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

BRAGG BRIEFS

GI's United Against the war in Vietnam

J.C. PEELE, M.D.
KINSTON, N. C.
NORTH CAROLINA
HOOVER COLLECTION
J. C. PEELE

This issue is dedicated to Dean Holland and Kay Lindsay who were involved in the organization of a civilian support element for the Fort Bragg GI movement. Their work at the Quaker House was essential to the development of a potent liberation movement in the Fayetteville area. Dean and Kay were killed in an automobile accident in Georgia on December 31st.

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O'Brien Charges *Not* Dropped

Sometime between the 19th of December and the 13th of January, the authorities at Fort Bragg decided that the court-martial charges against David O'Brien had not been dropped. Col. William R. Condos of the basic training center informed O'Brien of this fact on the 13th of January. Major Bush, the adjutant, later explained to O'Brien that CPT Coates of his old unit had been told the charges would probably be dropped, that Coates had then told him that the charges had in fact been dropped, but that the final decision made was that O'Brien would only be taken out of trainee status and transferred to another part of the training center. The error was apparently discovered when the Christmas issue of Bragg Briefs which included an article about the charges being dropped found its way into the hands of the Ft. Bragg authorities. Condos indicated to O'Brien a certain amount of concern as to the "angle" that the Bragg Briefs editorial board would take regarding the retraction. There was little surprise at the incompetence and indecision in the Army's latest move in the O'Brien case; though it is still impossible to see the continuing political and religious oppression of O'Brien as being legal or justifiable. If the Army had dropped the charges, it would be difficult to see O'Brien as having put anything over on the Army, as 10½ months of restriction certainly seems to be adequate punishment for a 21 day AWOL offense. There are individuals who have received less than a court-martial, some who have received no punishment, for a similar offense. The holiday season was certainly more enjoyable for O'Brien though the new year is proving to be somewhat of a "bummer". All of the Bragg Briefs editorial board, with the possible exception of O'Brien, look forward to a raucous court-martial.

Bragg loses Grand Old Man

David Shulman, "the Grand Old Man" of GI's UNITED, has been separated from the United States Army to return to school. Wearing only his Good Conduct Medal and a smile, Dave left here January 6th knowing that GI's UNITED would keep truckin'. In the faraway land of Reservedumb, serfs entertain visions that a new messiah may be born.

GETATRAINSHULMANORAC5RIGHTONRIGH

Ft. Jackson Coffeehouse *CLOSED*

Columbia, S.C...On January 13, a warrant was issued by Judge E. Harry Agnew (!?!) for the arrest of five members of the UFO Coffeehouse staff. In conjunction with the arrests, a temporary restraining order closing the UFO was issued on the 15th, charging the coffeehouse operators with keeping and maintaining a public nuisance. More specifically, the indictment cites the UFO as a gathering place for "persons of evil name, fame, and conversation, men as well as women," as having displayed printed matter which was "obscene and offensive", and with aiding, encouraging, enticing, and allowing "minors under the age of 21 to become incorrigible and ungovernable or habitually disobedient beyond control of his or her parents or become habitually truant, associate with immoral and vicious persons."

The UFO has been under investigation by several agencies, both civilian and military, since its opening in 1967. The county prosecuting attorney admitted that the arrests were only part of an effort to close down the building; he said, "There are a lot of ways to do this thing" and that they had picked a "rarely used legal move" as the "quickest and surest way", all of which would indicate that the charges are at least extraneous, if not entirely unfounded, and that the primary objective of this move is to silence the UFO which has been active in GI organizing and protest against the war.

Jon Kraus, president of the South Carolina chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, has called the move by Columbia

(Ft.Jackson continued on pg.2)

Bragg Briefs Suit Denied and Appealed

On January 2nd, Judge Algernon L. Butler denied motions of attorneys for GI's UNITED demanding immediate distribution right on post of the publication Bragg Briefs. The long awaited decisio from a November 12th hearing was less than four pages in length. In it, Butler reviewed the facts of the case without discussing the points of law in favor of or against the GI's first amendment rights. He concluded with three points: (1) That AR 210-10 and Ft Bragg Reg 210-23 are constitutionally valid. (2) That Bragg Briefs constitutes a basis upon which General Tolson could reasonably conclude that distribution would present "a clear danger to the military loyalty, discipline, and morale" of soldiers stationed at Ft Bragg. (3) That the evidence failed to establish any denial of constitutional rights. An appeal has already been filed with the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

(Continued on editorial page 6)

