taken by 'The Proud Eagle Tribe', a group of revolutionary women Detroit

New York City (Oct 13) - Angela Davis, black revolutionary, was arrested in connection with the kidnapping of a judge, District Attorney, and members of the jury by black prisoners who were on trial in Marin. She had evaded the FBI for about two months.

Montevideo, Uruguay (Oct 13) - Four women and five men, members of the Tupameros, a revolutionary urban group, pulled the biggest bank robbery in history, ripping off $6 million in gems and $48,000 in cash. The money was from Uruguay's Bank of the Republic.

Canada (Oct 16) - Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau invoked martial law in Canada.

Manila (Oct 19) - Clark AFB is the largest Air Force installation outside the US. An underground rag called THE WHIG is printed and distiributed by GIs calling themselves Tom Paine, Sam Adams, and Ben Franklin. Their biggest victory to date came from a page one story

about how an elite security police group known as the Red Patches were terrorizing native Philippinoes. Local Manila papers picked up the story and successfully pressured the command to disband the Red Patches. This kind of solidarity between GIs and Third World peoples is a model to be copied.

Kent, Ohio (late October) - 25 people connected with the Kent State campus have been indicted by a special Ohio State grand jury. Charges grow out of the incident which saw the killing of four students last May by Ohio National Guard on the campus.

Jackson, Mississippi (Oct 26) - Police raided and wrecked the offices of the Kadzu, the local underground paper.

Irvine, Calif (Oct 26) - On the University of California campus the Bank of America was set ablaze by arsonists. Damage was estimated at $125,000. On the bank wall, the one that was left standing, our friends had spray-painted slogans. They said, "Power to the People" and "Death to the fascist pigs".

New York City (Oct 29) - Black and Puerto Rican students tore up Morris High, turning over tables and chairs in the cafeteria. They demanded the right to set up a table with revolutionary Black and Puerto Rican literature. Students fought police with rocks and bottles. Three students were arrested.

San Jose (Oct 29) - Richard Nixon is stoned in San Jose. Democrats and liberals compare the incident to the Reichstag fire which occurred during Hitler's rise to power.

New York City (Oct 30) - The Young Lord's Party, a revolutionary Puerto Rican organization, led 10,000 people on a march to the United National Plaza. They marched in support of independence for Puerto Rico.

Folson Prison, Calif (Nov. 3) - 2100 out of 2300 prisoners begin a work strike which lasts for weeks. Support is connected with the outside, and solidarity grows beyond Folsom to Quentin and Soledad.

New York (Nov 3) - In an interview in Look magazine, Walter Cronkite, really the grand-daddy of television news broadcasting, said, "I don't worry so much about Mr. Agnew because from time immemorial we have heard politicians complaining about the way the press treats them. What I worry about is that many Americans would accept fascism and believe there is justice in it."

San Francisco (November) - Los Siete, seven Latin brothers on trial for the death of a SF city cop, were acquitted. The defense contended that the cop's partner fired the fatal shot. Lots of pressure from Bay Area people to set them free probably was in the minds of the jury when they set the brothers free.

Beale AFB, Calif (November) - Airmen at Beale have a new paper, the first of its kind from this remote Air Force Base set at the base of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Most of their first issue is devoted to the story of an airman who's a conscientious objector. They could most definitely dig hearing from people. Their address is P.O. Box 2045, Marysville, California.

Tacoma, Washington (Nov 9) - Seven men and one woman go to trial on conspiracy charges stemming out of a support rally for the Chicago 8 conspiracy.

Yosemite, Calif (Nov 12) - Six AWOL GIs escaped from an army MP wagon after overpowering the two MPs who were taking them to the Presidio. The MPs, a Sgt. Kenneth Villars and PFC Jack Young, were handcuffed to a barbed wire fence somewhere in the Sierra foothills

by these six beautiful brothers who were determined to have their freedom. Unfortunately, two of the six (Myron Perkins and Phillip Mier) went into town rather than remain in the mountainous wilderness, and they were soon caught by local police. The other four (Kenneth Parks, Steven Tuggle, Charles Adams, and Jeffery Holland) are still free. These brothers recognized the true meaning of 'power to the people'. It just means that there's more of us than there is of them

Hunter Liggett, Calif (November) - Seven M-16s and an M-50 machine gun were taken from this Army post last month. This is one in a series of many firearms rip-offs which have occurred in the Fort Ord-Hunter Liggett-San Francisco Bay Area. Judging from the circumstances surrounding each incident and from the sheer impossibility of anyone not in uniform getting within even a hundred feet of these weapons, it becomes clear that the actions were clearly staged by GIs. Wonder why it is that the military command gets more freaked when GIs make off with a few automatic weapons than when Minuteman/Bircher colonels make off with anti-tank guns, grenade launchers, flame throwers and the like?

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FT. BENNING PRISON EXPOSED 7

See you in court said the GI to the General

Eight GIs, four of them Vietnam vets, filed a civil law suit November ll against Colonel Willard Latham (commanding officer of the 197th Infantry Brigade), General ORwin C. Talbott (commanding general of Fort Benning), and Sgt. James Clark (warden of "correctional custody"). These three so-called people are responsible for setting up what the GIs at Benning call the 'concnetration camp". The facility itself is a maximum security prison for those slapped with field grade Artic le l5s. Pvt. Jose E. Acevedo spent a month in the prison last summer, and said iw was used for "harrassment" and "hard labor". Pvt. Patrick Healy did 30 days there for disobeying an order. He's quoted in THE ALLEY as saying, "We get up at 4:30 and start working--raking and digging a lot of ditches. One night I worked until 2 in the morning. The regular duty lasts until 9:30, but then most guys get two hours extra duty." The guards, Healy said, "were not ordinary NCO's. They were obsessed by orders and power--worse than any drill instructor in basic."

