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Falk Exposed in Police Brutality Case

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Northwest Passage

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Letters

Idiotic Slur on Marge Piercy

Dear Passage,
Michelle Celarier's otherwise interesting letter of rebuttal to Sarah Stearns was marred by her ignorance of the work of Marge Piercy. Celarier makes the comment that "life does not end like a Marge Piercy novel, where we all romp off into the collective non-sexist woods together."

This remark makes me wonder which, if any, of Marge Piercy's novels Michelle Celarier has read. None of the novels I've read end on such an upbeat note; they could hardly be called even optimistic. *Small Changes*, *Women on the Edge of Time* and the *High Cost of Living* all end extremely cautiously. Piercy suggests alternatives; she doesn't provide answers, much less happy endings.

Sorry—but I couldn't let this idiotic slur on one of the most important and thought-provoking of authors go by uncontested.

Helen Stone

Odell Bennett: Style and Truth

Dear Northwest Passage people,
I found the article on Odell to be very moving and helpful. In fact I went ahead and wrote letters to his lawyer and Commissioner Kaslow. The style and truthfulness of the writing seemed real fine. I want to thank you for such an important work.

The paper is generally good and I look forward to more.

Firefly
Philadelphia, PA.

Goody Shows OK

Dear Passage:
Trisha Arlin attacks the TV's "warm-hearted and loving shows" because in

her family they "screamed, pushed, shrieked, smacked, resented" etc. Perhaps if she had had some warm-hearted loving shows as an example, her family might have at least known what could be done by people who "kiss, hug, cuddle, understand, get hurt, forgive and *Talk Things Over.*"

More Power to the Goody Shows; I'll reserve my complaints for the ones which solve problems with guns.

A.E. Wolff

S.E. Asia Story Egregious

Dear Passage,
Your article on Southeast Asia by Sarah Stranahan, in the last Passage, presents a disjointed set of facts without organizing them to enlighten us about the situation. To the extent that judgments are implied, I find myself in disagreement. Because the article lacks cohesion it is difficult to refute the author's tilt against Vietnam. But a few of the facts should be challenged.

You state that Kampuchea has a population of "about 8 million". This was true four years ago, but the consensus of current estimates is at most 6 million. Under the Pol Pot regime at least a million people sought refuge in Thailand, Vietnam, and elsewhere. The Western press as well as Vietnamese sources report perhaps a million killed by the regime. The threat of "national extinction" has come, in recent years, not from Kampuchea's neighbors but from its own government.

One result of the atrocities of the Pol Pot government was a spreading rebellion among civilians, Communist Party members, and soldiers. Last December the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea was formed to unite the opposition. Its program called for freedom of residence, move-

ment, association, and religion; abolition of forced marriage; pay according to labor; and a nonaligned foreign policy. The NUFSK is the group to which Vietnam has rendered aid. The Vietnamese "Invasion" of Kampuchea was not a "tragic continuation of old political and territorial disputes" but an act of international solidarity to rid Kampuchea of one of the most brutal and oppressive governments of Earth—a government that could hardly be called socialist. After the fall of Pol Pot the flow of refugees out of Kampuchea virtually stopped.

(And history is replete with examples of solidarity among the Southeast Asian peoples. What actually happened in 1951—as opposed to your statements—was a meeting of the Viet Minh, the Pathet Lao, and the Khmer National United Front, which set up the Joint National United Front to coordinate the anti-imperialist struggle.)

Your article is strangely silent on the role of the U.S. The U.S. government and media pretend that this country is uninvolved, while the government offers aid and comfort to China, invader of Vietnam and erstwhile supporter of Pol Pot.

What's most important in all this for us is that the U.S. people have a historic and emotional tie to the Vietnamese people and their revolution, which are once again under attack by the U.S. and its allies. We need to educate ourselves and act again in support of the people of Southeast Asia—as we acted so strongly in solidarity during the last U.S. war against Indo-China.

Long live the Victory of the People's War!
Roger Lippman



Mass Media Unbearable?

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Ed. deadline is Sunday, April 1 at 2 pm.
in Seattle and B'ham.

Jamaica Article Also in Error

Friends:

The article on Jamaica by J. Smith was, I think, an accurate and thoughtful, well-written article—with a strangely weak ending. To indicate that the people of Jamaica can decide what path they will follow is, I fear, utopian dreaming.

What happened to Allende? What is the present condition of Chile, and Who Dunnit?

Friendship for Cuba qualifies Jamaica for the paternal care of the CIA; Manley's declared intention to pursue other than straight capitalist paths of development qualifies him for a lesson from the CIA's cooperating Mafia.

The AIFLM (Ass'n. for an International Free Labor Movement), the CIA's well-heeled Labor Department Extension Office, will have a healthy hand in the destabilization program, leading Jamaica's trade unions into demonstrations, slow-downs and work stoppages designed in the good old USA to discredit the "socialist government." When the bumbling do-gooders had it coming, not that the down-right evil IMF and CIA have once again successfully delayed progress toward the time when the lowly shall inherit the earth.

Keep up the good work—you are a great paper.

Just returned from Jamaica,
Ann Newbold

So Was 'La Migra'

Passage:

While sympathizing with most all of the issues the paper takes sides with, it is disconcerting to be constantly reading utterly biased reporting. I appreciate the effort to provide an alternative news service, but it seems all too often to suffer from the ills of the 'mass' experience; namely, reducing complex, interconnected issues to clear cut, black and white, good vs. bad components. Grasping the whole, and not just fragments that serve pre-conceived notions, seems to constitute worthwhile journalism (i.e. credible).