Chaplain vs Bishop

State vs Church

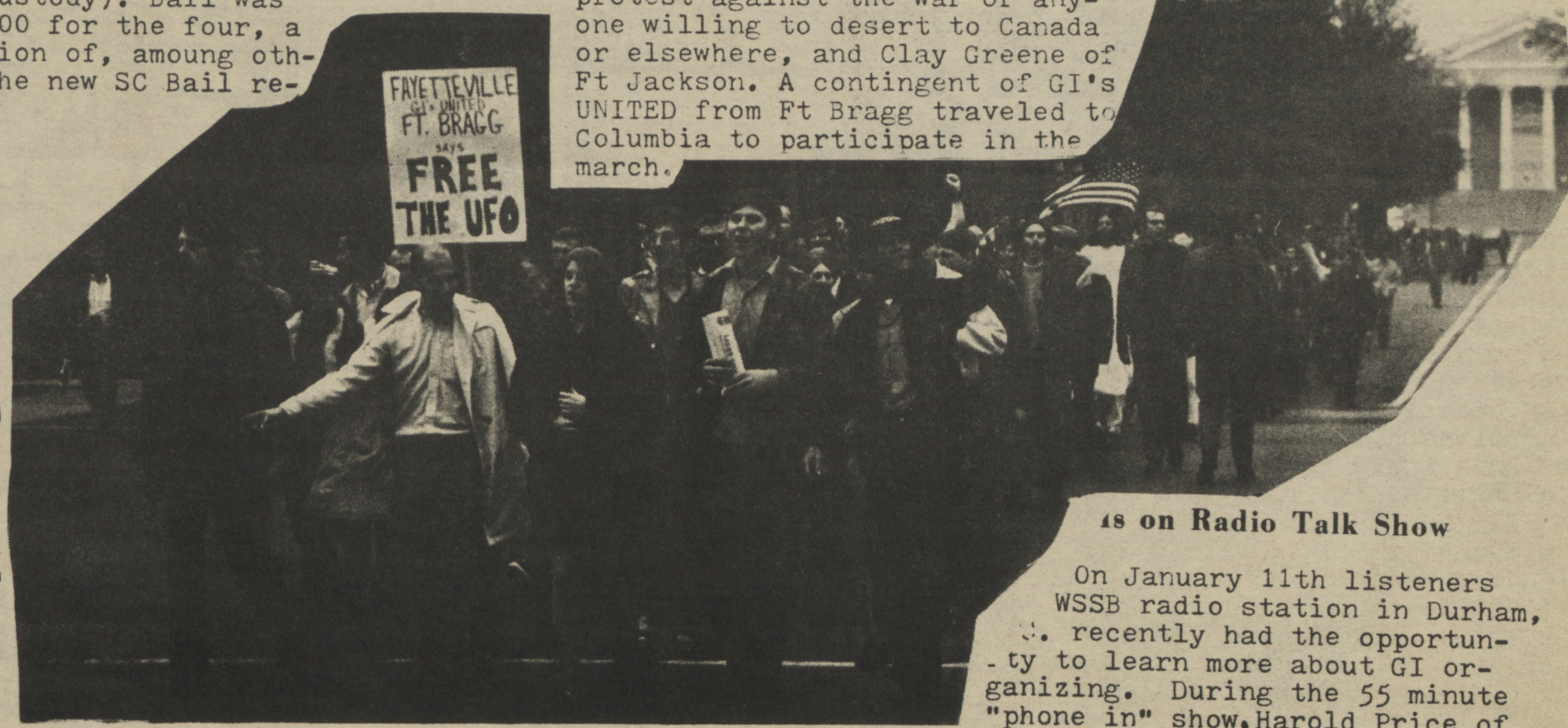
On January 7, Colonel Gefell the commanding chaplain at Fort Bragg and incidentally a Roman Catholic priest, refused to aid a bishop of his church who wishe to give comfort to the prisoners in the post stockade. Bishop Antulio Parilla-Bonnilla of Puerto Rico requested that the colonel intercede with General Tolson to gain entrance to the stockade after he had been refused admittance at the gates. Not only did Gefell turn down the bishop's request, but he would not even permit the bishop to use an Army telephone to call Tolson - suggesting that the bishop use the pay phone outside instead. The bishop and his entourage discovered what every GI who has ever gone in for counseling, attended a chapel service, applied for classification or discharge as a conscientious objector, or tried to find a chaplain with moral courage has discovered: Chaplain are the willing tools of aggressive militarism in America.

CHAPLAINSAREMORALEUNICHSCHAPLAIN

(Ft.Jackson continued from pg.1)
and Richland County as "a clear attempt to violate and therefore undermine their (the UFO staff and those using the UFO) constitutionally-protected rights of free speech and assembly" and as "a blatant attempt at political repression." The ACLU of SC is also contesting the amount of bail set for the four UFO workers (One has not as yet been taken into custody). Bail was set at $28,500 for the four, a clear violation of, amoung other things, the new SC Bail reform Act.

Marches protesting the closing were staged in downtown Columbia on the 16th and 18th of January. Speakers at the larger rally on the 18th (500 attended on about three days notice) included Howard Levy who was instrumental in starting the UFO while he was in prison for refusing to train Green Beret medics, Mark Lane who promised to aid and abet anyone involved in GI organizing or protest against the war or anyone willing to desert to Canada or elsewhere, and Clay Greene of Ft Jackson. A contingent of GI's UNITED from Ft Bragg traveled to Columbia to participate in the march.