Dirty Toilets and Rubber Hoses

The suit itself states that (l) the men in this facility endure punishment as severe as that suffered by men who've had special and general court martials, and (2) the prison constitutes cruel and unusual punishment, and is therefore illegal according to the Constitution. The specific complaints are that guys do at least l6 hours a day of hard labor, that they're held in isolation for long periods of time, that guards verbally taunt and degrade prisoners, that the toilets are unsanitary, and that guards frequently beat prisoners with rubber hoses.

You can tell where Amerika's at when you look at Fort Benning, Georgia. Men charged with the mass murder of Vietnamese people at My Lai have the run of the base, while EMs who miss a bed check do 30 days hard labor. The public information officer at Benning said that "the corrections center is not unusual at all. From what we've heard from GIs in other military prisons, he's probably right.

Why was it built?

Col. Latham built this prison because the 3500 men of the 197th (75% are Vietnam vets) refused to put up with the usual abuses the GI is expected to suffer. Bed checks, police call, unnecessary formations, and war games are only part of the story. Our brothers in the 197th have seen the Vietnamese people fight a winning struggle for their freedom. Now that the 197th is back, they're ready to fight for theirs.

Will the Government Prosecute the Government?

Although Don Duncan (a former Green Beret who quite the Army in 1965 to protest the war in Vietnam) and the GI office, the Concerned Officers MOvement, Bennings underground paper RAP, and the eight representatives of Benning GIs, are pushing the law suit, there's barely a chance of it being decided in the enlisted man's favor. If the court action fails, the GIs, having exhausted all legal means of ending their oppression, will burn the motherfucker down. This is not a threat. It is a historical probability. Just from reading the papers we know about Fort Dix in July 1967. Fort Hood in December 1967. Fort CAmpbell in April 1968. Long Binh Jail in September 1968. Presidio stockade in October 1968. Fort Carson in April 1969. Fort Dix again in June 1969. Fort Riley in June 1969. Fort Jackson in June 1969. Mannheim, West Germany in March 1970. Iwakuni, Japan in July 1970. Again Fort Dix in July 1970. Fort Ord SPD in August 1970. Fort Lewis in Novermber 1970. In each of these places brothers in military prisons have rebelled in some way. By demonstrating. By holding a hunger strike. By organizing a work stoppage. By burning the prison down. By fighting MPs. By escaping. By refusing orders together.

If you want to examine the humanity of a society, look to its prisons. Vietnam has its Con Son tiger cages. Hitler's Germany had its Auschwitz. The U'S'A' has Cook County Jail, the Tombs, Women's Detention Center in New York, Soledad, Sing Sing, Folsom, Quentin...and its countless military prisons, brigs, and stockades. If you want to study revolution, look to society's most exploited and oppressed.

Look to its prisoners. GIs in prison are a part of this revolutionary movement. The sooner they smash their oppressors, the sooner we smash ours

LETTERS

The nature of our defense establishment makes it easy, especially for Air Force members, to make an abstraction out of the death dealing of warfare. In the narrow sense of the word, "combatant" is one who carries a firearm; so there are very few combatants in the Air Force. It is our aircraft that do the gun-carrying for us and most of us serving in the Air Force are several steps removed from the operation of airship-mounted guns and airborne bombing systems. Even those who man the sophisticated fighter-bombers are never quite face to face, in the same sense as an army infantryman is, with the enemy, the killing of whom is our mission. So it should be easier for us to make an abstraction out of killing. The pointed term killing is, in fact seldom used. Military actions are given distracting names like "search and destroy" or "reinforced protective reaction strikes." Even the overall mission is an abstraction, "The defense of freedom." I refuse to make abstractions out of the actions of war. The result of the use of armed forces is death. I have in my mind a vivid image of the young man who is the victim, as well as "the enemy" of the weapons systems carried by our aircraft. Killing is a very concrete and tangible human act performed by one man upon another. It is ultimately one of the most human acts because it's meaning is the final contrast, life and the absence of life. Military training must carefully discourage these feelings among young Americans. We who refuse to dehumanize combat actions do not make good combatfliers. We are those who go quietly out of our minds after the days mission, as our companions discuss the enemy "body count" over a beer, *back at the club.*

Joel Gaalswak, Lt. (USAF Mather)

I am a GI, I am AWOL from the United States Army. I am writing this to let some of you know what has driven me to become a fugitive and what it is like in a military prison. I spent over three months in the Fort Ord stockade as, in effect, a political prisoner. I was held in the stockade for refusing to actively support the military machine of a fascist government.

I first went AWOL from Basic Training, where I first realized what the military was trying to do to me. I have been trained to believe, conditioned really, to accept that *killing* another human being for this country is a *good and honorable thing*. Through indoctrination films, through terrorization by instructors (being terrified of anyone with two stripes or more on their arms), through the emasculation of having my head shaved, and through constant harrassment, my rage level was built up to the point where I liked watching films of people dying and being killed, *loved* to practice bayonetting dummies, enjoyed screaming "kill" as I ran--since I had to run everywhere I went.

I realized that something inhuman was happening to me, that a person, no matter how pacifistic, can be conditioned to kill and to enjoy it. I was repulsed and horrified by what was happening to me, and, at the same time, outraged that our "democratic" government can force individuals to be converted into machines of destruction. These were some of my reasons for going AWOL.

I was caught and put in the stockade. Before entering, I was examined by a psychiatrist. The report he turned said that I should not be subjected to any form of military rehabilitation, retraining, or punishment. Yet I spent 108 days in a military prison.

While I was in the stockade I saw cases of military injustice, repression, prejudice, and sadism. For instance, until one week before I left the stockade, some prisoners were refused the right to work in the stockade as orderlies (who clean up), KP's and cooks (who work in the kitchen), and as runners (calling people for appointments)--because they were black.