An article in point is Rick Swann's *Stemming 'La Migra'* in the February 26 issue. I'm aware that the average Mexican laborer is hurting, and that multinational corporations (of which Americans own a large share) are doing their part in subverting humanity for the sake of profit. It's clear why an American work trip is appealing to an ever increasing number of Mexicans. Yet, it's also clear to me that the Mexican migrant work force keeps wages down for American farm workers. (The farmworker I can speak of, I'm not at all familiar with the LA sweatshops and such). While fruit picking for wages that are becoming increasingly more unacceptable to Americans. Thus, the 'need' for the illegal migrants (Sergio Mitas) is perpetuated by the low wages they'll work for, wages Americans won't tolerate. A look at the piece rates paid over the last 20 years will show miniscule increase, while profits for the growers have surged. To myself, an occasional migrant, and fan of the near-extinct fruit tramp, I find the illegal immigrants worthy of deportation. I'm not at all inclined to agree with INS tactics (as reported), though.

Unfortunately, or not, real international boundaries do exist on planet Earth, 1979. As long as they do, the national policies elicited should reflect

the desires of that nation's citizenry. It seems the Mexican leadership has not been inclined to do so, but I think Carter's Immigration Plan is an attempt to serve the American people, and is justified to the extent that it would.

Thanks for the space,
Terry Diffley

Update on Chris Lemmond

(The Passage apologizes for being late with the following letter. We are checking into Lemmond's current situation and hope to report soon.)

To the Editor NWP

Since the Northwest Passage published my article ["No Rape Relief Behind Bars", April 10-May 2] much has happened.

First of all, I'm happy to report that the National Prison Project has filed a massive class action suit on the Penitentiary of New Mexico. This suit challenges the constitutionality of the totality of conditions here.

Recently too, because of the overwhelming response from my article, the administration has approved of and begun a group therapy for the victims of prison rape. This was the first step ever taken in even recognizing that the problem exists. With effort more progress will be made.

In addition to all this good news, the National Prison Project is filing a suit in behalf of John Gibbs, Katherine Davenport and myself, challenging the very censorship rules that have made it so hard to expose the rapes and brutality thus allowing them to exist.

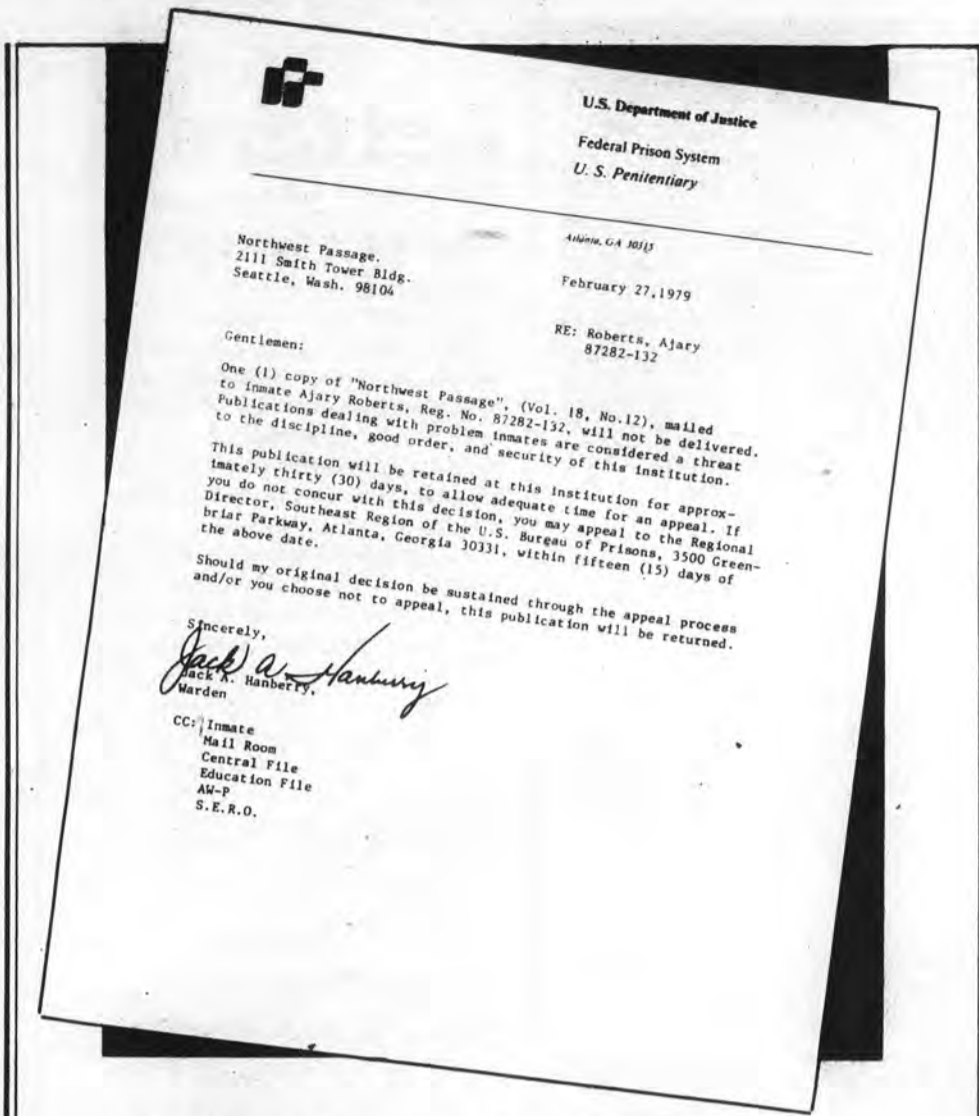
Unfortunately, I am being retaliated against. On Aug. 31st, 1978 all of my legal materials, writing paper, personal property and books were confiscated. I was isolated from other inmates by being placed in the gas chamber holding cell. Until today Sept. 12th, I was virtually incommunicado. No misconduct report has been filed against me. All exercise and, ironically enough, (rape) group therapy is being denied to me. To stop me from forcing more change has become an administrative priority.