Yeh, its definitely happening man!



The Roger Priest Case
Free Speech vs Command Influence

Roger Priest, U.S. Navy, is under court-martial which could result in a dishonorable discharge and up to 39 years in prison. No, Roger isn't that person charged with over 100 counts of murder. Roger's court-martial is based upon his views and the expression thereof.

Under the infamous Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, he has been charged with "advising and urging insubordination and disloyalty with intent to interfere with, impair, and influence the loyalty, morale, and discipline of military and Naval forces." These charges were pressed shortly after Roger published a newspaper entitled OM - The Liberation Newsletter.

There were 14 charges in all filed by the U.S. Navy in June 1969. Since that time some of the original charges have been dropped and the court-martial itself has been delayed while the U.S. Court of Military Appeals rules upon Priest's allegation of command influence in the matter. The court-martial judge originally dismissed two charges but later reinstated them after the admiral pressing the charges told him to reconsider his decision. The decision by the Military Court of Appeals could set a legal precedent for future courts-martial.

The most important aspect of Roger's case is not the idea of his commander directly influencing the court-martial. The importance of the case is the fact that a person is being court-martialed for speaking and expression of his views. Its a tragedy that the military can imprison a person for a freedom which is supposedly guaranteed by the Constitution.

Roger Priest is under charges which could result in 39 years of imprisonment because he has expressed himself. However, Roger continues his free expression, because he feels "as an American citizen I have been speaking and writing the truth as I see it to be. If that be a 'crime' it is one I proudly admit! And I might add that I am more than willing to measure my 'crime' against those who have perpetrated the illegal and immoral war in Viet-Nam."

SAVE ROGER PRIEST - SAVE FREE SPEECH . . . .

None are more hopelessly enslaved than those who falsely believe they are free.
--Goethe

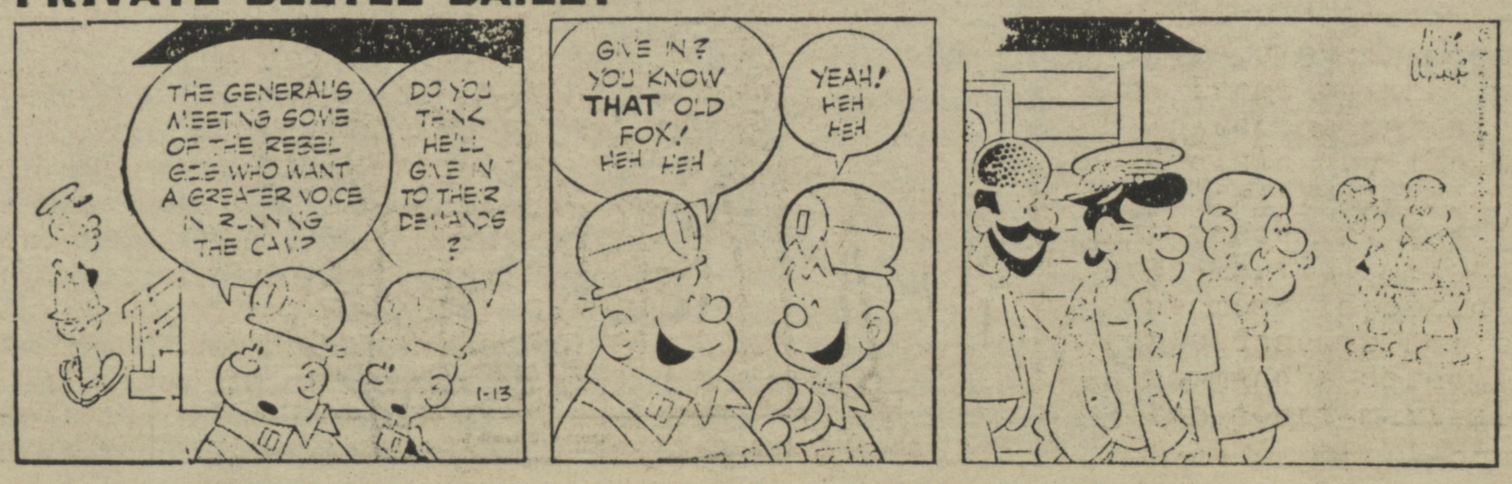
GI's on Radio Talk Show

On January 11th listeners of WSSB radio station in Durham, N.C. recently had the opportunity to learn more about GI organizing. During the 55 minute "phone in" show, Harold Price of the Black Brigade and Dave O'Brien from GI's United spoke about various aspects of the GI movement. The majority of the listeners who phoned, to include a recent Vietnam returnee, seemed very receptive to the speakers. Actually there was only one really negative phone call and that listener was more interested in calling the GI organizers "cowards" than in trying to give rational comments to support her views.

