UP AGAINST THE BULKHEAD

968 Valencia, San Francisco 94110 | Vol 2 / Number 1 / Issue 6 | January, 1971

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JOIN THE REVOLT!

The Marine Corps Builds Revolutionaries. The Life of David Osborne

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Camp Pendleton, Calif. (Jan) - David Osborne is one of thousands of unwilling captives of the Marine Corps. He is presently being held in the Pendleton brig facing a general court martial for desertion, a charge which normally results in a special court martial. "Ozzie", as he is known, enlisted when he was 17. He's been fighting ever since. For starters, he helped get Marines at Pendleton together around a paper called "Attitude Check". Once that was moving, he helped join with sailors in San Diego to form Movement for a Democratic Military (MDM). When the shit at Pendleton got so bad that he could no longer breathe, he led a group of fifteen guys in a slave revolt, leaving the plantation behind for greener and freer pastures. But when he decided to return, he helped bring some of that freedom back to the Corps by building up guy's confidence in themselves and in their power they shared as slaves to the Man. But in December of 1969, someone turned up the heat on Ozzie and he left to share his strength with ex-GIs in Canada. In the year he was up there he worked a lot with the American Deserters Committee and even organized a march in Vancouver in support of the GI movement. By December of 1970, Ozzie decided that this visit was over, and that it was time to return to Pendleton, join his friends and fellow slaves, and break the beast from within. Bad luck would have it that Ozzie got busted at the border. The Marine Corps says he deserted because he's a revolutionary. They got it backwards. Ozzie returned because he's a revolutionary. His courage and determination are an example for GIs everywhere. This is why the Marine Corps wants to put him away. If you want to support Ozzie, fight like he did. He'd like to get letters, too. Write him at P.O. Box 1356, Vista, California.

Dept of Defense goes bounty hunting for AWOLs

This article appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle of Sept 15. We reprinted it in full so that all you ex-GI brothers who are now underground can keep up on Sam's desperate actions. Consider their problem: according to their figures, since last year absentees are up 20% for the Army and 50% for the Marine Corps. Look at their answer: the computer and the dollar. It's sick, but typical of military thinking.

But the Pentagon's not stupid. Just desperate. There's a popular underground in this country that is daily harboring, aiding, and abetting GIbrothers on the run. Like the slave underground railroad, it's invisible to its enemies, but visible to its friends. But this underground isn't organized. There are no lists, no tunnels, and no coded messages. Just millions of people who have chosen sides for the GI and against the government.

Oh yeah. Our counter-intelligence unit has checked Dept of Defense figures. In the two months since they've made this sick offer, they have no records of anyone turning someone in. Maybe they'd turn in their friends for $15. What they can't understand is that there's more holding us together than money. That's why we'll win and they'll lose. That's what 'All power to the people" is all about.

You Can Get $25 For a Deserter

Washington

The Pentagon said yesterday it will start using computers and cash rewards in dealing with deserters and servicemen who go AWOL.

New regulations, signed August 24 by Deputy Defense Secretary David Packard, for the first time brought all branches of the Armed Forces under a unified system for handling deserters and those absent without official leave (AWOL), a Pentagon spokesman said.

Under the new rules, a deserter is classified as anyone who is AWOL for more than 30 days, is absent for any period when guilty of the uniform code of military justice or seeks asylum in a foreign country.

A serviceman is considered AWOL under the new rules when he is absent without authority for fewer than 30 days.

The regulations set up a $15 cash reward for the apprehension and detention of absentees, deserters or escaped prisoners. It also set a reward of $25 for anyone capturing and returning to the military an absentee or deserter.

But Packard said no one could receive both a $15 and a $25 reward.

United Press

THE PENTAGON COFFEEHOUSE

There's a place in Oakland that was built for you by a group of your friends who you haven't even met yet. If you love your branch of service, and dig hanging around base, then you won't dig the coffeehouse. But if you think the beast sucks, and would dig talking to people who feel the same way and know what to do about it, make it on down to The Pentagon Coffeehouse at 690 Seventh Street, Oakland. Call first to make sure they're open: 832-0686. Free films. Free dinners. Legal first aid.

At Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Japan, 32 Marines rebelled in the brig back in July. They held the brig for more than 14 hours by barricading themselves against armed MPs. They revolted because of brutality by brig guards, bad food, overcrowded conditions and the fact that most brothers had been in pre-trial confinement for months awaiting trials for the "crime" of having gone AWOL.

Thirteen brothers were picked out and made scapegoats after everything had simmered down. Since then, one brother, Pvt. Davidson, has already been sentenced to five years in prison and a DD. On October 19, they dropped charges against three brothers--Hermansky, Morgan and Johnson. Three other brothers--Grief, Robert and Daniels--were released from pre-trial confinement the same day.

Japanese civilians and other Marines stationed at Iwakuni have been demonstrating to free all the brothers. Some of the cases have been moved to Yokusuka Naval Station. But there, as at Iwakuni, GIs are organizing. At Iwakuni GIs are putting out a rag called Semper Fi. And at Yokusuka, brothers are putting out the Yokusuka David.

The brass is constantly trying to smash GIs attempts to organize by threatening them with long jail sentences. But these threats have not stopped the GI movement. The resistance to the lifers' rule has only grown. The brass may put some of us away, but they can't build brigs and stockades to put us all away. They may win some battles, but we will win the final battle.

For more information about the Iwakuni brothers, write to: American Servicemen's Union (ASU), room 538, 156 Fifth Avenue, NY NY 10010, or to Semper Fi, PO Box 86, Chuo Post Office, Hiroshima, Japan, or to Pacific Counselling Service, Ishii Building 6-44, Kagurazaka-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

FREE THE IWAKUNI BROTHERS.

Rhode Island (August) - On a foggy morning in late Aug, three sailors--David Rampton, Mark Vincent, and Tom Tashey--and their friend Kate Gordon, split the Navy. They made their getaway in a 1953 motor sailor called 'The Skunk'. It took the Navy $250,000 and one destroyer-escort, 3 Coast Guard cutters, several aircraft, Maine and Connecticut police, the FBI, and ONI to find them. For eight days UA (uninhibited adventure) they were charged with desertion and held for two months pending court martial. On Sept 20, Kate Gordon was headed to the brig to visit her fiance, David Rampton, when her car was struck in a head-on collision. The duty warden refused to let Dave use the phone to call the hospital. Hoosen, the warden, just said, "My heart bleeds for you, Rampton." Kate died the next morning. Rampton and Tashey have since been released, but are restricted to base. But as far as we know, Vincent is still in confinement.

Newport, RI (Oct) - The USS Ingraham was scheduled to sail to Italy when the Middle East Crisis was at a peak. A few days before departure, someone opened a sea valve in the after-engine room, and let in about a million gallons of Narrangansett Bay, causing a three foot list.

Newport, RI (Oct) - Disgruntled sailors took a monkey wrench to the wave guide on the surface search radar. It was repaired, wrecked, and repaired again. Just before the ship was set to sail on its next cruise, the whole wave guide was torn off. Something that isn't there can't be fixed, right?

Cecil Field, Florida (Oct) - Five men broke into an arsenal and made off with more than 150 pistols. Anyone with more information should write us.

Fort Meade, Maryland (Oct 20) - American Servicemen's Union (ASU) organizer Herb Blenner, was acquitted by a special court martial for refusal to carry a shotgun on 'prison chaser' detail. He defended himself for more than four hours. A dozen ASU brothers from his unit were backing him up. Instead of taking the defense, Blenner took the brass head on. He said to the judge, "Major Thompson, you have not been elected to your position by the people by a democratic vote and therefore you have no right to sit in judgment of anyone."

San Francisco (Nov-Dec) - Scanlan's magazine finishes a four month battle to publish and distribute their issue on guerilla war in America. The magazine was printed in Canada because no printer in this country would do it. Then the Canadian government seized almost every copy under the War Measures Act. Although US Customs and FBI agents tried to prevent small truckloads of the issue from reaching San Francisco, some issues foung their way to magazine stands. Many of these were confiscated by government agents. By Christmas, both the Canadian government and US officials were forced to release all seized copies. The editor of this magazine may still go to jail for printing interviews with members of sabotage cells and not revealing his sources to the govenment.

USA (Nov) - During the month, two regional conferences for the GI movement took place, one in Philadelphia and the other in Chicago. Active duty GIs and civilian project workers attended to meet each other and share their experiences. Their successes mark the beginning of a new feeling of optimism and power in the face of a freaked-out military establishment.