Finally today the National Prison Project forced the return of my personal property. However, much of it is gone. Legal research, law books, copies of suits, graphs, all but two of my family photographs, my great uncle's obituary, love letters and addresses have all mysteriously disappeared. The legal work, books and documents can be replaced eventually with trouble, time and expense. It will take several months to do so. But the personal things, things I've saved for years are irreplaceable. Nothing could have hurt me more.

While in the process of being depressed and upset over the loss of my property, a tour of street people came to see the gas chamber. As guards proudly exhibited this horror, visitors, squealing and laughing, sought thrills in actually sitting in the chair. One woman shrieked, "I sat in it!" as the group walked away.

Hundreds of years ago, fashionable gentry amused themselves with the sights of misery in Bedlam. Realizing that this is still very much the case today, gives me the energy to continue the fight.

I remain isolated in the basement of this prison for no other reason than I want this prison to become a decent place for human beings. I am trying desperately to organize a group similar to Men Against Sexism in Walla Walla



NWP Banned in Georgia

Most of you received our Jan. 11 issue, with its 6-page cover story on federal prisoner Odell Bennett. We know for sure that one subscriber, Ajary Roberts, an inmate of the Atlanta, Ga. prison, didn't. The warden there informed us that the issue would not be delivered because "publications dealing with problem inmates are considered a threat to the discipline, good order, and security of this institution."

This isn't the first time prison authorities have banned NWP when it reported on prisoners' issues. Other instances have been in Marion, Illinois, New Mexico State Prison, and again in Atlanta, several years ago. The issues banned contained articles dealing with prison strikes, abuse of gay prisoners, attempts of prisoners to unionize and

now, harassment of an individual, Odell Bennett.

We aren't the only paper or magazine to be censored. The National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union has filed a class action suit against the U.S. Bureau of Prisons which, among other things, challenges the government's authority to censor prisoners' mail and correspondence. Some of the things the suit contests are: standards and procedures of censorship, opening of outgoing mail, refusal to deliver mail from prisoners' attorneys, the banning of gay publications, withholding news clippings and other material considered 'unsuitable' by prison authorities.

A Prison Project spokesman estimated that the suit will go to court in June.

State Prison, here in New Mexico. By isolating the activists and resisting change, the administration of this prison is killing people. Indeed another man was murdered Sept. 2nd. I ask you to please write in protest of my being held in isolation without just cause. Your letters of support have done much here already. We are beginning to see some hope. Please, don't stop now. Thank you.

In struggle,
Christopher Lemmond
P.N.M. 25861
Box 1059
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Letters of protest to: Governor
Jerry Apodaca, State Capitol Bldg.,
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Involuntary Transfers

Dear NWP Readers:

Some months ago the Passage published a portion of an article we had written on the issue of involuntary out-of-state transfers. The article, printed in the prison breaks section of the paper, outlined the decade of prisoner resistance to this form of political repression. We explained that a 1970 strike by Walla Walla prisoners was extended

when then-warden B.J. Rhay tried to break the protest by involuntarily transferring its leaders. The leaders were returned and prisoners won some basic reforms. Transfers of prisoners continued to be a problem and, in 1974, after all other means had failed, prisoners seized sections of the prison and hostages in an effort to emphasize their demands. One of the central demands was to end the involuntary transfer of prisoners to out-of-state penal and psychiatric facilities. The rebellion was forcibly crushed. In 1975 the G.J.B. [George Jackson Brigade—Ed.] bombed the headquarters of the Department of Corrections and issued a communique containing four demands, one of which was to end the involuntary out-of-state transfer of prisoners. The 1978 Passage article was part of a protest against the involuntary transfer of Curtis Johnson. At that time we warned that if Johnson was not returned other transfers would follow. Johnson was not returned.

At 4:00 am on February 15th eight prisoners were taken naked from their cells and placed on a bus to points unknown to us. These men were Kenny Agtuca, whose mother heads the United Friends and Families of Prisoners;

Bosses Can't Tell

Token' on the Job

Pot smoking is becoming the most popular and most dangerous lunch hour pastime for many of America's workers, recent reports have shown.

Whether it's the automobile assembly line worker in Detroit or the business manager on Wall Street, more and more employees are including a joint with their noonday sandwich and cookies, experts say.

This growing trend is having a very bad effect on production quality standards.

Says one factory foreman, "It was easy to handle if the men drank too much at lunchtime. With booze it's

obvious because the work just doesn't get done.

"But none of us bosses can tell if a worker is high on marijuana or not. With grass smokers, the work gets done, but it gets done wrong."

Ronald M. is an accounting clerk who agreed to discuss his illegal lunch-time habit.

"My job is pretty boring, working with numbers all day, so I toke a few joints to make things more interesting. Sure, I may mess up a column of figures now and then, but no one ever notices, anyways."

from Close Up On Crime

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"What fools these mortals be"

On April 1st the Day of Fools, the Morningtown workers' collective will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its founding. We happy fools at Morningtown invite all present and former friends and workers to a blast commemorating the 10 year existence of Seattle's oldest worker collective—4 to midnight—on All Fools' Day, Sunday April 1 at Morningtown. Come all you mortal fools to dance, to frolic, to play the mortal fool.