Bragg Briefs Editor Exiled

Several weeks after having been thrown out of the basic training center for having two copies of Bragg Briefs on his desk, Walter Guntharp has now been reassigned once again -- this time from HHC 35th Sig Gp to Motte Lake, a signal site 23 miles out in the woods. Walt's transfer was ordered by LTC Struthers, Commanding Officer, 35th Sig Gp after Walt attempted to hold political education classes in his company's day room. Once again, the Army has upheld the rights of freedom of speech and assembly guarenteed to its members.

PRIVATE BEETLE BAILEY



Read

The Article on Military Injustice in the Feb. PLAYBOY!

Most of us in the green machine know the nature of military "justice", from our own experience and that of our friends. Now a few people in the real world are beginning to take notice. In the Febuary issue of Playboy is an article entitled "Justice-Military Style", which points out the unconstitutional basis of the court-martial system and the brutality of the army stockades.

Beginning with a story about a stockade guard who was aquitted of beating a prisioner because he was"only following Orders", the article goes on to list many more examples of the inhuman conditions of the stockades and the brutal treatment of the prisioners. Sherrill tells how we do have support from those on the outside, such as Senator George McGovern and even the American Legion, who offer various solutions to the problem, such as putting some of these cases in the civilian courts.

But these half-way measures will not be enough. We must abolish the entire court-martial system and the UCMJ, which is obviously unconstitutional. Only when the military is brought under the control of the people and soldiers have the democratic rights of free men will the army cease to be an instrument of aggression and incubator of brutality.

quickies

I believe that every man in uniform is a citizen first and a serviceman second, and that we must resist any attempt to isolate or separate the defenders from the defended. . .

Pres. Richard M. Nixon, 4 June 1969

YOU'RE WRONG, MR. PRESIDENT.
ASK L. MENDEL RIVERS!

BRAGG BRIEFS

The Haircut Policy was a Lie

The staff of Bragg Briefs has been trying to find out just how effective the new haircut poicy on Ft. Bragg is doing. According to Tolson and Dean they will now allow the men to grow thier hair four inches on top, two inches on the sides, a block in the back and sideburns down to the hole in your ear!Without exception, the men I have talked to in the 82nd say that the new policy is great, because now they can grow their hair half the length of the policy whibh is twice as long as in the old days? For those who dare to try to grow their hair to the max of the new policy: harrassment for something tha. is "supposed to be legal".

This type of policy is a lot like are constitution. They give you four inches but only allow two, but constantly remind you that it is better then before. Think about it. You are not allowed to have what they say you can have, they only say it is better then before! Well we are fed up with thier word games about freedom. It is about time we step forward and do what they say we are allowed to do on paper bebause what they allow us to do with thier words is become slaves.
HAIR NOW, FREEDOM NOW!
DARE TO STRUGGLE, DARE TO WIN.....

Investigation Needed of Induction Center Medicals

Pvt. Del R. Weaver of E-1-1, USATCI has more reason then most of us for resenting his draft board, for, despite the fact the Marine Corps has proof that he is a hemophiliac, they saw fit to draft him.

Pvt. Weaver's disease is so serious that having a tooth extracted once required him to have 23 blood transfusions! He also is unable to have his tonsils removed because of the danger of his bleeding to death.

GIs UNITED calls upon the military establishment to expidite Pvt Weaver's discharge and to conduct a thorough investigation into the conditions that allowed this to happen.

"Train 'em to kill, not massacre....got it?"

Trainee Sues Army

One of several GI's from Ft. Bragg suing the Army for discharge appeared in the Federal District Court in Clinton, North Carolina on January 7, 1970. Pvt Dennis Halliday, an 8 month basic trainee from Bragg, is one of the millions ordered "to do his duty" Unlike the majority of Americans, Dennis refused to become a traine killer. He refused to train in t tactics of killing and for his re fusal Dennis is pending a special court-martial.

While his detention by the Arm is being contested in the federal courts, Dennis' lawyers got a restraining order from the court pr venting the Army from going ahead with the court-martial. Dennis now awaits a decision on his federal court hearing, fully realizing that if he looses he will be court-martialed for refusing to learn how to kill.

Organize!

Most of us as G.I.'s have gripes and valid complaints regarding our involuntary tour in the military. The term F.T.A. is an example of how we feel about our life as servicemen. If we just sit around the barracks continually griping about the war, living conditions, haircuts, chow, or whatever it may be, we are actually helping the Army.

There is only one way to bring about change and that is to work together to bring change. We can't just gripe about our problems. If the 60,000 soldiers from Bragg join together then we can demand and gain more important demands. Stop griping and start acting. G.I's United helped you in gaining changes in the haircut regulation. We must begin now for more important changes.

