UP AGAINST THE
BULKHEAD

THIS PAPER CANNOT LEGALLY BE TAKEN FROM YOU. ACCORDING TO DOD DIRECTIVE 1325.6 "POSSESSION OF UNAUTHORIZED MATERIAL MAY NOT BE PROHIBITED."

98 Chenery Street, San Francisco, California 94131 | Issue 13 | January 1973 | Free to GIs

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

MILITARY REVOLTING!

Constellation brothers photographed in the middle of a vote on whether or not to reboard the ship.

At the same time many Americans feel powerless to change the course of Nixon's ship of state, a hundred and thirty black sailors forced a United States aircraft carrier to turn around dead in its tracks and return from sea trials to its port in San Diego.

The 130 had staged a sit-down strike in the mess deck of the attack carrier USS Constellation. They settled in for a long stay, and remained calm, disciplined and unified in the face of everything from sweet-talking Human Relations counselors to a riot squad toting loaded M-16s with fixed bayonets. Unable to feed the rest of the ship's 4000 men, and unable to split up the group, Captain Ward was forced to turn "his" ship around in order to get "the problem" off the boat.

But even when the 130 were on the pier and off the boat, they remained a problem to Capt. Ward. They stuck together and refused to get back on until their demands for fair and equal treatment by the ship's command were dealt with. Again, they sat down together, refused to work, and disobeyed a direct order to get back on the boat. See the full story on page four.

VIETNAM

What Lies Behind the Peace Talk?
How Will It Affect You?
See Page 8.

PHILIPPINES

When Martial Law Was Declared,
American Friends of the
GI Movement
Were Jailed & Deported.
Interview on Page 9.

BILLY DEAN SMITH

Acquitted of Fragging Charges
At Fort Ord, California
See Page 15.

LETTERS

USS Constellation

October, 1972

Sympathizers,

I have had many questions in my life, but few have found the trail to answers of honesty.... it is starting here, the Blue Chimera has told me two Navy Intelligence personnel have questioned him on the salting of feedwater in a main propulsion plant--he is alright...and Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Koslowski have not found any suspects.

The Captain told the ship we are the first "birdfarm" to complete war preparations (better known as Reftra) with no "un-sats". He is hoping we will be "number one" again, as are all the genocidal maniacs now populating this gray ghost.

I say justice to whoever did the Ranger in. And one question still lies unanswered in my mind--"how many people were spared by one person's actions against a war he did not believe in?"

You may ask, who is this stranger. I am the unknown water warrior Grand Funk spoke of, with my hand around your throat, but heaven won't help to take me from your boat....

Beware, you insane murderers, for I am by your side.

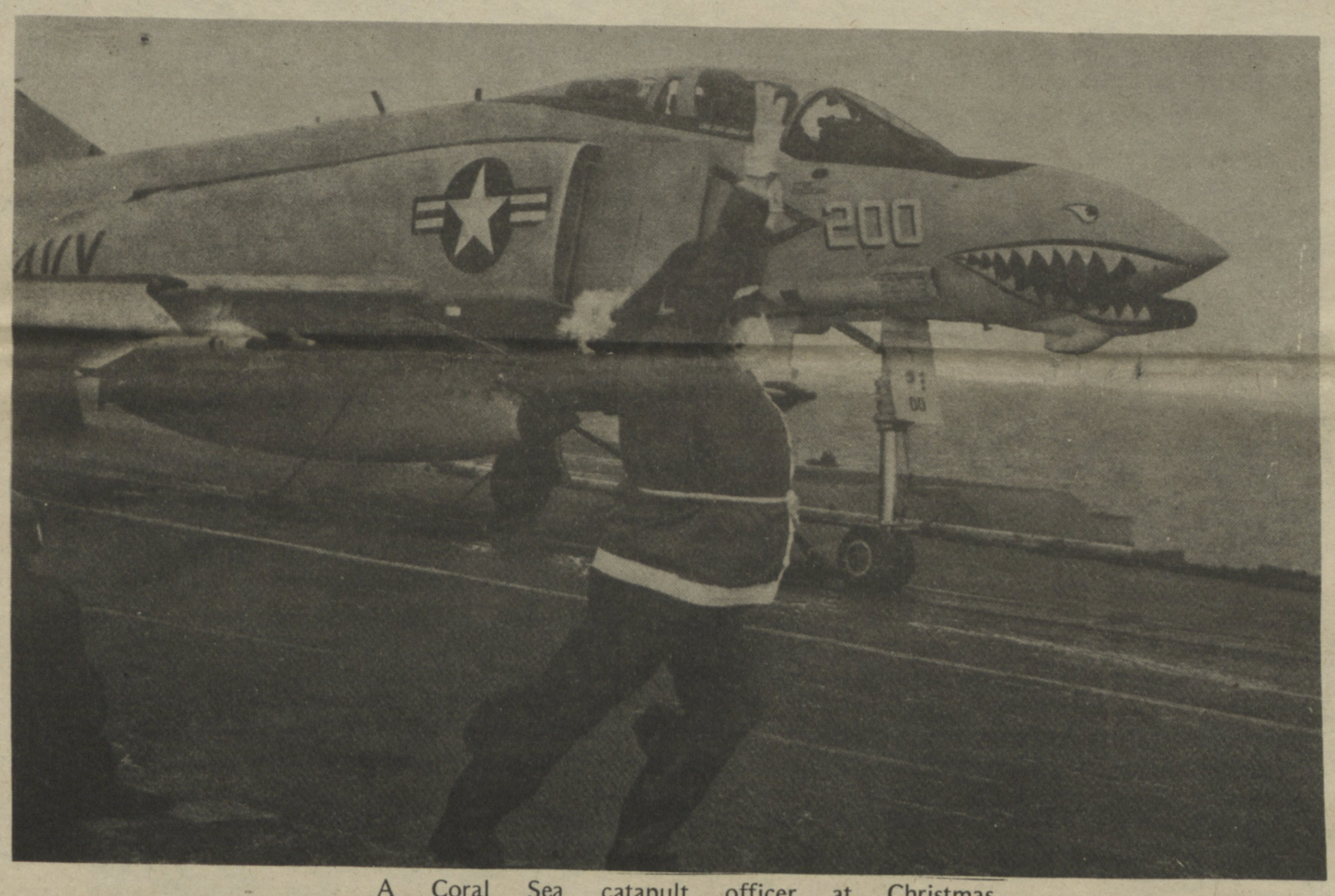
Invisible Memory

Nothing in life is given to you--not even freedom.

Please tell me how to organize. I have a friend and believer. It's a beginning!!

LETTERS

LETTERS



A Coral Sea catapult officer at Christmas

USS Saratoga

October 21, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

Well I would really like to thank you for writing and for the super neat care package you sent me. It makes me feel real good to know I am not alone in my struggle to help bring this senseless war to an end. Everyday more and more of our fellow shipmates here on the Saratoga are joining our ranks. In two days we will have our real first attempt at organizing a demonstration to protest the war and the unjust conditions that exist on this ship.

In the morning we will be pulling into Subic Bay for an overnight stay in order to take on needed supplies. When it comes time to pull out the following afternoon over four hundred of us plan on walking off the ship and refusing to sail until our demands have been met. Some of the demands are that this ship be returned to the states, that the unjust drug investigations now being held be stopped, and that the unfair curfew being imposed on us be lifted.

Now I will attempt to explain the cause of these demands. Our ship, when first deployed, was scheduled to return to the states by November lst. Since then we have been extended twice thus far, moving our arrival date in the states to March lst. People here are beginning to get fed up with all the false promises made to us that we get home by Christmas.

Secondly, since the beginning of this deployment until this present day, our ship's brig has been filled to its maximum. Most of those placed in the brig are people who have been accused of drug use. On August 10, nine of our crew members were found guilty of drug use solely on signed statements by three people who testified to seeing them use drugs some seven months beforehand.

Now my entire division has been placed under suspicion of drug use. A special N.I.S. agent has been assigned to cover this case. All the proof that he has on the members of my division are again three signed statements from some pretty unreliable sources. All of us here now face confinement in the brig or a possible administrative discharge if our commanding officer finds us guilty on this evidence. We therefore intend to see that those so accused are dealt with fairly and convicted only on sound evidence.

Lastly is the unfair curfew imposed on us because of a racial riot which occurred early on the morning of October 18th. Since then all hands not actually on watch or engaged in work must remain in their racks between the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Anyone who violates this curfew is immediately placed on report.

So I hope in this letter I was able to inform you of some of the things we are fighting against here on the Saratoga. We may have just begun in our fight, but things are moving really fast.

Wish us luck in our struggle and keep up the great work your paper has been doing to keep the fleet informed of our progress.

Peace soon,
Mark

USS Ranger

November 18, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

I am an E-3 on the war machine Ranger. I got your address from a buddy who showed me a letter he received from you expressing an interest in the Chenoweth case. I thought maybe you'd like to print something about him.

Patrick D. Chenoweth is a personal friend of mine who is getting unjustly fucked over by the big political war machine. I don't know about other places, but the rumors on the Ranger say that Pat has been convicted and sentenced to life. This is far from true. He has been held in the brig at Treasure Island since July "pending the pre-trial investigation." They say they are holding him to ensure his presence at a court-martial. On several occasions he has been away from the brig to talk with his lawyers and each time has been an opportunity to split which he hasn't done. I talked to him Wednesday morning (the day before Ranger pulled out) and he said that to split would be an admission of guilt.

The pre-trial hearings have been over for about 3 weeks now, and all the reviews and bullshit like that have ended and the Navy has decided to put it to a court-martial. This is far out because as soon as they decided that there was immediately a lot of publicity, which has been totally freaking the lifers.

Eric Seitz, Pat's lawyer, is in federal court trying to spring Pat from the brig. There was supposed to be a ruling on it last Tuesday or Wednesday, but as of the time we pulled out nothing had been heard about it. Maybe he's out by now.

There were about 10 of us who could not dig going and playing war, so we volunteered to testify in Pat's behalf. Eric requested we get put on legal hold to prepare our statements, but we are all still on the boat headed for Westpac. A few of us are filing Article 138 complaints on the Captain of Ranger to try and get transferred back to the Bay Area until the trial.

Since Pat's confinement to the brig he has been consistently hassled by the lifers there. Also Pat (being held merely on suspicion and for safekeeping) has been forced to do the same shit as those sentenced to brig time. Their mail is all censored and Pat said he has been getting some far out mail, but they won't let him have it cause it's gotta be from someone on his "mailing list" before they let him have it. All they do is tell Pat they have it. All mail for Pat should be sent:

c/o Eric Seitz
405 Capp St.
San Francisco, Ca. 94110

That's about all I can tell you about Pat. As far as the Ranger goes, there are a lot of SOS buttons around and literature against the war, and the Pigs are so scared they have had a lock installed in their compartment door and each Pig has his own key to the door.

The Ranger is heading overseas again after 1½ years and you wouldn't believe we just got out of the yards.

Right now 3 or 4 out of 8 boilers are not working. There are many things the yards were supposed to fix and didn't and most of what they did has been redone by ship's personnel. What a waste of money and effort all the way around.

Well I hope I have given you something to print. Thanks for letting me take up your time. I would like to receive the Bulkhead.

D.

[See article on page 17 for more on Pat Chenoweth]

Okinawa

September, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

Will McIntosh has taken a stand in his beliefs. He has refused to be led down that age-old road of destruction, bloodshed and corruption any longer, to be used by the swine in power as if he were a mindless robot that is unable to think, reason, or feel!

Here in Okinawa there is much military injustice, as elsewhere in the world. Many GIs are really getting the shaft but are frightened into keeping silent. They are told "you can't buck the system." I say Bullshit!

The military is like cancer. It is a killer!

Will sent letters informing his superiors that he was resigning and was no longer a member of such an organization. He wrote:

"I would go to one class the Army gave where they talked about guerilla warfare and they said that in order for guerillas to fight a war they had to have support of the people. In another class they told us the people of Vietnam asked us to help fight the invaders. The US has had to fight them for 12 years. The guerillas must have support of the people."

In the past he tried for a transfer. No soap! His m.o.s. was that of an electrician. He received the highest score on his m.o.s. test in the entire Army. His job, handing out furniture. He tried for a discharge, no luck either. He was singled out because he voiced his ideas and dressed in a certain way. This brought about many changes.

These are some of the reasons he is now in the stockade. He was arrested. His home was searched (no search warrant) by local police. His wife was pushed because she asked for a warrant. He was thrown into a 5x8 cell, maximum security, denied the right to shower, allowed to have only the barest necessities. He is harassed constantly and told if he would change his mind and beliefs he would be let out???

They are trying hard to break Will. He was taken out of maximum security and given a job,- untying cords to parachutes. He refused to do this. His reason–those chutes were used in Vietnam. He would not help in the war. He has been written up several times and is threatened with "the box."

Is it wrong to believe that it is insane to kill, to invade another's country and push an unwanted society upon them, to want freedom and peace worldwide?

Signed,
Anti-Military

P.S. Letters of support will be greatly appreciated. Let us get it together and exchange ideas, problems, etc. Please be careful in letters written to Will. All mail is checked for items on drugs, obscene language, etc. Write to:

Will McIntosh
USA Maint. Act.
APO San Francisco, Ca. 96331
or
J.O.R.O.
P.O. Box 4
Naha, Okinawa
c/o "Opinion Line"

The "Blanket Stiff"

He built the ROAD–
With others of his CLASS, he built the road,
Now o'er it, many a weary mile, he packs his load,
Chasing a JOB, spurred on by HUNGERS goad.
He walks and walks, and wonders why
In H—L, he built the road.

Camp Lejeune, NC

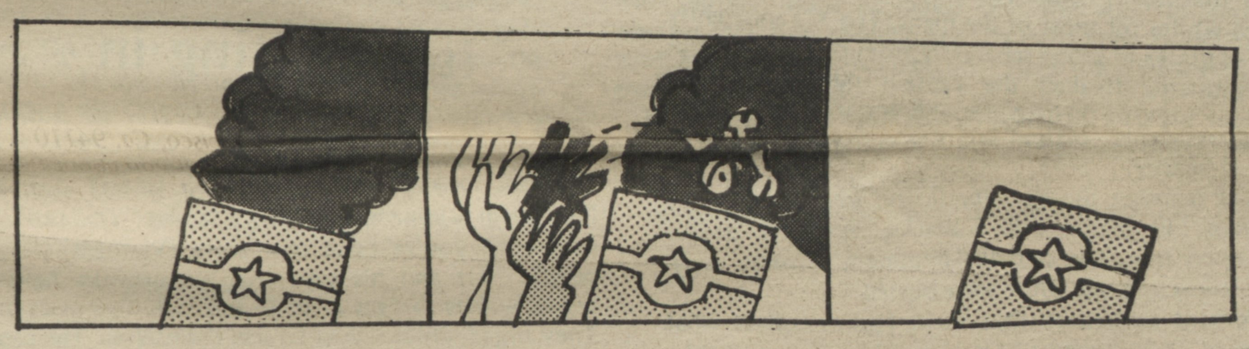
October 17, 1972

Bulkhead,

There really isn't much that I could tell you that you could print. Everything I have would just be hearsay. This place is really driving me up a wall though--it's so capitalistic it's sickening. But there's no way of getting out or getting any relief without really getting fucked over. It's just one group of heavies running their system and you have to follow, or pay the price, and sometimes the price is pretty high. They don't care if you run. There's quite a few people around here that are interested, but there's not enough material. Most of the people around here really like the Bulkhead, except the heavies--they try to avoid it. They couldn't this time though. There were too many around.

Peace and Love,
John

"I say justice to whoever did the Ranger in. And one question still lies unanswered in my mind — how many people were spared by one person's actions against a war he did not believe in?"



A MIDWAY BROTHER REPORTS

October 18, 1972

It's getting worse here on Midway. The lifers are really getting down on everyone's case. Haircuts and drugs are their latest harassments.

Like we pulled in Subic Bay here in the Philippines for R&R. Right when liberty call is sounded, the lifers bring up this bit about haircuts, so what happens is they put about 12 masters-at-arms on the after-brow, and check for haircuts. I'd say half of those leaving on liberty were turned back and told they couldn't leave until they cut their hair to conform to lifer standards. I was turned back twice, once after I had gotten one haircut. They're not even going by Z-gram standards. They seem to have their own.

About the drug harassment which has gotten to be really bad. The master-at-arms will get brothers out of bed during the middle of the night to check for drugs, going through lockers, beds, personal belongings, even wallets.

Guys coming back from liberty are constantly being checked out on the after-brow for drugs. The lifers make you take your shirt and shoes off, check your wallet (even if you object).

There's right now about 20 brothers in the brig. For example: for just having a pipe, no dope, just a pipe. They figure if you have a pipe and no tobacco you must be smoking dope, so they put you in correctional custody and they give you a forfeiture of $150 for one month.

We got a new captain in late July and ever since then everything's been getting more and more fucked up. He talks about how he loves to bust people from their paygrades. He never has anything good to say to the E.M. Everything's always a pat on the back to the officers, especially the pilots. Suppose all the E.M.'s decided they wouldn't work one day. This would be one fucked up ship–even more messed up than it is now.

As for our schedule, we were supposed to return to Alameda Nov. 26, but they say they don't know when we'll return home. It could be as late as March 3, 1973.

Admiral Zumwalt was on board not too long ago, and he was asked when we would return home. He wouldn't answer. He'd only change the subject to all that LIFER BULLSHIT, like shipping over bennies.

Most of us here now don't give a fuck, which really blows the lifers' minds. Like during bomb replenishments, part of bombs are being thrown over the side. Almost all seamen here on working parties do this. Little things like this can really antagonize a lifer.

About the SOS movement. I could dig some info on it. I'd like to get started a movement like that because something has to be done here or a lot of trouble will soon be breaking out here on Midway. Like after we were told we could be here until March 3, fires were started here, along with high temperature alarms in several compartments.

"Suppose all the EMs decided they wouldn't work one day. This would be one fucked up ship — even more messed up than it is now."

October 29, 1972

Four brothers were killed and several others were injured during a plane crash on the flight deck. This wouldn't have happened if Midway wouldn't have been extended. It's just not right, taking the lives of brothers when there's no fucking use to be out here at all in the first place.

Captain Foley said these men died fighting for their country. Bullshit, man! It wasn't their time to die. Foley said we should also be proud of the dead, and that the crew showed professionalism in the manner they put out the fire and took care and aided the injured. He was more worried about the planes than the men. You can always replace men, but you can't do the same with planes.

The funeral services are tomorrow. A few of us plan to go and wear black armbands to see what the lifers will do. I hope this can get more brothers in the movement.

November 9, 1972

The movement is starting to pick up now. I've gotten about 20 guys turned on to the movement now.

We've also found out there are several other groups of the same kind aboard Midway. What we're doing now is getting these groups united as one. After we do this, we're on our way.

Now that we've been extended over here, more brothers are getting turned on to the movement as a means of fighting back the gung ho lifers.

More and more brothers are getting turned on to your papers, Bulkhead, War Bulletin, etc. Keep up the beautiful work. We're all with you. "Power to the People."

We heard about the news on the Constellation, about the sit-in they had. It was really cool to hear it.

we'll get our shit together here on Midway soon. We've got to if we want to fight back.

Please send more papers and literature if at all possible for distribution to brothers. This way we can get more brothers turned on to the movement.

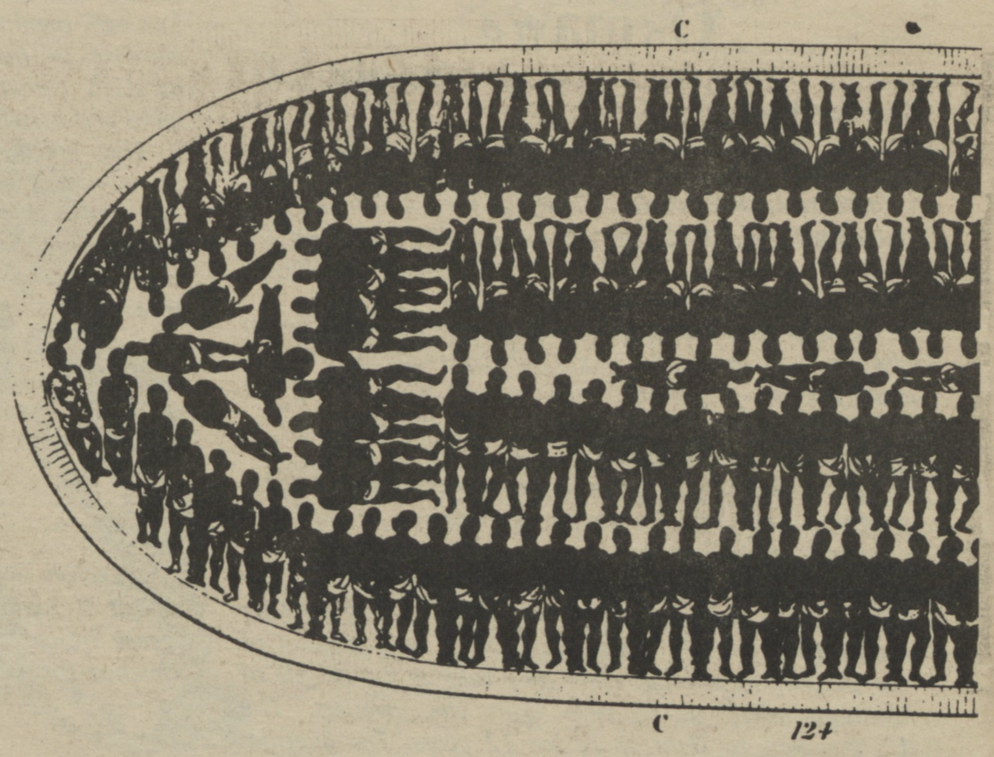
When we do, if ever, return to the world, myself and other brothers will do anything we can to help you out in any way. We've got to get it together for all our brothers.