As for repression, people, when your mail is censored, when you cannot read newspapers, when certain books are denied you because they are "inflammatory", when you are denied your right of free speech and are kept from knowing what is going on in the world outside, then you know that you are being repressed.

As for military injustice, on February 24, a prisoner named Peter Madalena was shot while escaping to freedom. Perhaps this sounds strange, but the facts are:

1. None of the M-14 rifles are zeroed in, yet Madalena was shot.

2. The commanding general of Ford Ord has ordered that no escaping prisoner will be shot above the waist so as only to disable and not to kill escapees. Yet Madalena was shot in the back, about ¼ inch from his spine, on the left side of his body, just below his heart.

3. The guards are required to shout "Halt prisoner, halt" before they can shoot someone escaping. Yet the guard did not say anything before firing.

4. I was not allowed to try to help Madalena after he was shot even though I was only about 30 or 40 feet away; if I had helped him, I too would have been shot.

All this happened. I was there, I saw, heard, experienced all that happened because I went over the fence the same time that Madalena did.

For escaping from the stockade, I spent 18 days in the Box. The Box is maximum security quandrant of the stockade. You can be thrown in there for escaping, for refusing KP, for talking back to a guard, for just about anything really. There are twelve boxes, all measuring about 7 feet by 7 feet by 7½ feet. The rules say that only one person at a time can be placed in a box. It was not very often that we were lucky enough to have a box to ourself. It's very hard to live with someone in that small of an area, yet we were forced to , in violation of stockade rules.

At one time my roommate was a guy named Farar. He was seventeen, still a kid, really, fat, and very self-conscious. Farar was constantly victimized by the guards because he was incapable of defending himself, either verbally or physically. They taunted him while he was forced to stand at parade rest facing a wall. Sometimes he was ordered to keep his feet 3 to 4 feet away from the wall while placing his nose against it. Often, when in this unstable, indefensible position, they would grab him and twist his arms behind his back and slam him into the wall. While I was in the Box, he was sprayed with C.S. gas on four different occasions while being held down by as many as eight guards. Farar received so many physical and mental beatings that he attempted suicide. At one time, I counted as many as fifteen or twenty cuts on his arms and wrists, some as deep as an inch. He should have received psychiatric care--none was offered. Physical damage can be repaired, but what they did to his mind, and tried to do to all our minds, is irreparable and must be vindicated by changing this vicious system of involuntary servitude. Draft-age men in this country should refuse to be connected in any way with any so-called "army", and that includes Nixon's "volunteer" proposal--people must understand that armies are no longer necessary in a world where all men are brothers. Let's be serious. The next world war will be the last.

"My son tells me you're a real son of a bitch."

We have been asked what promoted Peoples Justice, the burning of the Isle Vista Bank of Amerika. Do they remember we tried to talk, tried far too long. As the first match was struck the Pigs swore they would listen, but their reply was from the 200 super pig families with the bread!

We are revolutionaries, the Straight Press calls us "flaming anarchists", they don't understand that we are the solution. When we have to live in constant fear of this Gestapo Monarchy it sometimes becomes necessary to employ anarchist tactics. The Declaration of Independance (remember that?) gives guidelines on the change of a decadent Government. I recommend reading it. I understand that Tricky Dickie is in the process of purging it as a "pinko" document, so it might be hard to come by.

Our morality is defined as non-existent, because we have no "respect" for our elders. Our morality surpasses that of the "older generation" cause we've got honesty, honesty with ourselves and honesty to each other. We have great respect for the heavy lessons they've taught us by their stupidity, mistakes we will never make. The best being how a government made by revolution by the people can be turned into an oppressive state dedicated to the repression of the people. From their politics we base our "respect".

More burning and killing is expected till justice is established, revolution continues throughout the war torn cities of babylon.

THE MILITARY FALLS NEXT!!
FREE THE GI'S
Fat Al (USMC-NAS Alameda)
ALAMEDA MDM

9 Black

The Army vs. Theoda Lester

Theoda Lester, a black GI stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington, was convicted by a general court martial on Oct 15 for refusing to cut his hair and shave his beard. He received 3 years at hard labor, total forfeiture of all pay and allowances and a DD. A few months ago a group of white Marine reservists refused to cut their hair, but the stiffest sentence received by them was 14 days hard labor.

During the trial Theoda's lawyer tried to show that Major Fersch issued the orders only to increase the punishment with full knowledge that Lester would refuse them. This would make the orders illegal. Fersch said he gave the orders in the line of duty. Theoda thought the order to be illegal, becasue it violated his First Amendment rights to free expression. The beard and hair was part of his religious expression--black nationalism. The court didn't recognize black nationalism as a religion.

Charles Drake. a black GI with five years in the Army. told the judge that many black soldiers share Lester's views. The judge cut him off saying that testimony about the beliefs of black men was irrelevant to the case. Later, the prosecutor told the court, "There should be a period of incarceration to deter others from acting in a like manner."

When Lester took the stand for the second time he talked about how he wanted to serve his people, and how the Army was restricting him. The prosecutor asked if he believed in the Constitution. He said yes. Was he aware if he believ of the clause in the Constitution to raise an Army from the citizenry?Lester said he was aware of the clause, but didn't think the government represented the people. The prosecutor asked if there weren't black people in the Selective Service Office (Theoda is from St. Louis). Lester said there were none on the draft board. The judge intervened to end this little civics lesson.

Once in the stockade, Lester still refused to shave and cut his hair, but six guards forcefully did it for him.