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (Nov) - About thirty Marines, most of them black, refused to take training for riot control. Because they were together, base command was reluctant to push for a general court martial for disobeying a direct order, and settled on placing them on restriction.

Tokyo (Nov) - "How'd you like to hold up a slice of bread, the only bread available, and count the weevils?" "How'd you like to work 12 to 15 hours a day average, sometimes 18 to 20, and get about two hours' liberty in seven months?" These statements were made by a group of 75 crewmen from the USS Satyr when they talked to San Francisco Chronicle Foreign Service reporter Michael Berger. The ship is called the Green Wennie by its 175-man crew. It functions as a repair ship in the upper Mekong River. When the Green Weenie put in to Yokosuka for repairs, the crewmen talked to a reporter and also contacted the American Servicemen's Union (ASU) group there. It's a good thing they did. Twenty-five were busted for dope, and ASU brothers are now working on their defense. When the guys wrote their Congressmen, all the politicians did was forward the complaints to the Navy. That resulted in two inspections and zero changes.

Columbus, Ohio (mid-Nov) - An Ohio State University student was wounded when police and firemen broke up a rally at a recent football game. The student was hit a policeman's .38 caliber bullet.

Cambridge (Nov 17) - Cops with submachine guns, shot guns, and rifles, kicked down the door of the People's Information Center (PIC) and busted seven people on narcotics and gun charges. PIC is a political group working with young people in the Cambridge community. At the time of the bust, PIC was putting out a paper and trying to build a food co-op and a book store.

Dayton, Ohio (Nov) - Three active duty airmen from Wright-Patterson AFB filed suit against their base commander, the Secretary of the Air Force, and the Secretary of Defense to get on-base distribution rights for their paper 'Star Spangled Bummer'. The paper was started the summer before by the Wright-Patterson GIs United group. Distribution on base has been denied twice before because the brass considered it "a clear danger to the morale of Air Force members."

Angela Davis salutes supporters as she leaves San Rafael courtroom. Ruchell Magee is in foreground, chained and bound to his chair.

Make Your Own History or They'll Make It For You

Conakry, Republic of Guinea (Nov 22) - Portuguese mercenaries, armed with US-supplied NATO equipment, invade the free black nation of Guinea. The people and government of Guinea have been aiding liberation fighters in Portugal's two colonies in Africa, Angola and Mozambique. Portugal was denounced in the United Nations for this invasion.

Detroit (late Nov) - The General Motors strike ended after two months. No real gains were won. The management immediately raised prices on new model cars in order to meet new wage demands without having their profits pinched.

Santa Barbara, Calif (late Nov) - The notorious Isla Vista branch of the Bank of Amerika was bombed, but not much damage was done. Over the past year this branch has been burned to the ground by the people of Isla Vista who are mostly street people and students. The bank funds construction projects in Vietnam, and provides financing for the landlords who were bleeding the residents of Isla Vista for all they could get. Two teenagers were caught, and their bail has been set at $100,000 each.

Germany (Nov) - Black Sgt. Jim Hobson was the first of ten men (nine black & one white) to go on trial on charges stemming from a bombing incident last May. The ten-day general court martial could have put him away for 195 years. The charges were an obvious frame-up, since Jim was talking about certain grievances with the post commander when the explosion went off. A lot of guys, black and white and brown, got together around their friend's trial. So did people in his home town, Chicago's South Side. They put on a rally, wrote letters of support, and even sold blood to raise money for his legal defense. Because of this support, Jim was acquitted of the heavy charges, but busted for missing a formation. For this he was knocked down to E-1 and forced to do 90 days hard labor. This incident and others were discussed at a rally by over 1000 GIs on Nov. 28 when Unsatisfied Black Soldiers (UBS) issued a new "Call for Justice".

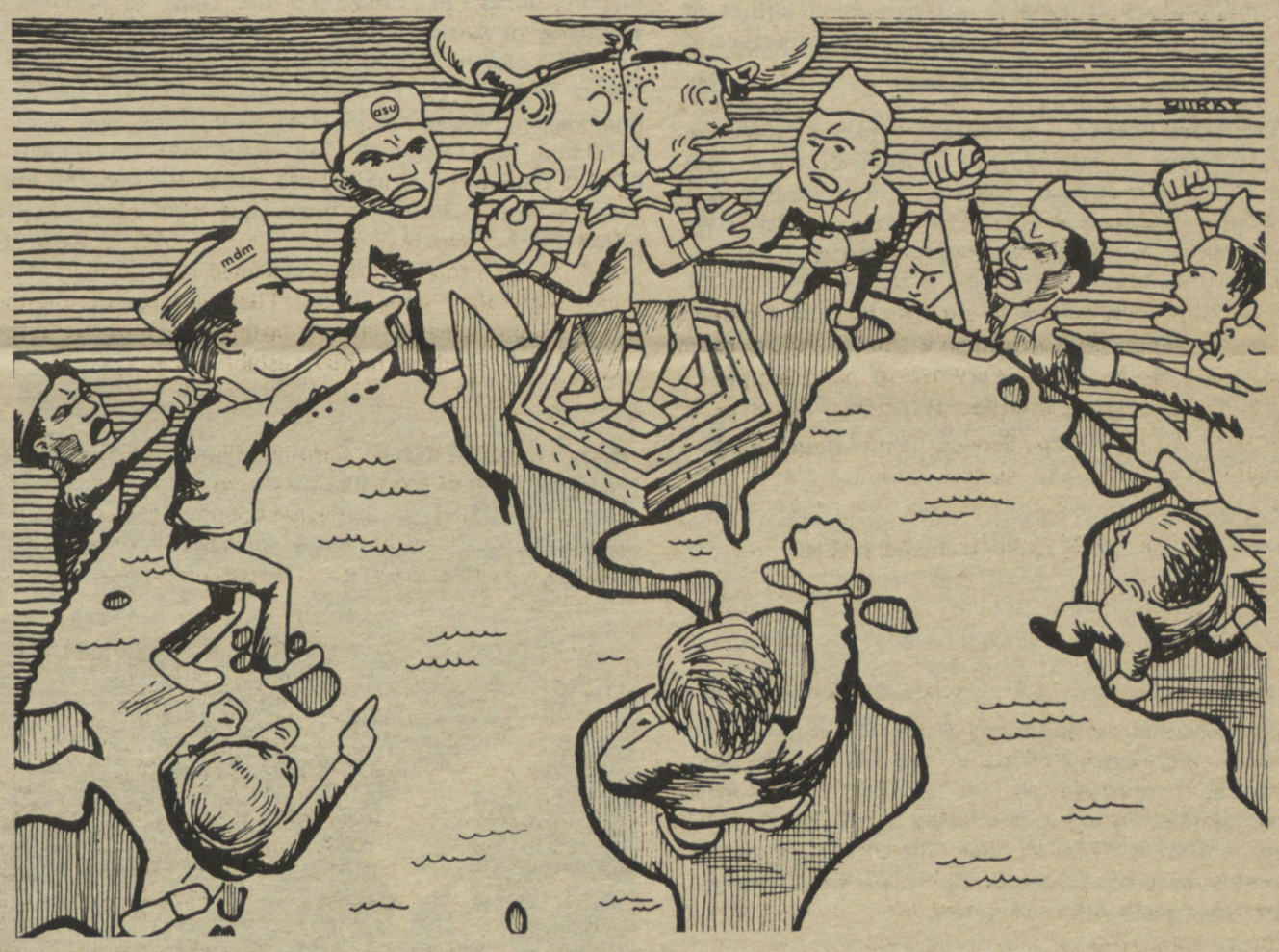
New Orleans (late Nov) - For a long time the city powers have been trying to keep black revolutionaries from organizing within the housing projects for better living conditions. The National Committee to Combat Fascism (NCCF), an organizing arm of the Black Panther Party, was trying to do just this when 200 city cops attempted to storm their headquarters. They were prevented from doing this once when nearly a thousand residents of the Desire Project stood around and protected the NCCF office. But within a week, another raid caught the people by surprise. Thirty-one were busted on heavy felonies and one sister was shot in the chest.

Chicago (Nov) - Elementary school students publish an underground paper at Phillip Rogers School. They call it "The Eye".