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POWER Talks

P.O.W.E.R. Whatcom County (People Organized for Washington Energy Resources) demanded a citizen's vote on Puget Power's policies March 15 in an open letter released in response to a recent decision of the State Utility and Transportation Commission. The U.T.C. granted Puget Power a 32.6 million dollar rate hike including over three million dollars earmarked for Construction Work in Progress (CWIP). This means the public through their electric bills directly invests in Washington's energy monopoly. POWER wants citizens to have the same rights as other, voluntary, investors have, such as the "right to vote on policy matters, and the right to make a reasonable return on investment."

POWER claimed that the UTC's denial of 30% of Puget Power's requested hike and denial of an increase in local service charges were a partial victory for poor and moderate income people but that is not enough. The UTC did not challenge Puget Power's inverted rate structure which makes smaller users pay more for their units of electricity than large commercial users; did not challenge what POWER believes is an unreasonably high energy needs growth forecast; and did not force Puget Power to launch a significant conservation program described by POWER as "the most effective, efficient, and readily available power source."

POWER Whatcom County, one branch of the federally funded state low-income advocacy group, gathered over 7000 signatures against Puget's rate hike request and helped mobilize over 300 people to attend the UTC's local hearing on the matter last December.

Whatcom County woman Cathy Frank spoke about POWER's current effort to organize against the drastic rate hike asked by Continental Telephone Co. The \$3.10 increase would mean a fifty to ninety percent increase in local service charges. She contrasted the company's request for "a better financial situation" with its fiscal 1978 profits of \$2.7 million on an operating cost of \$14.2 million. She also attacked the company's poor record of service and asked "how much profit is needed?"

-Bellingham NWP



Bennett Denied Again

Five months ago the *Passage* published the first of several articles on Odell Bennett, a black man imprisoned 11 years ago for forgery and interstate transportation of stolen money orders totalling \$250. Our coverage of Bennett, particularly an indepth story run January 11th, highlighted the stream of harassment and abuse he has been subjected to as a prisoner. Having initially received a ten year sentence, even though a first-time offender, sixteen more years were later added on—ten for participating in a prison rebellion and six for resisting a forced rectal probe by prison officials.

In the latest development in his case, Bennett has fared no better. On March 9th, Regional Commissioner Anita Kaslow denied his appeal of a parole decision reached earlier this year which sentenced Bennett to another four years before coming up for parole consideration. Kaslow gave two reasons for keeping Bennett in prison. One was that release at this time would depreciate the seriousness of (his) offense behavior." A second reason claimed that misconduct reports he received three years ago at McNeil Island Penitentiary show that he "has not obeyed the rules and regulations." (In actuality these were minor infractions; the few days good-time which were taken from him have long since been restored.)

Bennett now must turn to the National Appeals Board, the last step in the Parole Commission hierarchy. They will reach a decision in early June. Meanwhile a local committee that has organized to publicize his case is urging that people send letters asking for his release. A spokesperson for the group said that over 150 letters and 2000 petition signatures were sent to the Regional Commissioner. They will be used for Bennett's appeal to the National Board, but the committee would like to get many more.

A positive note in Bennett's general case is that a local judge has ruled fa-

vorably on his court petition contesting recent disciplinary charges at McNeil Island. Judge William Lindberg ruled that the case deserved a hearing. While the prison administration charged Bennett with being involved in smuggling drugs, he and his attorneys have turned up testimony from previous witnesses against him who now say they were coerced by McNeil officials into signing false statements. On examination of the evidence, Lindberg ordered the prison to look into its original charges, (essentially offering them a chance to drop the whole matter) while at the same time warning that "serious allegations of misconduct have been raised, some of which may themselves warrant prosecution." McNeil officials have been using the charges in this case as justification for trying to transfer Bennett to the Control Unit at Marion, Illinois. This same administration "tagged" him with the earlier infractions now being used in part by the Parole Commission to deny his parole.

The Committee to Free Odell Bennett suggests several points be followed in writing letters in his behalf. "1) This is Bennett's first time in prison and he has never been paroled; 2) eleven years is more than enough time for the charges he was convicted of; 3) minor rule infractions, especially three years old, are no reason to deny parole, and are no indication of a prisoners ability to succeed on parole; 4) Bennett was recommended for parole in 1975; and 5) there is widespread sentiment for his release to community and his release would be in the best interest of justice and the welfare of society."

Letters should be sent to: Cecil C. McCall, US Parole Commission, 101 Indiana Avenue, Washington DC, 20537. If possible please send a copy to the Committee to Free Odell Bennett, Box 18682, Seattle, WA, 98118. Petitions are also available on request.

-Bill Patz

Citizen Group Forms

A spectre is haunting Whatcom County. The spectre of an organized citizen group that believes in acting instead of reacting to the decisions of government and business. With members drawn from tenant, low-income housing, energy, and welfare rights group, OCA (The Organization for Citizen Action) will be a permanent dues paying organization that will foster cooperation between these groups and establish a base of citizen power enabling OCA to be active in

a variety of community issues. Future plans of OCA include a landlord-tenant act for Whatcom county, an initiative campaign for a public utility district takeover of Puget Power, a credit union and newspaper, and activism in housing, utility, and development issues. Right now, OCA is conducting a month long membership drive. Information about OCA may be obtained from the Whatcom County Opportunity Council. 734-5121.

-Bellingham NWP

Well, Dam It

Gov't Finds Free-flowing Stretch of Columbia an Anachronism

The Army Corps of Engineers is currently conducting a feasibility study for the proposed Ben Franklin Dam, which would flood the last 57 miles of free-flowing Columbia River.

The dam, to be located 10 miles north of Richland on the Hanford Reach would serve two functions: it would allow for inland navigation as far as Wenatchee, and it would produce hydropower. In spite of numerous detrimental impacts—which have shelved the proposal in the past—the district Corps' Chief Engineer, John Poteat, has already stated that he "would be astonished if the dam and the power plants weren't economically justified."