Enclosed is $20 to help pay for a bulk of paper and literature if it is possible for you to send.

"Turning the Regs Around" [a GI rights and counseling manual available from Bulkhead, see page 18] is a beautiful book. More people should turn on to it.

D.
USS Midway

Rebellions Rock Navy Boats



a diagram showing how to

In early November as "racial incidents" flared at many major bases, over 100 sailors, most of them black, effectively paralyzed the aircraft carrier Constellation in a series of highly-publicized sit-downs and work stoppages. At the time the Connie was in San Diego preparing to return to Vietnam. Soon after a crewman wrote:

> *CBS came today to get a view of the problem. They interviewed a guy from the south who said there wasn't a racial problem at all but a group of guys ticked off at having to work on the mess decks.*
>
> *Since I didn't get a chance, I ask you to tell the masses that there is a racial situation on this genocide queen. Although you may not be able to see it through the plastic smiles whites offer, it exists.*
>
> *I have watched whites greet blacks and smile, only to turn their backs and call the same people niggers. It is not soothing to my ears. I say these truths not to arouse a feeling of distrust in blacks, but to let all know there is racism in the Navy in general, and on the Constellation in particular.*
>
> *The Captain had the 100-plus group of dissidents broken down into three small groups to "deal with their problems more effectively." I feel it was only a divide and conquer scheme to disrupt the solidarity of the group.*
>
> *Also today, Connie wives (of Dike Bombers) were handing out coffee and food to guys at 7am to start a petition and get a showing of force for old Captain Ward. But he is sweating, and the carcass of brass from Rison, Arkansas is seeing his final days as leader of a ship that is as racist as the war it is fighting in.*

The powerful US Navy, like the once-powerful Army, is going under. The admirals have become the focus of the deepening hostility between nonwhite people and the entrenched racists of the Nixon administration. At the same time the Seventh Fleet is carring the main burden of a futile war.

At times the Navy can keep people divided by rate and race by tightening discipline and driving EMs on the job. Other times when its problems explode into the public eye, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, the "liberal" Chief of Naval Operations, announces new programs and policies by the dozens, and promises to change attitudes in his notoriously racist command.

But eruptions at every major base and on many of the ships in the Pacific, have revealed the realities of Navy life. In recent months, both black and white sailors have shown that equality is bullshit in a system based on inequality. They have proved that the slogan "You can be black and Navy, too" is a lie. Sometimes people fought each other, but also got together and dealt heavy blows against the Navy and the small minority of pigs who try to run it.

Vice Admiral David Bagley warned that "there will be more of these outbreaks before the problems are solved." For once, they're right. Things will get worse before they get better.

KITTY HAWK MAKES HISTORY (AGAIN!)

A small fight started at the San Paquita bar on Subic Naval Base in the Philippines on October 11. Some Marines made racist remarks to a few blacks. According to reports, about 25 blacks and whites were involved, and the blacks were beaten up badly. The next morning the Kitty Hawk rushed to Vietnam on short notice. Blacks had beefs to settle from the night before, and everyone was pissed by the sudden departure. No one was looking forward to 45 days on the line. Tension was high.

The captain started an investigation of the trouble at the San Paquita. He ordered two blacks to report for questioning. Eleven other brothers showed up in a demonstration of unity. The whole tone of the investigation implied that the blacks were to blame for the fight the previous night.

As word of the investigation spread, a group of angry blacks grew on the mess decks, and smaller groups formed elsewhere. Some marines began to act like rednecks, strutting around and provoking blacks. Someone called the black Executive Officer (XO) down to clear out the group. He managed to disperse the main group in the mess decks. But the marines were told to guard the planes, and to watch out especially for blacks, alone or in groups.

On the hangar bay some marines forced small groups to break up. Blacks were suspected as soon as they got together to rap, and by nightfall they were really pissed. According to Navy officers who investigated what happened that night, about 100 blacks went on a rampage against whites for most of the night. The XO apparently ordered blacks to group separately from the marines, but this gathering freaked the captain out. He ordered everyone back to their spaces, and declared it the "most fucked up chapter" in the ship's history. A top Navy "minority affairs" official said it was the worst race riot in Navy history.

Next morning the casualty figures were released—46 wounded, 40 whites and 6 blacks, and three people medivaced from the ship for treatment. Twenty seven black sailors and one white were busted.

It's hard to believe that these figures reflect what happened on the night of October 12-13. It is probable, for one thing, that more than six blacks were injured, and couldn't get medical attention without getting busted. The 27 already busted made that clear. And publicly, at that time the Navy played to the racism of white America by making it look like the blacks really beat the shit out of defenseless, innocent whites, and didn't get scratched.

A minority affairs panel had to tell Zumwalt later that "there is no way a racial battle can take place with only one group involved." It may be that the Navy will drop the charges on these brothers since they are obviously phony. But as of now the charges stand. The men are divided up, and face individual court-martials.

THE HASSAYAMPA CARRIES ON

Four days after the fight on the Kitty Hawk, on October 16, there were fights on the oiler Hassayampa. Eleven sailors were arrested, all blacks. People from the ship, transferred first to the Philippines and then to San Diego ran down the conditions in the fleet that led to this uprising. These brothers reported:

Hassayampa Captain McGuire and the XO Hanerford worked together to keep tensions high. They divided people by race, and pitted them against each other. The XO and NCOs took to following people around, and claiming they were looking for drugs. One guy would be told that others were dropping the dime on him for one thing or another. And in one instance, a crewman said "There were fights between blacks and whites, and the XO just looked on." The XO, a former river boat honcho in Vietnam, got off by saying "You can't be a man until you've been over there (Vietnam) shooting people." He and his type tried to provoke fights by urging whites to "get in there and kick their asses first." They urged white sailors to arm themselves. The captain stayed away from blacks as much as possible, and gave the appearance of being lenient to them as a group. He added to the tension by hazarding the ship so close to shore that it drew fire.

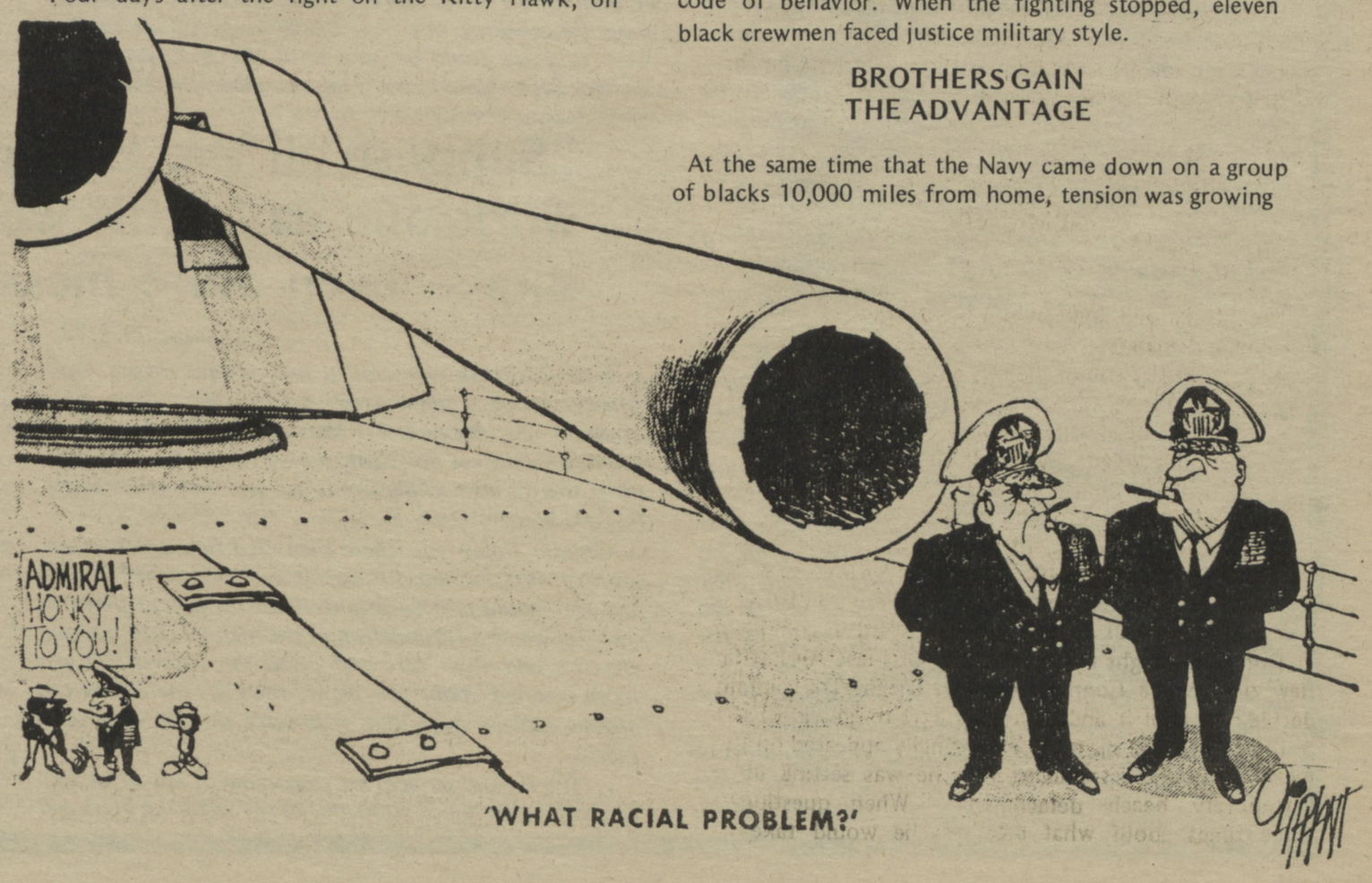
> **". . . a ship as racist as the war it's fighting in . . ."**
>
> *USS Constellation sailor in a letter to Bulkhead*

Many EMs fought against all of this bullshit. When the tension was high (before the first publicized fight), about 25 blacks and whites went to the O-4 level of the ship to talk. 'We talked about it and decided that the lifers were trying to instigate it. After the meeting, everyone was tight and everyone went away happy. It was good."

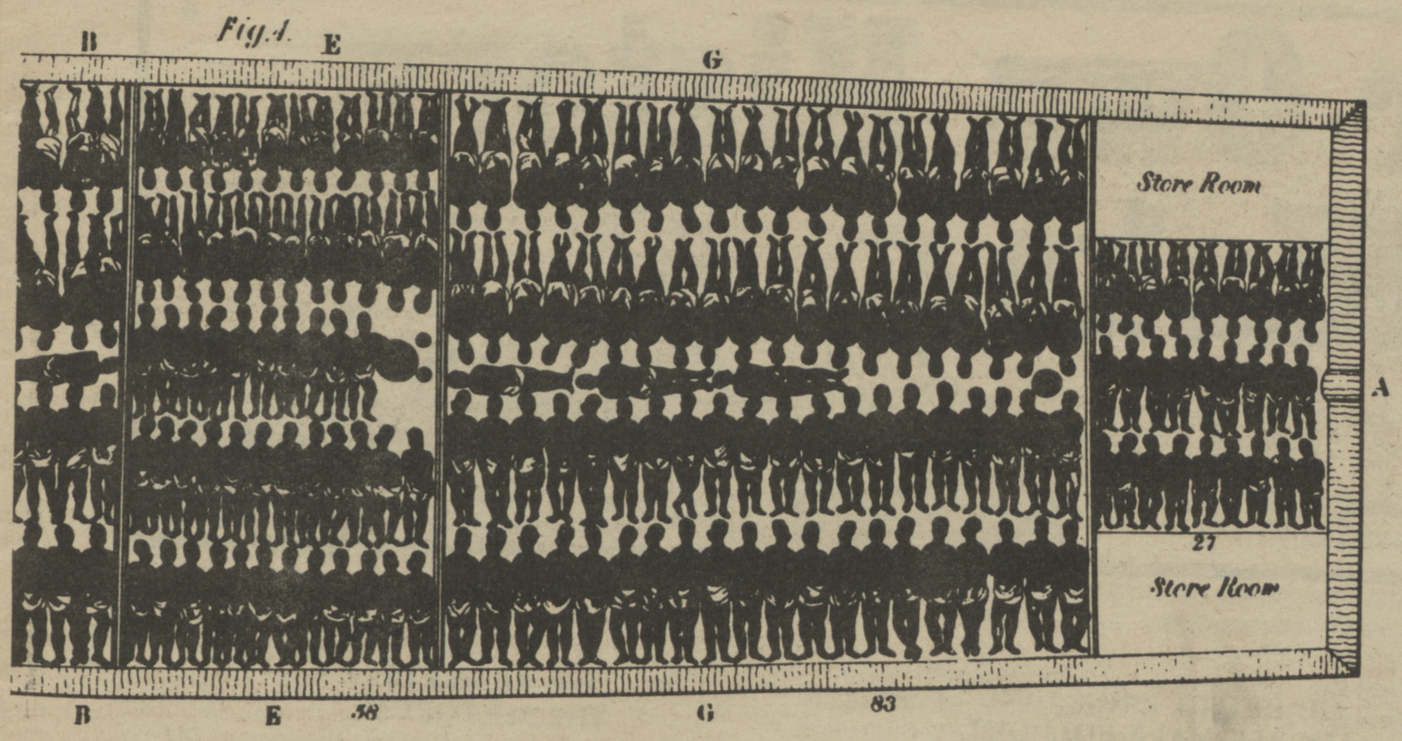
With discrimination in Non-judicial punishment, people working 16 to 18 hours a day in the hole, being hassled everywhere for dope, and race-baited by the lifers, it was hard to keep it together. Fights started again. The chiefs granted themselves "dungaree liberty" so they could get in their licks without breaking their code of behavior. When the fighting stopped, eleven black crewmen faced justice military style.

BROTHERS GAIN THE ADVANTAGE

At the same time that the Navy came down on a group of blacks 10,000 miles from home, tension was growing



'WHAT RACIAL PROBLEM?'



get the most black slaves into the slave ship Brooke

on the Constellation. On October 17, a few days after the Hassayampa outbreak, about 80 blacks met in the barber shop to discuss Captain Ward's discriminatory policies. From then on sit-downs and meetings occurred almost daily while Ward refused to acknowledge any problems or to talk with representatives of the crew.

The captain made his position clear. On November 3, while the Connie was on sea trials off of San Diego, he ordered administrative general discharges for six black crewmen. The reason he gave was that their General Classification Test scores were too low. Most of the six had good records and some had been in for three years.

Brothers spread the word, and by evening the six and their supporters held a meeting of about 150 people in the after mess decks. The brothers asked the captain to come and answer their questions, since he'd refused to talk with representatives before about his discharge policies. Ward instead sent down the Human Relations Council (six white and one black officer). In a TV interview one of the participants in the meeting described the HRC as a " useless organization" that was "highly ineffective. The last meeting was nine months before the last incident." At the meeting, after HRC officers admitted that they didn't have the power to deal with the group's grievances, they went to get the captain and never came back. So much for Zumwalt's liberal racist policies.

VIOLENCE

Captain Ward now ordered the men off the mess decks. Instead, after a large group of whites left, they staged a sit-down and work refusal. The Navy now turned to a more familiar tactic: Intimidation. During the night, a detachment of marines was sent in armed with loaded 45s and M16s to stop "a riot."

Ward later told congressional investigators that he refused to appear because he was convinced that the men wanted "a violent confrontation." But he was the one who ordered an all-hands muster at 2:30am on the mess decks. This meant that 4500 men, mostly white, surrounded the group of about 80 blacks. One black said, "It caused the situation to become very tense and any little incident could have caused an outbreak. It seems to me as though the Captain was trying to precipitate the violence so that he could have justification to incarcerate the blacks."

These moves failed. People settled in for a long stay, and passed out food and blankets. Spirits were high, and people were together. As long as they were holding the mess decks, the command had to deal with their requests.

DEMANDS

The blacks and some white brothers united behind three main demands:

- An investigation of the captain's discharge policies. They felt he forced blacks to take general discharges instead of honorables
- An independent investigation of captain's mast (Article 15) punishments. Blacks felt that they got heavier penalties for similar violations.
- Better job assignments. Many black sailors had trained for rated jobs, but weren't allowed to work in them. Instead most of them were unrated and weren't about to be rated with Ward in command.

During the night the commander of Fleet Air Pacific flew out to the Connie from San Diego. The captain decided to cool it and return to port to get rid of the protestors. In the morning Ward finally appeared on the mess decks and announced that he was setting up a "temporary beach detachment." When questioned three times about what measures he would take to protect blacks remaining on board from reprisals, he first refused to answer and then ordered the questioner off too.

In San Diego he ordered all men with grievances off his ship, but quickly closed the after brow after only 130 men had left. The Connie went back to sea for four days. When the ship returned to San Diego, Ward ordered the beach detachment back on the ship. But he still had done nothing to guarantee the safety of the protestors. On the advice of the Black Servicemen's Caucus, the men passed around a muster sheet on the pier. Ward acknowledged the muster but charged 132 men with six and a half hours unauthorized absence.

The Navy brass was working at full steam by now trying to bury the issue with press statements and legal maneuvers. They promised the group of sailors discussions with 'human realtions counsellors." Actually, men were forced into individual interviews where they were told to consider themselves fortunate not to be charged with mutiny. Ward explained that this was "to learn whether they have genuine grievances or none at all." He tried to blame the incident on " hard work by a small group of men."

During the next few weeks, the Navy broke up the [illegible] mands before getting rid of some with general discharges and returning others to ships.

While many of the racial flare-ups in the past few weeks have resulted in fighting betweeen blacks and whites, the Connie brothers avoided this kind of dead-end confrontation and focused their attack on the real enemy—the Navy brass and their phony liberal racial policies. In addition they tied up the Connie for days with sit-ins and work stoppages that showed the Navy can be badly shaken and forced to retreat by a solid, organized movement.

> **"If the Captain criminally refuses to listen to his crew, he is irresponsible and more than racist, and should be tried."**
>
> USS Constellation sailor [November 19, 1972]

"BATTLE" IN THE HIGH COMMAND

While the number of racial incidents grew rapidly, Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, made a show of attacking the traditional racism of the Navy. He blamed both the admirals and NCOs and threatened that "those who are not fully conscious of the need for absolute and total equality will, over time, be weeded out."

How can he weed out a whole command? Many admirals who were passed over by President Nixon for Chief of Naval Operations reflected the hardcore racism of most of the command. Admiral Ulysses S. Grant Sharp, for example, was very blunt: "Personnel problems in the Navy can be attributed to the fact that the Navy is taking in men of lower mental capacity. Men of lower intellectual capacity can handle only lower type jobs." Zumwalt's statements for public consumption left these guys fuming.

At the same time a special subcommittee of the notoriously right-wing House Armed Services Committee began investigations of "race riots" and "permissiveness" in the Navy. One sailor from the Connie who testified said, "They asked me questions about why I disobeyed a direct order and why I joined the protests, but they didn't address themselves to the central problems of discrimination and job assignments for blacks aboard the ship."

But after the committee files its report, nothing will change substantially. The report will be put with the reports written after Watts, Newark, the 1968 Chicago Convention, Kent State and Jackson State, and the massacre at Attica State Prison in New York. There's no way the Navy is going to change its basic nature as a racist arm of a racist society, unless that society is radically changed as well.

Zumwalt's attack on Navy racism is proving to be nothing but a fancy public relations campaign. Already in the past two years he has set 233 different programs down the command. Each one has been kicked off with a press release commenting on its projected effectiveness. Zumwalt did admit recently that most of them "have tended to fail wherever a real change from hallowed routine was required." Very little in the Navy isn't hallowed routine. The shameful role of the Human Relations Council stands as a good example of Zumwalt's liberalism.

Lt Commander William Norman, Zumwalt's Negro "advisor on race relations" predicts that racism "is going to blow this organization apart unless we take some emergency actions. We have to make commanding officers give the same kind of priorities to race relations that they do to keep their ships from running aground." But reports from most ships point out what most commanders priorities are: to get ahead, get medals, pass the buck, get off more planes or shells, and get more work out of their already overworked crews.

WHOSE

To see where the Navy's real priorities are, check this out. Zumwalt announced that he and all flag officers will take 18 hours of study in a race relations course. The course will cost $600,000 to develop and very little to run. This is about half the cost of keeping one aircraft carrier on the line off Vietnam for one day.

Even if the Navy is one day relieved of its role in Vietnam, the tide of national liberation movements is rising all over Asia. Each represents a threat to US economic interests and military bases. Zumwalt testified to Congress that the Navy "has the mission of *manifesting an overseas presence* sufficiently powerful and visible to make it plain to any possible adversary as well as to our allies, that any effort to challenge our vital overseas interests or those of our allies could bring confrontation with American armed might."

Zumwalt has repeatedly asked for more tax dollars to expand naval operations from Vietnam west to the Indian Ocean and the oil fields of the Middle East. He argued, for example, that by 1985 the Navy must be able to guarantee that the US can import one half of its oil through Asian waters from the strife-torn Middle East.

Closer at hand is the coming battle to protect huge naval installations and billions of dollars of US investments in the Philippines where our "ally" recently declared martial law. (See page 9.)

How can Zumwalt persuade the American people that he is building a democratic Navy when both blacks and whites will be forced to fight against Asian people to keep the empire oiled? Anti-racist talk doesn't fit their actions.