THE MARINE CORPS VS. CLIFF MAUSKER

At Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, California, another Black GI,Lanse Corporal Cliff Mauser, was on trial. Cliff was up on three charges. One was "loud and disorderly conduct in command" for giving a political education class on a military bus from Oceanside to Pendleton. Another was "assault" for cocking his wrist in self-defense when an MP Sears tried to forcibly remove his black unity band before throwing him in the tank. The third charge was "communicating a threat". Cliff supposedly said to Sears: "If I ever see you on the street, I'll kill you." The last two charges were thrown on him when he was passing out Black Unity papers legally on the streets of Oceanside. x In December 1969 Cliff was busted from Cpl. to L/Cpl. for being 15 days UA. When he returned from his court martial his C.O. Capt. Wilde threatened Cliff with another court martial if he didn't remove his Black Unity Band. That was the beginning of a long series of charges for disobeying a direct order to remove his Black Unity Band.

Later in December he started to dig on the local GI organization Movement for a Democratic Military (MDM), which he joined.

Because of his activities he was constantly harassed by the lifers. In January Cliff was duty NCO of a barracks and was organizing GIs at the cooks school he attended. In mid-January he was transferred from the messhall to another. This was done in order to separate him from the group of people he was becoming tight with. In February a surprise inspection was called. The brass was hoping to catch Cliff with something big. They found six Black Panther papers and this made them go wild with joy. They finally felt they had something on Cliff. Not realizing that having that literature, like any other literature, is supposedly protected by the Constitution.

In April Cliff was stopped in Oceanside for interrogation by MPs. They found five seeds in the car he was riding in and one joint so Cliff and his friends were charged with posession. When the chasers brought Cliff back to his barracks he was also charged with improper dress (wearing military khakie with civilian attire).

Then in July and August the events took place that finally enabled the brass to come up with some charges that they felt were going to stick. Considering all the time and effort it took the brass, they wanted to put him away for some time.

On the first day of Cliff's trial the military judge ruled that an order given to Cliff to take off the Unity Band was illegal.

Cliff decided to make his defense political all the way. His lawyers made several motions to get a "fair" court which resulted in a court of three--one black sargent, one white sargent, and a captain. Probably the lowest ranking court in the history of the Marine Corps.

The prosecution's case was mainly founded on the testimony of MP Sears. He wasn't very credible, however, after contradicting himself several times and revealing a record of 30 scuffles in the MP shack with other GIs during a period of several months.

The trial was recessed for a month because the judge had to go to Japan. It was to begin with the defendant's case. The case would have been a direct attack on the Marine Corps for racism. It would have also proved that Cliff was constantly harassed because he was political, and because he was listened to. During that month Black Unity Party in Oceanside, All Ready on the Left (a paper for white GIs at Camp Pendleton) and other MDM projects in Southern California planned a demonstration for the reopening of the trial. Two days after the planning meeting Cliff's charges were dropped.

THE NAVY VS. BOBBY EVANS

At Naval Air Station Alameda in the San Francisco Bay Area Marine NCO's were distributing a racist leaflet depicting a black man so positioned that he would be shot if he got an erection while watching a nude white woman posing in front of him. The leaflet was entitled "How to Eliminate the Negro Problem." How sick can a pig get to put together something like that? The Marine Corps to this day has not moved against the "artist". Yet they put a person behind bars for years just because he refused to shave and cut his hair, and they tried to do the same to another brother for wearing shoelaces (Black Unity Band) around his wrist. What sort of justice is this?There is no justice for EMs. Court martial conviction rate is 95%.

Lance Corporal Robert Evans, a black marine who is stationed at Alameda filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. in San Francisco Federal Court on Nov. 5. His suit argues that the Marine Corps, on the basis of its racist actions towards him and its use in furthering America's wars against fellow people of color and other oppressed people, as forfeited the right to control his life. Writs of habeas corpus have been successful in securing the release of many GIs on the basis of conscientious objection and hardship.

Robert's suit is based on point no. 6 of the Black Panther Party 10 Point Program: We want all black men to exempt from military service.

love

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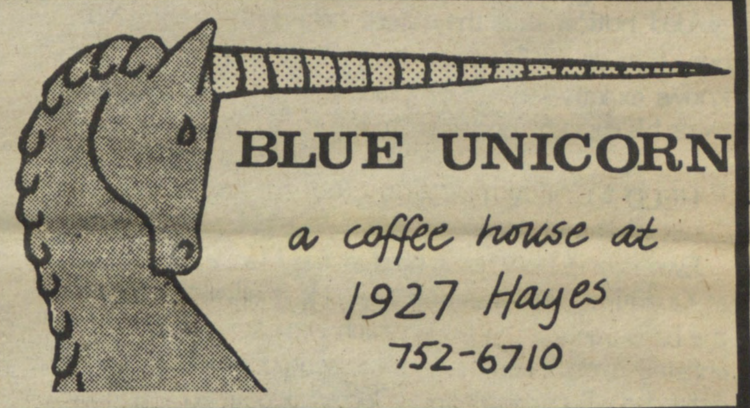

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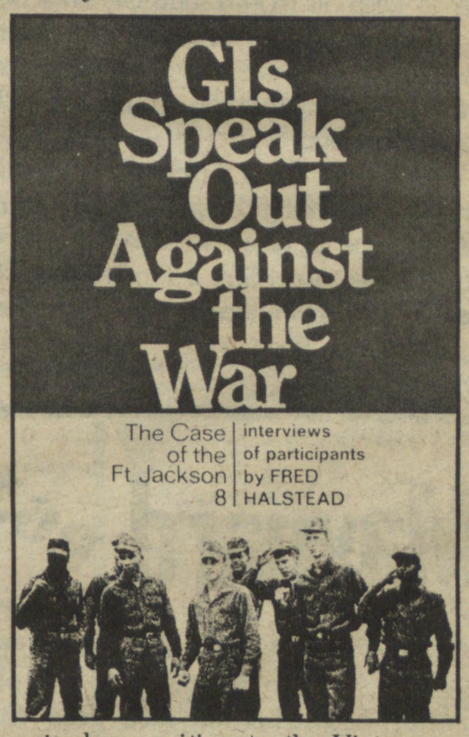

Organized opposition to the Vietnam war by American GIs is highlighted by the stubborn fight of the Fort Jackson Eight in defense of their civil rights against harassment and persecution by the army brass. The story of their successful struggle is told in their own words by the participants.