Vietnam (Nov) - After a lot of "chicken shit" harassment, GIs in the 173d Abn. just decided to run their own lives. It started one night when an 11 o'clock bed check was announced. To this a GI responded, "Sorry sarge, but we won't be able to make it; there's a meeting for E-4 and below at 2300 hours." About a hundred guys turned out to take their grievances to the CO. Seven were elected to represent the others in negotiations. The colonel listened to their grievances, nodded politely, and then signed transfers for five of the seven. Word is back that these five have carried their fight with them. This same unit also lost two lifers on Oct. 29. These lifers had evidently been antagonizing their men to the breaking point, even trying to volunteer them for extra missions. One, a Staff Sgt. Reed, was fragged in his bunker. Another, an unidentified platoon leader, drowned trying to cross a flooded stream. The men under his command refused to try to rescue him.

USA (Dec) - Several ex-GIs who worked in the field of intelligence gathering testified that the Army spies not only on anti-war civilians, but also on government officials. Adlai Stevenson III is among the most notable targets of MI attention. Newspapers across the country came out with strong editorials condemning military surveillance of civilian political activists. Laird responded by directing MI, CID, ONI, ASA, NIS, and the others like them to report not to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but directly to him.

Long Beach, Calif. (Dec) - Ten people of the Movement for a Democratic Milirary (MDM) were busted and held on felony charges for three days before the frame-up was exposed. City cops entered the MDM bookstore with an arrest warrant, and when they looked around they found a jar of sulfuric acid (used in making hand-cast jewelry), fuse (rope incense), and a shotgun (legally possessed). Everyone was taken in, and the house and bookstore torn apart. When the matter came to court, 75 community people turned up in support. Charges were dropped.



Buffalo, N.Y. (Dec 1) - Three people who were working on "Cold Steel", Buffalo's underground paper, were hit with Grand Jury indictments. They were charged with criminal anarchy, inciting to riot, conspiracy, and an assortment of misdemeanors. All charges stemmed only from articles which had appeared in the paper.

San Francisco (Dec 1) - Saigon's Vice-Tyrant Ky spoke before the Commonwealth Club, an association of war profiteering corporate business executives. Outside of the hotel where he spoke, 6000 people fought police and attempted to stone the hotel. People were especially angry because a municipal proposition condemning the war in Vietnam had just been passed the month before. The crowd carried over a 1000 NLF flags in the demonstration making it one of the largest pro-NLF demonstrations ever to held in this country.

Chicago (Dec 4) - Over 2000 people, most of them students who had walked out of high schools all over the city, turned up at a rally to honor the memory of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark. These two men were members of the Illinois chapter of the Black Panther Party who were killed in their sleep by state police in a raid last Dec. 4.

Salinas, California (early Dec) - Cesar Chavez, head of the United Farm Workers, was jailed because he refused to call off a national strike against lettuce growers. Three weeks later he was released by court order. While in jail, he remained on a hunger strike. Sympathetic hunger strikes occurred throughout the state. A twenty-four hour vigil was maintained outside the jail every day of his imprisonment.

North Philadelphia (Dec 8) - Over 3000 people marched from the black community to City Hall to protest the murder of an AWOL black Marine, Raymond Brooks, who was active with the Young Lords Party. The rally demanded the immediate suspension of the cop who shot Brooks, and an investigation into his death.

Georgetown, S.C. (Dec) - Since early August, workers at Georgetown Steel Company have been on strike. Of the 500 workers who have walked off their jobs, about half are black and half white.

Corpus Christi, Texas (early Dec) - More than 500 Chicanos moved into the streets of the city to protest the murder of a Chicano brother by a city cop.

Tacoma, Washington (Dec 10) - A mistrial was declared in the case of the Seattle 8. They're facing conspiracy charges which grew out of a support rally in February for the Chicago 8 conspiracy. When the mistrial was declared heavy contempt sentences were handed down, and the seven people were transfered to different prisons throughout the country. They have been freed on bail, awaiting their appeals. The eighth defendent has not yet been caught.

Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Dec) - SA (Seaman Apprentice) Randall Davis is proving to the US Navy how he feels about the war and the military establishment. For the first two weeks of December, he hasn't eaten anything except for an occasional cup of coffee or tea without milk or sugar. Davis says he is on his hunger strike because he'd rather be dead than in the Navy. The brass's response was to pull Randy out of Electronic Technician school and put him to work in the Chief's Mess Hall serving food. Last we heard, he hasn't eaten yet.

continued on page 8

No Lettuce in the Messhalls

page 4

Why is lettuce grower Bud Antle a friend of the deadly Dow Chemical Company and the deadly Pentagon(Dept of Defense)? Why is it that the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC) and GIs everywhere are forming a united front to smash this friendship?

Well, for one, Bud Antle Incorporated is the second largest lettuce producer in the world, owning 43,000 acres of land. The UFWOC is boycotting all non-union lettuce, specifically Bud Antle's lettuce. The largest producer of lettuce, Interharvest, already signed a pact with the Farmworkers. This boycott has mainly been taking place at chain supermarkets across the U.S. It's similar to the farm workers struggle against the grape growers which just ended last summer. Since business went bad for Antle at chainstores, he has been selling his lettuce to the military. Due to this, the boycott has been extended to include the military. Brothers and sisters in the military are refusing to eat non-union lettuce at messhalls and are refusing to buy non-union lettuce at the PXs.

The Dow Chemical connection comes through the fact that they are leasing Antle 3000 acres of a 17,000 acre spread they bought from him when he was in a pinch for quick cash. The President of the Dow Financial Corporation, C.F. Weaver, is one of Antle's five board members. Antle and the Defense Department are good clients of some of Dow's more lethal herbicides. Antle uses the same chemicals in his fields that have been used in the defoliation of Vietnam. These herbicides have been linked to widespread birth defects in Vietnamese children, and to diseases suffered by the farm workers who harvest Antle's crop.

One of the reasons UFWOC is striking and boycotting is because they want a clause included in their contracts banning the use of DDT and related long-lasting pesticides in the fields. Second, the UFWOC contract offers a medical plan which will cover almost all migrant workers. Also, UFWOC contracts eliminate the labor contractor and substitute a hiring hall, seniority system, and a grievance procedure to insure fair employment practices. The average wage in the US for all farm workers, including all year-around hired hands, according to statistical data released by the US Dept of Labor in 1967 is $1.33 an hour. The UFWOC is seeking an hourly wage of at least $2.10. This is what they got when they signed with Interharvest.

Some growers have signed contracts with the Teamsters, but the people in the field want nothing to do with the Teamsters. To use their own words, "The Salinas lettuce strike is not just another jurisdictional battle between unions. Farm workers in Salinas are engaged in a basic self-determination struggle. We want organized strength in a union that is close to us and is responsive to our needs and our hopes. We want a leader we can trust. We believe in Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers. Thousands of us have struck ranches with Teamster contracts, which were negotiated by growers and Teamster officials without our knowledge or support. We are outraged, and we will continue our non-violent struggle until we are represented by UFWOC alone."

The government has made every possible attempt to crush the farm workers struggle, In September 1970, Judge Anthony Brazil issued a permanent injunction against all UFWOC strike activity in the Salinas area. With the strike outlawed, the farm workers announced a nationwide boycott of all non-union lettuce grown in California and Arizona (85% of the nation's production). On October 6, Judge Gordon Campbell furthered the governments efforts to crush the farmworkers movement. He ordered the UFWOC to stop boycotting Bud Antle. The UFWOC appealled the decision on the basis of free speech, which is supposedly guaranteed by the Constitution.

GIs know that these injustices are not something that only farm workers experience. GIs know this from direct experience with the lifers who constantly snap orders at GIs and then court martial them for not carrying them out perfectly. Whether it's GIs being thrown in the brig or stockade for demanding better barracks or ship conditions, or whether it's farm workers being jailed for demanding more humane working conditions, we all come up against the same oppressive boot on our necks: the big corporations, the White House, and the Pentagon.

The brothers and sisters in the Man's military machine will play a very important part in the success or failure of the farm workers boycott. During the 1967-1970 table grape boycott by the UFWOC, military grape purchases suddenly soared upward by millions of pounds, with a 350% increase to Vietnam in one year, and was also accompanied by purchases above prevailing market prices. In 1969-1970 the Dept of Defense purchases of Antle's lettuce totalled 5,960,000 pounds, $730,000 worth. During the first three months of the lettuce boycott the Pentagon's purchases have soared once again, 4,690,000 pounds, and Antle was paid $750,000. On December 15, 1970, the brass bought 45,000 pounds of Antle's scab lettuce to be sent to Vietnam and paid him $2 per box above the usual market price.