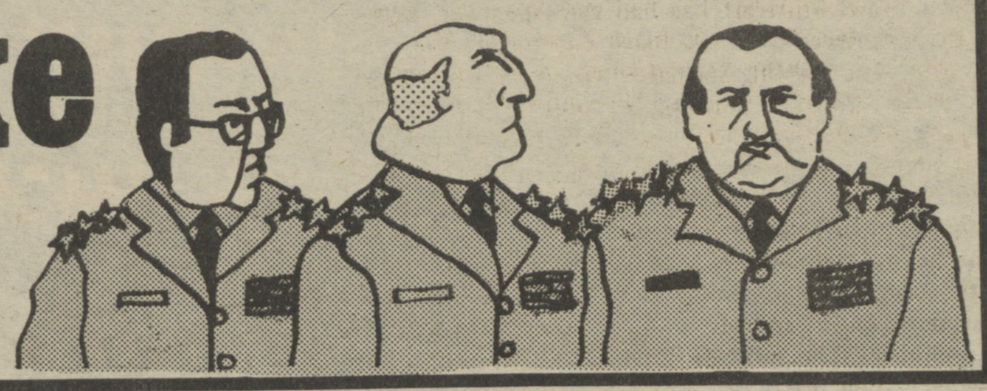
The US government and Nixon, along with Zumwalt and his advisor (and his successor?), have a similar goal: to keep the machinery of violence running at full speed without self-destructing. Everything else, despite talk of racial equality, is a means to that end. ■

BLACK SERVICEMEN'S CAUCUS

The Black Servicemen's Caucus is a group of active-duty GIs, veterans and civilians struggling together to combat racism and discrimination against black brothers and sisters within the military while simultaneously developing strong ties with the black community.

The Black Servicemen's Caucus invites Mexican-Americans and all other minority groups into the Caucus. We at B.S.C. encourage brothers and sisters of the military to get involved. Possibly we can help you, if not we're sure you can help us.

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



CAMP PENDLETON BRIG REVOLT

CAMP PENDLETON, CALIF. (August 1) – On August 1, 19 GIs in the Pendleton brig decided they were tired of being harassed and forced to work like animals even though none of them were sentenced to hard labor. When the guard came to get them at noon, the group refused to go to work.

The guard left and sent back a Staff Sgt., a Captain, and three or four Sgts. The Staff told them it's bad to refuse to go to work regardless how hot it is, and then gave a direct order to leave. It was refused. He then ordered them to pack their gear because he was sending them to the "U". The "U" is solitary confinement. They responded by shouting "Fuck the Marine Corps and all its lifers!" The Captain hollered, "Shut up!", and everyone replied "Fuck you, too!"

One of the striking prisoners said, "We felt good as if we had the power for the first time. This feeling of power came from the fact that all the people in the group agreed to stick together regardless of what the lifers did. They tried to split us up because they were afraid of the power we had as a group. [Five went to the "U", five went to cell blocks, and nine to the dorm.] But to this day we still haven't been sent out to working parties." (UP FROM THE BOTTOM)

GIs REJECT PINUP GIRL 15% ASK MALE FOLDOUT

Washington, D.C. (August) – There's a different breed of soldier in today's Army. The editors of SOLDIERS, the Army's official magazine, had hoped to heighten the publication's appeal with a monthly color pin-up of a scantily clad female. "You won't believe it," the editors wrote in the latest issue, but reader response was 48% to 37% AGAINST the cheesecake. They said the remaining 15% who wrote in asked for an occasional male pin-up. Possibly these requests came from WACs.

Maj. Gen. Winant Sidle, chief of Army information, was amazed. It's ironic that this lord high bureaucrat is just starting to notice the struggles of women for equal rights. (CAMP NEWS)

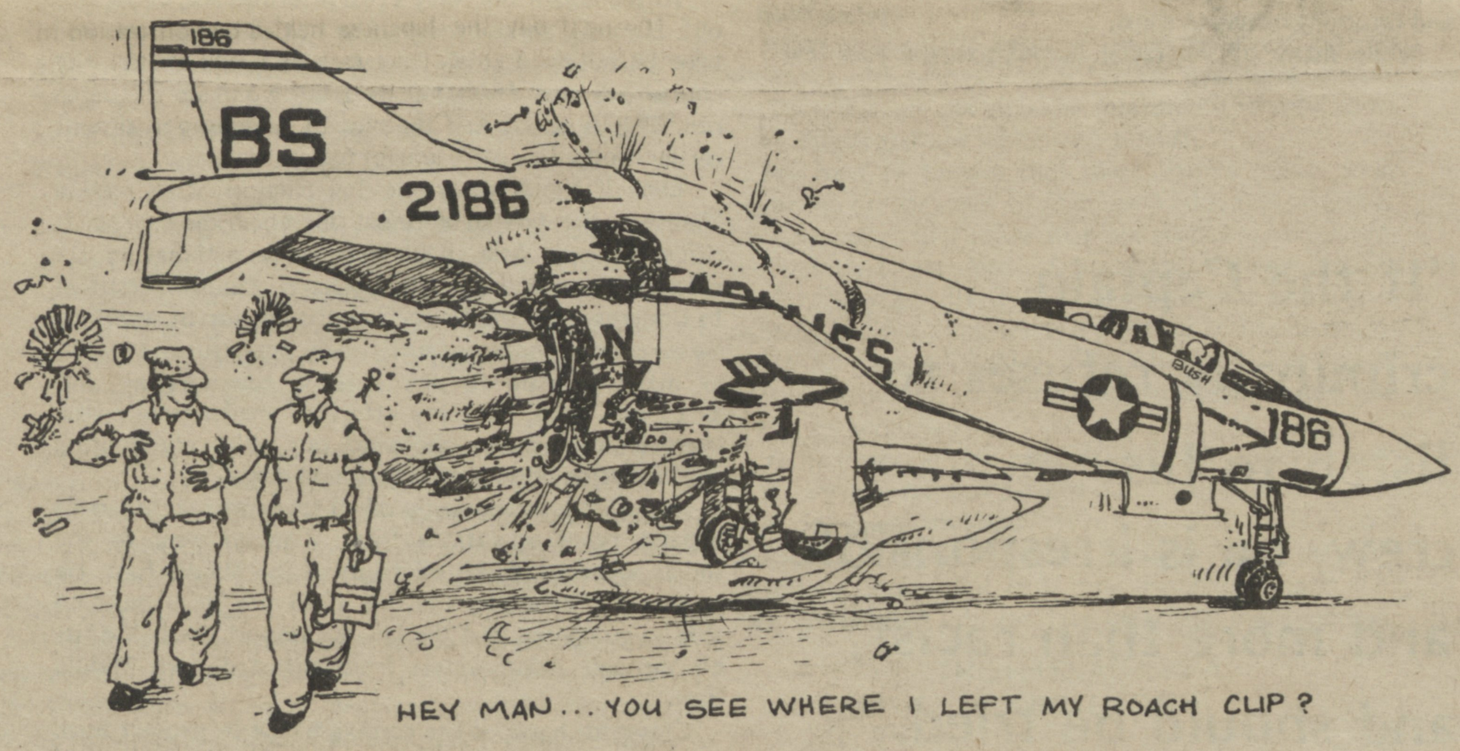
NEW COLONY FOR UNITED STATES

NEW YORK CITY (August 18) – For 70 years, the US has pushed the idea that Puerto Rico is almost a state, and that the people like it that way. Most Puerto Rican people disagree and this summer there was a large demonstration in front of the United Nations demanding independence. After a long investigation into conditions in Puerto Rico, the UN Special Committee on Decolonization voted 12-0 with 10 abstentions to list Puerto Rico as a colony of the US. (LNS)

VOLAR MEETS THE AIR FORCE

LOWRY AFB, COLORADO (November) - Perhaps taking heed of supposedly ultraliberal conditions at Ft. Carson, the brass at Lowry have decided to give the infamous 3320th Retraining Group a new image. They recently held a picnic for retrainees at a reservoir near the base. A three page directive was issued to give instructions for the event. Among the more interesting aspects of the directive:

A detailed schedule was issued including orders to report for certain games, when to "Start Feeding," and when to line up for prizes. It may have been the only order in history with compulsory attendance for touch football, sack races, tug-of-war, wheelbarrow races, man and horse races, and Frisbee. Two hot dogs per person were allotted. (CAMP NEWS)



FODDING AT EL TORO

El Toro MCAS, Calif. (September) – Cpl. Mike Tippett has been in the brig since mid-September. He is charged with the total destruction of 2 F-4 Phantoms and the attempted destruction of another.

Mike is accused of fodding (foreign object damage) the fighter bombers by leaving nuts, bolts, tools, etc. in the engine when repair work was done.

In Mike's squadron, VMC-J3, a number of planes have been fodded. Rumor puts the number at more than 12 since August. During a pretrial hearing it was disclosed that fodding has continued in VMC-J3, even though Mike has been in the brig.

Sometimes fodding is done intentionally in an attempt to stop the military machine. More often it's not planned. It comes from low morale, from carelessness, and from high anti-military feeling. In Mike's squadron a new commanding officer was installed several months ago. The new CO concluded that VMC-J3 did not have a military enough appearance and harassment and repressiveness increased. Fodding also increased.

There is no eyewitness to link Mike with the destruction of these planes. But the squadron commander wants the fodding in his command stopped, especially since one of the planes fodded was his own (his phantom exploded shortly after he got out of it). After Mike was decided on as the "suspect," the CO gave a speech to the men of the squadron offering honorable discharges to anyone who would be a "witness."

Despite the lack of evidence, proceedings against Mike continue at El Toro. Mike faces more than 10 years in prison. He needs your support. Contact:

Support Our Soldiers
PO Box 17732
Los Angeles, Calif. 90017

OUTSPOKEN BLACK GI CHARGED WITH SON'S MURDER

Okinawa (November) – Lee King is a Spec 5 in the US Army with 6 years service and an absolutely clean record. He is a black man, married to a Korean woman, stationed on Okinawa. For 5 years and then some, he put up with military racism; for 5 years he didn't speak out, he didn't demand an end to some of the worst excesses he constantly saw. Then it got to be too much. His warrant officer started to call him "colored boy" and tell him about the slaves his grandfather owned. But he did this in front of witnesses, and Lee King brought charges against him and removed him from that command. Then another warrant officer started putting white soldiers to work in the shade and black soldiers to work out in the sun. He said, "After all, they can't get sunburns." There were witnesses for this one too. Lee brought charges and had him removed.

Then one night in June, while he was out, his 20 month old son fell out of bed and hit his head on the concrete floor. The child died four days later in the hospital from a hairline skull fracture. At the hospital, a white pediatrician noticed a bruise on the child's backside from a spanking and a week old scrape on his back from a fall off a swing. He accused King and his wife of child beating and told the CID to investigate for murder. Not a single witness was found to say that Mr. or Mrs. King ever beat their children, and they have another son in perfect health.

Two months later a friend of Lee King's was facing a rape charge, and in exchange for testifying falsely against King, his charges were dropped. So Lee King was charged with murder. The pre-trial investigation was held and the false testimony was so full of holes that the Investigating Officer recommended that the charges be dropped. But the command overruled him and the case was referred to a General Court Martial. Lee King could get life, although he is totally innocent. He needs your support. Contact:

Lee King Defense Committee
c/o Hobbits
P.O. Box 447
Koza, Okinawa, Japan

(The Hobbits)

"FUCK THE POWER HUNGRY BASTARDS"

OAHU, HAWAII (August) – The state of Hawaii is ripping off agricultural land for a golf course. That's right. Golf. A game for people with plenty of time and money, like US military officers.

Masepa Tanoai, Samoan and long time Hawaiian resident told the rich developers and government officials what the Hawaiian people thought of their idea in a public hearing.

"Fuck the power hungry bastards. This is our land, our hearts and sweat and years are in this soil and we still will stop you. Do we have to have revolution – have to kill – to make ourselves heard? The teacher wants my kids to learn to play golf. Who can afford golf shoes and golf clubs and golf hats? How about teaching them Hawaiian history and how to plant taro? Why do we have to cater to your country officials? It's time for revolution. We are going to tear this whole place down – Nixon, too." (LIBERATED BARRACKS)

GIs BATTLE POLICE IN STUTTGART, GERMANY

Stuttgart, W. Germany (August 12) - The "hottest and bloodiest brawl Stuttgart has had since postwar days" took place between over 100 black GIs and 35 German policemen. The fighting started when an MP refused to take the ID card of a "brawling US soldier" upon orders from the German police. This incident (only one of many) stems from the stepped up racism of the Germans against black GIs. In the six months previous to the riot, six discotheques frequented by black GIs were "advised" by the "city administration" to bar black soldiers. "Off Limits" signs have appeared in many black bars and amusement centers and several have closed as a result of this prejudice. The military is going to deal with the problem in their usual ass-backwards way; by stationing MPs at the few black hang-outs left so that there will be "as exact surveillance as possible." (CAMP NEWS and STARS AND STRIPES)

WAVE GETS C.O.

Long Beach, Calif. (September) – Lt. Teri Pohl has recently been discharged from the Navy as a conscientious objector. She is the first woman officer that we know of and the second woman of all services to win a c.o.

Teri began to fight back against the military while stationed at Sasebo Naval Station in Japan. She was banned from some of the ships that frequently dock at Sasebo because she talked to brothers on board about the war and how to fight back. Her last fitness report commended her for professional skills and compassion for her patients, but said she did not possess the "loyalty to the Navy that a Naval Officer should."

When Teri's discharge came, she was rushed to Long Beach NAS. (CAMP NEWS).

HEROIN SEWED INSIDE DEAD GIs

SE Asia & USA (December 17) – Last summer in his exhaustive study, *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*, Alfred McCoy uncovered one of the most vicious aspects of the US military occupation of Southeast Asia: the CIA's role in developing one of the biggest sources of heroin in the world. After traveling throughout Asia collecting information, McCoy revealed that CIA-sponsored commandos in the Golden Triangle [illegible] region of Burma, Thailand, and Laos bring raw opium to Laos where it is refined into heroin by American-financed Laotian generals. From Laos part of the heroin is flown by Vietnamese puppet politicians like Vice-President Ky and President Khiem to Saigon.

Now federal agents have revealed that a smuggling ring operating in the Washington-Baltimore area has been smuggling heroin into the US sewn into the bodies of dead GIs for eight years. A 51-year-old man disguised as an Army sergeant was arrested after he accompanied the bodies of two GIs from Hawaii to Andrews Air Force Base outside of Washington. (S.F. CHRONICLE)

Always salute a naked general

Saigon, S. Vietnam (December 12) – What does an Air Force EM do when he meets a naked general?

He salutes.

An order issued recently by Major Paul M. Boseman, operations officer of the 377th Security Police Squadron at Tan Son Nhut airbase, says in part:

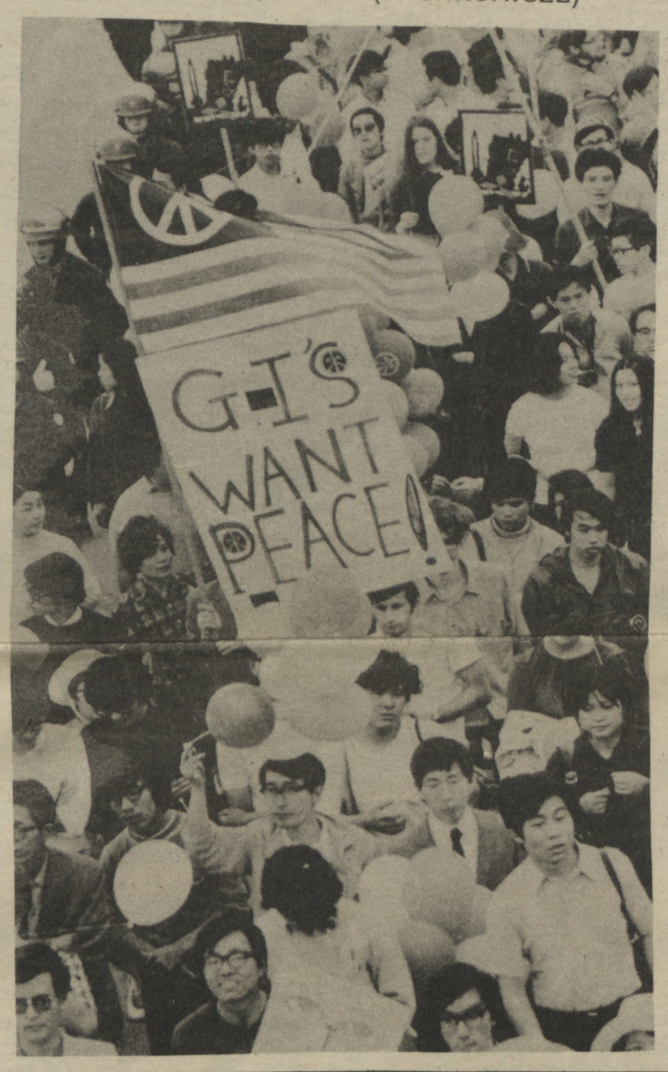
"Salute when you recognize an officer even though you both, officer and non- commissioned officer, are nude."

An Air Force spokesman said this was "intended to emphasize the importance of saluting officers when recognized, whether in or out of uniform."

He said he did not know under what circumstances officers and enlisted personnel might encounter each other in the nude.

The order was attached to a photograph of Brigadier General Ralph Holland, new vice commander of the 7th Air Force.

The General was fully clothed. (SF CHRONICLE)



MORNIN' GEN'RAL... THAT SURE IS A SHARP NEW UNIFORM YER WEARIN'.

JAPANESE SIDE WITH GIs

JAPAN (December) – The Navy would like to develop Yokosuka, Japan, as a forward base for aircraft carriers to save the expense (and dangers) of returning to California for refitting. But in Yokosuka, like Alameda, San Diego, Pearl Harbor, and Subic, sailors and civilian supporters are undermining the Navy's plans.

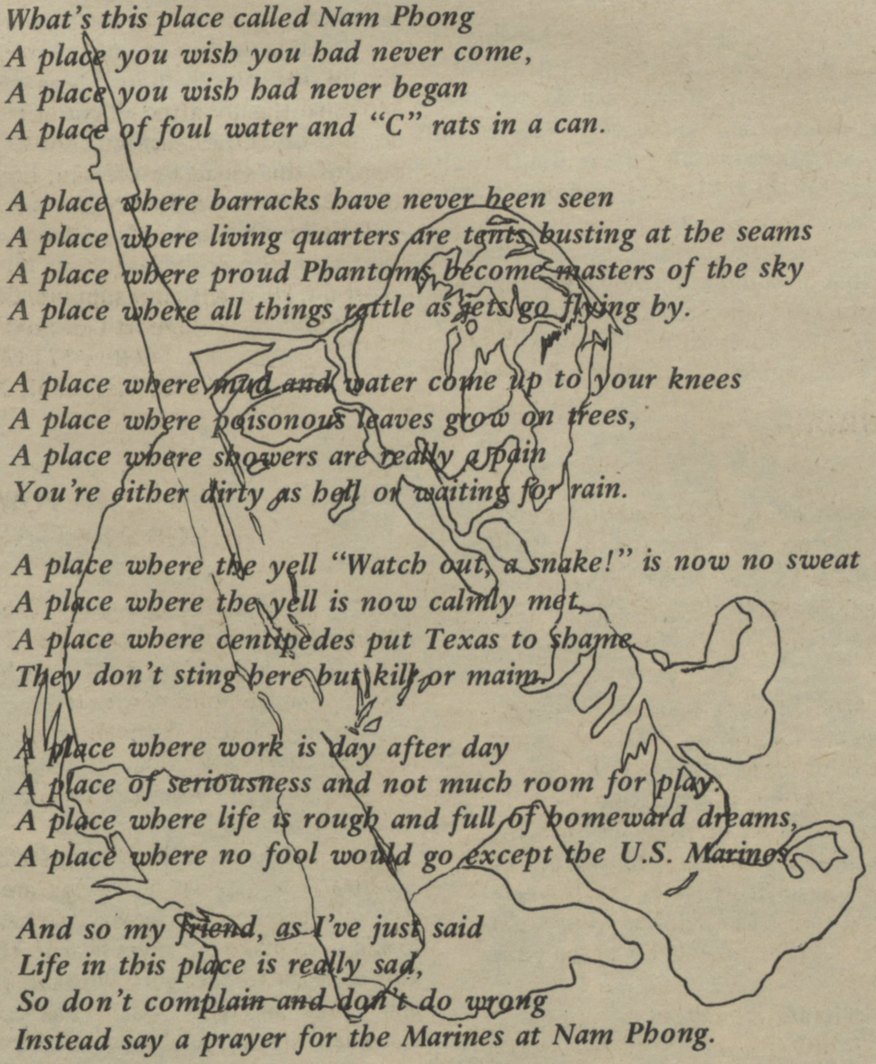
On October 14, 25 Japanese protestors and a lone American civilian disrupted a Navy Day parade attended by both US and Japanese naval personnel. From a small boat off the parade grounds, they played an air raid siren, recordings of air attacks in Vietnam, and appeals to "Free Doug, Stop the War" while others chanted in the reviewing stands.

"Free Doug" refers to SA Douglas Weaver who was sentenced to two months for participating in political activities in a foreign country. Th[illegible] strators.

The next day the Japanese held a demonstration in support of GI rights. They carried a sign made by GIs which read, "We can't march, but we made this sign – signed, 'Yokuska GIs,' " and one made by themselves which said "Human Rights for GIs."

Japanese people have also been acting with GIs against the war at Yokohama (US Army Depot at Saganihara) where they have been blocking tanks and having large demonstrations. (CAMP NEWS)

NAM PHONG THAILAND



What's this place called Nam Phong
A place you wish you had never come,
A place you wish had never began
A place of foul water and "C" rats in a can.