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continued

Sweeney P.O.W.

SWEENEY'S MESSAGE TO GIs

While with the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese Sweeney made several statements to American GIs iin which he urged them to stage a march on saigon demanding peace. "Soldiers from the puppet army would probably join. "The first thing you have to do is join with and support the movements at home by refusing orders and demanding the withdrawal."

After making these statements and the one in Stockhom it is difficult to understand why Sweeney returned willingly to the U.S. Kerstin Diamont, a Swedish friend, said he talked to his parents by telephone soon after arriving in Stockholm. They wanted to come and see him. He asked them not to. But they came anyway.

THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE

"Before he went to the hotel to see them he told us all he would be back within a couple of hours," said Kerstin. Instead Sweeney was on a plane headed for the U.S. two hours later. He left all of his personal possessions behind, she said.

It's not known if Sweeney's parents came to Stockholm alone or if they were accompanied by military or CIA agents. However, based on what is known, Sweeney's parents apparently relayed som kind of offer from the Marine Corps which promised that he wouldn't be prosecuted.

The parents may have just been manipulated by the military into applying emotional pressure or they may have been willing conspirators swayed by some misguided notion thay they were helping their son. No one, outside of Sweeney, his parents and the military knows exactly what took place in Stockholm when he made his sudden "decision" to return home.

HELD AT QUANTICO

Sweeney is now being held at the Marine Corps base at Quantico, Va., awaiting trial. He is allowed to roam the base freely, something which is most unusual for an enlisted man facing a capital sentence. He is being defended by a Marine Corps appointed military attorney. His parents are reportedly hiring a civilian lawyer.

Several people in the GI movement have tried to rap with him and have offered him their help. But he has refused it and referred them to his military attorney. He may believe that his best chance to avoid facing a firing squad is to keep his mouth shut. Or, since he knew no one in the movement before going to Vietnam, he may be suspicious of everyone since he knows the military could try to get information from him by having an agent pose as a friend.

Nor does anyone know for certain what was done to him while he was being "debriefed" for two months in the hospital. One GI who had been with the Viet Cong and returned was Army Spc. 4 Jim Bringham. Details on this case are unknown except that he died on Jan. 17, 1969, at Walter Reed Army Hospital after brain surgery.

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continued

Maynard P.O.W.

bars or sign a pre-trial agreement and plead guilty. The case was brought to court as a non capital case. Lanier also told Mike that unless he signed a pre-trial agreement he should sign another paper absolving Lanier of all responsibility for a long sentence. Mike asked about Lanier's earlier promise for a civilian defense attorney. Lanier replied that his friends in the States were not interested in coming to Vietnam to defend him. And besides, it didn't really matter since they had all attended the same law school. So he was as competent as they were. Mike took the pre-trial agreement. Some agreement. He got ten years, which was later reduced to four by the Convening Authority, according to the pre-trial agreement. WHAT DO THE SENTENCES REALLY MEAN?

Burns was released from Portsmouth Disciplinary Barracks early in 1970. Two theories, not necessarily in conflict with each other, have been advanced about his release: 1) his father is reputed to be a millionaire, and 2) somebody goofed and he was rleeased upon completing the sentence from a prior conviction, before the record of his new trial arrived at Portsmouth.

Rouse's mutiny conviction was dismissed by the Convening Authority on technical grounds and reduced his sentence to one year, which Rouse had already served. Rouse is now out.

Leibold's conspiracy conviction was overturned by the Navy Court of Military Review last May and the sentence reduced to ten months which Leibold had already served. Leibold is now out.

Maynard was recently able to reach civilian ears with his case and now has a civilian defense attorney who argued his case before the Navy Court of Military Review, and will take it to the Court of Military Appeals.

THE LEGAL ARGUMENTS FOR APPEAL

The review court basically ignored all the points argued by the defense. Specifically, Maynard's guilty plea was illegally accepted by the judge because one of the essential elements of mutiny, the COMMON intent to override military authority was completely absent from the record. Also, Maynard, like virtually all brothers accused of something or other in Vietnam, was in fact deprived of his right to civilian counsel. When you're a twenty-year-old Marine sitting in a brig in Danang, it's just plain impossible to get civilian counsel at your own expense.

The Navy Court did reduce Mike's sentence from four to three years, and an appeal to the Court of Military Appeals will soon be filed.

WHY STEWART WAS KILLED WHY MAYNARD GOT SHAFTED

The case of these guys isn't so unusual. Their situation is common in Nam. The brass is angry, not only because they're losing the war, but because they're losing their cannon-fodder: the GI. This further disables them in their attempts to crush the Vietnamese people.

Every day ten GIs split from Sam in Vietnam. When a GI wants to go AWOL or desert in Vietnam, where can he go? He certainly can't go to anyone connected with the US government, except fellow GIs who have split. And where are those GIs? They're being harbored by the Vietnamese. So naturally almost all GIs who are AWOL rely on the Vietnamese people for food, shelter, and safety. The Vietnamese people have nothing against those Americans who have laid down their weapons and no longer let themselves be used for the interests of the few rich Americans and their political tools. The war in Southeast Asia is stric tly fought to get them more territory which they can control economically and militarily. The Vietnamese are a people determined not to be swallowed by these type of Americans and to decide their own destiny. The Vietnamese know that for most GIs the military is a choice between jail or the service. It's this knowledge and their general love for humanity that makes them so willing to aid GIs who are on the run.

Maynard and his friends said to the Vietnamese of Hoa Phat, we are American GIs, but we're friends. You can help us and we have skills that can help you in your survival. Was this the reason for the Marine patrol opening fire on the brothers when their backs were turned? Did the brass want to make an example of these GIs by railroading them to long prison terms? How scared are the top government and military officials about the growing solidarity among the Vietnamese people and the GIs?