In some ways the Corps' position is surprising. This stretch of river was not considered a good site for a dam back in the 1930's when other dams along the Columbia were being built, because of poor geological conditions. When a study was finally authorized by Congress in 1959, it was shelved before completion ten years later with the passing of new, stricter environmental regulations.

Successful lobbying by the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association and an interest in using the Columbia for peaking rather than base power, however, led to new Congressional funding for a feasibility study last year. The addition of the Ben Franklin dam to the already existing system of dams on the Columbia would allow for the control of river fluctuations in order to produce power at "peak" times—when it is most needed—by the backing up of water and its subsequent release. This means that more water will go through the turbines rather than over the spillways.

Its impact on salmon could be substantial. This stretch of the Columbia provides the last major spawning ground for fall chinook on the Columbia. Between 20,000 and 35,000 fish spawn there each year. According to a biologist at the Columbia River Intertribal Commission, if the dam was built "we would lose the last of the wild fall chinook."

In fact, if the Columbia is used for peak power, there is a good chance that all salmon will disappear from the Columbia. If the young fish must go through the turbines on their way to the ocean, there is a mortality rate of 15-30% at each dam. Plans to occasionally "flush" concentrations of fish over the spillways, or net them and truck them down river would save only hatchery fish. The wild fish do not run in sufficient concentrations.

The rise in water temperature created by the series of dams, especially if more nuclear plants at Hanford go on line, would also increase salmon mortality—possibly to the point of extinction.

In addition, the area which would be flooded by the dam has over 100 Native American archaeological sites. It is also a prime breeding ground for mallards, Canadian geese, scaup, coots and gulls. It is the only goose nesting site left on the Columbia, providing nesting sites for 280 pairs of geese each year. Some 600 deer use the predator-free islands for fawning grounds. Eagles and a pair of peregrine falcons—an endangered species—would also be affected.

In spite of these negative environmental aspects, the Washington State Fisheries Department has withdrawn opposition to the dam, and the State Department of Ecology director, Wilbur Hallauer has stated that he favors construction of the dam despite "val-



Loss of natural salmon runs is inevitable if dam is built Ed Newbold

id fisheries and wildlife concerns." Both are Ray appointees, and she favors the dam.

Other questions are raised by the Tri-City Nuclear Industrial Council and local Sierra Club's opposition to the dam. Both groups favor nuclear power and feel that nuclear power at Hanford is competitive with hydropower. These and other groups worry that a

rise in the water table at Hanford would endanger nuclear waste storage there.

With their dam bias, the Corps has yet to respond to President Carter's proposed study which would incorporate this stretch of the Columbia into the Nation's Wild and Scenic River System.

Carlyn Orians and Rick Swann

The Beach as Highway

In most parts of the country, an ocean beach and a super-highway are considered two entirely different things. But here in Washington the legislature took a giant step toward reconciling the two concepts with a bill it passed early in the century allowing that state-owned ocean beaches "are hereby declared a public highway forever."

The upshot of this, as anyone who has visited southwest Washington beaches knows, is a steady stream of motorists plying the sandy expanse between the dunes and the high tide mark.

The other upshot is a steady stream of complaints from people who want the beach to retain a natural flavor, from those concerned with disruption of wildlife habitat, and from people who just want to stretch out and relax without getting tread-marks on their stomach.

The beach driving controversy is currently languishing before the state Supreme Court, not likely to be heard, according to Seattle Audubon Society president Rayette Krause, until the fall of '79 or 1980. The Washington State Park Department and the Audubon Society are currently appealing an adverse ruling from the Thurston County Superior Court, which agreed with a plaintiff who disputed the Park Department's right to permanently close beaches to autos. According to Krause, there is at least an even chance that the high court will rule against the automobiles by interpreting other land-use laws as superceding the beach-as-highway law.



Gull on the Beach

In the meantime, Krause and others are testifying before the State Parks Commission in Olympia this week for a limited temporary closure to automobiles of a 2½ mile stretch of beach near Leadbetter State Park. This area provides nesting sites for the snowy plover, a small shore bird that is threatened and declining in Washington and up and down the west coast. The plover, of which perhaps only 25 pairs nest in Washington, has the unfortunate habit of laying its unprotected eggs on the sandy expanse between the dunes and the high-tide mark...

-Ed Newbold

Posting Leaflets

Dept. of Practical Advice

A Seattle cop walks up and says "What are you doing?" In no time I am ticketed for "posting signs--no permit" (Sec. 19.08.010) on a light pole.

The law I'm cited under, however, only outlaws "use of public property for private purposes". A very specific law (Sec. 10.08) dealing with illegal posting was repealed four years ago (Ord. 104683). And to top it off, when I go to get a "permit" I'm told that "We don't give any for that."

Upon showing these facts to a magistrate, pointing out the vagueness, the contradictions, and recent repeal of a very specific law, he summarily drops

the charges. My fine would have been \$57.00!

Moral:

1. To avoid hassles and wasted time try not to get caught posting.
2. If caught, research your case well (you might save this article).
3. Make your best case before the magistrate. They seem more sympathetic.
4. Freedom don't come easy.



by T.A.B.