A place where barracks have never been seen
A place where living quarters are tents busting at the seams
A place where proud Phantoms become masters of the sky
A place where all things rattle as jets go flying by.

A place where mud and water come up to your knees
A place where poisonous leaves grow on trees,
A place where showers are really a pain
You're either dirty as hell or waiting for rain.

A place where the yell "Watch out, a snake!" is now no sweat
A place where the yell is now calmly met,
A place where centipedes put Texas to shame
They don't sting here but kill or maim.

A place where work is day after day
A place of seriousness and not much room for play.
A place where life is rough and full of homeward dreams,
A place where no fool would go except the U.S. Marines.

And so my friend, as I've just said
Life in this place is really sad,
So don't complain and don't do wrong
Instead say a prayer for the Marines at Nam Phong.

IWAKUNI, JAPAN (Nov. 23) – Dennis L. Murphy is a Sergeant in the Marine Corps and a six year veteran from Lindon, Michigan. He was an Air Traffic Controller assigned to Marine Air Control Unit 62 which is deployed to Nam Phong, Thailand. The primary mission of the attack squadron at Nam Phong is combat missions over South and North Vietnam.

Dennis told reporters, "On Nov. 8, after hearing of President Nixon's re-election, I began to circulate a petition in the mess hall of my unit. The petition read: 'From United States servicemen stationed at Nam Phong, Thailand, to our Commander-in-Chief, Pres. Richard M. Nixon. We are tired of words and arguments. Sign the peace treaty now!"

"While I was only able to work two hours for peace, I was able to collect 200 signatures before being stopped. Major Kiley [his commanding officer] told me that it was against the law to circulate petitions. A demand was made to me to hand them over. I gave them an unsigned copy but refused to hand over the signed copies."

"Rather than risk the petitions falling into the hands of the brass and being used against the 200 men who had signed them, I and other GIs secretly burned the signed copies. I then sent a letter explaining what had happened to Senator Proxmire with an unsigned copy of the petition."

Before the suppression of the petitions, Dennis had informed his CO that, "I can no longer control tactical aircraft." Shortly after the petition incident, Dennis was ordered to sick bay. A few days later he was flown to Yokosuka Naval Hospital, Japan, for psychiatric examination. While enroute to Yokosuka, Dennis was tied to his seat with leather straps and handcuffs.

At Yokosuka, after a thirty minute interview, the doctor there decided that Dennis' problem was that he did not want to be in Thailand or in the Marine Corps. The solution was to return him to the war zone with a prescription of tranquilizers. (PACIFIC COUNSELING SERVICE)

Vietnam Peace Talks

What Lies Behind the Peace Talk? How Will It Affect You?

For three months, Nixon's administration has baffled the bejesus out of the American people. One day the peace agreement is 99% complete. The next day there's no agreement there at all. But on every day of those three months of talks, Nixon ordered his flyboys to bomb the shit out of Vietnam as long as they did it below the 20th parallel. Now that the talks are officially off, Nixon lifted even that limit and ordered the heaviest raids of the entire war.

What's confusing to people is that Nixon can talk of a settlement at the same time he's bombing. But Nixon can do this because talk and bombs are, to him, just two different paths to the same goal.

What Are Those Goals?

When Nixon or Kissinger speak of "peace with honor," they are speaking of a settlement which leads to a US-controlled Vietnam. They have never given up their plans for:

- a pro-American state in South Vietnam
- US control of military bases there
- hungry markets, cheap labor, and valuable resources like oil for profit-hungry American corporations
- proof of America's ability to make good its commitments to two-bit dictators who are threatened by the people they rule over

The Vietnamese, on the other hand, are still fighting for a Vietnam for the Vietnamese. They've fought for that and won against the Japanese and the French. After winning their self-determination three times, they are not about to give it up to Richard Nixon. So a conflict seems inevitable.

What Are The Terms Of This Peace Settlement?

Why then all this talk of peace? The "peace" being discussed is a continuation of the same conflict on new terms. Those terms are laid out in an agreement reached in October between Henry Kissinger (representing the US and Saigon) and Le Duc Tho (representing North Vietnam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government or "VC"). Those terms are, briefly:

Military Settlement. There will be a ceasefire in South Vietnam within 24 hours of the signing of the agreement, and a total withdrawal of all American military personnel.

Political Settlement. After the ceasefire, the two sides in South Vietnam – Thieu (GVN) and the PRG – will settle together the internal affairs of South Vietnam. On the surface this means that there would be no more shooting, and that Thieu's government and the PRG would settle their disagreements through elections without US interference. This seems fair enough.

Why Won't It Work?

As usual, there's a catch: Thieu can't win an election without US interference. The last time he ran for President, he was the only candidate. Even then he needed his American equipped national police to scare people to the polling places. Just after his "election" he declared martial law.

This meant that all radio and tv stations were closed down. The only newspaper still printing is owned by Thieu himself. Their congress, the National Assembly, was made powerless. The universities and high schools were closed. Buddhist temples and Catholic churches were occupied by Thieu's police.

One hundred thousand to three hundred thousand people now jam Thieu's prisons. Some are guilty of trying to survive in cities like Saigon, which is the densest city in the world, more than twice as crowded as Tokyo. But most are guilty of violating Thieu's own edicts which make it a capital crime to advocate peace or neutrality. To give you some idea of the level of repression, the San Francisco Chronicle and the London Express both reported on August 5 that 14,000 people had been arrested every month since April of this year. And on October 12, Thieu boasted that "anyone favoring a coalition with the communists will not be permitted to live more than five minutes." (Giai Phong Press Agency)

Thieu's army has long since fallen apart. The spring offensive reduced the entire Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) from thirteen divisions to seven. Those that are left are now deserting at a record-breaking rate of 20,000 per month according to the New York Times in mid-December. ARVN units are now only used as bait to draw fire from "VC" units, and once the shooting starts, the ARVN run and the Americans call in air or artillery strikes.

While ARVN was falling apart at Quang Tri, An Loc, and Kontum, villagers in the Delta region were driving out "pacification teams" and levelling "strategic hamlets" (forced relocation centers is more like it). Most moved to the parts of the countryside protected by the "VC". According to the New York Times of May 28, 77 Saigon government outposts had been taken over in Chuong Thien province alone.

Why Talk Peace If It Won't Work?

The Vietnamese are taking the heaviest bombing in the history of the war. They want this destruction of their land and people to stop. If they can do that at the conference table, fine. They know they can win an election because the people are with them. But they also know they can win on the battlefield, and aren't afraid to keep on fighting.

Nixon, on the other hand, needed the peace talks at election time so that he could campaign as the only man who could bring peace to American and Vietnam. But he also needed the talks to cover up the beating he's taken. In four years he has spent $59 billion, dropped 3.7 million tons of bombs, and killed, wounded, or made homeless 6 million people to try to get what he wants. But he's no closer to his goals now than he was in 1968. Basically, he's used the peace talks to buy enough time to fight the war in a less obvious, more effective, and less expensive way.

What Is Nixon's New Way?

A lot of GIs have seen Nixon's plans taking shape. If you're an airman at Travis AFB, you've loaded more tons of Vietnam-bound military cargo in the last week in October than at any other time in the entire history of the war. If you're an airman at Tan Son Nhout airbase outside Saigon, you've seen 600 fighters and fighter-bombers, and over 10,000 tons of supplies delivered in a three week period in October/November. Thieu's air force, already the third largest in the world, and Thieu's police force are being beefed up to the max.

If you're a clerk in Saigon, you've seen civilian technicians rushed in to replace stateside-bound GIs. In fact, according to a story in the New York Times on November 27, "About 10,000 American civilian advisors and technicians will stay on in South Vietnam after a ceasefire. . . . They will do everything from running the South Vietnamese military's personnel and logistics computer, to teaching the Vietnamese Air Force how to fly and maintain newly-provided planes, to repairing the complex communications network left behind by the U.S. Army."

Nixon would like to use Thieu's refitted police state to run the cities of South Vietnam like a military base where everyone follows orders out of fear for their lives. The people whose homes had been destroyed in the countryside would be driven to these cities to live. And American technicians and advisors would keep Thieu's police state running smoothly.

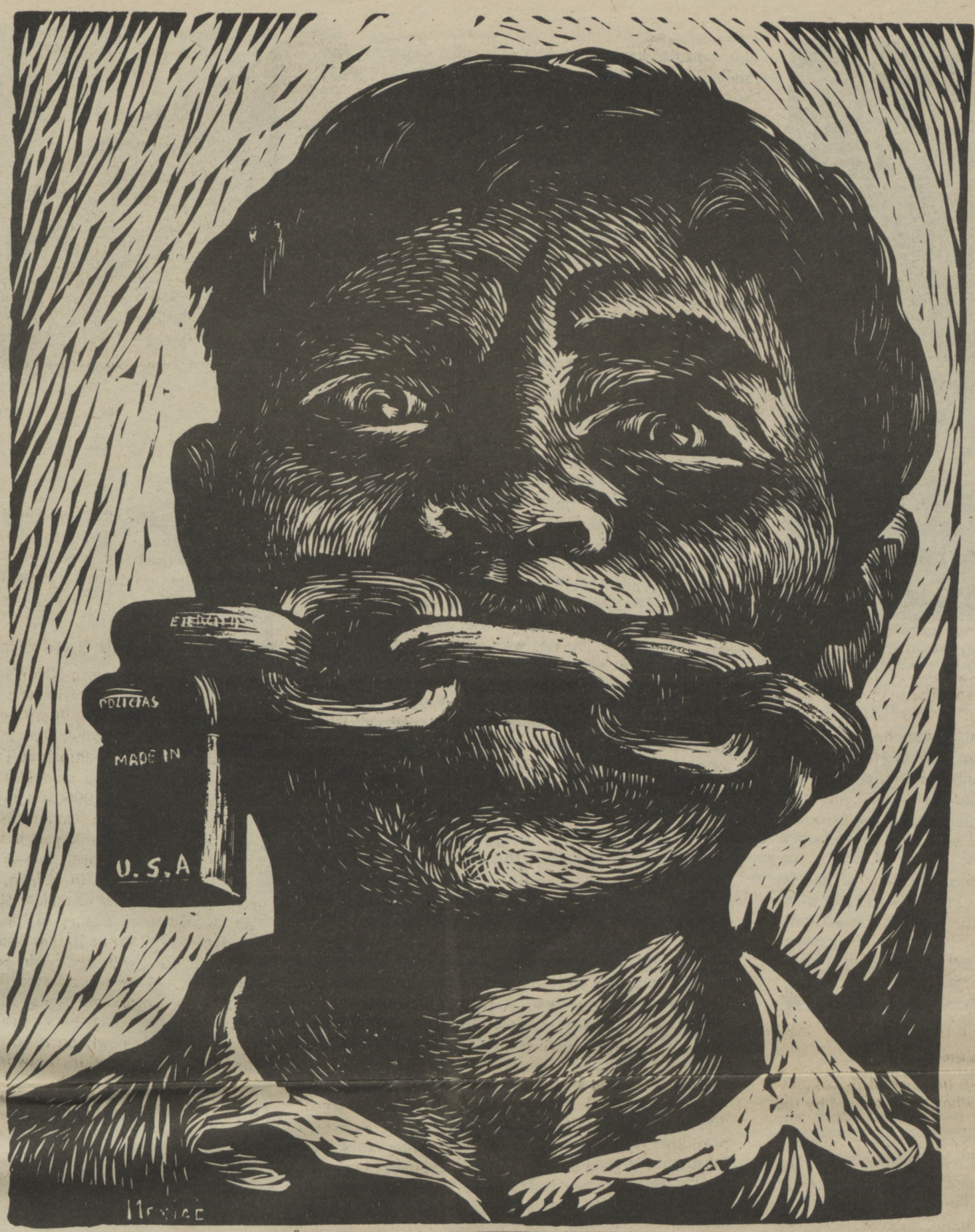
What Does This Mean For You?

With or without a settlement, you will still be fighting Nixon's war. You may not be firing any shots. But your just floating off the coast of Vietnam (50,000 men), or your being stationed in Hawaii (43,000 men), Taiwan (10,000 men), Okinawa (45,000 men), Japan (40,000 men), Korea (55,000 men), the Philippines, Guam, or Thailand 60,000 men) lets Henry Kissinger demand that the Vietnamese agree to "Peace on *our* terms, or else . . ." You are used by American diplomats as a threat, a card to be dealt in a cold war poker game – like the men on the USS San Bernardino who were sent to Panama during the elections there, or like the sailors on the carrier USS Enteprise who were sent to India during the India-Pakistan war.

There's more than one way for the American government to fight its wars. One way is to use you to bomb people into submission. Another way is to use you to train others to bomb people into submission. And another way is to use you to threaten another people into submission. Any way you cut it, you're used, and you lose. □

ist group demonstrates against the US-backed Saigon government.

THE SAME FATE AS VIETNAM?



Martial Law in the Philippines

When martial law was declared, we had a meeting on base. A guy came up and gave us a map he had drawn for our paper, "Seasick." It showed a picture of Luzon, which is the main island in the Philippines (RP). It said, "Northern Luzon" and "Southern Luzon" and "Demilitarized Zone" and off the coast of Luzon you have the USS America and the USS Enterprise with planes coming and bombing Northern Luzon. Then the inscription, "Philippines: The Next Vietnam." Here we are backing another dictator just like Thieu and Chiang Kai Shek. Marcos already has more US military bases than Vietnam ever had 10 or 15 years ago and, for sure, as he is getting more and more resistance from the Filipino people, he is going to ask the American military to come and help him. There was the feeling that we had to let the American people know what was happening because you know thousands of people were arrested, anybody who was against Marcos, all the newspapers, all the radio stations, all the TV stations were closed except those that Marcos controlled. All the civil liberties and democratic rights of the Filipino people were just swept away with a proclamation. There was no freedom of speech, nothing. We knew that the American people weren't able to know what was really happening so we had campaigns set up to write letters back home to say that the American people just can't let the Philippines become the next Vietnam. We've got to stop somewhere and learn from Vietnam and stop our government, the big industries, and the military from sending Americans over there to put down the struggles of the Filipino people.

We talked with Dale Borgeson and Gene Parker in San Francisco after Gene was deported from the Philippines. Dale had left before President Marcos declared martial law. Dale was active in the GI movement at Ft. Lewis while in the Army, and was discharged as a conscientious objector after he refused to go to Vietnam. He spent eleven months at Clark Air Force Base working with Pacific Counseling Service. Gene worked at the Liberated Barracks before going to the GI Center at Subic Naval Base.

BULKHEAD: WHY WERE YOU BUSTED?

GENE: We were GIs and civilians doing work against the war in Vietnam criticizing the presence of US military bases in the Philippines, and just doing a lot of legal work with GIs asserting their democratic rights under the military system of injustice. All along they had tried to get lawyers kicked out. Three times the GI Center at Clark where Dale was working, had been raided by the Philippine Constabulary (PC).

We were picked up October 16 on the streets of Olongapo and taken back to the GI Center. Doug was busted two days later right in the Legal Center at Subic Naval Base. The PC just came right on base. They never told us legally why we were busted. They were putting out a lot of rumors in the press about "communist subversion" and "communist literature and documents", but when we asked them for evidence and what we had done they never told us. They never charged us. And of course we didn't have any right to a lawyer. We were always asking for our rights, but under martial law you have none of those rights. In fact, they could have kept us in jail without charging us indefinitely. *(cont'd next page)*

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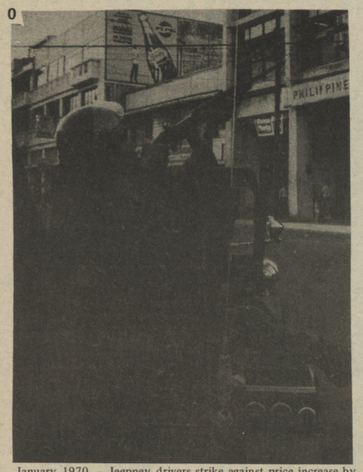
J.C. PEELE, M.D.
KINSTON, N. C.



January 1970 – Jeepney drivers strike against price increase by US-controlled oil companies. Marcos calls out PC storm-troopers in Manila after tens of thousands of demonstrators attack the Presidential Palace.

(Cont'd from page 9)

Every step of the way the Naval Intelligence people were calling the shots. ONI was standing outside the Center and they'd come in and were ransacking the house along with the Philippine authorities. And the Philippine authorities would come in and ask us questions for ONI but we never had any direct contact with them.

Later when they photographed our files we saw a thing which said that the Naval authorities had met with the PC and suggested to them (that's how it was written) that they bust us. We found out later from a lieutenant in the intelligence division of the PC that he had been sent there two months before and had been working with Naval intelligence. He knew our backgrounds. They were just looking for an excuse to bust us.

ACTIVISTS EXECUTED

Already some of the Filipino people we had known who had been in groups like Patriotic Youth, Kabataang Makibayaan (KM), had been picked up. KM is an organization which works in the community in Olongapo. They also had youth organizations in the colleges, high schools, and they worked with base workers. Some of them, friends, had been killed and tortured in prison. We knew when we were facing the PC what they had already done to our friends throughout the country. They had arrested thousands of people. People had faced firing squads. In Olongapo, just the day after martial law, they picked up 15 people off the streets, people who had criminal records, and put them before a firing squad. This was an example to the rest of the population. You better not step out of line. A terrorist example.

The first night when they were waiting for instructions from the head PC office and from Naval Intelligence to decide what to do with us, another thing happened to scare us. Guys were coming in who we worked with, sailors and Marines; they'd taken them upstairs and question them. We were finding out that PC were telling them stuff like we'd be marched to the square and put before firing squads.

They took us to Olongapo City jail. When we got to the jail, the police lieutenant, I guess, went and talked to the prisoners and told them to work me over. As soon as I got into the cell about seven or eight guys started beating the shit out of me until a black American who was there on a long sentence for drugs stopped them. They had respect for him. Then we all talked.

The cell is like four feet long by maybe fifteen feet wide and maybe three or four cells on each side of it two feet by six feet. There were 37 of us in there. There was no bedding, no bathroom except a hole. People weren't fed. A lot of them, of course, couldn't afford lawyers. They had no rights. They were completely at the mercy of the jailers. If the jailer told them to beat up somebody they would beat him up without asking any questions. They knew that people had already been facing firing squads and there were people who had been in there for years without a trial or anything.

PRISONERS SYMPATHETIC

But after they had beaten me up, after they had done their task for the jailers, when we talked, they were really sympathetic. They saw Marcos as really being bad for the Filipino people. They saw for sure martial law being bad, and they were really sympathetic to me being an activist working with Americans who were against the war. And they said that they had no choice, that they were ordered to beat me up and they did that. And you know, they shared food, they offered to share cigarettes, they shared drinks, and they had nothing. They themselves had to be really collective in order to live because they weren't fed regularly at all. They were only fed if somebody had money or if they had family there.

The next morning we got taken out of there and back to the GI Center until about 11 o'clock at night when they finally took us to Camp Olivas.

It was really weird. We were in a car and there were maybe 50 or 100 Filipino people outside wondering what was happening and maybe 15 PC with their M-16s and Navy Intelligence were all out there. Then somebody, I think it was the head of Naval Intelligence just looked at us and he goes, "Do you have any words to pass on?" That really freaked us. It was like we were going before a firing squad.

So we're in this car with these guys with M-16s, late at night. They begin to get really heavy on us asking us questions and then when we wouldn't answer, they'd say things like, "Well, you know since you Americans kill for money, we Filipinos, we kill because we like to kill. We kill because we have the desire to kill." Kind of playing on racist fears of white people, I think, or because the Navy really pushes that all Filipinos are out to kill Americans, to rip Americans off. The Air Force, too, they have orientation programs, always drilling it in that Filipinos are really savage, barbaric people. The PC probably knows this and thought we were coming from that same type of mentality. But he wasn't scaring us because the Filipino people had been really good to us all the time. We were really close, and we had come away from the Philippines with just a lot of love and respect and admiration for them.

Once we got to Camp Olivas things settled down. It looked like they were going to charge us, but by now the people in the US put on a lot of pressure through Congress and the media so that Marcos decided that if they charged us, it could be an international incident. He is really dependent on the American people to think that he's a democratic type because he needs American support.