On November 20, Cesar Chavez, head of UFWOC, sent a telegram to Herbert Doan, President of Dow Chemical Company, asking to discuss Dow's involvement. Instead of a reply, he was thrown in jail on December 4 on contempt of court. He had not responded to Judge Campbell's orders to call off the boycott against Antle. The judge said that Cesar would have to remain there until the boycott against Antle was called off. In response to this the farm workers announced that their boycott would now also include products of the Dow Chemical Company, such as SaranWrap, HandiWrap, and Dow Oven Cleaner. Picket lines went up around many Dow locations around the country. Dow knows what the unity of people can do to their profits. Dow used to produce napalm for the government. But enough pressure was applied by the people and this forced them to give up their government contract.

Because the great support that Cesar received from all spectrums of American society, a higher court was forced to temporarily set him free. A 24-hour vigil had existed ever since he was jailed.

To fight the brass's attempt to break the farm workers movement, a campaign was kicked off to extend the boycott to the military. On January 11, demonstrations occurred outside 30 military installations throughout the US. The UFWOC has filed a suit against Melvin Laird and the Dept of Defense for being strike breakers.

GIs are planning many different things. At Fort Ord, California, a mess hall boycott is in the plans. Also, a fiesta with farm workers and GIs is being planned. At many installations, stickers have started to appear which urge military brothers and sisters not to eat or buy scab lettuce. Rap sessions are set up, leaflets distributed. The GI underground press which now numbers between 80 to 100 papers, is going to carry the development of the struggle. The many GI organizations are going to move in support of the farm workers boycott. All over the US where there are UFWOCs, they are going to work with GIs in their area. If nothing is happening where you're stationed, write 638 Oak Street, San Francisco, California. Phone: (415) 864-5613.

Don't wait for others to start boycott activity, but get together with your friends and start it yourself. GIs in Nam and other overseas areas should in no way feel isolated from the stateside struggle. Stop scab lettuce the best way you can. If you need more information about the farm worker fight, write the above address.

It's not difficult not to eat or buy lettuce, or to get others not to eat it or buy it. The only healthy lettuce is the one that has the United Farmworkers Union label on it. Let's mobilize.

FARMWORKERS
AFL - CIO
UNION LABEL

GI - CIVILIAN UNITY

Think back to your high school days. What happened to people who talked back to teachers and refused to kiss ass in the classroom? They got kicked out of class, and were sent to the principal. If they gave him shit, they got kicked out of school. In other words, that person was isolated from the others because the people with power in the school were afraid that that person's rebellion might spread. The same thing happens on the job when someone tries to build a union. They're fired, separated from the other people who work there.

In the GI movement, the same tactic of isolating friend from friend is used on three levels: (1) between GIs who are already turned on to the movement and GIs who aren't yet, (2) between movement civilians and their GI brothers, and (3) between different people around the world who are fighting the American beast and the GIs who are forced to fight them. When you hear sweet songs about "...hey people, let's get together right now..." or "... break down the walls...", they're talking about breaking down this isolation and joining with your friends to fight the Man.

There's more to say about these three levels than would fit in this entire newspaper. About how the Man encourages racist feelings to keep us fighting each other. About how the Man uses guy's confusions about communism to keep them distrusting the other people who are already fighting back. About how the Man lies about Vietnam, tells you that they're gooks and dinks and slopes and commies besides, and thereby keeps you confused and afraid so that you'll take orders and be too unsure of yourself to tell the Man to shove it.

But this article is more about what they're most worried about--the disappearing separation of the civilian from the GI. The news of the last two months is what makes us think they're uptight about the collapse of their walls.

Item 1: During the month of December, quite a few bases across the country went on shotgun alert to "defend themselves against terrorist attacks by Weathermen." The real purpose of the alert was to get enlisted men to fell that Weatherman was a threat to them, but that they shouldn't worry since base command would protect them from any invasion of young and wild freaks.

Item 2: In the last two months, both Fort Ord and Fort Lewis have become closed bases. Gen. Pearson at Lewis claimed this was necessary because of "the severe internal threat posed by guerilla-type terrorism on post," and referred to Weatherman and Panthers as the source of this threat. In fact, the incidents Gen. Pearson was referring to (a weapons theft, ammunition thefts, arson, and vandalism) were all the work of Ft. Lewis GIs, who, like the Weathermen and Panthers, were striking back in the most direct way they knew how. Pearson's real problem is that he has "Weathermen and Panthers" stationed at Fort Lewis. The reason the base was closed to civilians was to isolate GIs from a vital base of support from the outside.

Item 3: In November and December, five movement people from Los Angeles were hit with Grand Jury subpoenas which required them to either testify about their political activity or go to jail. Of course, the five told the Grand Jury to shove it, so wound up in the slam. Two of the five are with Support Our Soldiers (SOS), a group which funds GI papers and projects. The effect of the busts on SOS was that they had to stop fund raising and begin building a legal defense. In other words, it was a time and energy rip-off which isolated Los Angeles from the GI movement. The people who suffered were the GI projects which relied on them for money.

Item 4: Fort Carson now has an experimental on-base GI coffeehouse. It was started to try and get guys away from the Homefront, a popular coffeehouse near the base run by both civilian and GI revolutionaries. It became a popular center for GIs who were working to fight the Fort Carson brass.

The Pentagon is sweating it because they know they're losing the key to control of the GI: isolation. Man, if they've got you separated from your friends, it's much easier for them to scare you so bad that you'll never stand up to their shit. To really understand how important isolation is to them, think back to basic training. You were isolated from permanent party personnel. You were isolated from the base town. And the town itself was probably way the fuck off in the boondocks somewhere. This is what they have to do to make you civilians into soldiers.

If you want to be a soldier the rest of your life, then don't read any farther. But if you're like most prisoners of the machine and hate it with a passion, make good use of the following advice. Wherever you're stationed, there are people living in town who will support you in your struggle. Finding them is as easy as picking up a telephone. For starters, check through the local underground newspaper. If no GI projects are listed, then talk to the people who put out that paper and they'll definitely work with you. If the town has no underground rag, contact the local draft counselling center, peace center, or poor people's legal office. If you are black, Asian, Chicano, Latino or Indian, you could probably find a community organizing project in the ghetto nearest you. To be sure you make contact, write us and we'll put you in touch with people who will provide local support.

No fence can separate the people from the people

IT'S TIME TO COME

"The moment has come when not only NLF supporters but the entire Vietnamese people are rising up against the US and generals Thieu and Ky . . . The US has converted South Vietnam into a one way market for their consumer goods. US blackmarket goods flood the country. Vietnamese are forced to conclude that the real aim of American economic aid is to force total dependence upon the US . . . 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 . . . the US is not looking for peace, but rather forcing the Nguyen Van Thieu government to try to achieve a military victory. Faced with the threat of extermination by war the whole population takes part in this struggle . . . They are not working for the NLF or any particular ideology."

The author of this statement is Ngo Cong Duc, the manager of Saigon's largest newspaper, TIN SANG (Morning News), the president of the South Viet Newspaper Proprietors' Association and deputy for Vinh Binh province in the Saigon National Assembly (he was elected in 1967 on an anti-Vietcong ticket). He made the statement in Paris on Sept 12, 1970, and was representing, among others:

** The Buddhist movement which demands peace and independence, led by the United Buddhist Church.*

** The Movement of Struggle of the Students, which is inspired by the Student Union of Saigon and the big cities, and which is demanding independent universities, no forced military training, no forced recruitment into the Army, and is opposing the policy of pursuing the war.*

** The Movement of Women, which is demanding the right to life and a return to peace, and which is led by the Women's Action Committee for the Defense of the Right to Life.*

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Since this speech, the growing hatred of Americans is becoming more and more evident. The Vietnamese people realize that without US intervention, the Saigon puppet government would crumble. Alliances of different groups of Vietnamese are being formed throughout South Vietnam, and they're demanding the withdrawal of American and allied soldiers as a first and necessary step to stop the war. One is the Peoples Front Struggling for Peace. It wants to bring together all social and religious groupings, and calls for "bringing about peace on the basis of national self determination," and demands the "establishment of a government truly representative of the people of the southern part of Vietnam in order to stop the war in line with the wishes of all the people."

The group's platform is important because it demands that foreign troops leave Vietnam, and that the two halves of Vietnam be reunited. Other peace groups were afraid to take this stand. What this means is that even the staunchest anti-communist Vietnamese have realized that their enemy is the puppet Thieu-Ky government and the US government which props it up, not the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) or the National Liberation Front (NLF) or the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV).