See, the war in Southeast Asia from Sam's point of view rests on the ancient theory of divide and conquer. Split the GIs against each other, black against white, Maynard and his group against Sgt. Lantz and his group. One group of GIs resist and the brass uses another group of GIs to put the first group down. In order to get you to fight in this war at all, they have to brainwash you into thinking that the Vietnamese are evil gooks, lazy, and poor fighters. The US knows that it is basically fighting the entire Vietnamese people and to counteract this they rely on the weapon of genocide. Genocide means the entire destruction of a group of people. US policy in Vietnam doesn't really draw any line between friend or foe. All of South Vietnam as well as all of North Vietnam is being destroyed by American war technology. For this reason Nixon can't afford to allow fraternizing between the Vietnamese people and American GIs. This racial hatred of American GIs toward Vietnamese is essential to Nixon's strategy. When GIs choose their own friends, the theory of divide and conquer crumbles. SOLIDARITY IS THE KEY

So with all this prejudice running against Maynard and the other brothers, they were bound to be put away for a long time. As long as the military judicial system remains within the jurisdiction of the commanding officer, no GI can get a fair trial. The CO can exert incredible influence by quietly ordering a military court to find someone guilty. Maynard was really railroaded. He wasn't even allowed to plead not guilty. It was hit pleading guilty to the mutiny charge that became the technicality under which the Navy Court of Review refused to overturn Mike's mutiny conviction. They stated that a voluntary plea of guilty is not later subject to attack on grounds that the appelant is in fact not guilty of the offense as charged. Mike's Marine attorney was at the whim of his commanding officer as was the judge.

The pressure of GIs sticking together coupled with strong civilian support, is the only thing that can put an end to the military command's tyranny over the GIs, and an end to Nixon's war against the Vietnamese people. The struggle of GIs to gain justice in their everyday lives is not so different from the attempts of the Vietnamese people to have justice in their everyday lives. Both have helped each other in their struggle and both will continue to do so more than ever.

This brother still has a year to serve come next January. Put pressure on the Brass to let Michael go free. Write him at the prison.

Michael D. Maynard
226-13-12
Private, US Marine Corps
US Naval Disciplinary Barracks
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

His mother is a cafeteria worker at the campus at Utah State. She is trying to get students there together behind her sons case. Write her.

Mrs. Joseph W. Maynard
6944 South 1700 W.
Jordan, Utah 84084

Michael's civilian attorney is a real brother, and has quite a fine reputation within the Movement. His mailing address is

Peter Weiss
Center for Constitutional Rights
588 Ninth Avenue
New York City, New York 10036

Power to the Prisoners

In January of 1970, several dozen men from Ft. Lewis decided together to submit their applications for conscientious objector status. Most of those men had their applications unjustly denied in March. Six decided to reapply–Carl Dix, Jim Allen, Paul Forrest, Manuel Perez, Larry Galgano, and Jeff Griffith. The general gave in and accepted these applications only after the brothers filed complaints. These, too, were almost immediately turned down. Not surprising, considering that the Army approves only 28% of all CO applications anyway.

In late June the six got hit with orders for Vietnam. All six refused to obey. Five were charged with Article 90 violations, and the sixth with an Article 92. All were sent to the stockade for pre- trial confinement. Four were relased on July 9. Allen stayed in till Oct 1. Dix was held in pre-trial until his court-martial on October 26.

The men were court-martialed individually, with Dix leading off. All six court-martials followed the same basic pattern. Chas Talbot of Seattle represented all the men. All except Griffith were tried before military Judge Col. John Lee. Each waved the right to trial by a court-martial board.

All six pleaded not guilty. But the guilty verdict that resulted in all six cases was not unexpected. In the course of the trial, each man took the stand in his own behalf.

Carol Dix told how he had a chance to go back to Germany after his first application was rejected. He refused this convenient dodge, saying, "I just can't do that sort of thing anymore."

Army kid Jim Allen said Chaplain Gunnis told him that military chapels don't teach young Christians to object to war. Jim said he knew from experience the Chaplain was right. Jim is a Buddhist.

Paul Forrest was very outspoken on the stand. He said he had found a new direction to his life, and was not about to give it up in the face of adversity. The prosecutor asked for "an extensive period of convinement to allow the man to accept responsibility," He got it.

Manuel Perez pointed to the prosecutor and the Judge and said, "You are a killer, you are a killer. Anyone in the Army contributes to the killing in some sense." The prosecutor agreed.

Larry Galgano seemed not to be very interested in the whole affair. A lot of artists are like that. Unlike most artists, Larry had to take a stand on a crucial social and religious issue. He took that stand bravely and unequivocably.

Jeff Griffith did not get a discharge. When he is released from the stockade at Christmas, he may find himself facing similar charges all over again. He indicated at the trial that he would not go to Vietnam and that he would refuse to continue serving when he had exhausted all legal channels for obtaining a discharge. He submitted his third application for a discharge as a CO the day before his court martial. Capt Gingery said of Griffith, "He is one of the most sincere individuals I have ever met."

Here's how the other sentences came down. Dix: 2 years and a BCD. Allen: 3 years and a DD. Perez:1 year and a BCD. Galgano: 1 year and a BCD.

The courage of these brothers hasn't wavered. Three of the six (Carl Dix, Paul Forrest, and Jim Allen) formed the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Fort Lewis Stockade immediately on entering the prison. Below are the demands they presented to the prison administration:

1. The right to freedom of speech and assembly
2. the right to freedom of press in the form of a prisoner-operated stockade newspaper
3. an expansion of the stockade library by a committee of prisoners.
4. the release of all political prisoners from maximum security cells.
5. a committee of prisoners to deal with the administration in all disputes and in matters concerning government of the stockade.
6. the right to hold a weekly press conference.