GENOCIDAL WAR

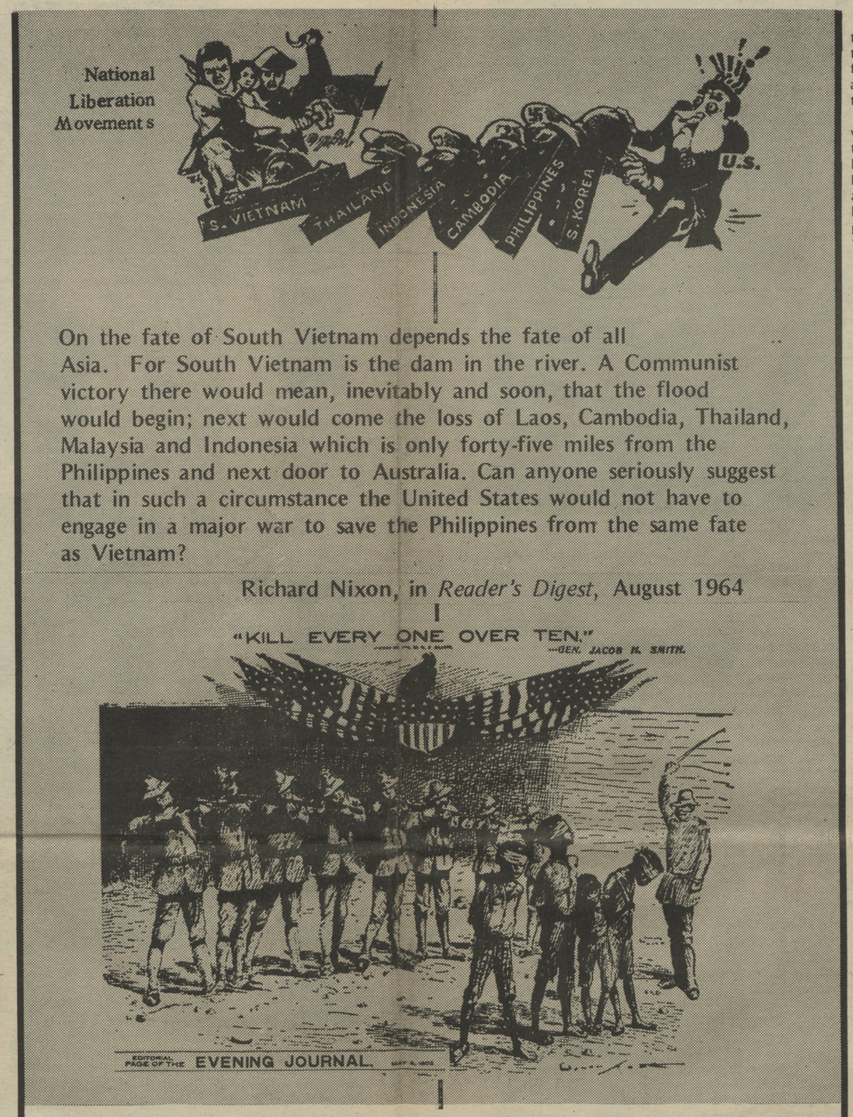
BULKHEAD: WHY DO YOU THINK MARTIAL LAW WAS DECLARED?

GENE: **I think first you should understand the United States' interests in the Philippines. From 1898 to 1902 there was a Filipino-American war during which the US invaded and conquered and colonized the Filipino people. The US sent over 126,000 troops, spent $600 million. It was really a genocidal war on the scale of Vietnam in that they killed over 600,000 Filipino people in order to grab control of the Philippines. Now the Filipino people didn't want to be an American colony. They had just ended a war kicking out Spain, which for over 300 years had ruled the Philippines. Now the United States was coming in, US industry and the military to take raw materials and to invest in the Philippines and to dump the surplus products from American industry into the Philippines.**

From that time until now, through a lot of different means, the US has gained considerable economic, military, cultural, and political control of the Philippines. US investment now totals almost $3 billion. This money isn't building up the economy. Between 1956 and 1965, 108 large US corporations sent back more than $380 million in profits to the US – six times the total new investment for the same period. We have large military bases there. We completely control the Marcos government because our money controls their economy. And in a lot of ways, of course, the Filipino people, just like the Vietnamese people or the people of Latin America, are realizing that the reason they're not an industrialized country, the reason they aren't able to become more wealthy and have to stay in such conditions of poverty is because the US has control over the economy. The Filipino people can't develop their own industry, they can't raise the levels of agricultural output. They don't really have the self-determination to decide what the country's going to do.

After martial law to show that he is really a puppet of the US, Marcos overturned a Supreme Court ruling which said US citizens or corporations cannot buy or own agricultural lands in the Philippines after the Parity Laws expire in 1974. The so-called Parity Amendments gave the US the right to completely invest in and exploit the land and natural resources and labor of the Filipino people. And it also said the Filipino people could do the same in the US, which is crazy since the Filipinos are so poor. So what Marcos immediately did was to assure all American investors and landowners that they won't have to sell anything and that they could continue investing in the Philippines.

According to the constitution which was written by Americans, Marcos can't run for president again when his term runs out in 1973. He didn't want to give up any of his power, so he convened this constitutional convention. It had a certain nationalistic ring to it because the people were supposedly going to get a chance to write their own constitution. In fact, Marcos planned to have the government changed from a so-called republican form to a so-called parliamentary form. That way he would have been able to stay in power as prime minister, since there would not be any restrictions on the length of time he could stay in office.



On the fate of South Vietnam depends the fate of all Asia. For South Vietnam is the dam in the river. A Communist victory there would mean, inevitably and soon, that the flood would begin; next would come the loss of Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia which is only forty-five miles from the Philippines and next door to Australia. Can anyone seriously suggest that in such a circumstance the United States would not have to engage in a major war to save the Philippines from the same fate as Vietnam?

Richard Nixon, in *Reader's Digest*, August 1964

America Conquers The Philippines

"American factories are making more than the American people can use; American soil is producing more than they can consume. Fate has written our policy for us; the trade of the world must and shall be ours. And we will get it as our mother [England] has told us how. We will establish trading posts throughout the world as distributing points for American products. We will soon cover the ocean with our merchant marine. We will build a navy to the measure of our greatness. Great colonies governing themselves, flying our flag, and trading with us, will grow about our posts of trade. Our institutions will follow our flag on the wings of commerce. And America's law, American order, American civilization, and the American flag will plant themselves on shores hitherto bloody and beknighted, but by those agencies of God henceforth to be made beautiful and bright . . . The Philippines are logically our first target."

Senator Albert J. Beveridge (April 27, 1898)

"General Jacob H. Smith instructed him to kill and burn; that the more he killed and burned the better pleased General Smith would be; that it was no time to take prisoners, and that when Major Waller asked General Smith to define the age limit of killing, he replied, 'Everything over ten.'"

US Senate Report on testimony of Major L.W.T. Waller about the Commander General of the Samar Island Campaign of 1903

"The Philippines has become a physical, economic and social base for American influence – political, economic and social – in the Far East. There we demonstrate before the eyes of all Far Eastern people and all governments which exercise authority or influence in the Far East, American ideas and methods."

Secretary of State Henry Stimson to Pres. Herbert Hoover (January 1930)

Marcos, however, was having his problems. Convention delegates tried to pass a "ban Marcos" provision to the constitution which would have prevented Marcos from becoming prime minister. That was barely defeated and only because Marcos bought off the votes he needed to defeat it.

The constitution is pretty much drawn up, but it would have to be approved by 60% of the people and the people really hate Marcos. But it will pass because Marcos controls the election machinery. Then he can have parliamentary elections which would also be rigged and he'd become Prime Minister. But he doesn't even have to have these elections, since the constitution has a provision now that the incumbent president head the "interim" government until 1976.

THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION

For especially the last four years, a large movement has grown for an independent Philippines, against the Marcos government which is known throughout the world to be corrupt, and against the influence of US military bases and US economic control. It's a large revolutionary movement for what they call "national democracy", meaning first of all that they want all foreign interests – American, Japanese, anybody – out of there. They want to be able to control their own country, to industrialize and provide jobs for their people and not have all their wealth go to other countries. And secondly, by democracy they mean that the Philippines is a feudal system. You have a few landlords owning most of the land. Peasants have to work that land and pay sometimes 50, 60 and 75 percent of their yearly harvest to landlords, which keeps really primitive methods of agriculture – it prevents them from expanding agriculture to meet the food needs of the people. So they want to take the land from the landlords and give it to the people. This is what they mean by national democracy.

So three things led to martial law. One, to assure the US that they should support him because he's going to support their investments. Two, to keep his own power after 1973. And three, he hoped in some way to be able to stifle the national democratic movement.

"There is no way things will get better. If the Communists come here, we will go back with them to the hills. If they gave me a gun, I would kill the haunderos [big landlords]."

A Filipino sugar cane-cutter to New York Times reporter Philip Shabecoff in March 1970

BULKHEAD: DO YOU THINK THE MOVEMENT IS AT THE POINT WHERE THERE WILL BE A NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

GENE: It's hard to say. It's impossible to lay out a timetable for the movement there, but for sure I can tell you that if Marcos didn't have US support he'd be out of there in a day. But because there is US support in a lot of different ways, it's just like the Vietnamese movement. We don't know how long that struggle for complete independence is going to take. But still they are strong. They have a New People's Army (NPA) which is like the National Liberation Front ("Viet Cong") in Vietnam which has worked with the peasants to kick out the landlords and kick out the government forces. The NPA has distributed land to the peasants and in certain base areas is raising the living standards of the people. At the same time, they have to fight the Philippine Armed Forces. In those areas US planes, piloted by Filipinos, but taking off from Clark AFB, are dropping napalm.

Early in July of this year in the largest base area, Isabella, there were 50 American advisors helping on military operations again trying to put down the peasants and crush the New People's Army. This is just like Vietnam back in the 1950s and 60s. The US, through JUSMAG (Joint US Military Advisory Group) and through US AID (Agency for International Development) programs, controls and directs all the Philippine Armed Forces and is really instrumental in all the different strategies and tactics they use to fight the Filipino people who're fighting for their national liberation.

So there's really a strong movement. They do have base areas. They have complete, massive support, the sympathies of the people, and Marcos is really hated.

GI MOVEMENT ORGANIZES

BULKHEAD: COULD YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT GENERALLY ABOUT WHAT THE GI MOVEMENT WAS? WHAT WAS IT DOING?

DALE: Well, the GI movement was a movement against the war in Vietnam and also against the presence of US bases in the Philippines and in Asia in general. It began in an organized way in the Fall of 1971 when the Pacific Counseling Service and the National Lawyers Guild established a GI project at Clark Air Force Base. Shortly after that the Barbara Dane Show and the FTA Show came through Clark and Subic. These were shows for GIs that allowed us to get in contact with a lot of GIs to begin a mass organization of GIs at Clark against the war. We started a couple of GI newspapers – the first one at Clark called "Cry Out." Then in about January, 1972, we set up a project at Subic, and the GIs there also began a paper, "Seasick." In May or so of 1972 GIs from the Seventh Fleet, Subic, San Miguel Naval Communications Station, and Clark met and drafted the program for the GI movement in the Philippines. **There were six points. Generally it was an anti-imperialist program against the economic, military, and cultural domination by the US over the Philippines and also over other countries.**

Another major part of our program was to fight for full democratic rights for the people serving in the U S Armed Forces. Then we thought that we should fight to make the military serve the interests of the American people and not just the interests of the big monopoly corporations and the corrupt politicians. And we pledged ourselves to educate ourselves to struggle against racism and discrimination against women. And we demanded an end to the suppression of groups and individuals who were struggling for the creation of a more just and democratic society And we said that the GI movement is part of the movement of the American people and we pledged to unite with and support all the peoples of the world who share our common goals. So those were as of May the general goals of the GI movement.

The program reflected 3 or 4 months of encounter with the military, with GIs trying to assert their democratic rights and being put down by the military. Through our educational programs, people began to realize that the war in Vietnam was not just an accident, but that the US military was doing the same thing, or could in the near future be doing the same thing in the Philippines as it is doing now in Vietnam.

People began to work with Filipino activists, to have some contact with the Filipino reality, to understand the struggle of the Filipino people against US imperialism. It's very easy to do educational work about what imperialism means in the Philippines because especially in the base towns conditions are so blatant. You see little beggar kids on the streets. There are 10,000 prostitutes in one base town. And all of it's caused by poverty in the countryside, the fact that US imperialism maintains total economic domination over the country – it doesn't allow the development of the industries needed there. GIs began to draw analogies from that to what's happening in Vietnam, to what was happening in Latin America, and other parts of the world.

SERVING THE PEOPLE

BULKHEAD: SO ONE OF THE UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE GI MOVEMENT THERE WAS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GI MOVEMENT AND THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC STRUGGLE. COULD YOU TALK A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THIS?

Filipino activists were always really anxious and enthusiastic to talk to Americans and to learn the problems of GIs and to explain the problems of the Filipino people. Probably one of the most concrete experiences was during the last few months when there were really heavy floods probably the worst in the history of the Philippines. A lot of people were really hurt by them, forced out of their homes. Food wasn't getting through from Manila to a lot of the provinces. People couldn't go to work. The floods destroyed their crops. Homes were flooded out. Mud was all over. It was really a mess. The government hadn't done anything to help. The few

(cont'd next page)

August 1971 – Clark AFB after 10,000 residents of Angeles City demonstrate.

things they had done were almost ridiculous, purely propaganda attempts to show the people that they were helping. The US Navy cooked what they called nutri-buns. With these nutri-buns, they were going to solve, I guess, the health problems of the people and drop them on different areas and people would eat them. Inside of them they put slips of paper saying "Compliments of Imelda Marcos" because at one time Marcos wanted Imelda to run for President in place of him kind of like George Wallace and his wife.*

IMELDA MARCOS NUTRI-BUNS

So what the US did is the military would drop the Imelda Marcos nutri-buns from the air. They wouldn't even investigate to see what people needed, or what the problems were, they just dropped them. And sometimes they dropped big boxes of them right on top of houses, and they would go through the houses. A couple of times they dropped them on top of people in the fields. The way they did it just showed that there was no real care being taken for the people and that it was a political thing so that Marcos would make front page headlines with pictures showing how the American military, despite what the GI movement and the Filipinos were saying, was for the Filipino people.

No real help was given at all, as far as medical care, as far as really getting food to the people, as far as getting engineering brigades together to help dig out the homes of the people, to dig out the roads, to build bridges. The only place they built bridges was on the San Miguel road, the road between the Naval Communications Station and Subic where a bridge had gone out which meant that ground transportation between the two bases was cut off. And of course, big front page pictures of that one too.

While the Navy was dropping nutri-buns, thousands of youth activists from universities, from all the provinces, doctors and nurses stopped going to school and formed what they called "Serve the People" brigades. They each had different names. There were thousands of young people collecting clothes and instruments and things and going all throughout Luzon to take care of people's different needs. In Olongapo we worked with the KM (Patriotic Youth), other youth organizations at the schools, and the Enlisted Men for Justice which was an organization of sailors and marines at Subic. We got together and collected money. We'd stand in front of the gates and, together with GIs, we'd collect a lot of money. GIs gave a lot of money to buy food and other people helped to collect food and clothing.

At one time we had what we called Engineering Brigades. We went into the barrio of Santa Rita where the mud had really risen to high levels so that cars couldn't go through and people couldn't get out of their houses. A lot of us just working with shovels would dig out the mud and make new roads and dig out houses. With one machine the Navy could have done all the work in maybe a half hour. But they really didn't care. It was up to the initiative and the spirit of the people to get together and do these things. And that was one way where we concretely worked with the Filipino people.

All newspapers and leaflets we'd put out, we'd always pass them out to Filipino people as well as Americans and discuss with them what we were doing. And at demonstrations and rallies the Filipino people would see Americans and Filipinos together. We were showing that the American GIs weren't the enemies of the Filipino people but it was the American imperialists and the American military that were controlling the country. And so we'd walk around the streets, people active in the GI movement, wearing our T-shirts, our buttons, or even not wearing anything like that and people would know us and were really friendly. You know, "Makibaka Huwag Matakot!" which means "Fight Back, Don't Be Afraid!" There was really a good feeling among everybody. You could say we really had a lot of support in the community there because they understood what we were doing and what our relationship to them was.

BULKHEAD: DO YOU THINK THAT MARTIAL LAW WILL STOP EITHER THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT OR THE GI MOVEMENT?

GENE: Well, as far as the national democratic movement that got stronger. Martial law was declared and there was no doubt that Marcos was a fascist dictator. Many people began to join the movement in general and especially the New People's Army. They saw they had no choice. If they let it go along too long then pretty soon they would have American troops in there and then they'd have a complete fascist dictator like Thieu. They were all going to have to commit themselves to fight in the struggle. The movement got bigger if anything. It never got weaker. The only thing, of course, hat will hold the movement down more than temporarily is a large dose of US military aggression. Once again it will be a protacted war like the Vietnamese war. If the US doesn't go in there, which they will if it gets that bad, the movement's just going to keep getting stronger.

* In mid-December, Mrs. Marcos was stabbed and severely wounded by an assassin at a public ceremony in Manila. Marcos claims that there have been seven attempts on his life this year.

January 1970 – When the US government forced Marcos to raise gasoline prices, the thousands of poor people who made their living driving tiny buses and taxis called Jeepneys were put in a bind. They couldn't earn a living if they had to pay even higher prices for gas, and they couldn't earn a living if they didn't drive a lot of miles every day. So they went out on strike. This is a photograph of students demonstrating at their university in support of the popular Jeepney drivers' strike. Actions like this took place all over the Philippines.

GIs AND MARTIAL LAW

BULKHEAD: AS FAR AS THE GI MOVEMENT?

DALE: In terms of the GI movement, it's going to be impossible to do the kind of open mass work which was done there before martial law was declared in which you had an open project with a newspaper, open propaganda, and you had lawyers there to defend the GIs' democratic rights. We are trying to get some lawyers back into the country to defend GIs at courts-martial. But it's very likely that we're not going to be able to get the kind of project that was there before back again. What that means is that the GI movement will probably be more of spontaneous thing, not as formally organized as it was before. It will be the same conditions which prevail for GIs who are stationed in Korea, South Vietnam, or Thailand or some of the other places in Southeast Asia which are under martial law under a US-puppet dictatorship. What that means is that there's a lot of anti-military sentiment a lot of anti-war sentiment and anti-imperialist consciousness on the part of GIs. There's spontaneous actions, sabotage in some cases, spontaneous anger that GIs feel against the military or the war. But it's very difficult for them to hold meetings or put out any written propaganda at all. They have to be very informal about their level of organization. But the conditions in the Philippines, especially at Subic, are such that just to declare martial law and to kick all the civilian activists and lawyers out is not going to remove the reason why there was a GI movement in the first place.

BULKHEAD: FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKING THERE DO YOU HAVE PARTICULAR SUGGESTIONS ABOUT WAYS GUYS CAN WORK POLITICALLY UNDER MARTIAL LAW?

GENE: Instead of everyone meeting at big meetings, we were having barracks meetings or workplace meetings. Instead of people trying to call large meetings and get leaflets and big base-wide newspapers out like "Seasick," get together wherever people are, with their friends or where they work or live. If they want to put out their own newsletter, if they can, that's really good. One of the things is to keep in contact with papers like The Bulkhead, with SOS, with San Diego PCS. In Yokosuka there's a movement and there is the Liberated Barracks in Hawaii which is also a Navy port. (See PCS box on page 18 for addresses.) Keep in contact with those groups and if they need things to study or read, rely on these groups.

I think it's really important for Americans there to realize what the bases in the Philippines are doing and to always try to educate the rest of our friends out there that we shouldn't be there. Also there are no lawyers out there, but there are a lot of counseling booklets that people here on The Bulkhead can tell people about. (See announcement about "Turn the Regs Around" on page 18) Guys can be defending themselves. Really fighting back and not letting the military come down on them anytime they want because there are a lot of legal ways that you can fight back. If you get a lot of guys together, you can file Article 138s. There's ways of putting the brakes on military injustice.

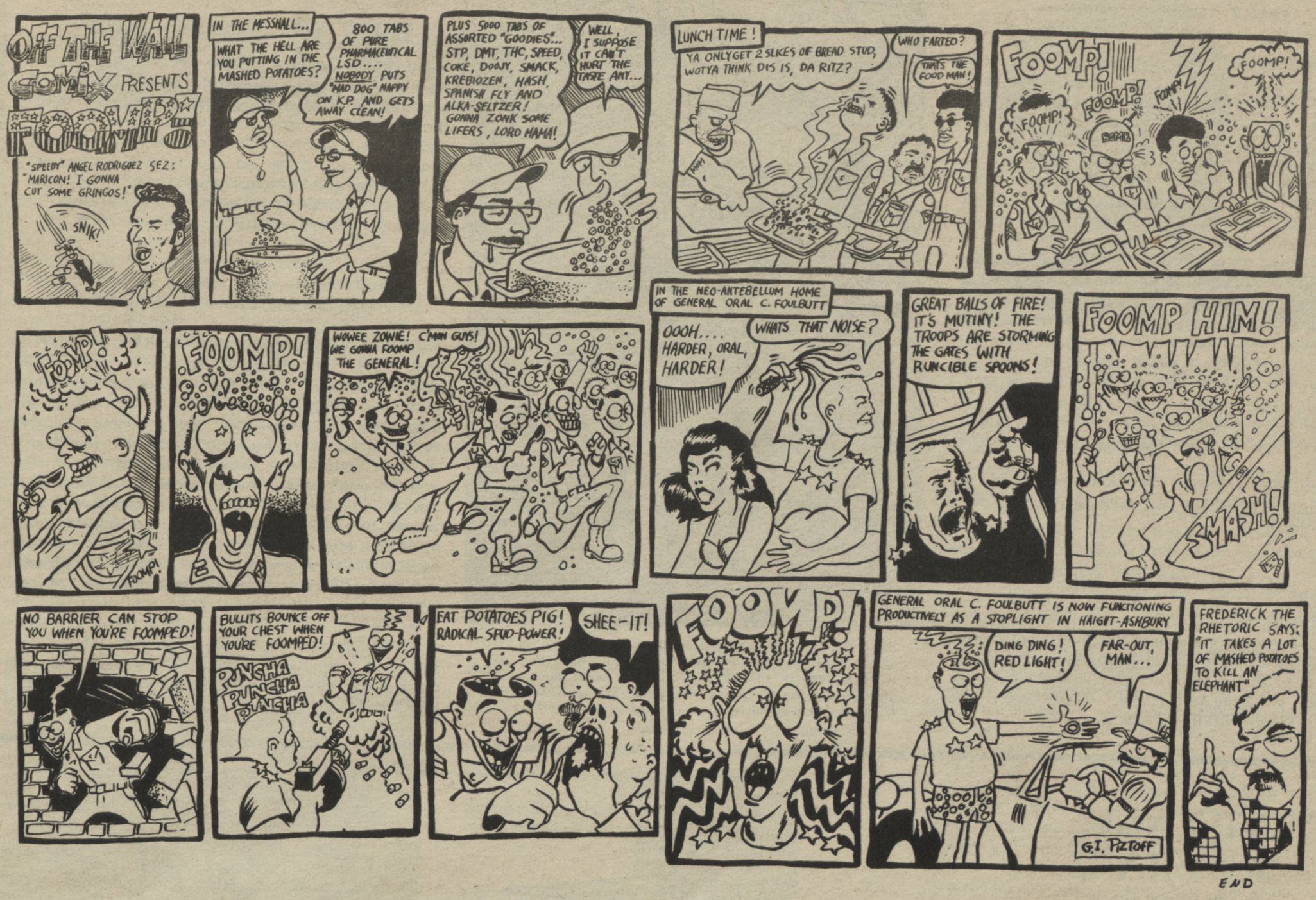
BULKHEAD: YOU'VE TALKED ABOUT HOW THE US MILITARY IS USING THE RP TO ATTACK THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM. COULD YOU TALK SOME MORE ABOUT WHAT THE US MILITARY IS PLANNING INSIDE THE RP?