Another clear indication of the rising hatred of Americans in South Vietnam is the massive demonstrations aganst American occupation and atrocities. On December 11, 1970, in the city of Qui Nhon, and American soldier shot and killed a 12-year-old student, Nguyen Van Minh, who was sitting on the fence at his high school waiting for class. The murder of this young boy touched off days of rioting and demonstrations by high school students later joined by adults. For nine hours the student's bloody body was carried around the city in a procession. The next day a crowd of 4000 stoned some Americans, burned an Army jeep, damaged several trucks, shouted anti-American slogans and sacked Jimmy's American Bar. They also broke windows at a hotel occupied by American civilian contractors. The following day the city was under a 24 hour curfew, and American soldiers were confined to their bases. US officials apologized for the shooting, paid $170 for the funeral and $840 in compensation to the boy's relatives. At the end of the week, PFC Mathias Yzaguirre Jr. of Brownsville, Texas, was charged with negligent homicide.

Two things should be noted here: (1) the US government thinks it can make amends for anything, including murder, with money; (2) the US government wouldn't have done anything had the incident not been publicized.

It may seem strange that the killing of this one boy could bring so many people into the streets to vehemently express their resentment and hatred of Americans. But, "The killing," they said, "was like that last drop of water in a full glass that caused it to overflow."

Most Vietnamese townspeople see you Vietnam GIs as a "big foreigner who drives recklessly through town, yanks the hair of their daughters, knocks hats off old men, smokes marijuana constantly, calls them 'dinks' and sometimes kills innocent people." According to one villager, Vo Van Ba, "Americans consider Vietnamese lives very lightly. The death of an innocent civilian doesn't really count much to them. The Americans used to have fun by pulling our hats as they drove by. We stopped wearing our hats. I was also stoned from time to time, but that did not hurt much. We are like mice and the Americans are like cats. We are their playthings."

"People ask me who my heroes are. I have only one - Hitler. I admire Hitler because he pulled his country together when it was in a terrible state. But the situation here is so desperate now that one man would not be enough. We need four or five Hitlers in Vietnam." *Nguyen Cao Ky in 1964*

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Saigon, Dec 13, 1970 - Two homemade gasoline bombs burst against US Army bus.

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Saigon, Dec 17, 1970 - One of Saigon's main US military housing sections was bombed. A fragmentation bomb was thrown into a group of American GIs. And a 35-pound explosive charge wrecked the lobby of Horne Hall, a US officers billet about a mile from the scene of the grenade attack.

IT'S TIME TO COME HOME AND FIGHT!

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

"The moment has come when not only NLF supporters but the entire Vietnamese people are rising up against the US and generals Thieu and Ky . . . The US has converted South Vietnam into a one way market for their consumer goods. US blackmarket goods flood the country. Vietnamese are forced to conclude that the real aim of American economic aid is to force total dependence upon the US . . . 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 . . . the US is not looking for peace, but rather forcing the Nguyen Van Thieu government to try to achieve a military victory. Faced with the threat of extermination by war the whole population takes part in this struggle . . . They are not working for the NLF or any particular ideology."

The author of this statement is Ngo Cong Duc, the manager of Saigon's largest newspaper, TIN SANG (Morning News), the president of the South Viet Newspaper Proprietors' Association and deputy for Vinh Binh province in the Saigon National Assembly (he was elected in 1967 on an anti-Vietcong ticket). He made the statement in Paris on Sept 12, 1970, and was representing, among others:

** The Buddhist movement which demands peace and independence, led by the United Buddhist Church.*

** The Movement of Struggle of the Students, which is inspired by the Student Union of Saigon and the big cities, and which is demanding independent universities, no forced military training, no forced recruitment into the Army, and is opposing the policy of pursuing the war.*

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It has been my impression, after visits to Vietnam that a majority of the people in Vietnam support the guerillas in the countryside but do not support the Thieu government. *Senator Stuart Symington (Mo.)*

The Saigon Peace Movement

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Saigon, Dec 20, 1970 - Angry students stomped into the dean's office at the University of Can Tho and handed a note to President Thieu demanding (1) "Foreign soldiers end robbing and killing and absolutely respect Vietnam's sovereignty, and (2) the Government must make public its attitude concerning foreign soldiers who slay Vietnamese."

Saigon, Dec 29, 1970 - 100 students firebombed a US Army bus in Saigon and then stoned South Vietnamese and American military and civilian police until dispersed.

Before the murder of Nguyen Van Minh, the US Command suggested that Americans travelling in Vietnam do so in twos. Now the buddy system is not sufficient to make any travel besides official business worth the risk.

The situation in Nam is tense. The Vietnamese hate the US government but they don't see the government. They just see you, the American GIs. The reality of the situation is what a GI in Qui Nhon said. "I guess the problem is they don't want us here and we don't want to be here."

The GI Peace Movement

It was in April, 1968, that I first heard a Vietnam veteran describe a seek-and-destroy mission as "seek-and-avoid." He said that most of the men in his company, an infantry unit stationed near Danang, didn't think the war seemed "worth it" in terms of life, limb, and disrupted youth. "On patrol," he explained, "we were supposed to go a mile and engage Charlie, right? What we did was go a hundred yards, find us some heavy foliage, smoke, rap, and sack out."

In the past two years, hundreds of thousands of American soldiers have used this tactic. Refusal to take part in combat has grown so widespread that it need no longer be surreptitious. GIs leave their firebases with impunity; commanders fear that court-martialing them will undermine whatever remains of morale. Officers and NCOs who insist on ordering troops into the field are commonly "fragged"–hit by a grenade rolled under their tentflaps. Blatant racists are dealt with similarly. GIs smoke marijuana freely, realising that a round-up of potheads would deplete the infantry faster than you can say Hatfield-McGovern.

The meaning of the GIs' reluctance to fight has not been lost on the Pentagon, where the masterminds are expediting the volunteer Army and planning an ever greater role for the Air Force. But the American people have long been denied the information that it's their boys, not President Nixon, who are cancelling operations.

In the October 23 issue of *Life* there is an illuminating piece by John Saar: "You Can't Just Hand Orders," a portrait of a young company commander. We learn that Capt. Brian Utermahlen, West Point '68, enjoys a rapport with the men of his "exceptionally good company" because he hasn't court-martialed those who refuse to go to the field; hasn't persecuted the blacks (whose spokesman sympathises with the NLF and muses about fighting for liberation back home); hasn't busted the weed blowers; did dismiss a zealous sergeant who tried to enforce certain "less urgent orders"; and managed to lead a 17-day mission in which no one, friend or foe, got seriously hurt.

Perhaps the current mood of the GIs is just too subtle–being neither heroic nor craven–for journalism to evoke, and we must hope this war produces a novelist who can give us the "American Schweik" so vividly that his name becomes a household word and his vague survival-politics come into focus.

Or, maybe that mood could be conveyed through a collection of letters GIs are sending back from Vietnam. The ones to parents tend to be perfunctory and reassuring; but those intended for sweethearts, kid brothers, and buddies are very telling. This is what a soldier stationed at Cu Chi wrote to a friend on October 26:

"They have set up separate companies for men who have refused to go out to the field. It is no big thing here anymore to refuse to go. If a man is ordered to go such and such place, he no longer goes through the hassle of refusing; he just packs his shirt and goes visit some buddies at another base camp.

"Operations have become incredibly rag-tag; vehicles don't work for lack of maintenance; helicopters are just falling to the ground; airfields are falling apart. Many guys don't even put on their uniforms anymore. I am almost always wearing a pair of keds, a blue tie-

dye shirt and army pants I made into cut-offs. I put in an appearance at work sometimes to see if I've gotten any mail.

"It used to be they could get a couple of months of work out of new people but that is no longer the case When new guys come into our company, we rap how we've taken over and turn them on. Lately they have b been segregating new guys, whom they call 'new meat.' 90th Replacement Battalion, the main processing station for newly arrived personnel is off-limits. They have barbed wire and guards all around it. You have to have a special pass to get in. It is also the out-processing station for men returning to the states. They have been strictly segregated from the 'new meat.' When we have new men come in, the Sergeant Major personally escorts them from Long Binh. They rush them through processing, give big, lie-filled raps, and quickly send them to the field. . . .