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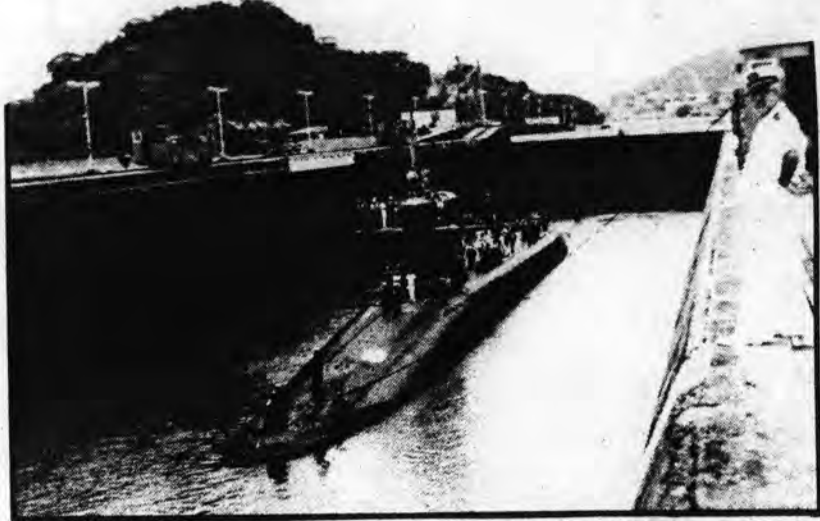
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 March 20 to April 9 Northwest Passage Page 5



A Polaris submarine in the Panama Canal locks.

Drawn Your Will Yet?

New Nuclear Strategy

A new era of nuclear insanity was officially ushered in last January, when the Carter Administration formally revised the United States' strategy for "detering nuclear war."

It was a weighty event that might have gone entirely uncelebrated had *The New York Times* not found space for the story on page 5 of its February 10 edition. The article commented that "The new strategy, which has emerged after months of debate in the Pentagon, represents a significant departure from the long-held concept that the United States needs only to threaten all-out retaliation against Soviet cities...The new policy calls for improving the American ability to carry out highly accurate strikes against Soviet land-based missiles, a potential that has not been stressed until now."

The new strategy, known as "counterforce," was given an impetus, according to the *Times*, by a recent study ordered by Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter's national security advisor. Brzezinski is a Rockefeller protégé and key member of the influential Trilateral Commission. The Brzezinski study noted that by the "early 1980's Soviet forces would be able in theory to knock out a large number of...U.S. Minuteman missiles."

Critics have long contended that counterforce is most suited to an aggressive, first-strike strategy. (There is little purpose in accurately hitting a silo which has already launched its missile). Furthermore, it is argued, counterforce capability will make an adversary more "trigger-happy" in times of tension, since an adversary's missiles are vulnerable as long as they sit unlaunched in the siloes.

In Seattle, Live Without Trident spokesperson Fred Miller confirmed that Trident, as well as the MX (mobile) missile are the "two big links" in the counterforce strategy. Miller pointed out that Trident is scheduled to have near pinpoint accuracy by the mid-1980's and will be able to maneuver very close to its target. First strike capability, he added, is near at hand for the U.S. which has moved heavily into anti-submarine warfare and now routinely tracks up to half of all Russian submarines at any given time.

He contrasted this to rather lax efforts in this direction by the Soviets: "Perhaps one or two American subs are being watched at any given time, according to U.S. Defense Department sources."

-E.N.

Satsop Trial Preview

On April 16, the Crabshell Alliance will finally go on trial. Almost ten months after the anti-nuclear demonstration and occupation of the Satsop construction site, 150 people will be tried on charges of second degree trespass. The trial will take place in the Montesano County Courthouse, not far from the tree-denuded hillsides where they set up tents, planted trees and were arrested on June 24, 1978.

Considerable legal bargaining has taken place in the months since the mass arrest. A team of eight lawyers from Seattle and Olympia, along with defendants and legal workers, have worked with and against the county prosecutor to determine what kind of a trial this will be. The final bargain will bar the introduction of legal technicalities into the courtroom. This means that no one will be able to get off simply because they were arrested on a county road instead of on the site.

In return for this, the prosecutor has agreed to give Crabshell defendant five full court days of testimony. Crabshell is planning to make the most of those five days. At least six expert witnesses and as many defendants are scheduled to speak. Although the presence of many of the expert witnesses is still unconfirmed, a possible roster includes Dr. Rosalee Bertrell, Dr. John Gofman, Dr. Ruth Weiner, Sam Milham, Bob Polard, Steve Stalos and Charles Gray.

Their fields of expertise include waste disposal, reactor safety, radiation, the economics of nuclear power and civil disobedience.

Dr. John Gofman is the former director of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in Berkeley. An acknowledged expert in the field, Dr. Gofman is now one of its strongest critics. He has authored numerous books and pamphlets and is presently testifying at the Karen Silkwood trial. One of the things he is

sure to talk about, according to Seattle lawyer, John Caughlan, is the difficulty of challenging nuclear power through conventional means.

Dr. Rosalee Bertrell was one of the initiators of the Tri-State Leukemia Survey. Confining their research to three states which require the registration of every leukemia case, Dr. Bertrell and her associates found a statistical correlation between the amount of radiation (including X-rays and other forms of low-level radiation) a person had been exposed to, and her/his propensity to develop leukemia. Her findings indicated what many experts have maintained for years—that, contrary to the policy of the NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission), there is no safe level of exposure to radiation.

The Crabshell defendants who plan to testify are an equally varied group. According to Emily Mansfield, the lawyer who has been working with them, the defendants will be allowed to introduce their personal beliefs as part of the necessity defense. Their testimony will be based, too, on other means they used to try and stop the nuclear power plants.

The prosecutor, of course, may, and probably will, ask the judge to instruct the six jurors to disregard such testimony. No one knows yet how the judge will react, though at least one legal worker, Carol Welch, has her hopes. She tells a story ("This may not be true") about the presiding Judge Brown. Apparently an Evergreen College student was stopped for speeding on the highway between Olympia and Aberdeen. He was brought before Judge Brown who asked him why he was going so fast. "I couldn't help it," said the student. "I went past the turn-off to the Satsop site and I became so angry about nuclear power that my foot unconsciously went down on the accelerator." Judge Brown let him off.