The plan was to go on hunger strike until the demands were accepted. But the pigs threatened to feed them intravenously, and then put the three in maximum security. No one was allowed to visit them. Energy slacked off, and the Popular Front died. Still, afraid that the movement would build again the Army shipped the three to Leavenworth Nov 12. We know that they'll build the struggle wherever they go. More power to these beautiful brothers!!!!!

FT. LEWIS SIX

11

A long way from Home

On August 10, THE PENTAGON, the Bay Area's first GI coffeehouse, opened for business. Located at 690 Seventh Street (corner of 7th and Castro) in Oakland, the Pentagon was the result of several months of donated time, labor, and money, put forth by a dedicated group of men and women. When it opened the coffeehouse was a fine place, but nothing involving GIs was really happening for the first month.

Gradually a few GIs from local bases began to come around. A small Alameda Movement for a Democratic Military (MDM) was formed by several of them. At the same time, a number of movement people got involved and a collective that could run the coffeehouse and organize GIs began to come together around these two elements. The collective has set up several serve-the-people programs as often as possible. In these programs they have combined both political education and entertainment. The atmosphere they wish to provide should be a combination and a balance of these aspects. Programs include . . .

Commune night a commune from the Bay Area prepares a meal and brings it in to be given free to GIs and staff. The life-styles of these groups comes through at the same time political raps usually begin between GIs and the communards.

Legal night emphasis will be placed on the UCMJ, and lawyers familiar with military will rap with guys to help them with their on base struggles and also answer other legal questions such as your rights while being searched, questioned, etc.

Flicks an evening a week of light entertaining films and from time to time movement films.

Speakers Pat Sumi recently rapped about her trip to North Korea, North Vietnam, and China. This was a very successful program which sparked far-out political discussions between GIs. They have planned speakers from other GI projects and from different movement groups for the future.

Music and light shows this is definitely a regular feature

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THE MAN LIES

On November 5, a group of us in the Bay Area held a press conference outside the Federal Building to announce that a brother of ours, Robert Evans, was filing for discharge from the Marine Corps under Point Six of the Black Panther Party program. The mass media was invited. Representatives of NBC, KCBS, and the San Francisco Chronicle showed up to note the story.

When we opened the newspapers the next morning, we found that the story completely misrepresented the facts. Even though press releases were distributed, even though reporters were given copies of the legal papers, even though reporters interviewed attorneys and friends, their final story turned everything upside down. By quoting three words out of context, and by re-arranging certain arguments, the Chronicle made it look like Robert Evans was trying to integrate the Marine Corps. In fact, Bobby's suit attacked the Marine Corps for its racism and for its use in putting down popular revoluionary movements in the Third World.

We have reprinted in full both our official press release and the article as it appeared in the morning Chronicle. Read them both and compare for yourselves.

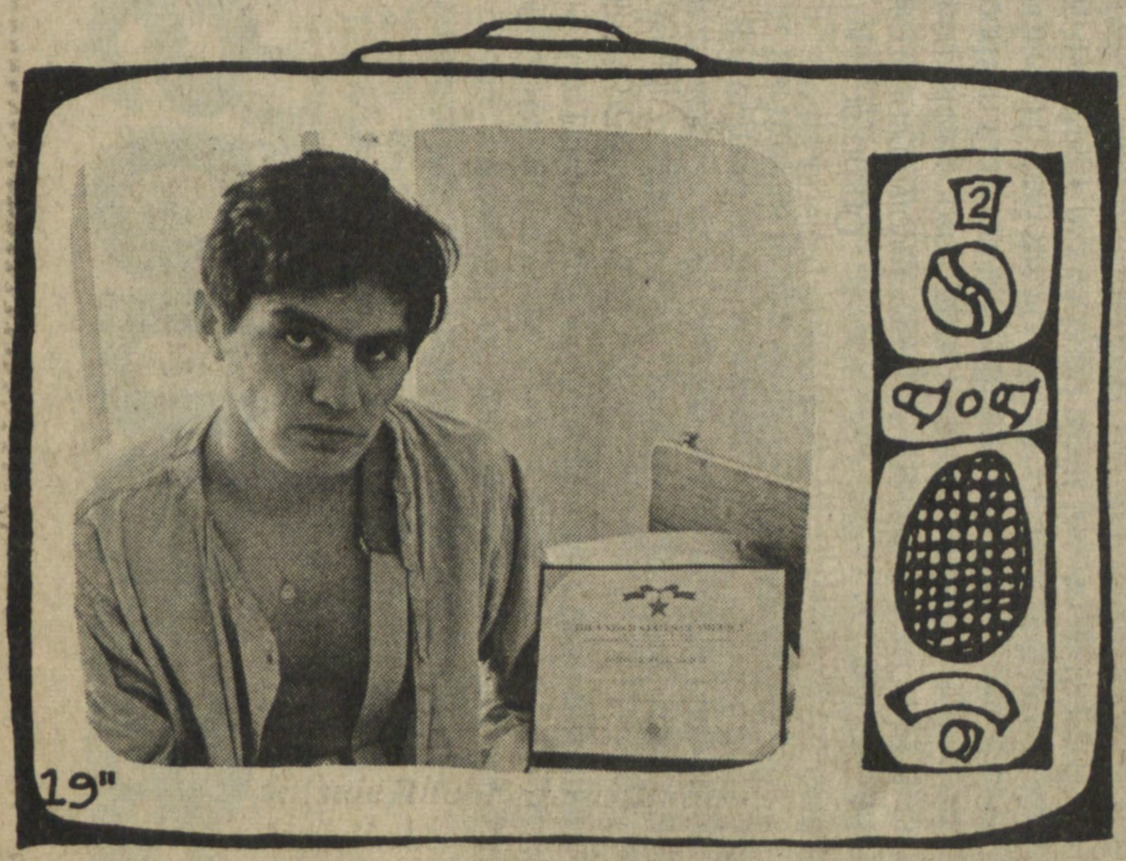
A Black Marine's Bias Suit

A Black Marine lance corporal asked in a Federal court suit here yesterday to be discharged because other Marines are "racist and discriminatory" toward blacks.