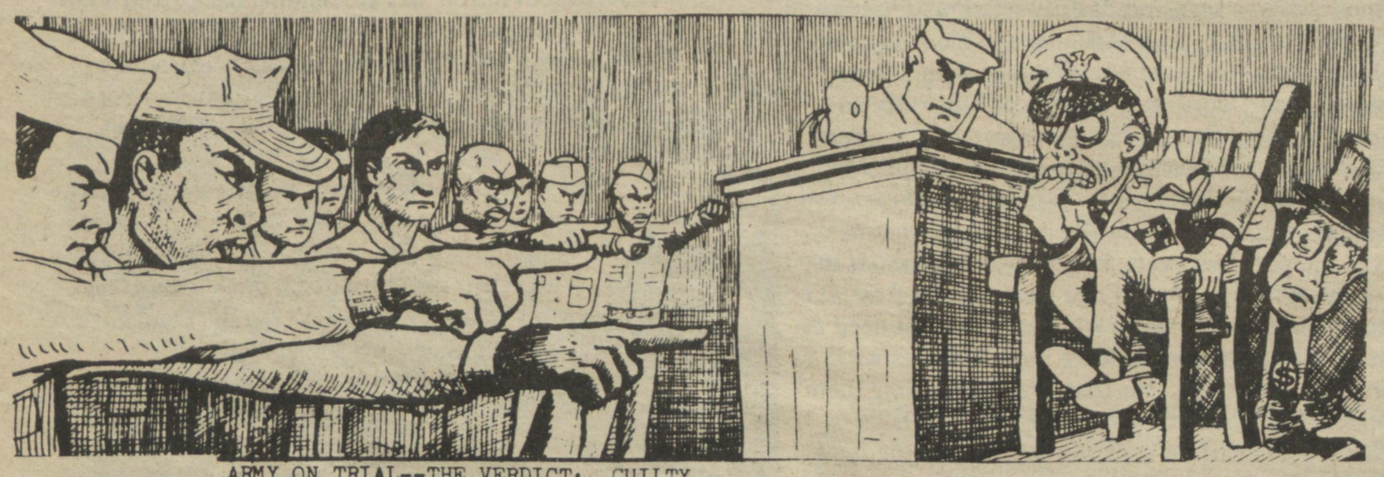
"The American garrisons on the larger bases are virtually unarmed. The lifers have taken our weapons from us and put them under lock and key. Theirs. One black locked and loaded on the battalion CO recently because they were trying to send him into the field. About 10 other blacks backed him up. They just gave the guy a 212 [discharge]. They have also been quite a few frag incidents in the battalion. . . ."

President Nixon may claim credit for phasing down the war; Congress may debate a timetable for pulling out; but the fact is that rank-and-file GIs are ending the fighting on their own.

–fred gardner/*the new york times*

continued from page 3

Los Angeles (Dec) - In November in Tucson, a federal Grand Jury had indicted Weatherman John Fuerst for possession of explosive devices. John was friends with many movement people in the Los Angeles area. Special US Attorney in charge of the case, Guy Goodwin, decided that as long as he was after John, he might as well check out some of his friends. So Goodwin got the Grand Jury to subpoena five people to give evidence against John and to testify about their own political activities. Two of the five are with a group - Support Our Soldiers (SOS) - which raises money for the GI movement. Each of the five was given immunity from prosecution. This meant that they couldn't take the Fifth Amendment (you have the right to remain silent if you think you might incriminate yourself; it's the same as Article 31). So when the five people refused to answer questions, they were "in contempt of court" and thrown in jail. Their sentence: 6 months. They stayed in the slam for between one to two months, getting out only because a Federal Court of Appeals in San Francisco decided that they should be out until appeal may determine if the government will be able to use their Grand Juries to lock people up in the future.



ARMY ON TRIAL--THE VERDICT: GUILTY.

New York (Dec) - Aretha Franklin says she stands ready to post Angela Davis's bail "whether it's $100,000 or $250,000." "Angela Davis must go free. Black people will be free. I've been locked up (for disturbing the peace in Detroit) and I know you've got to disturb the peace when you can't get no peace."

Washington, D.C. (Dec) - In February, three bills will be presented in Congress that have to do with military injustice. The GI Office has talked to Senator Sam Ervin, the guy who's head of the subcommittee which is directing the hearings. He has agreed to let the hearings include testimony by GIs and vets and WACS/WAVES who have been fucked over either legally or illegally in the military. Any regular outrage is worth writing to them about. Write to GI Office, P.O. Box 9746, Washington, D.C. 20016, or phone (202) 244-2831.

Poland (mid-Dec) - Riots break out in northwestern Poland. A movement of workers, student, women and just about everybody forces the government leaders to step down. New leaders come to power who promise closer ties with the people.

Rochester, N.Y. (mid-Dec) - Eight more pacifists have recently been jailed for destruction of draft files. The eight, who call themselves the Flower City Conspiracy, were given sentences of up to eighteen months.

Fort Meade, Maryland (Dec) - GIs there have managed to crack brass control in SPB. Morning muster reveals that about half the guys in each platoon are AWOL. Those who make muster fall out in t-shirts, red hats, blue jeans and sandals. The highlight of the month was when Co. B's barracks set itself on fire one night during the weekend movie on base. No one has been caught for that feat yet.

Okinawa (Dec 20) - One thousand Okinawans stormed into Kadena Air Force Base, battling US troops with fists, rocks, and stones, and set fire to a base school, a guardhouse and 83 vehicles. The angry crowd swelled to 5000 as the fight continued into the predawn hours. The incident developed over a hit-and-run accident of an Okinawan by a GI.

Soviet Union (Dec-Jan) - Several Soviet Jews were sentenced to death for their part in a hijacking attempt. Eleven people were on trial of which ten were Jews. Dur to heavy outside Soviet pressure, sentences were commuted to 15 years.

Bolivia (Dec) - French author Regis Debray, who was sentenced to 30 years in prison for alleged guerilla activity was freed after serving three years. This was done by the new left-wing regime of General Torres.

Fort Lewis, Washington (Dec) - Early this month, Gen. Pearson announced with much fanfare that as of Dec. 14, Ft. Lewis would be restricted to civilian traffic. He said this was necessary because of "the severe internal threat posed by guerilla-type terrorism on post" (from a UPI wire). At Lewis there have been an increase in weapon thefts, arson, ammunition thefts, and vandalism. By Dec. 21, cars not bearing post permits were being stopped and checked at the main gate. But all cars were moving freely on and off post through the other five gates of Lewis. Our guess is that Pearson made his announcement for two reasons: (1) to scare away the regular GI from his civilian allies in the movement; (2) to convince the general public that GI discontent does not exist. It just so happened that all those fires and weapons thefts were done by GIs, not the Weathermen and Black Panthers that Pearson was blaming.

Marin County, Calif. (Dec 22) - Angela Davis is extradited through military channels from New York to stand trial on charges of murder, kidnapping and conspiracy. Committees to Free Angela have been organized in 47 US cities and virtually every country in Europe. Support for Angela is as strong as the support Martin Luther King had in the several years before his murder.

Spain (Dec) - The trial of sixteen Basque guerillas ends with death sentences for six. Spain is faced with its biggest internal crisis since the Civil War. Workers and students have been demonstration since the beginning of the trial. General Franco, the fascist dictator of Spain, has made all demonstrations illegal. In a futile attempt to pacify the people who threaten him, he later commuted the death sentences to life in prison.

Anti-Ky Marchers. Pictures of Ho, NLF Flag Fly High

Ft. Hamilton, N.Y. (Jan) - Thirty-two soldiers in the 26th Army Band stationed at Ft. Hamilton, New York, are suing the Army to prevent it from transferring them to remote outposts, mainly Vietnam, Korea and Alaska, in retaliation against their antiwar activities. Major General Richard G. Ciccolella, chief of staff of the First Army, testified in federal court Dec. 22 that SP4 David Cortright was a "troublemaker" and the leader of a "little gang" of dissidents at Ft. Hamilton. He said he ordered him transferred to Ft. Bliss, Texas, because he and other antiwar GIs were "weakening the general morale, discipline, and effectiveness" of the 26th Army Band. He claimed ignorance, however, of whether other punitive transfers, five to Vietnam and three to Korea, were also made to raise the "general morale" of the unit. The transfers occurred after a July 4 demonstration by Military Wives for Peace, in which several wives of the plaintiffs took part. Some of the soldiers had also signed antiwar petitions. The court is expected to rule on the suit within the next two months.

Washington, D.C. (Jan) - Five members of the Concerned Officers Movement asked the Secretaries of the Army and Navy to convene formal courts of inquiry into the question of war crimes and atrocities in Vietnam. Their letters included a 300 page transcript of atatements made in December by 36 Vietnam vets testifying before the Citizens Commission of Inquiry. The letter also explained how war crimes are standard operational procedure, and how they are approved at the highest level of command and by the civilian leadership in Washington. Telford Taylor, the chief US prosecutor at the Nuremberg tribunal which tried Nazi war criminals, also said that it was highly likely that high ranking government and military leaders had committed war crimes in Vietnam.