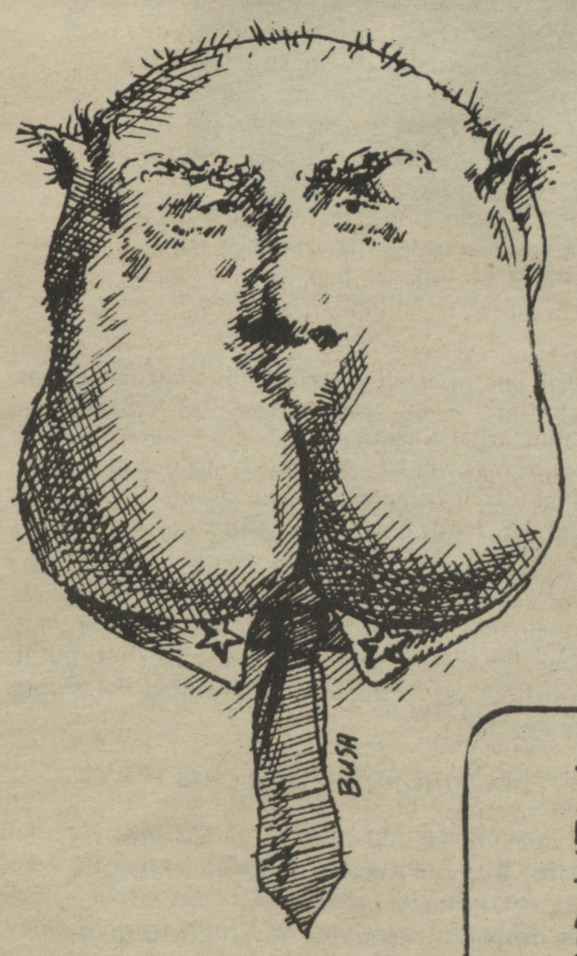
DALE: OK, take the Philippine Constabulary, the domestic police force. They get their counterinsurgency training from US advisors, a lot of officers at Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. There are US advisors at all levels of the PC. There's a clause in the Constitution which has to do with the fact that the Philippine Armed Forces aren't allowed to get any equipment for their military without approval of JUSMAG, which means that the US has a veto power over what kind of equipment that Armed Forces gets. In fact, they get everything from M-16 rifles to F-5 jets, tanks and armored personnel carriers.

GENE: Two recent developments that are important. One, the Public Safety Division of USAID, is instituting through the METROCOM, the Metropolitan Command of the Philippine Constabulary, a counter-insurgency anti-riot group. They are now taking on a lot of major responsibilities. US advisors, some from Saigon who have done the same kind of work in Vietnam, are coming to the Philippines. They're doing a lot of small-arms training. A lot of counter-insurgency, strategic type of programs are being set up, things like intelligence, computerized intelligence systems throughout the Philippines, riot training for all the local Filipino Armed Forces.

In March, the Secretary of Defense there came to Washington and spent ten days presumably in the Pentagon. Five days after he came back they announced a new military program. What they're going to try to do in the Philippines with massive US support is to set up a mini-military-industrial complex. So that US goods and US Naval and US hardware will be produced in the Philippines. It will look like it's not coming directly from the US, but that Philippines industry is supplying its own guns and its own hardware. But, you know, completely with the programming and the planning and the direction and for the most part, the funds of the United States.

The whole strategy now is: the United States is going to make it look like it's purely a Filipino war while it's really going to be all US money, all US thinking, all US direction; it's going to look like it's all coming from the Philippines, and then in the background will be the United States. They don't want to have to put more ground troops in there. They don't want to have to use American airplanes with American pilots like they have in Vietnam now. They're taking off from the end part of the Vietnamese strategy and beginning it in the Philippines. That's more like it probably.





CHAIN OF COMMAND?

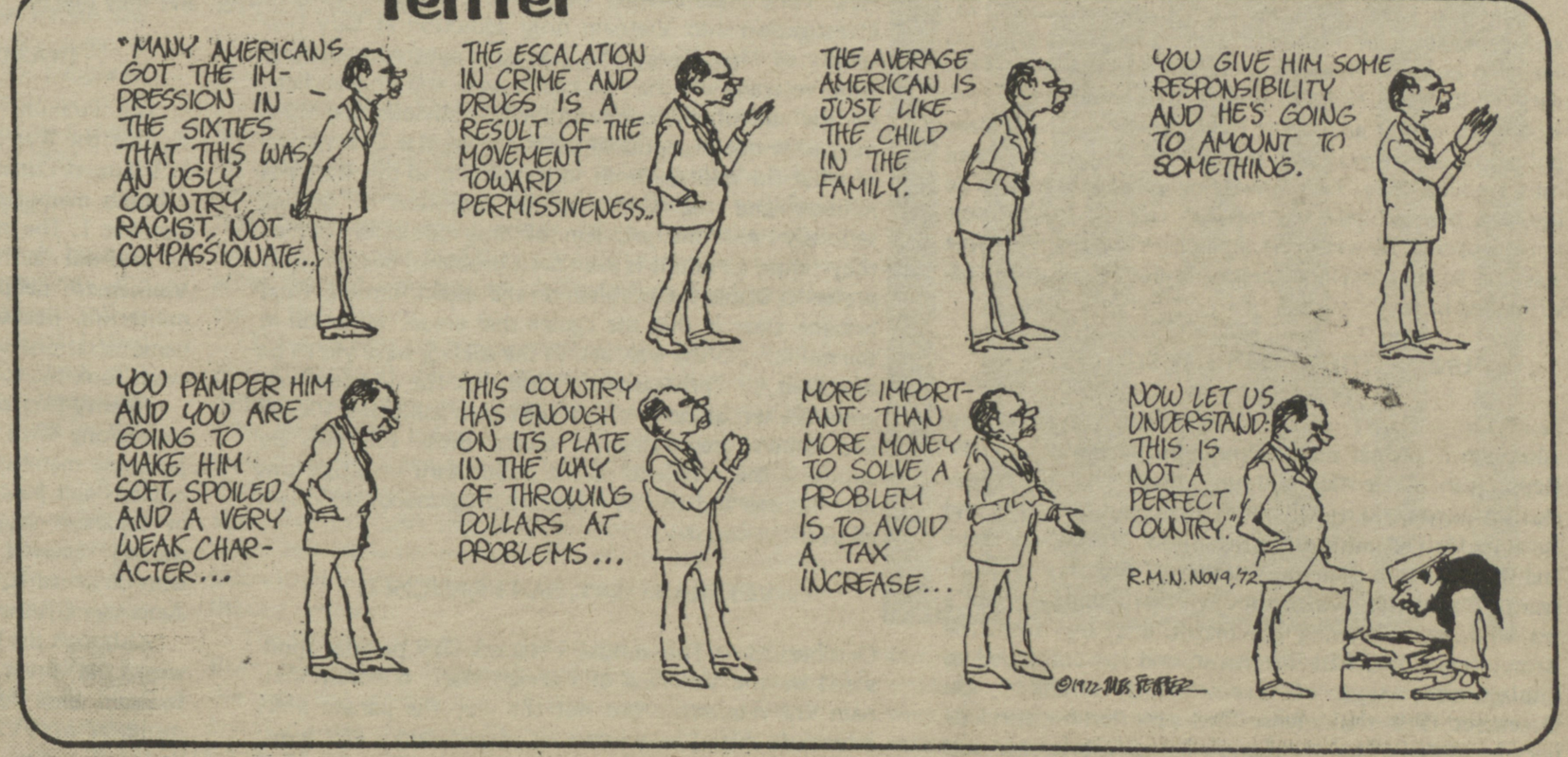
When the body was made, all parts wanted to be Boss. The hands said, "Since I perform all chores and duties for man, I should be Boss."

The Feet said, "Since I put man in the position to do the chores and duties of the hands, I should be Boss." The brain said, "Since I control all parts and do all the thinking, I should be Boss." And it went on, the eyes, the ears, and so on. Finally the Asshole spoke up. All the other parts thought it was funny, an asshole being Boss.

So the Asshole refused to work. Soon the eyes got quiverish, the hands got limp, and the feet got weak. All the other parts pleaded with the brain to give in to the Asshole. And so it was done.

The Asshole just sat back and passed out a lot of shit.

Moral: You don't have to be a brain to be Boss – just an asshole.



GIs MOVE TO CANCEL WAR GAMES IN GERMANY

FORT RILEY, KANSAS (September) – Operation Reforger, the brass's annual war games in Germany, seems to be off for good. At the beginning of October, the Senate cut off the money. Last year the brass paid expenses out of 1st Division funds.

Reforger was originally planned for October 2 – November 20. Beginning in early summer, units of the 1st Infantry Division and its support groups at Ft. Riley, and the 5th Engineers at Ft. Leonard Wood were on severely increased duty and field exercises. When it became obvious the money wasn't coming, rumor had it that things would be postponed until January. A whole new round of training and field exercises was begun.

GIs at Riley responded with a petition to Congress which stated several reasons for their opposition: (1) Reforger doesn't fulfill its stated purpose and can't; (2) Last year several people died during the exercise itself, and others died in training for it; (3) It disrupts the life of Germans in the area and creates resentment; (4) It costs millions of dollars which could be spent better elsewhere.

Before rumors began that Reforger would be cancelled, 100 signatures were collected at Ft. Riley. (CAMP NEWS)

NO MORE OF THIS SHIT!!!

LYONS, MICHIGAN (October) – Workers on the first shift at Chrysler's trim plant in Lyons were not allowed to leave the assembly line to go to the head! This shit had to stop. They staged a sit-down strike, closed down the plant, and won their demand for open use of the toilets. (LIBERATED BARRACKS)

Black GIs march here with German people in November 1970, demanding freedom for imprisoned Black Panther Bobby Seale. Although regs say it's illegal to demonstrate in a foreign country, brothers marched anyway, stuck together, and to the best of our knowledge were not charged.

GIs MARCH WITH GERMAN PEOPLE

EUROPE (October) – Dozens of GIs marched with over ten thousand Germans October 28 in Frankfurt in a massive demonstration to support the Vietnamese and to condemn US imperialism. They ignored the brass' threats of "up to three years in jail." Hundreds more packed the windos of the "casernes" (barracks and Army housing) waving and saluting with V-signs and clenched fists as the long march wound past.

In Paris, 100,000 young people took to the streets to protest the Vietnam war. (CAMP NEWS and LNS)

DAP/PEACE SIGN OUTLAWED

KANOEHE MCAS, HAWAII and NORTH CAROLINA (Fall 1972) – Over 100 black Marines at Kanoehe MCAS signed a petition demanding cultural and economic reforms at the base. The petition was ignored. L/Cpl Edwin Gregory campaigned and organized strongly against racism at the base. He documented the racism there, wrote to Nixon, Senators, and Congressmen. His evidence was ignored; he was shipped to California and discharged. Brothers at Kanoehe are consistently oppressed for black forms of greeting and solidarity gestures. One brother was attacked by a pig officer at the messhall for these gestures of brotherhood. The officer got the shit beat out of him, but the brother went to the brig.

At New River Air Station in North Carolina, a new order has been put out. Brothers cannot give the power sign and cannot greet each other as they wish. Also, no one can give the peace sign. (RAGE and LIBERATED BARRACKS)

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR

Recent Actions Around the World

THE LAST PATROL

August 18-24 – 1200 vets and supporters in three separate caravans traveled across the country in military style to protest the coronation of King Richard in Miami. The three convoys began respectively in Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco. People all along the roadsides of America gave vets the power sign. The vets felt that most people were showing their desire to end the war.

The eastern portion of the convoy made a special stop at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina to talk with members of the 3d Brigade / 82d Airborne who were to be deployed to Miami to help police the demonstrators. When 50 VVAW members with brothers and sisters from the Ft. Bragg GI project went to the billeting area on base, about a thousand GIs came out of the 82d Airborne barracks cheering. GIs assured the vets that they would never confront Vietnam veterans in a demonstration. However, they assumed that in a showdown, only special lifer squads would be sent out. They had about ten minutes of rapping time before MPs rushed in and threatened to arrest the vets. The VVAW members left the base at their own speed and in their own style, which put the MPs really up tight.

The Last Patrol converged in Miami on August 21, and camped in at Flamingo Park. The effort the vets made to come to Miami was negligible in the eyes of the nation. Richard Nixon's government effectively controlled all media and, with the help of local and state police, undercover agents and lifer troops, made Miami into a police state. The convention appeared on tv to be just one big wholesome American family. The message known so well by vets, GIs, and the Vietnamese people was lost to the Ameircan people under a blanket of red, white and blue.

UNDER THE GUN IN THE SUN BELT

Sept/Oct – Legal persecution of VVAW continues. Although it is clear that the thousand vets present at the Republican convention did not disrupt it with "automatic weapons, slingshots and fried marbles", a Grand Jury reaffirmed an indictment of six VVAW members and indicted two more on October 8. The only evidence against the vets is the testimony of William Lemmer, a vet who was offered a psychiatric discharge from the Army, was a paid FBI informant, and has continued to display many signs of severe mental disability. On December 19th, the defense filed a motion for dismissal because defense lawyer Larry Turner's briefcase was seized and searched without warrant by US marshalls while Larry was boarding a plane. When the motion is denied the trial will resume the end of February.

Members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War make up the largest contingent in a Veterans Day parade in San Francisco. As they pass the lifer-laden reviewing stands, they turn their backs to the brass and salute the people watching on the sidewalks. By-standers applauded strongly while the brass boiled.

WINTER SOLDIER INVESTIGATION INTO HEAVY DRUGS

August 3 & 4 – There are probably 300,000 veterans of the Vietnam era in New York city. And of those, at least 30,000 are heroin addicts. These figures are based on Defense Dept statistics and a Harris Survey conducted for the Veterans Administration. On August 3 & 4, the New York State chapter of VVAW conducted a public investigation into Vietnam drug addiction at City University of New York, The two days covered testimony from veterans who had kicked or were still drug addicts. By the end of the testimony, it was obvious that these men were not exceptional cases but regular GIs, victims of what the military does to its soldiers in this war. The military and the VA have no intention of dealing seriously with the problem of drug addiction (which they refuse to admit is even *their* problem) because they prefer to blame the problem on the addict himself. What became clear is that the causes that create addiction in the military, in the war, and in the society have yet to be discussed by "professionals" and that the addicted veterans are left alone to create their own solutions. VVAW and others are trying to create those solutions by exposing the problems to the public thru investigations like this one and also by initiating programs of their own all over the country.

VETERANS DAY, SAN FRANCISCO

October 23 – The annual Veterans Day parade, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, honored Vietnam era veterans – but not the way the parade lifers intended. After two hours of Army tanks and guns, models of the Coral Sea and the Hancock, high school ROTC drill and marching units, bands and color guards, after all this came 300 fatigue-clad, medal-laden figures. This was the largest unit in the parade – and the most popular. Apathetic crowds who had yawned during the rest of the parade applauded loudly and cheered when the silent anti-war vets marched by in formation behind a black peace flag and the VVAW banner. At the reviewing stand the vets revised their normal procedure, turned their backs to the lifer brass and gave the unity and power sign to the people. As one of the vets put it, "We turned our ass to the brass and saluted the people, and they dug it!"

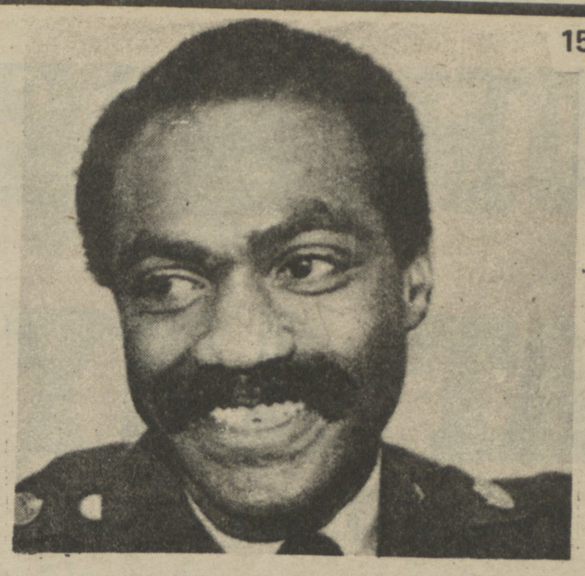
IWAKUNI/HIROSHIMA CHAPTER

The Iwakuni MCAS chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) and Beheiren (Japanese Peace in Vietnam Committee) sponsored a "peace tour" of the A-bomb memorial Peace Park in Hiroshima on Sunday, October 1. The purpose of the "tour" was to involve GIs in anti-war activities, and to show support for the Vietnamese people who are the current victims of US militarism. Because it is illegal for GIs to participate in demonstrations while stationed in foreign countries the event took the form of a "tour."

Twenty-two active duty Marines participated in the tour along with several American civilians and fifteen Japanese members of Beheiren. The GIs wore anti-war buttons and patches, VVAW emblems, and a pin written in Japanese saying "opposed to war." The tour was warmly received by the Japanese citizens of Hiroshima who observed it, although many expressed surprise that American GIs were opposed to the war.

Although the Iwakuni chapter of VVAW is only a few weeks old, there has been GI resistance to the war at the Iwakuni base for almost three years. After the tour members of VVAW held an open air meeting in Peace Park.

BILLY'S FREE



Billy Dean Smith, 24-year-old black Army private from Watts, California, was acquitted November 14 at Ft. Ord (California) of the fragging murders of two white lifers at Bien Hoa, Vietnam, in March 1971. The acquittal came after Smith had spent 17 months in solitary confinement while a broad movement of supporters including organizations in the black liberation movement, GI organizations, Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW), and many others worked for his freedom.

Smith's case was one of the most widely publicized trials coming out of the Vietnam war where fragging took a heavy toll among lifers who had reputations for being gung-ho killers and racists.

During the trial, Smith pointed out, "I was accused, charged, and found guilty and sentenced to death while I was still in Vietnam . . . simply because I didn't have a puppet mind and I was a candid, black, outspoken individual. I had stated time and time again that I realize that the war in Indochina is unjust and racially motivated and that most of all I strictly hated all who had high regard for the habitual butchery of the Vietnamese people."

During the trial, his lawyer, Luke McKissack argued that justice would be served only if Smith was tried by a jury of enlisted men. The court denied the motion and Smith was tried by seven career officers, all of whom served in Vietnam and two of whom were black.

Vets testifying at the Trial of the Army in Monterey, near Fort Ord, California on September 6.

Worldwide Support

When the trial began a year ago support among black GIs at Ft. Ord was significant. At one point there was a large demonstration on base and several buildings were burned. Many of the leaders were discharged or transferred and civilian supporters were hassled frequently. Despite this Billy Dean Smith became widely known throughout the world through the work of groups like VVAW.

VVAW built support in the Monterey area by holding a "Trial of the Army" on September 6. After many veterans testified indicting the Army for racism and repression, 300 vets marched to the gates of Ft. Ord. At a Veterans' Day action in Seattle, Washington, on October 23, 100 veterans and active duty members of both Ft. Lewis and Seattle VVAW called for Smith's freedom. GIs from Ft. Lewis handed out grenade pins saying, "This pin entitles you to one free court-martial for murder compliments of the brass." (The prosecution claimed that a grenade pin found in Smith's pocket linked him to the murders.)

The prosecution's case was a joke. At least two of their witnesses changed their stories in favor of Smith on the witness stand explaining that they were free of the military and could now tell the truth without fear of reprisals. Three brothers who received money from the prosecution to travel to Ft. Ord never showed.

Army Freaks

During the trial the Army freaked out. Only 35 spectators were allowed in the court room which was specially built for the trial. Spectators had to board a bus to get to the area where they were searched and cautioned about their behavior in court. The building was surrounded by MPs on the ground, snipers on the roof, and a helicopter hovering overhead.

After the verdict Smith discussed the meaning of his trial at a press conference:

"Most people want to know whether my acquittal means that I got a fair trial or insist that it is proof positive that the system works.

May I say that the system of 'military injustice' is still riddled with injustice.

If I had been tried in Vietnam or if I had failed to receive tremendous popular support throughout the world or if I did not have a brilliant attorney like Luke McKissack, I would have been railroaded. . . .

I was chosen for trial because I was an outspoken critic of the war, and was not afraid to expose the racism in Vietnam."

"As I sat in solitary confinement during this period, I often thought of the different treatment I was receiving — not even having had a trial, from that of Lt. William Calley, a white officer who was virtually free after being convicted of slaughtering hundreds of innocent, unarmed Vietnamese."

"I am glad to be free, but I can't really feel free until the war in Southeast Asia is over. The blood of nearly 6 million Vietnamese has seeped into the soil of rice fields which will never grow again, and the gouged-out trenches of a devastated land run red with the life substance of a people who would be free had they not been made scapegoats in this vicious war game which would-be fascists choose to play at their expense.