Robert Evans III, 21, of Boston, who is stationed at the Alameda Naval Air Station, said the denigration violates his rights under the Fifth and 13th Amendments.

Besides "racist" talk, he said, he has been made to participate in a color guard at the base, the makeup of which is designed to show the Corps is more integrated than it really is. There are 159 servicemen at the base but only seven of them are black, his suit said.

Judge Oliver J. Carter set a hearing for November 20 at 9 a.m.

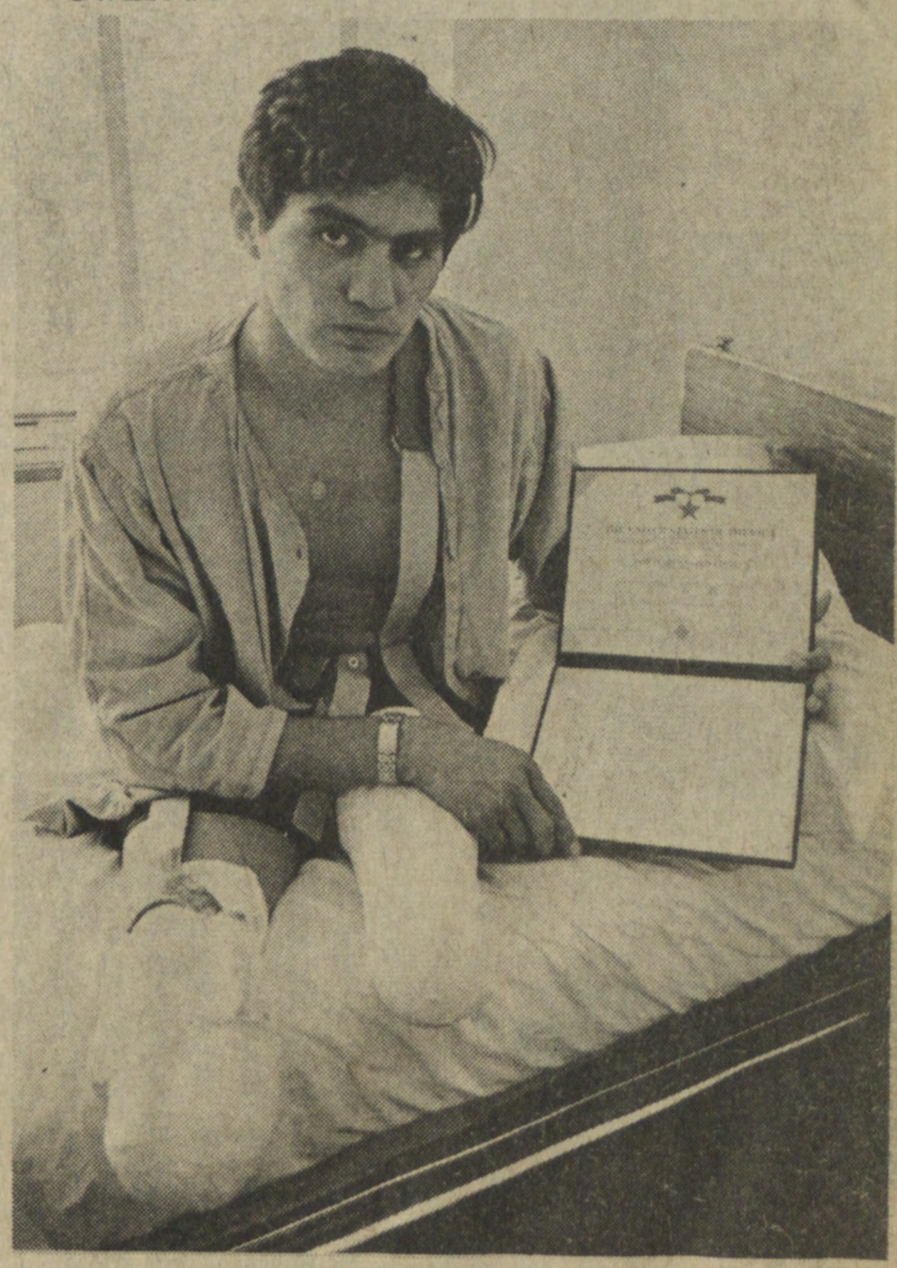


PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEAS

"WE WANT ALL BLACK MEN TO BE EXEMP FROM MILITARY SERVICE" Point Six, Black Panthe Party Program.

On Thursday, November 5, at 11 am, a struggle t implement this point will begin when a black Marin files a writ of habeas corpus to secure the release o himself and all other black men from the United State Armed Forces.

The bases of the suit are: (1) Black people still remai in a position of semi-slavery in the United States and ar denied the rights of citizens. They should therefore b exempt from military service; (2) The armed forces ar used to suppress struggling people throughout the worl who are the brothers of blacks in the United State Blacks should not be used to put down their brothers i the Third World; (3) The armed forces themselves ar racist in nature, using blacks as cannon fodder i Vietnam while perpetuating racism within their ranks b spreading racist propoganda. Blacks should not be force into a world where they are treated as inferiors.

This suit is being filed by part of a movement which i today organizing blacks throughout the Armed Forces t resist their exploitation. The attorneys filing the suit, member of the Black Panther Party central committee members of the Black Unity Party (an organization o black GIs), and representatives of the Movement for Democratic Military will meet with the press on th steps of the Federal Court, 450 Golden Gate, SF. AL

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