Help end the War! There are 3½ million men in the service... certainly 3½ million men can demand an end to the war now, rather than waiting, as one man wants to, for years. G.I.'s United meet every Tuesday night at 7:00 P.M. at the Quaker House, 324 Ray Avenue, across from the USO club, three blocks from Sears Feel free to call or visit any time. (Telephone: 483-5279)

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

Army does lasting harm to Family Structure in America

In past issues, Bragg Briefs has tried to show some of the indignities and deprivations that the average GI is forced to bear while serving his country as a part of the military machine. Not the least of these is the mental anguish of being separated from his wife, family, or even his girl friend back home for extended periods of time. Not only does the army ignore this deplorable state of affairs, but it often uses such separations to force dissident soldiers into submission or to punish them for acts not deemed acceptable by military standards.

How often have you known fellow GI's with family strife or marital problems?

We of GI's United submit that this is unjust punishment and constitutes undue mental cruelty, not only to the soldier in question, but also to the person or persons being deprived of the comfort of his presence. Though such mental anguish is often only of a temporary nature, it can and does destroy the marriages and lives of hundreds of people every year. To illustrate this point we direct your attention to the case of one of the editors on our staff. Our editor, who was married in November of 1968, received orders for Korea in January of 1969 after having been married for only 2½ months. At this time, his wife began exhibiting tendencies toward emotional instability which related directly to their impending separation. Realizing that his wife's emotional health was seriously threatened by such an assignment, our editor attempted to have his orders changed to preclude his being sent overseas. When official channels produced no results, he spoke to his father, who at that time was an active army colonel stationed at the Pentagon. Even this attempt failed, and despite his efforts, he was reassigned to Korea in February 1969. His wife was placed under doctors' care in his absence and it became more than evident that any further separation would be disasterous not only to her health, but to their marriage as well. On these grounds, our editor applied for a compassionate reassignment and was turned down for the typically inane reasons the army seems to reserve for such requests. As a result, his wife became psychotic and he is presently facing impending divorce. Too late, the army recognized the seriousness of the situation and in September 1969, he was reassigned to Fort Bragg, where he is presently stationed. The damage, however, had already been done, and as it now stands, his wife may be permanently crippled emotionally, and an otherwise happy marriage has been destroyed.

If this were an isolated case, it might be excusable, but with minor variations it is a common ocurrence in the military today. According to statistics, one out of every three marriages in the United States today results in a divorce, and since this astounding figure has been true for only a comparatively short time, it would appear that it relates directly to the Vietnam build-up. Though the news media tends to explain these figures by citing the rising incidence ofdrug abuse, the lowering of American morals, and marrying too young as the causes, we submit that the all too common enforced separations brought about by our presence in Vietnam and other hardship tour areas has a direct bearing on the increased divorce rate in the US today.

Due to their age, most of the married enlisted men in the lower five ranks have been married only a comparatively short time before they are forced into military service. The time needed to develop the lasting and permanent bonds so necessary for a successful marriage is not available to these young couples, and as a consequence, their marriages are almost doomed to failure from the start if they are separated for any length of time. How often have you known fellow GI's with family strife or marital problems? Is the incidence of broken or unhappy marriages higher among persons in the military than it is in civilian life or does it just appear that way? It is our contention that this is a valid theory and that it is the callous outlook of the military that makes it so. Undeniably, family separation is

Their marriages are almost doomed to failure.

a part of the military, and due to the entire concept of what the military's job is, such a separation may, at times, be unavoidable. This is not, however, any excuse for the army's lack of concern over the existing situation, and, most emphatically, the army's use of this situation as a punitive measure cannot to any extent be condoned by responsible and sane individuals, whether they be connected with the service or not.

Proof of such inhumane punishment can be shown by the following incident which took place just recently in the USAG command. Jim Evans, presently working in Main Post Separations, lives approximately 147 miles from Fort Bragg and goes home every weekend to visit with his wife, who due to her job as a registered nurse is unable to relocate to the Fort Bragg area for the short period of time Jim has remaining here. Last weekend, due to home problems, Jim received permission to leave early on a Friday afternoon (will wonders never cease). In his rush to get home, he neglected to sign out on pass and was subsequently snowed in so as to be unable to return until the following Monday afternoon. Realizing that he could not get back on time, Jim called in Sunday night and informed both the CQ and his OIC of the situation and promised to return as soon as the roads were clear enough to travel. Unfortunately, the delay brought to the attention of his OIC the fact that he had neglected to sign out (heinous crime, wot?) and upon his return, he found himself in with LTC John Scullion, USAG commander. To his credit, the colonel did not formally punish Jim. However, even though he was cognizant that Jim's only contact with his wife was through weekend passes and that these weekly visits were extremely important to both of them, the colonel restricted Jim to the Post for a period which purposely included two weekends in a row. If this is not considered sadism and mental cruelty, not only to Jim, but to his wife, who was not guilty of any infraction, then it is time to start changing the definitions in our dictionaries.

Through the imposition of this cruel and unjust form of punishment to Jim and his wife, LTC

Is the Divorce Rate Higher in the Military?