The Crabshell lawyers will conduct the case using the "necessity defense". John Caughlan explains that the necessity defense proceeds from the well-recognized law of self-defense, and individual's right to protect her/himself from attack. Caughlan uses the "case of the burning house" to illustrate his point: "If you see a house which you have good reason to suspect will soon be on fire, can you trespass in order to put it out, or must you wait until the house has actually burst into flames?"

The necessity defense has been used in similar cases with varying degrees of success. A recent case suggests that it is now considered a legitimate reason for breaking the law. Twenty demonstrators were acquitted on charges of criminal trespass at the Commonwealth Edison generating plant in Zion, Illinois; the jury was obviously swayed by the defendants' testimony on the dangers of nuclear energy.

Although John Caughlan is cautious: "I never predict what the outcome of any trial will be," others are optimistic. As Carol Welch, a defendant who has worked with the legal defense group since the occupation, says, "It doesn't matter much to me any more whether we're found guilty or not. The point is that we've stood up and continue to stand up to them."

-Barbara Wilson

Would you spend \$11,000 a year to lock this guy up?

Instead of finding him a job. Or teaching him a skill. Or building a resourceful community which would provide him a decent quality of life.

No. Yet the government plans to spend more than what a year at Harvard costs to put him in prison, where he'll be warehoused and then returned to the community without the skills or contacts essential to life outside of prison. That's why 60% of all people presently in our jails and prisons will end up back there.

Over 920 new prisons and jails are currently planned or under construction. Why? Because the people who are building them have succeeded in convincing the public of the following myths.

MYTH #1: Prisons protect us from dangerous criminals.
They don't. Most people in prison are not dangerous or violent. "90% of the people in prison don't belong there," says Carl G. Hoeker, warden of the Nevada State Prison, is known as "a stern disciplinarian and tight custody man." Another warden puts the figure at "less than 5-8%." Many other prison administrators give similar figures. These figures imply a need for many fewer prisons, not hundreds more.

MYTH #2: Prisons help criminals reform their behavior.
Though the evidence supports the opposite, this myth is still widely believed. Just about no one seriously advances the idea any more. Chief Justice Warren Burger sums up expert opinion: "Clearly prisons do not rehabilitate."

MYTH #3: Prisons punish criminals.
They do—but almost exclusively poor and non-white people. Yet these people don't commit more crimes than anyone else. Most crimes are committed by people who don't get caught—professionals, corporate criminals, those in organized crime.

Compare forty billion dollars a year lost through white collar crime with 2.5 billion dollars lost through street crime.
Corporate crime is seldom discovered. And when it is, the offender rarely goes to prison. For example, only 18% of all convicted embezzlers go to prison (for an average of 15 months). For the rest, there are numerous alternatives. 89% of all convicted robbers go to jail (for an average of 10 1/2 years). For robbers there are virtually no alternatives.



Who benefits from prisons and jail construction?
First, the companies who build them. New prisons and jails today cost between \$50,000 and \$100,000 per bed, more than luxury hotels. Second, the growing correctional bureaucracy whose jobs depend on an expansive program of prison construction. The Federal Bureau of Prisons plans to build more prisons in the next 10 years than they've built since the Bureau was established. State and local government plans similar expansion—close to 920 new jails and prisons.

Finally, politicians who want concrete monuments to the rising public fear of crime. Prisons are just that. Prisons and jails are the most visible responses to crime, but the least effective. The solution to crime lies in changing the conditions which produce crime—serious unemployment, poor education, inadequate housing. These are long-term solutions, but there are dozens of alternatives available now. They all work better than prison. And they cost very little or nothing.

For a fraction of what government wants us to spend on building new prisons, we could go a long way toward eliminating the need for prisons. We could, that is, if some very powerful people weren't intent on keeping things just the way they are—inefficient, brutal and profitable.

If anything is to change, the public must know the truth about prison construction and take an active stand against it. Our initial goal is to stop all prison and jail construction in the United States. This will force governments to consider, try out and finally adopt alternatives to imprisonment. You can help as a volunteer or financial contributor in curbing expansion and eventually putting to rest one of the cruellest and most useless institutions in our society.

For more information, write the
NATIONAL MORATORIUM ON PRISON CONSTRUCTION
3116 1/2th Street NW,
Washington, D.C. 20018
or the **WESTERN MORATORIUM ON PRISON CONSTRUCTION**
1231 Second Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122.
(Projects of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.)

*References for all statistics will be provided on request.

Prepared by Public Media Center, San Francisco.

Ugly is bad politics.

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Falk Implicated in Beating Incidents

By John Carl and Ed Newbold

Policeperson Dennis Falk should have been axed from the force, asserts civil rights attorney Lem Howell, long before he got the chance to poke his revolver through a south Seattle fence and kill black burglary suspect John Rodney. Howell has socked the city and officer Falk, who doubles as a John Birch Society official, with a "wrongful death" suit on behalf of the Rodney family.

Howell is hardly the only one to be critical of Falk. Long before he earned the wrath of gay rights activists with his introduction of the anti-gay Initiative 13, Falk was the object of numerous allegations of brutality—enough to inspire then-Mayor Wes Uhlman to transfer him to the less volatile Rainier Valley beat in the early seventies.

But despite a reputation that puts him even—in some eyes—with a junk-yard doberman, Falk has nonetheless been able lately to steer clear of other public accusations of brutality that might further put the Rodney killing and the anti-gay work into perspective.