Quang Tri, Vietnam (Jan) - CID arrested four black GIs in the fragging of two majors in an argument over loudly playing hi-fi. This occurred at the base camp of the 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division, 404 miles northeast of Saigon. Papers stateside featured the story on page one, and magazines and newspapers everywhere ran editorials about dope, low morale, and the running war between enlisted men and lifers.

Washington, D.C. (Jan 13) - Four Roman Catholic priests, two former priests, four nuns, a college professor, and a political scientist were charged by the US attorney with plotting to kidnap Henry Kissinger, assistant to Nixon for National Security Affairs, and blow up the heating systems of Federal buildings. As ransom for Kissinger, the people were going to demand an end to the war in Southeast Asia and the release of all political prisoners. This case has all the makings of another political frame-up.

Long Binh, Vietnam (Jan 14) - About 40 black GIs marched from downtown Saigon to Long Binh headquarters base on the ammiversary of Martin Luther King's birthday. In thier statements, they expressed support for Angela Davis, and an eagerness to return to the US to join the black liberation struggle. Although on-base demonstrations are illegal, this highly disciplined group was able to march, make a statement, and still not get busted. Unity was the key.

'NAM GIs

There's now a legal office set up in down town Saigon. They're all civilian attorneys and they're there to work with guys who're being shafted by the Man. Write them at

146 bis, Pasteur
Saigon, RVN

THE WINTER SOLDIER INVESTIGATION

Starting January 29, a large group of veterans, international journalists, GI movement people, writer Mark Lane, Paul Newman, Burt Lancaster, Marlon Brando, Vanessa Redgrave, and Jane Fonda will be participating in the Winter Soldier Investigation, an inquiry into US war crimes in Indochina. The investigation will also cover inhuman treatment of American GIs by NCOs and officers. Vietnam vets, inmates of military prisons, boot camp veterans, and victims of racist oppression within the military will be testifying.

Vietnamese, Cambodians and Laotians will also tell of what they've seen. They'll be speaking from Windsor, Ontario, Canada, which is just across the river from Detroit, and they'll be linked by closed circuit television. The Black Panther Party, Support Our Soldiers, and the League of REvolutionary Black Workers are co-sponsors of the investigation. The event will close with a dinner joining GIs and vets with the Southeast Asian participants in Windsor.

Your CO may have told you that you can be shafted for testifying about war crimes. This is a lie. No person who has been discharged from the Armed Forces can be prosecuted by the US military for war crimes. The whole point of the thing is to take the spotlight of blame off the individual scapegoat and place it where it belongs--on mercenary officers, military strategists, and government officials. If you chose to step forward and be c ounted, we'll try to cover expenses. If for some reason you are unable to go, your testimony can be entered in the form of a notarized affidavit.

Those interested should contact WSI at 156 Fifth Avenue, room 1003, New York, New York 10010, phone: (212) 242-5640. On the West Coast, write or call WSI at 968 Valencia, San Francisco 94110, phone: (415) 824-1625. In the mid-west, contact WSI at 967 Emerson Street, Detroit, Michigan, phone: (313) 822-7700.

GI Refuses NAM Orders, Goes AWOL And Tells Why!

In this interview, a GI who went AWOL rather than go to Viet Nam describes his reasons to reporters from WILDCAT and the Movement for a Democratic Military (MDM).

Q: Just before you got orders to go to Viet Nam you spent some time in an army stockade. Could you describe the type of prisoners you found there?

A: When you first get to the stockade they put you in a big holding cell where they process the prisoners going in and I noticed right there that the prisoners were just like cats off the block -- lower class blacks, whites, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans and what have you. In D-Block, the maximum security area where I first was, there were a number of cats who were in for drugs. But there were guys there also who had been in GI United (a GI organization mainly active in the East Coast) and Muslims. There were also a few guys being held because they had applied for CO (conscientious objector) status.

The first three weeks I was in there there was a black Muslim minister who would stand in the blocks and run down things he knew about the war and society, and guys would stand there and listen. But after three weeks or so they took him to the hospital -- that's what they do, they say that your mind is unbalanced and keep you there for "psychiatric observation."

Q: Was there a lot of talk about Viet Nam?

A: That was mostly guys who had been to Nam. They'd say things like My Lai wasn't the only thing that was happening over there. They'd say the Vietnamse army, ARVN, was really down on its own people and things like that.

Q: What happened after you got out of the stockade?

A: They shuffled me around from platoon to platoon. I got transferred out of one platoon because the white lieutenant didn't like blacks who talked back. Finally they put me in the most gung ho platoon in the company. I guess they figured that would straighten me out....I got into a whole thing where I would refuse to pull KP duty. Then I noticed that things were really happening in LA, Detroit, Chicago, and that the 82nd Airborne was pulling alert a lot. All kinds of riot control exercise too. And then they had this moratorium up in Washington and they spent the whole week getting prepared for it. And my platoon sergeant gave me the assignment of machine gunner on a gun jeep, an M60. The Second Brigade had already gone up to Washington, and some other companies too. So we were next. So I said to my sergeant, "No Way," and the next thing I know I get an article 15 for refusing to obey an order. There some medics and others who refused to go too, and they got the same thing.

But some of these cats, they really wanted to go and break some long hair heads. These were NCO's and officers and lifers. They want any kind of violence. Most of the enlisted men just sort of go along with it, you know, the don't make waves kind of mentality.

Q: What kind of riot control did you do?

A: You do marching wedges, marching your flanks, fixing bayonets. You'd have guys on the other side simulating throwing rocks and things like that. The funny thing about it was that there was no sure thing about who was supposed to give the order to fire. That was really weird.

At that time there was a lieutenant who had been in the National Guard -- he was about twenty-nine -- and he had been up in Berkeley, and that man was really down on people, he was a very fascist motherf---er. He didn't have no war stories about Viet Nam so he would talk about Berkeley to fit in with the lifer clique.

Q: What do you think would have happened if you had gone up to Washington and there was a confrontation?

A: I wouldn't have gone. But I think the thing would have come down similar to Kent or Jackson State. I mean they

were ready to do it. You see a lot of GI's don't really know what's going on and they take what they hear from the military and they believe it. And because of your isolated situation on the base you rarely get the truth about what is happening on the outside.

Q: How did you decide not to go to Nam?

A: About three weeks before I was to got to Viet Nam I was beginning to wonder how I could walk into a war and fight when I didn't even know what it was all about. People would tell me "If I were you I wouldn't go" but nobody would tell me why not. So I went to Frisco to see my family. Then I went and stayed with some other people and I started reading, and the people I was staying with didn't say much but they had all kinds of books. I read about Ho Chi Minh first fighting the Japanese, then the French and now the United States. And I said to myself, wow, this war has been going on for so long and the people there are fighting the US and I'm going to go over there to take away their freedom. Then afterwards, I realized I couldn't even serve in the military, after all what was it doing for Black people?

Q: What else did you read?

A: Well I read a lot of Black history -- which I never even knew about....Then I started reading Marx, because I was questioned one time on the base by an officer as to whether or not I knew who Marx was. And I didn't know who Marx was but that made me curious to find out. Then I started to read about organization in Lenin, and Marx' Prices, Wages and Profit, and I started finding out that there was no way to change or reform this society until this whole capitalist system was put down. I mean as big as this system is it's always going to need colonial states. And it's inevitable that there will be peoples' communist revolutions, so the US is going to maintain its military machine to suppress them.

So what I'm doing now is trying to get my head together and my ideas straight. I know one thing and that's that I'm not going to be serving in the military anymore. If anything I'm going to try to organize against it.

Q: Do you think you'll be going to Canada?

A: Canada, shit. I thought about Canada. But I want to get into this national fight, too. Canada's not the States, it's a copout. If you keep running to Canada you ain't gonna change nothing here.

FTA Information Service

Unfortunately, we happen to be stuck with a government that has to bullshit a lot to keep itself in power. That's why the truth is our best weapon. They fear it most. We've started a thing called FTA Information Service which has collected information about the things most often lied about: the Black Panthers, Cuba, the economy, working people's struggles, women's liberation, Vietnam, you-name-it. Write to FTA Information Service, P.O. Box 3061, Oakland, California 94609.

Pacific Counseling Service

MONTEREY, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN DIEGO
OAKLAND, TACOMA, WASH., TOKYO, JAPAN

Many servicemen are discontented with their present status within the military, but unaware of existing alternatives.