Does the Army have the right to destroy a family or marriage?

Scullion has once again demonstrated the callous lack of regard that the army has for the needs and problems of its men, and in doing so has reaffirmed the need for drastic reforms within the military structure to make it more liveable for the people presently suffering under its unyielding and dictatorial thumb of suppression and misjustice.

Perhaps if more actions of this nature were brought to light, public outcry over such inhumanity would bring about the major changes which are needed so badly. The army must be changed from an unfeeling war machine which measures its success in kill ratios and casualty rates. Kindness, understanding, and basic human rights cannot be alien terms to be treated with fear and contempt by our military leaders. Nor can the army be permitted to deny such concepts by saying they are seditious and therefore detrimental to the military's efficiency as an organization dedicated to killing and genocide.

Wars are harsh and inhumane, but does the army that fights them have to be the same? And does the army have the right to make whole families suffer in order to punish one GI whose infraction (as it was in Jim's case) was probably minor and almost always unpremeditated? And most important, for it is a moral issue as well as a social one, when is the army within its rights to destroy a family or a marriage simply to achieve its own ends? With these final questions we rest our case and leave the difficult problem of solving them to you, the individual, without whose help no solution can be found to these most vitally important questions.

ETS is a Lie

It all begins
with a letter in the mail,
Obey it or else
you'll wind up in jail.
The next thing you know
you're boarding a bus
And all you can do
is sit there and cuss.
When you finally arrive
and you're inside their gate,
You want to say no,
but now it's too late.
You're to stand up stick straight
and wait there in line
While you're issued some clothes
while you're issued a mind.
You're marched to a barracks,
"KEEP IT SHINY AS CHROME",
But it'll burn in three minutes
while the 'brass' sits at home.
In the months that follow
you are treated like dirt
And you're given some stripes
to wear on your shirt.
Rank they call it,
"WEAR IT WITH PRIDE"
And they send you overseas
to commit genocide.
After going through hell,
and you're back in the West,
You worship the day
they call ETS.
So you think you'll be free
when you're on the outside?
But the road of freedom
isn't really that wide.

Reactions to Decision

(Continued from page 1)

It is difficult to imagine how Judge Butler figured that four pages of legal basic training devoted primarily to quotations from the vague and ridiculous Army regulations in question would settle the Bragg Briefs case. Further, it is beyond belief that Butler's decision included no mention, much less discussion, of the applicability of the first amendment to the case. Butler's decision has nothing to do with the Constitution of the United States, only with the military's need for extensive repressive measures to continue mobilization of armies whose mission is the conquest of Vietnam and the rest of the Third World.

As more and more people involve themselves in protest against government policies and tactics, it becomes apparent that the courts will continue to provide a phony aura of legitimacy for the executive branch of the government. Often seen as being comic, the case of Bobby Seale and the Chicago "conspiracy" will become a terrible norm.

The American political revolution in 1776 established, through the Bill of Rights, methods for insuring that future social, economic, and cultural revolutions would not be forced to turn to the insanity of war and violence. It would seem that the Bill of Rights, especially the first amendment, has become so much legal bull shit, applicable only to those whose excercise of these rights is inoffensive to and in line with government policy.

Clearly, elements of the federal government have resorted to all sorts of illegal means to repress those who would search for better forms and build better models. The FBI, CIA, Military Intelligence, and others run extensive investigations on those who dream of a better world; centers of discussion and education such as the UFO and other GI coffeehouses have been closed down through extralegal means; those who would speak out against the Army are thrown in prison or otherwise silenced. The federal courts have consistently ruled in favor of the government, against the rights and freedom of the people. The whole idea of checks and balances, once seen as being essential to the existence of any form of democracy, has broken down; and we see the branches of our government as an unholy alliance. It grows difficult to continue our dealings within the established procedures and methods.

ISTHEPENMIGHTIERTHANTHESWORDWHENTHEPENISNOTALLOWEDISTHEPENATALLTAKEUPTHE

Muhammad Speaks

ISTHEPENMIGHTIERTHANTHESWORDWHENTHEPENISNOTALLOWEDISTHEPENATALLTAKEUPTHE

Letters

"I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death! Don't use my name."

An Open Letter To My Father

My father, who is 56 years old, recently asked me (I'm 23) why my generation has been causing such a furor in this country in the past few years. "Young people today," he said, "seem dissatisfied with things that have been accepted as typically American for years. Why is that?" At the time he posed the question, I did not have a firm answer for him. Now, after some rumination, I think I have.

It's really quite simple, Dad: what is "typically American" and "normal" to you is not the same for me. Your concept of Americanism was formulated under drastically different conditions than those which have influenced me. You grew up in a pre-nuclear age; your impressions about this land and its ideals were firmly established long before the first atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima. And it is to these pre-nuclear ideas that you return when you think about your country. That cataclysm in 1945 did not change your outlook much, for by then your viewpoint and philosophy were too deeply ingrained into your character to be changed suddenly. I would even go so far as to postulate that such was the case with most people who were already past puberty when the bomb was dropped. Nuclear power and its capabilities still seem somehow strange and remote to them. That bomb and what it did were unfortunate products of war; many horrible things happened in the war, they reasoned, but with the war's end, America could return to normal.