I now wish to dedicate the rest of my life to working toward guaranteeing that other persons like myself will not have to be subjected to the injustices I faced both in the military and in courts throughout the country. I commit myself to working for the freedom of all political prisoners everywhere."

TRAIL OF BROKEN TREATIES

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November) — On September 30, Richard Oakes, a 30-year old Mohawk best known for his central role in the occupation of Alcatraz Island in 1969 by the Indians of All Tribes, was shot to death. Oakes, who was unarmed, was shot by the white manager of a YMCA camp north of San Francisco during an argument about a horse allegedly stolen by Oakes' cousin. In an act reminiscent of a history of genocidal attacks on Native Americans, the camp manager was only charged with manslaughter. He claimed he "didn't know it was wrong to kill an Indian."

Although the Indian occupiers of Alcatraz were eventually removed by federal authorities in 1971, Oakes later described the 2 year occupation as an important step in the reawakening of Native Americans. After he left the island, he wrote, "It was just beginning... For some, it was the first time that they had met with the people of other tribes, the first time they felt a unity with all Indians. The getting together of all Indians was something undreamed of since the Ghost Dance of 1889."

Indians Seize Bureau of Indian Affairs

Sadly, Oakes did not live to see his words become prophetic six short weeks later when probably the greatest Indian victory since Custer was rubbed out at Little Big Horn came down at the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington. On November 2 almost one thousand Indians led by the American Indian Movement dismantled the BIA after occupying the building for one week.

The occupation came at the end of the Trail of Broken Treaties Caravan when went to Washington demanding major reforms in the BIA. The Caravan represented two-thirds of the 300 tribes in the US. Twenty-one regional BIA offices were occupied simultaneously.

After the occupation the Nixon administration secured a court order warning the Indians that "the government is going to retake the building." The Indians responded by barricading the building and arming themselves with makeshift weapons.

At this point the Great White Father himself intervened. Another massacre of Native Americans would not look good on election eve after all. What was called for was a little bureaucratic razzle-dazzle: Nixon's advisors promised to set up a task force to review the Indians' demands.

But this was the Trail of Broken Treaties. Every Indian knew as spokesman Vernon Bellecourt explained, "Our civilization has been all but destroyed by this bureaucracy." The average life expectancy of an Indian is still only 42 years; the infant mortality rate is three times the national average; unemployment stands at over 40 per cent; and the average per capita income is a pitiful $1500 a year.

Documents Taken Back to Tribal Lands

A week after the occupation the Indians left, destroying most of the furnishings and office equipment in the building. With $66,000 paid to them by the White House as a bribe to leave the BIA, the Indians withdrew from Washington under police escort. What the police did not know was that they were also escorting virtually all of the BIA's records which the Indians had smuggled out of the building.

These records are now stashed secretly around the US and Canada. Prominent Washington columnist Jack Anderson, who has seen all the documents, reported that "the documents indict the bureaucrats who have pretended to help the Indians but have often exploited them." The Indians promise to return the documents after they publicize the BIA's collaboration with politicians and business interests to rip off the remaining reservation lands onto which the Indians were herded in the last century.

The following could be read on the wall of the ruined BIA: "Gentlemen, I do not apologize for the ruin nor the so-called destruction of this mausoleum. For in building anew, one must first destroy the old. This is the beginning of a new era for the North American native people. When history recalls our efforts here, our descendants will stand with pride, knowing their people were the only ones responsible for the stand taken against tyranny, injustice and the gross inefficiencies of this branch of a corrupt and decadent government."

UNSAFE AT ANY SPEED

Tragic accidents on board Navy ships have claimed the lives of hundreds of sailors. On aircraft carriers alone over 225 sailors have died due to fires and explosions since 1966. The worst disaster occurred on July 29, 1967 when 134 men died in a fire on the USS Forrestal off the coast of Vietnam. A fire on the USS Oriskany in October 1966 left 43 men dead and a series of fires and explosions on the flight deck of the USS Enterprise caused the deaths of nearly 40 sailors.

These accidents were at a time when the war was being primarily fought on the ground, and the Navy was playing less of a role. But now the attack on Vietnam is being spearheaded by the Navy and the Air Force through massive saturation bombing.

More ships in worse condition have been sent to Indochina since last Spring than ever before, thereby increasing the number of serious accidents. We can only cover some of the accidents which have occurred.

USS Kitty Hawk, USS America, USS Oriskany – A letter from a crewman on the Hawk to Concerned Military (an antiwar organization of active duty military people) in San Diego in early August stated:

"... We were scheduled to stay out til the 27th but got extended til the 5th of August because the America (CVA-66) had a series of serious engine room fires and had to go to Subic for repairs.... We were forced to come into Subic for equipment failure also. We had five main machinery room fires in seven days, oil fires that could have been very bad. Right now we have only one of four engines and three of eight electrical generators – all of the rest of them are fucked up in one way or another. Number 4 driveshaft coming out of Number 4 Main lost some bearings and developed a fore and aft movement of about two feet causing a seventeen foot crack in the bulkhead of Number 4 Main. The crack runs athwartships. We've got a 4' x 4' hole cut in the hanger deck and a 6' x 6' hole cut in the port side two feet above the waterline. We're not going anywhere for awhile.

The Oriskany is in Yokosuka, Japan, for extensive structural repairs to Number 3 elevator damaged when she bumped into a supply ship she was taking fuel and bombs from. So that leaves the Midway and the Saratoga on the line."

But not for long, brother....

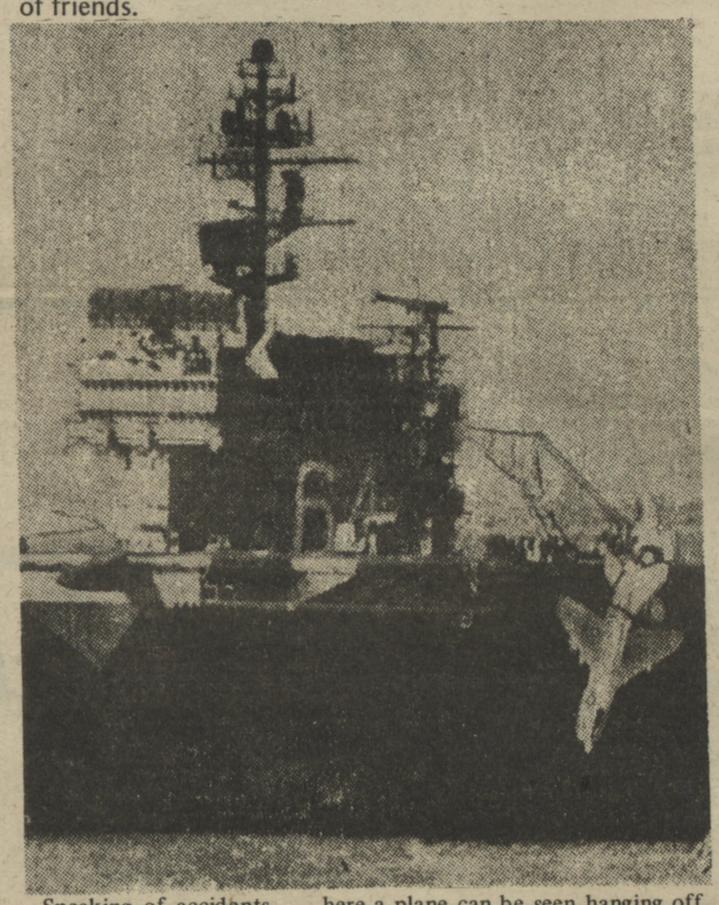
USS Midway – In October, a plane crashed while landing after a bombing run. Four men were killed. See letter on page 3 for details. s.

USS Saratoga – On October 29, while the ship was berthed in Singapore Harbor, a fire killed three sailors and injured another twelve. The flash fire that swept through one of the ship's machinery rooms was rapidly contained, with little smoke and water damage. The fire was sealed off from the rest of the ship, but the smoke from burning oil mushroomed out into the passageway leading to the crew's living quarters. Off-duty seamen were relaxing in their bunks as the smoke came through every exit. The sailors who made it crawled out on their hands and knees, but three didn't make it. Check the letter on page 2 for more news on the Saratoga.

USS Newport News – One of the most serious accidents occurred on the Newport News. Off the coast of Vietnam, 20 sailors were killed and 36 others wounded. Shortly after midnight on October 1, an explosion occurred in the barrel of one of the ship's eight inch guns. It trapped 16 of the men who were killed inside the gun turret.

The ship, which is 23 years old and scheduled for the mothball fleet next year, left the war zone and returned to Subic for repairs. Sailors from the News said the explosion was caused by a faulty gun mount and defective ammunition.

At Subic the ship was anchored far out in the harbor so that people couldn't see the damage. Shortly before repairs were completed a large demonstration was held on the pier. Sailors from the News and the base were protesting the ship's return to Vietnam. They were fed up with the war and didn't want any more useless deaths of friends.



Speaking of accidents ... here a plane can be seen hanging off the edge of the USS Constellation, limping back from sea trials in early November.

"Accidents don't just happen. They are caused by a military machine that has no interest in the lives of the men who are forced to work for it."

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Just like sailors on the Newport News, GIs on other ships have organized against unsafe conditions and deployment to Vietnam.

USS Bordelon – In early October, the crew of the Bordelon and their dependents started a campaign to keep it from sailing not only because it was going to Vietnam with a load of white phosphorous shells but also because the ship is old and anything but sea-worthy. (The use of white phosphorous was banned at the 1954 Geneva Convention.) Crewmembers compiled a long list of deficiencies: faulty air-search radar, a poor distillation unit, an extremely weak hull, and undependable electrical systems and engines. Petitions against these and other unsafe features were circulated and crew members attempted to contact press and Congress to prevent the ship's departure. An SOS (Stop Our Ship) movement was started also on board ship. The commanding officer countered these efforts by declaring ALL information about the Bordelon "top secret", thus making it illegal to expose the problems. Various petty officers also threatened future harassment if the protest activities continued.

The ship sailed on October 16. A People's Blockade of kayaks and canoes protested the ship's departure. Crewmen from the Bordelon and several other Navy ships in the harbor watched and cheered the demonstrators.

USS Kraus and USS Cone – The GI Office in Charleston reports that the Cone and the Kraus are really in shitty shape. The Cone failed its Guantanamo Bay Test Cruise, also possibly the INSURV BATT and the last two inspections. Also lots of engineering equipment is faulty. One of the electrical fuel service pumps for a boiler is out. A dumping valve that regulates the exhaust valve is out. Fuel oil pump regulators, ship's service generator are down, and the main reduction gear is fucked up. Anything over 1/3 back speed is likely to result in a power loss and the ship can't steam at full speed more than an hour or so. Safety equipment is worse – ladders don't have supports or adequate treads, bilges have pools of black oil in them, damage control personnel are undertrained, not enough life jackets and battle lanterns for the crew, no oven in the galley, insufficient water distillation for showers, constant lack of soap in heads, etc. The ship is undermanned, and the engine room personnel report that any emergency could put the whole ship out of commission.

The Kraus is supposedly in worse condition. The GI Office reports: "Sabotage on both occurs daily. Yesterday the Cone, on its way to the Weapons Station, nearly lost its main generator 'cause someone turned off the water valves which cool the generator's oil. There are TV cameras on both ships, watching vital machinery, and lately they've put lifers in many engineering spaces to watch."

Accidents don't just happen. They are caused by a military machine that has no interest in the lives of the men who are forced to work for it. □

On November 6, 1971, a large antiwar march in San Francisco was led by active duty GIs and Vietnam vets. Right behind the people holding up the banner in front is a group from the carrier Coral Sea. Brothers who marched with them from the USS Hancock carried a banner which read, "For Sale: USS Hancock, cheap, S.O.S."

PRISONERS OF WAR

Jeffrey Allison and Pat Chenoweth are two Navy first termers who have one thing in common: they are both behind bars in Navy brigs, taking the rap for the sabotage that's spreading through US ships all over the world.

ALLISON

Jeffrey Allison is in jail in Norfolk, Virginia. Earlier this year in a conversation with his father, a California highway patrolman, Jeff said he was thinking about staying in for 20 years. After all, the pay, the bennies, the security – you know the rest. But on the night of July 7th, five fires broke out on Jeff's ship, the USS Forrestal, causing $7 million worth of damage.

On July 13th he was grabbed by a couple of NIS agents, and thrown in the brig. When he asked what the hell was going on, he was told he was being jailed "for his own protection" because there were "rumors" on the ship that he was on watch that night in the vicinity of the biggest fire. He asked NIS if they were going to bring him to trial and if he needed a lawyer, and they answered no – he was just in the brig for his own protection. But, they continued, as long as they were all together, would he care to sign a full confession?

For the next four days, Jeff was badgered and harassed unmercifully as NIS tried to break him. The light outside his cell was never turned off; he was not issued soap or toothpaste; he was not allowed out of his cell to exercise or eat with other prisoners. About every hour and a half the brig guards banged on the metal bars of his cell, asked him why he burned down the ship, told him he was going to hang for it, and threw flaming packs of matches in through the bars.

On the 17th, after not sleeping for four days, an NIS agent claimed that Allison said to him, "I did it. I lit the curtains on fire with my cigarette lighter and it scared the hell out of me." The agent then asked him (for the first time) if he wanted a lawyer. Jeff said yes, and there was a JAG officer there in 15 minutes.

Jeff vs. Military "Justice"

Jeff was charged with 25 specifications of arson, sabotage, and a few hastily put together drug charges. He faced 350 years in jail if convicted. His trial lasted 8 days – the longest military trial in Norfolk's history, and the courthouse was packed every day with sympathetic GIs and civilians from the surrounding area.

The prosecution's evidence was: 1) Jeff had a key to the area where the fire started; 2) he was on watch in the vicinity of the biggest fire at the time it started; and 3) the "confession." The defense showed at the trial that there were at least two other men on the ship who had been issued keys in question, that it was well known that the doors could be forced open with an ID card anyway, and that other men had the opportunity to be on the premises. So it all boiled down to the "confession."

And in spite of Jeff's persistent denial of that confession: in spite of all Jeff's written statements claiming his innocence: in spite of the fact that no one was charged with starting the four other fires on the ship: in spite of the Navy's Chief Fire Inspector Lawrence Duberkough's testimony that the curtains and the carpeting in the Admiral's quarters where the fire started violated the spirit of Navy fire regulations; in spite of the lack of physical evidence (fingerprints, direct witnesses, etc.); in spite of all that, on December 7th Jeff was convicted and sentenced to five years and a BCD.* All on the "word" of an NIS agent. That's all it takes in today's Navy.

Allison's organized defense committee working in his behalf, and the publicity and services of a civilian lawyer probably made the difference between 350 years and 5.

* Washington columnist Jack Anderson has recently revealed the fact that Navy brass has been using funds provided by Congress for combat necessities to install fancy, flammable furnishings in their private quarters.

Crewmembers from People's Blockade last summer engaged in battle with a munitions ship going from Bangor Naval Resupply Depot to Southeast Asia. The group has staged several actions like this one.

CHENOWETH

Pat Chenoweth is a sailor who used to be a crewman in the engine room of the USS Ranger. Since August 2, he has been in the brig at Treasure Island, California, longer than anyone else there except the lifers who run the place.

Beginning in late May, as the Ranger's Vietnam departure date approached, acts of sabotage began to occur on the Ranger with increasing frequency. Fire hoses were cut, the ship's drinking water was contaminated, once with salt water and once with airplane fuel, small fires were started, oil pressure gauges and oil pumps were damaged, the generators were damaged, and several times bomb threats and rumors of mass desertion spread throughout the ship. The Navy itself has confirmed twelve incidents since May, and at least 16 others have been revealed by crew members.

Just days before the ship was supposed to leave Alameda, a paint scraper and two 12-inch bolts were inserted into the number four main reduction gears. These three small pieces of metal destroyed the entire mechanism and forced the Navy (and its partner in crime, General Electric) to cut through five decks to remove, repair, and replace the gear – all of which cost $800,000 and kept the ship in sunny California an extra 3½ months.

A few days later Pat was charged with willful destruction of government property and sabotage in time of war (war? isn't peace at hand), a charge that the government hasn't used since World War II. He could be sent to jail for 35 years.

The evidence against him consists of testimony from three witnesses who claim they overheard Chenoweth confess to friends of his. However, a defense investigation showed over 20 men who overheard similar admissions all over the ship and who admit to having made similar statements themselves. And, as with Allison, there is no direct physical evidence linking him to the deed.

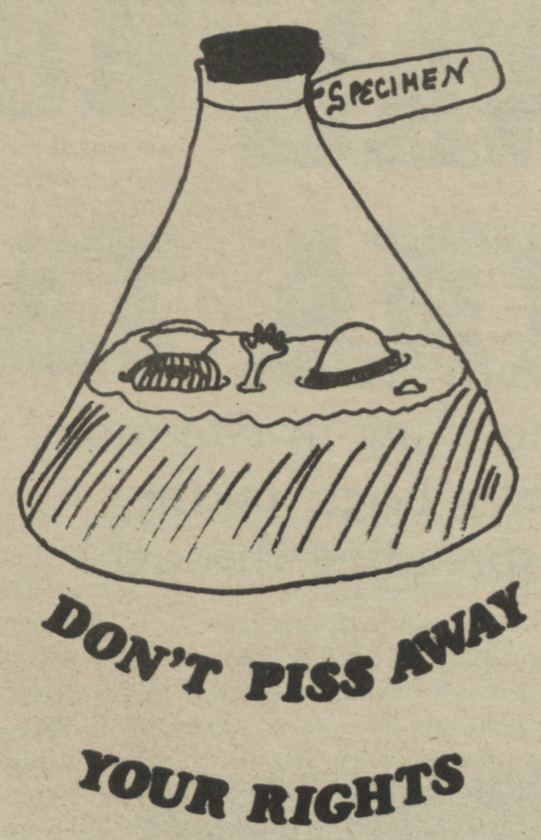
Pat's trial has been in the pretrial motions stage since October and probably will go on for several weeks. The Navy has been acting in the time-honored tradition of the American military. Witnesses have been threatened, information concealed from the court, and the press lied to. Despite Pat's clean record, they have refused to let him out of pre-trial confinement.

Trial Move?

And now, they have revealed that they want to move the trial back to the Ranger. They say it's too complicated and expensive to fly all the witnesses back to California. If the judge won't grant that, the Navy wants to stage the trial in Guam, Japan, Danang, Saigon, or the Philippines (currently under martial law; a pleasant atmosphere for a sabotage trial).

If granted, this would be the first time in history that a military trial has been moved from the U.S. to a foreign country. By law, this would prevent the defense from subpoenaing civilian witnesses necessary to testify against the "in time of war" charge and would prevent the case from developing into a political issue here in the States where the press coverage has been excellent and where Vietnam Veterans Against the War and other anti-war groups have been packing the courtroom.

Chenoweth's defense committee, like Jeffrey Allison's has already been successful in planting this case in the public's mind. But even if he is acquitted and Allison's conviction overturned on appeal, the two men will have suffered incredibly in the process. In neither case did they have any evidence, and if it weren't for the support of brothers and sisters in and out of uniform they would have been hustled away under lock and key for the rest of their lives in a matter of days. (see letter on page 2 for more on Pat Chenoweth)



The articles on this page explain a few ways to fight back against the insane military machine. But there are others. Did you know that you can file a complaint against your commanding officer if he fucks with you, like if he gives you extra duty illegally or calls you nasty names? Did you know that you can file charges against lifers who steal your personal possessions (posters, underground newspapers, etc.)? Learn all about it in:

"TURNING THE REGS AROUND"

A 200 page GI counseling manual distributed by The Bulkhead for $2.00, if you have it.

FIGHT URINALYSIS

BOSTON, MASS. (Fall, 1972) – As many servicepeople stationed both in the US and abroad know, random urine testing is being used by the military to detect "drug users." The military says that this testing is legal because drug use is a "medical" problem and the testing then falls into the same areas as vaccination, confinement in a hospital for illness, etc. It is interesting that for purposes of discharge and disability payments, drug use is specifically EXEMPTED from being a "medical" problem, so that GIs who become addicts in Nam cannot get disability payments. The legality of urinalysis has not yet been tested, but there is a marine in California awaiting court-martial for refusing the test, who will probably be the first legal challenge to the program.

The military is testing, supposedly, all servicepeople and all dependents living in on-base housing overseas. People stationed in "high-risk" areas like Asia are being tested several times a year, but all servicepeople are supposed to be tested once a year.

That is, ALMOST all servicepeople. Anyone over the age of 29 is exempted on the grounds that the early testing showed "virtually no drug use in the 29-and-over age group." Urinalysis does not detect alcoholism.

GIs are fighting random urinalysis, though. In Boston, the GI newspaper UNDERTOW printed a self-defense and legal rights form for GIs who are being tested. The main points that UNDERTOW suggests for GIs who want to resist testing are:

1) Refusal (though at present this is a violation of the UCMJ and GIs should get legal help before refusing).

2) Insist on receiving IN WRITING a direct specific charge to you personally by the officer in charge before submitting to the test. Tell them you feel the test violates your rights against illegal search and seizure, equal protection under the law (no one over 29 has to take it), and that you may want to press charges.

3) Demand to be read Article 31 rights before testing.

4) Request the commanding officer to excuse you because you feel the program is illegal. "Try to get them to let you not piss until the chit is returned."

5) Demand a copy of the authorization for testing before submitting.

6) Protest the test in writing. Send copies of the protest to a Congressman and to the GI organization at your base or The Bulkhead.