Military regulations offer a number of alternatives by which a serviceman can be discharged, ranging from conscientious objection to physical disability. Servicemen can also receive non-combatant status.

The Pacific Counseling Service informs men of their rights and helps them to obtain these rights.

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(206) 272-7744

short shit

A Senate labor subcommittee headed by Senator Alan Cranston reported that the GI jobless rate is up at least 7%. A professor of psychiatry also reported that veterans exposed to combat in Vietnam may require two or more years to adjust to civilian life. "Non-adjustment" meant job instability, anger, resentment, alienation, alcoholism and drug addiction. Welcome home, brothers, Welcome home.

The Pentagon admitted in hearings before a Congressional subcommittee that it spends billions each year to arm foreign governments. But it was unable to tell them how much each country receives or the total annual cost of this assistance. In the same week it was revealed that the Food for Peace program was used by the Pentagon as a front to funnel weapons into the government of the recipient country. This is one more way that the Pentagon is gaining control over American foreign policy.

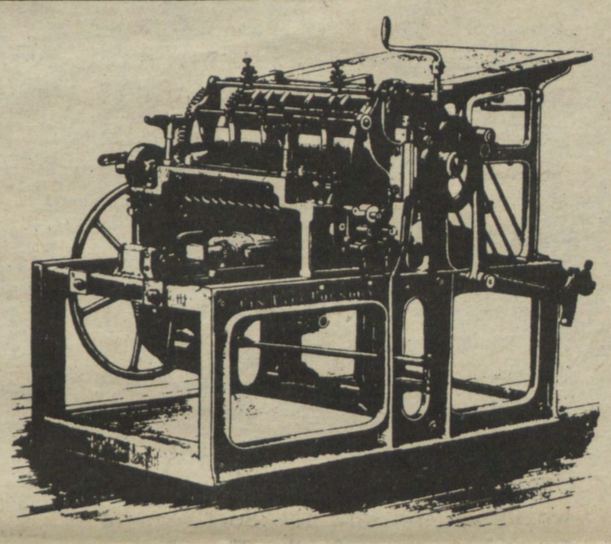
The Pentagon has its people in Congress. Their strongest ally was Mendel Rivers, a rich racist Democrat from South Carolina. Unforunately, he died of old age before angry veterans could get to him. Rivers made a military installation out of his entire Congressional district. It included a naval shipyard, a Polaris sub base, a naval weapons station, an Air Force base, a Marine Corps air stations, the Parris Island Marine Corps recruit depot, an Army supply depot, and two Navy hospitals.

The Dept of Defense has been pumping millions of dollars into the advertising business. It seems they're having problems recruiting. Only the best of the Madison Avenue firms have been contracted to do radio spots, posters, films brochures, and magazine ads. TV and radio donate public service time, while magazines and newspapers charge for page space.

When Bob Hope got back from his seventh psych op mission to Vietnam, he said to a newsman that the morale of our fighting boys in Vietnam had never been higher. When Senator Allard Lowenstein heard that, he cracked up and said that that was the best routine he'd heard Hope do in years.

J. Edgar Hoover was quoted as saying that the FBI recruited half its 1000 new agents from officers who had served in Vietnam. "You get a man who has been in command of men and he has to use good judgment," the FBI chief said in an interview with Time magazine. Whoever says that lifers can't make it in the real world has probably never run up against lifer-type cops and agents.

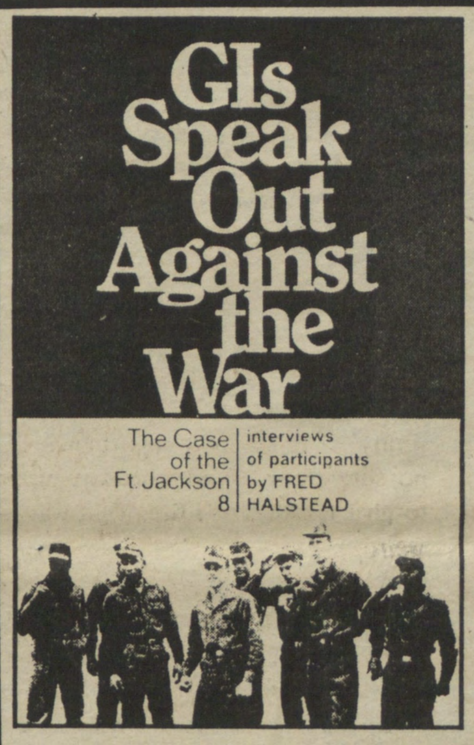
Name Change



Brothers and Sisters:

Up Against the Bulkhead needs a new name. When we started out we were only writing for Navy people stationed in the San Francisco Bay Area. But this is no longer the case. Over the last few issues it has expanded to include all branches of the military. Also military men and women stationed in all parts of the world receive the paper. So a name appropriate to these changes has to be discovered. We also want to be an ass-kicking paper. Kicking the ass of the oppressive lifers, whether the lifer comes in the form of Richard Milmouse Nixon or your 1st Sgt. You, the brothers and sisters who read this paper, have to come up with the name because this paper is yours. So give us the name with which we can put fear into those who constantly try to mess over us, and bring strength to us caught at the bottom.

Power to the People
The Staff



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.

Available at GRANMA BOOKS
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"Why of course the people don't want war. Why should some poor slob risk his life when the best he can get out of it is to come back in one piece? Naturally the common people don't want war. But after all, it is the leaders of a country who determine policy, and it is always simple matter to drag the people along. All you have to do is to tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger." Herman Goering, German war criminal

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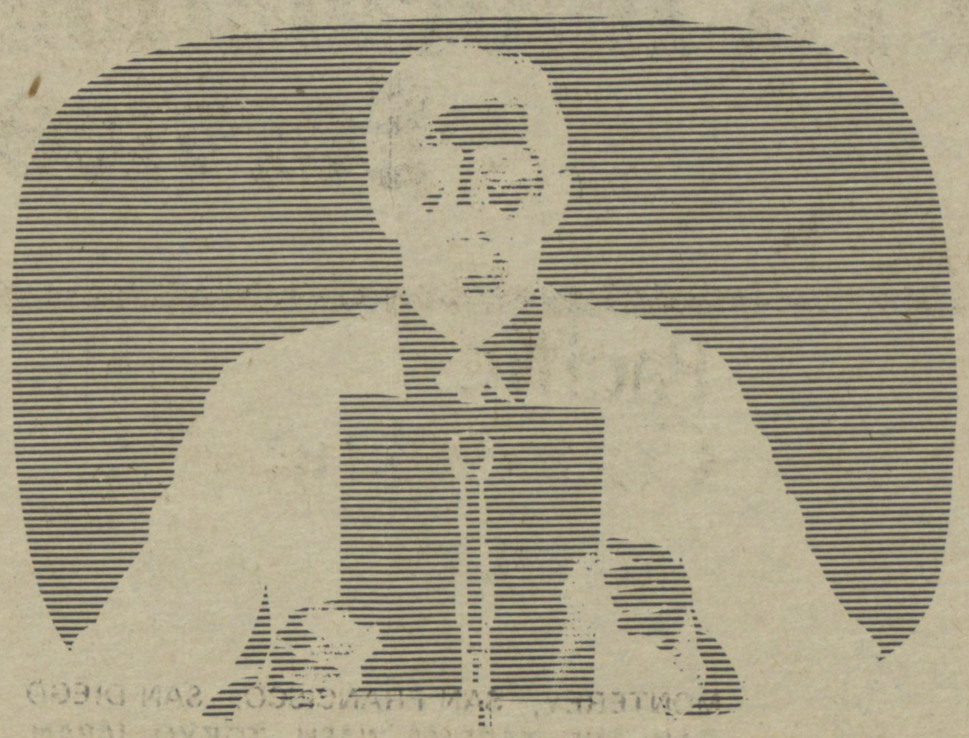

An Army cannot fight unless it can move men and materials quickly and efficiently. In order to keep track of things, men's records, supply inventory, in fact, everything they need to know, is stored on magnetic tape in computer data banks. These data banks, like all pieces of complex machinery can be fouled up by the right thing being put in the right place at the right time. If you can't get around to dumping iron filings into one of the electronic floor units, then get a strong bar magnet and pass it across the face of the magnetic tapes which store all information. This does to tape what an eraser does when wiped across a blackboard. A Boy Scout troop was on a guided tour of some major corporation's computer center. One scout passed a dime store magnet too close to some tapes. It took $100,000 worth of computer time to replace the lost information. If you're lucky, the computer you hit won't be able to replace its information at all.

IBM System/370