But of course it never could, because normal wasn't the same anymore, although they didn't realize it.

And then, amid all this casuistry, came my generation—the first to grow up under the new, arcane conditions imposed upon human life by the nuclear age; the first that, from birth, faced the possibility of having no future; the first to live under the prospect of precipitous annihilation. What a frightening addition to our American heritage!

Perhaps these dire adumbrations have wrought a psychological quirk in my generation not present in former claimants to posterity; perhaps we have been furnished with a sense of impending destruction that drives us to hypersensitivity and impatience. It is somewhat difficult to be patient, you know, when one is carrying around the implicit knowledge that if something isn't done soon to stop the insanity of war and world tension, there may not be much time left.

You older Americans do not possess our sense of urgency; too many of you complacently continue to expound the same old time-honored drool that ceased to be relevant the instant that fireball wiped out 40,000 Japanese. Yet, to the great frustration of the young, you are the people in control of the government and the resources for change.

And young Americans can apparently do very little to move the hierarchy spawned by your generation. Lately, we have taken to the streets to assert our disgust and concern, and you have called us traitors; we have implored the leaders of the country to hear and heed us, and we have been superciliously ignored. If conditions do not change quickly, Dad, you are going to see much more furor in the future. You have left us no recourse; your obdurate attitudes are pushing us toward revolution.

No, my father, we are not renouncing the America you love, for we have never known that America; it no longer exists. And the America that does exist is in a state of steady decay.

When, Dad, will you understand that I don't want your dying dream? What I want is the country that is rightfully mine.

—S.S., January 1970

"No one denies that he had the right to hold dissident views. On the other hand, it was a drag having him around."

Dear Sirs:

I have just finished reading Bragg Briefs. It is excellent. I hope you are able to continue it publication.

While I believe in national defense, I oppose aggression by any nation or government, ours or theirs. Many papers and periodicals have published my objections to the various Washington administrations that have committed aggression against the Vietnamese people.

I also oppose military conscription because it makes aggression possible in addition to being a vile form of involuntary servitude. If an when the vital interests of the United States are involved, we will need a director of placements to place men (voluntarily) where they can be of the most service.

Ret Brig Gen Hugh O Hester

Take a business man to lunch

and talk Vietnam

Your father--or a friend of your father. Business Executives of B.E.M. have marched side by side with you in Washington, in San Francisco, in many other war protests.
We have been outspoken and direct:
"STOP IT. NOW!"
We need more business executives to amplify our voices--yours and ours.
Help us recruit. We'll send you material.
Fill in the coupon.

BEM

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I will talk to a businessman about Vietnam.

Please send me more information about B.E.M.

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City_____ State_____ Zip_____

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Washington, D.C. 20002
Tel.: 202-546-8552

National Office: 901 North Howard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Money don't talk it swears.
Dylan

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January GI News

The 70's Begin

RVN...Spec 5 Robert Lawrence, US Army newscaster in Vietnam has been reassigned as a chaplain's assistant after revealing on the air that he was ordered to suppress unfavorable news. Lawrence, who managed a radio station in Atlanta, Georgia for seven years prior to induction may now be court martialed on calculatedly unrelated charges, the public release of which the Army is still suppressing. Funds for Bob's defense should be sent to the GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee, Box 355, Old Chelsea Sta., N.Y., N.Y., 10011.

Ft. Gordon, GA...Four GI's stationed at Ft Gordon have been sent to the stockade after announcing to the local press that they had formed a GI War Crimes Commission to find out if any Gordon GIs knew of incidents such as Song My. Congratulations to the repressive authorities. This case is going to get some real press now--and GIs on their way to Vietnam will know better than to be honest with their commanders regarding their intentions. THE TRUTH WILL COME OUT.
$ for defense to Southern Letal Assistance Movement, Box 50435, New Orleans, LA., 70150.

Incidently, our August 69 issue of Bragg Briefs put out a request for GI information on War Crimes in Viet nam. Any GI having statements to make which might lead to a long needed tribunal please write us or the GI War Crimes Commission, Box 2994, Hill Station, Augusta, GA., 30904.

Ft Jackson, SC...All indications are that military authorities will burn 1Lt William Calley. If those who ordered search and destroy missions are successful in misdirecting the antagonisms and blame onto the shoulders of those who risked their lives to carry out those orders, we all can rest assured that there will be more My-Lais.