7) Write up exactly what took place for possible legal action. (CAMP NEWS)

FIGHT NON-JUDICIAL PUNISHMENT

FT. HOOD, TEXAS (Fall, 1972) – Every year, several hundred thousand Article 15s and summary courts-martial are held, stripping GIs of rank, pay, privileges and freedom of movement. Even more importantly, these two types of non-judicial punishment are clubs the brass holds over the head of every man and woman in uniform. All of you know that a minor offense can force you to accept trial-by-officer without any rights to speak of, or to risk confinement and severe punishment by asking for a special court-martial.

The military depends on Article 15s and summaries as a way to hand out "justice" without having to provide lawyers, respect legal rights, or provide a forum where a GI can present his case. But there is a fight going on against non-judicial punishment: a campaign started by GIs at Ford Hood that is rapidly spreading to other bases.

Below is a copy of the Ft. Hood United Front anti-Article 15 petition. At Ft. Eustis/Langley Field, the GIs changed the petition to demand that: 1) The proposed Article 15 boards should include EMs of ranks E-1 to E-7 only, since E-8s and E-9s have allowed themselves to become willing parts of the command structure; and 2) that court-martial boards should include elected EMs. Court-martial boards presently allow 1/3 EMs, but these EMs are selected by the brass--and show it by their performance in the majority of cases.

PETITION TO THE CONGRESS
OF THE UNITED STATES:

RE: ARTICLE 15, UCMJ

We, the undersigned GIs of (insert your base) demand that Congress completely change Article 15, UCMJ, taking the power to impose punishment out of the hands of Commanding Officers and putting it into the hands of enlisted people.

We propose that a board be established composed of three EM, grades E-1 through E-9, who would be elected every 90 days in company-wide elections. That board would decide on ALL cases that are now decided by commanding officers. The board would hear both sides of a case, allowing the accused to defend himself before making its decision.

Article 15 is now used to intimidate and harass GIs. It violates the Constitution of the United States by denying GIs due process of law. It is used in a racist way against Third World GIs. It gives company commanders absolute power to punish EMs under their command who they don't like.

A democratically-elected board would change the present system of intimidation and harassment to one of fairness and justice.

NAME AND RANK ADDRESS

_____

_____

_____

The campaign against Article 15s has spread to Ft. Lewis, Washington, Ft. Belvoir, Maryland, and Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. (CAMP NEWS)

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[ ] I will distribute Bulkheads on base. Send me (5) (10) (25) (50) (100)

[ ] I'm a civilian, who's enclosing $5 for 12 issues (donations are welcome, folks).

Here's the name and address of a friend in the service who ought to be getting this paper:

THE BULKHEAD 98 Chenery Street San Francisco, California 94131

NEED LEGAL HELP?

LEGAL AID

There's also sympathetic radical lawyers around who dig on your fight and will help you out. They can be contacted at:

SAN FRANCISCO: Bay Area Military Law Panel, 558 Capp Street, San Francisco, phone: [415] 285-5066 ● **JAPAN:** P.O. Box 49, Iwakuni-shi, Yamaguchi-ken, phone 269-5082 ● **OKINAWA:** Box 133, Koza, 358 Kin, Kin-Son ● **GERMANY:** Lawyer's Military Defense Committee, 69 Heidelberg, Marzgasse 7, Germany

PACIFIC COUNSELING SERVICE

The people at Pacific Counseling Service know military law. They can let you know what your rights are, and back you up when you have to fight to get them. They're located in the States and in Asia.

SAN FRANCISCO: 1232 Market Street, room 104, [415] 431-8080 ● **OAKLAND:** 1733 Jefferson St., [415] 836-1039 ● **TILLICUM, WASHINGTON:** Box 411, Tillicum 98492 ● **SAN DIEGO:** 827 Fifth Street, [714] 239-2119

OKINAWA: Box 133, Koza & 358 Kin, Kin-Son near Camp Hansen ● **IWAKUNI, JAPAN:** P.O. Box 49, Iwakuni-shi, Yamaguchi-ken ● **MISAWA, JAPAN:** The Owl, 2-4-9 Chuo Cho, Misawa-chi, Aomori-ken ● **FUSSA, JAPAN:** First Amendment, Yokota AFB, P-12, 2099, 3-5, 1 Chome/Mushashe-no-dai ● **YOKOSUKA, JAPAN:** Apt. 3-B, Yamaguchi Bldg., 1-1 Hinode Chuo, Yokosuka-shi, phone 269-5082

MORE LETTERS

USS Tripoli

October 21, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

Received your letter in the post and was really happy to hear that your movement is still together.

You asked for info concerning the USS Tripoli. It's an easy task to relate what has been going on since our return to Amerika on August 17.

To begin the Tripoli is on an exercise at the present time (10 October-27 October) off the coast of Monterey, California. We are training Marines for amphibious landings, which includes putting them ashore on the coast. The reports that I've heard are that the first day brought demonstrators to the area protesting the mock landing, which I was really glad to hear. They (Marines) have since raped hundreds of beautiful acres of land with their tanks, half-tracks, jeeps, etc. I've seen pictures and reports of trees being run over and torn down "just for fun"; This kind of sadistic treatment of our natural resources makes me somewhat skeptical of our intentions and ends. This whole situation I hope doesn't go unnoticed to the people of the Monterey area.

Another interesting point that comes to mind aboard the USS Trip is the living conditions put upon the men. Two days ago we had a medical team inspect the boat which consisted of qualified doctors and nurses. The results were filthy, dirty, unlivable. I would safely say there are in the tens of thousands of roaches on board everywhere. The food is tracked with evidence of their presence. We are expecting another such inspection upon our arrival in San Diego on the 27th. At this point Capt. Gammon has said if the boat is not satisfactory he will leave the boat moored out in the harbor until it meets his terms. His neck is on the table if the inspectors on the pier aren't impressed. He also stated he would use his private boat and leave the ship, leaving the crew to be held responsible for the outcome. To completely clean a ship of this size and in such condition would take many months, if not years.

The movement on board consists of a small band of heads. Let me not forget our legal advisor who has come to our aid many times during the course of events that preceeded this writing.

If you ever get to San Deigo please stop and see me. I would love to rap with you people. I will be getting out soon, January 1973, but feel free to stop in for some words and a number anytime.

Keep the good work up. I've spread your papers all over the Tripoli and people are really digging it. I'm trying to find someone out of boot camp who can continue the movement aboard the Tripoli after January, so you'll be hearing from him soon.

Later,
P.

Camp Lejeune, NC

October, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

I've been in this Green suck for 2 years and can't figure out why I've hacked it for that long. I've been for the GI movement but haven't participated in it until recently because of financial difficulties. Just got busted last week for calling some dumb-ass officer a pig tho'.

I think why more guys in the Marines haven't really taken part in the movement is that you can't do much when you're in the brig, and if you constantly get on the lifers' asses they discharge you on less than honorable or general conditions.

But the few of us are trying and hope that we come through somehow.

Take it easy brothers,
Paul

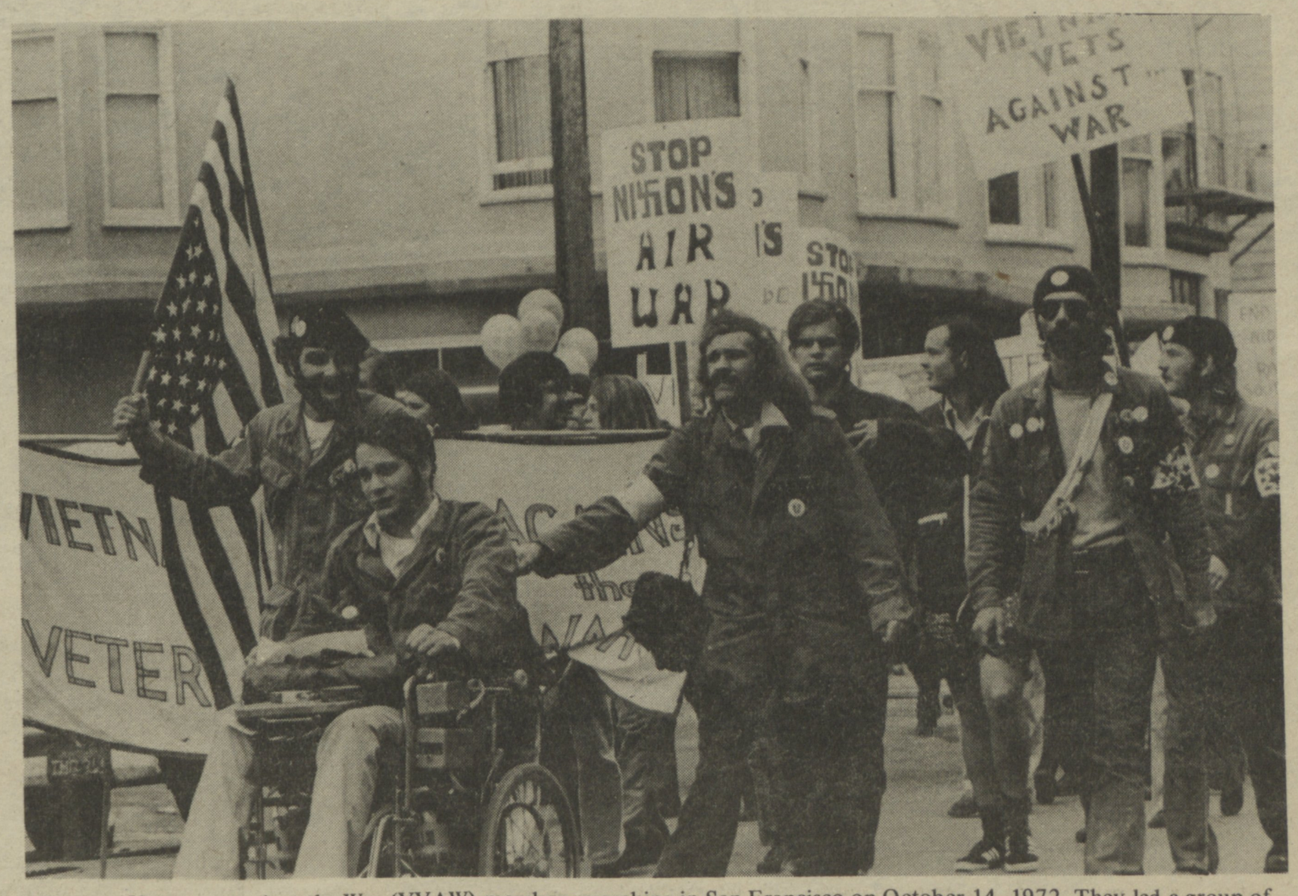
USS Midway

August 25, 1972

To whom this may concern,

I would like to subscribe to your fantastic paper. I used to get it but the XO condemned them and said they were off limits. But now I read a thing called Exercise Your Rights which came off the Enterprise which says that they can't take our papers and fuck us over like they have been. So like I would like to get a subscription for your far out paper!!

Sincerely yours,
E.J.



Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) members marching in San Francisco on October 14, 1972. They led a group of 2,000 people through rainy city streets on a five mile long march route.

Guam

September 13, 1972

Dear Bulkhead,

Hi! I am real sorry this answer to your letter is so late but I just got your letter! That's right. You mailed it March 8, and I just got it. The post office said it was lost. I bet. If a head hadn't started working there I never would have gotten it. Well enough for that!

I will try to get you up to date on what's going on here. I hope you have a lot of time to read!!!!

Diego Garcia (sucks). We are SeeBees and they're fucked up twice as bad as the fleet.

O.K., the rock (Diego Garcia) is an island in the middle of the Indian Ocean. About 2,000 miles from the nearest civilization. It is hell on earth.

When we got there, there was nothing except palm trees, birds, snakes, and all kinds of bugs. We were to build a communications station and a runway. We also had to build our huts, showers, chowhall, etc., etc. Where did that leave us? Yep, in tents. 7 degrees off the equator and we live in tents! We ate out of a tent also. Flies all over the food (not the human type). But we were Bees, we should be able to take it. Well we did! The only type shower we had (when it worked) was the outside type. But who cared. There weren't any women around anyway. Just 900 horny Bees and a few jackasses. (I didn't say that but it wouldn't surprise me!)

We had one death while we were there. All the heads buried morale. Which the C.O. said was always in real good shape. If the facts were only known...

About 10 of the lifer flies were shipped off the island to the local A.A. because they couldn't stay sober! But the heads did fine. The ships that came in kept us stocked and for good prices. They could have made a lot of money but they didn't. Really far out people! We all owe them a debt of thanks!

While we were there several jeeps were run off into the ocean. A few 2 holers (shitters) were burned down. Also the firehouse.

By the way the island is 22 miles from tip to tip, one mile across at the widest point, and 7.5 feet above sealevel at the highest point. If we had a storm, well???

I could go on forever on the rock, but I must tell you about Guam! Just one more thing. If any of you heads out there are going to Diego Garcia, man, go AWOL. I swear the brig is better any day. Man, what a drag! Oh! If you want to know what you do with your time off, the three clubs cleared $50,000 a month! I swear this is true. Soda 15 cents, beer 15 cents.

Well, after we left the rock, we spent six months in Davisville, Rhode Island. That is our home port. Really it is a decent place. Freaks all over the place! Well now to Guam!

Guam (sucks). Not as bad as the rock but just about. When we got here we moved into barracks that were condemned ten years ago. Full of termites and cockroaches.

The people of Guam hate the Navy and take it out on us. You can't even go downtown at night without getting a hassle. Man, what a bummer! We don't want to be here either. The dope is just like not having any-- $50.00 for a two finger bag. What are we, rich?

We had a couple of our guys busted for not hauling bombs. We are still fighting that. No real progress yet. We have too many boot camps who are afraid to stand up yet. But we are trying.

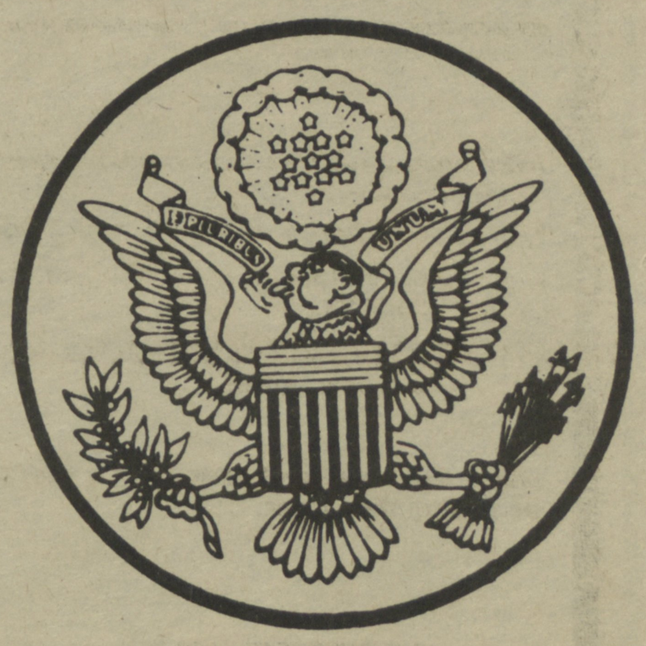
If any of your readers are in the Air Force, tell them not to come here. Most of the Air Force is living in tents. Man, they're sick as dogs. I have a 35 mm, so I'll take some pictures of tent city and let you print them so the public can see what the Air Force offers! Ha, Ha!

Just write a note back saying that you got my letter, were able to decode it, and that you are still putting out a paper! I'll help all I can. Like they say, SeeBee can do! Ha!

Well I have to quit for now. Would like a few back copies of the Bulkhead and all new ones. If you have any questions send them on. We have a cool head in the post office now, so all mail comes through.

Trucking on,
Frank

". . . just 900 horny Bees and a few jackasses . . ."



APO 96225

A young man once went off to war
in a far country
When he had time, he wrote home and
said, "Sure rains here a lot."

But his mother, reading between the lines,
Wrote, "We're quite concerned. Tell us
what it's really like."

And the young man responded, "Wow, you ought
to see the funny monkeys!"

To which the mother replied, "Don't
hold back, how is it?"

And the young man wrote, "The sunsets here
are spectacular."

In her next letter the mother
wrote, "Son we want you to tell us
everything."

So the next time he wrote,
"Today I killed a man.
Yesterday I helped drop napalm on women and
children. Tomorrow we are going to use
gas."

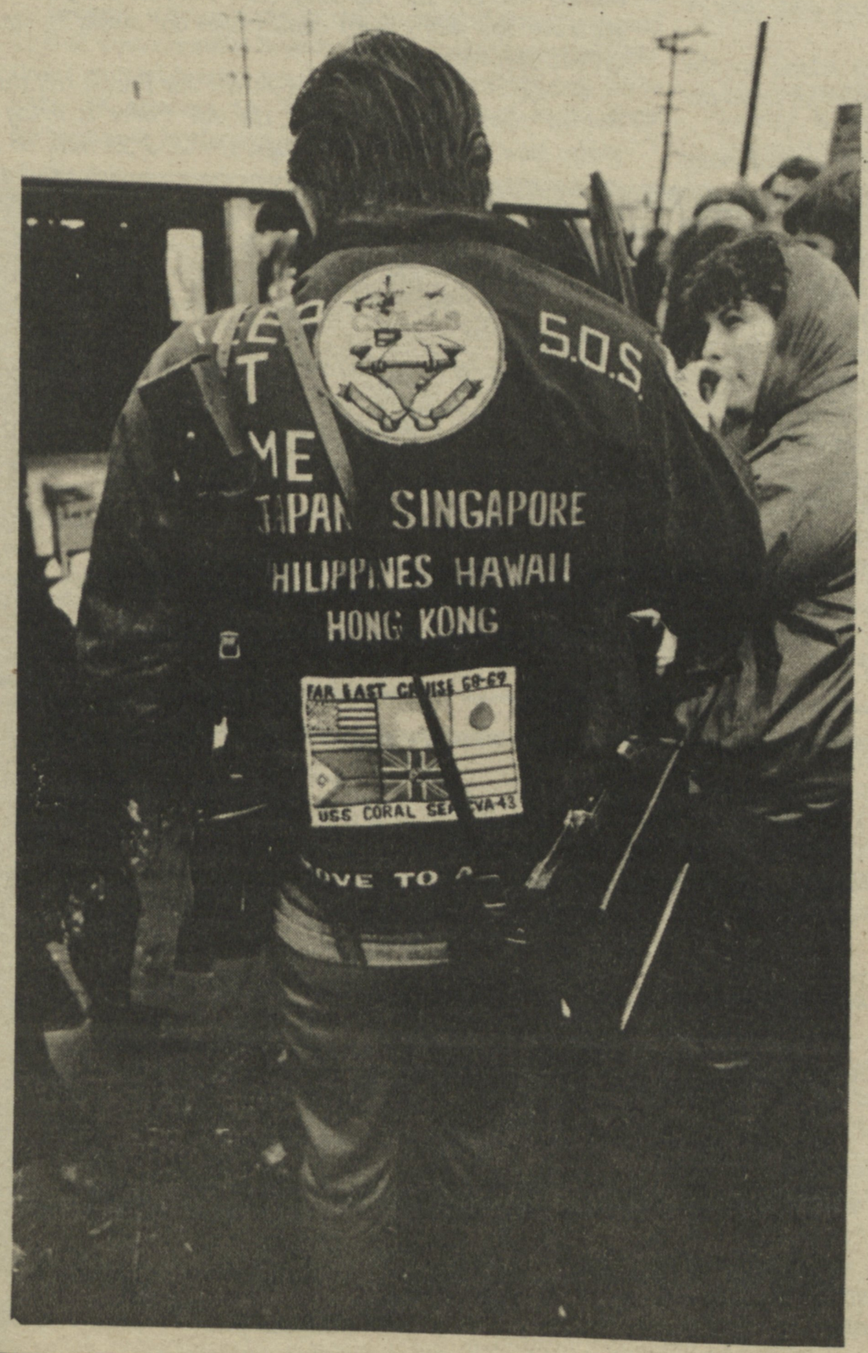
And the father wrote, "Please don't
write such depressing letters. You're upsetting
your mother."

So, after a while, the young man wrote, "Sure rains a
lot here . . ."

— Larry Rotterman

On! Keep on!
The more we go the more wonders we see
Bombs here and there:
Someone blocks a road, and a hundred roads
are opened.
On land long untilled a hamlet council
has built a school
Co-operative fields seem always chattering, busy
Tires run back and forth
Ferry landings bustling
A youthful song troupe piles in recklessly!
Where are the bomb craters?
What? Look again and what do you see
It has become a well, a pool
Become a lotus pond
Become a place to raise fish!

— A Vietnamese Freedom Fighter



EULOGY TO THE FISH, TREES & GRASS

A long grey ship is steaming 'round out in the Tonkin Gulf
It's sending fighter bombers to destroy a world itself
They carry bombs and rockets sometimes drop them in the sea
For to land with them on Enterprise might destroy you and me.

Our pilots armed with six-guns, bandoleros cross their chests
Survival knives and four-leafed clovers tucked inside their vests
They climb into their cockpits gunning blood lust in their eyes
The daring Phantom jet-jockeys who drop death from the skies.

Oh catapults, arresting gear, you precious wonderful things
Your screaming, screeching, thudding noises make my eardrums ring
Assail my heart, my mind, my soul and make me want to sing
Thrust forth your weapon-laden planes and destruction that they bring.

Bomb elevators hiss and moan a carrying their toys
Full of lots of silver goodies for the brown girls and brown boys
The bombs that kill the fish, the trees, the grass and "you-know-who"
Tis death that's dealt from the Enterprise with love from me and you.

But the war cannot be ended yet
At least not just today
We've got to fly an alpha strike
And make our combat pay.

—An SOS Enterprise Brother