Ft Lewis, Wash (LNS)...A jury of active duty GIs will listen to testimony soon, and then decide whether or not the US military brass is guilty of the "murder and oppression of the poor people of the world". Witnesses will include active duty GIs, former inmates of the stockade, victims of army racism, Vietnam Vets, people who have faced the US military in America's ghettos, and experts in the methods of modern warfare. This is the first of a series of actions planned in response to the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board's efforts to place the Shelter Half Coffeehouse off limits for Ft Lewis GIs. For more information write the Shelter Half Coffeehouse, 5437 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, Wash. 98409.

Berkeley, Cal (LNS)...Reservists and National Guardsmen accross the country--America's part-time military men--are circulating an anti-war petition. "We want to show the American public that dissenters against the war include men in uniform--a lot of them", said Adam Hothschild and Robert Scott for the Reservists Committee to Stop the War, sponsors of the petition. For copies, write: Reservists Committee to Stop the War, Box 4398, Berkeley, Cal, 94704.

COLUMBIA, SC... The US District Court in South Carolina has denied GIs the right to hold open meetings to discuss the war and related issues on post.

Chief Judge Donald Russell, in the decision on the suit filed by the GIs UNITED at Ft Jackson, while upholding the "military's perogative to restrict the soldiers' civil liberties", went on to say "the courts will be available to determine whether there is a ressonable basis for such restrictions as may be placed on the servicemen's right of free speech by the military establishment".

The GI Civil Liberties Defense Committee has authorized Atty. Leonard Boudin to file an appeal in the hopes that a higher court will recognize the GIs right to free speech.

Ft Hood, TX...Richard Chase, 26, was sentenced to two years hard labor and a dishonorable discharge for refusing to participate in riot control trainning. His defense was that he was a conscientious objector and that he had been denied access to forms needed to apply. He added, "I will not be used to crush movements I support." Military justice has perpetrated another unforgiveable crime against the people of this country. Like the Ft Hood 43 (43 black GIs who refused to go to chicago for the Democratic National Convention in August '68) Chase was a young man of strong and consistent convictions. You can help him by writing: The Richard Chase Defense Committee, 101 Ave. D, Killeen, Texas, 76541, for copies of a petition to Gen Wendell Coates at Ft Hood. 2000 signatures have already been collected.

Withdrawal Symptoms

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

SUBSCRIBE

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

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

GI's United
Box 437
Spring Lake, NC.

To help mailing costs, the following donations:

____ $1.00 Active Duty GI's
____ $3.00 Students
____ $5.00 Civilians

God on Our Side

"We have met the enemy and they are ours. As a matter of fact, they look exactly like ours. It's so hard to tell the difference. Actually, we may have made a very bad mistake here. . . ."
—DERECK WILLIAMSON.

I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.
--Thomas Jefferson

In the French cemetery at Tansonnhut airport in Saigon, where the crosses stand row on row, there is one unmarked grave. Who is that for? a reporter once asked. "The French always said that it is for the first American soldier who will die in Vietnam," the Vietnamese answered.
PLAYBOY January 1970

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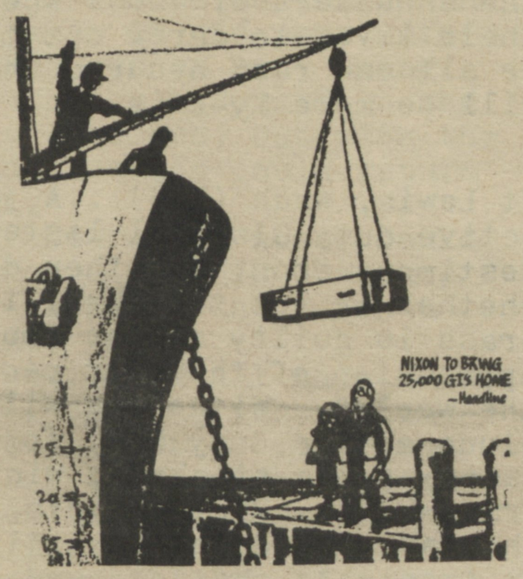
Would you want to hire the United States as a consulting firm in counterinsurgency warfare?

WHYNOTWHYNOTWHYNOTWHYNOTWHYNOT



quickies

I pity the American people if they do not recognize the necessity of revolution every 20 years!
Thomas Paine

"A man joins the revolution only when he understands that oppression is the cause of his sufferings. Therefore we cannot lie to the people. Before the people, a revolutionary has no right to assume a haughty and arrogant attitude, as if he were a feudal warloard. He must be modest."
-Ho Chi Minh

JOINUSJOINUSJOINUSJOINUSJOINUSJO

ARE YOU A CO?

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

G.I.'s United meet every Tues night 7:00 P.M. at the Quaker House, 324 Ray Avenue. Across from the USO club. For interesting Raps drop by any time except Mondays.

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FREEDOM NOW

Many feel the term "Power To The People" is a revolutionary term. However, democracy if applied means people having power. If its revolutionary to realize that we as people should not be used by the powered few then we must be advocating revolution because we demand democracy.
POWER TO THE PEOPLE

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