Now however, an incident involving Falk has come to the attention of the *Northwest Passage*. The incident, which tends to corroborate Howell's argument, as well as shed even more doubt on the police's internal review system, is described in the 1978 Annual Report of the Seattle King County Office of the Ombudsman:

"The complainants, a black couple, stated that two police officers followed the man to his home. His car was overheating and steaming. The first officer gave the complainant a citation and stayed with him until a second officer arrived. When the second officer arrived he asked to see the bottom of the complainant's shoes. When the complainant asked why, one of the officers grabbed his feet and pulled him off the car. His wife attempted to assist her husband, and an officer hit the woman with his closed fist, knocking her to the ground. This officer wore a pair of black gloves which he had put on when he arrived at the scene. The other officer choked the man to the point where he began to pass out and to spit blood. According to the complainants, the man did not resist the officers in any way. As a crowd began to gather, the second officer used abusive language about the women in the crowd and placed the man and his wife under arrest. During the transport to the police station, abuse continued, it was alleged."

The *Northwest Passage* has learned that the officer with the black gloves was Dennis Falk.

According to Deputy Ombudsman Fred Maxie, three witnesses to the entire event were interviewed by his office and their descriptions of the event agreed with the complainants. The "abusive language" referred to in the report was calling the women in the crowd "black bitches." Maxie reported that, "The police did not deny the man was bleeding from the mouth." He also confirmed that the woman complainant was pregnant at the time of the assault.

The Internal Investigation Section of the Seattle Police Department found the complaint serious enough to warrant an investigation. Both officers were exonerated of the charge of unnecessary force by their commanding officers; the verbal abuse charges were ruled "unfounded" for one officer and "not sustained" for the other.



Dennis Falk (center) submitting petitions for anti-gay Initiative 15.

P.I., TIMES Pass Up Brutality Stories

When Paul Meyer released the 1978 Annual Report of the Office of the Ombudsman, Seattle's daily papers obediently sent reporters to bring back the story. The articles that appeared in both papers on March 15 (A-9 in the *Post-Intelligencer*, E-13 in the *Times*) added another installment to what has become something of a local journalistic ritual following Ombudsman press conferences.

Both stories adequately covered the points mentioned in the press release: The internal police investigations system is "weighted in favor of the police," in the opinion of the office. One built-in discrepancy is that citizen complainants are asked to take lie detector tests and are placed under oath, while police are protected from either practice by the terms of their contract with the city. Another discrepancy which Meyer singled out, this time around, is a provision which excludes a citizen appointee to a police disciplinary panel from participating in final deliberations of complaints lodged against officers.

What is missing from the recent articles, however, and what has been missing from all such articles since the Ombudsman/police dispute began, is specific mention of any of the brutality cases that are described in some detail in every ombudsman annual report.

The omission may seem all the more glaring to anybody who has read through the "police" section of the report. Among the cases described is that of a black

Seattle resident who was stopped on a traffic violation. During the course of the arrest, he was... "struck on the back of his head with a flashlight, forced to the ground, kicked in the side and his hand was stomped on. He asked that his glasses be retrieved and they were crushed." Two independent witnesses verified his report in sworn affidavits. A polygraph was given (and passed) by the complainant and one witness.

Another incident chronicled involved a 14 year old boy who alleged he had been unnecessarily choked and intimidated—in his own home. (Officers said they had been dispatched to the complainant's house to answer a burglary call, and resorted to force when the boy became "abusive." They had no warrant.)

A woman who contacted the Ombudsman's office with "highly visible bruises on both sides of her neck," alleged that she had been choked and verbally abused. Her case was investigated, but at the time of the writing of the report, five months after the investigation had been completed, no findings of any kind had been announced. None of the incidents described in the Ombudsman's Report led to disciplinary action against officers.

Attorney Lem Howell has noted that, "Many good and otherwise very sensible citizens tend to believe the police can do no wrong." When papers like the *P-I* and the *Times* continually fail to sniff out brutality stories passed under their noses, it isn't hard to understand why.

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Abortion: The Body Politic

I was twenty and single when I had my first abortion. The father left me in the wake of an interrupted journey to New Mexico, in the nearest city, Boulder, Colo. I spent my days waiting and wandering through the hot, dry foothills, acutely pregnant. I moved slowly, as if I were carrying a bowl too full of water. My chemistry changed completely; my breasts were full and tender, my blood seemed thicker and my pulse stronger, as if I were in a constant state of arousal. I liked it. I felt a sense of womanhood I had not known before. I felt my design, my machinery, humming like a honey hive. I could not believe I was going to kill it. Yet I knew I would not do what my mother had done. I was not finished growing up, running wild, making mistakes, finding out. I was not ready for a baby.

I was confronted at the clinic door by a group of angry women with dolls, crosses, and bloodstained sheets, carrying signs crying MURDER. I passed by with my head bowed. I did not need to be reminded. During the week I had had to prepare for the operation, I had never considered the pain, which was startling and sharp. As I lay on the recovery cot, the swollen magic feeling drained from my body with the blood. A Catholic girl, who had lied about her age, lay next to me with cramps, moaning "O God, if my father ever finds out." Too broke to buy a belt, I pinned a Kotex to a pair of borrowed underwear and got out of there, hitching home across the mountains. My body was back: stone-kicker, rock-hopper. My head was no longer a burning cloud; all the edges came back to the world, the distinct lichen eating the distinct stone. Also came the pain, which had lain in wait while the egg still ripened. My torn and bloody womb screamed like a kildeer over an empty nest, but the pain was contained, unlike the fog of fertility which had preceded it. As my head cleared, I remembered their righteous faces and was angry, angry that they invaded my grief with their cruel symbols and slogans. I wished I had spit at them. I wished I had backed them into the street like a hissing cat, claws extended. I am not an unfeeling criminal. I am a woman making a difficult choice.

I was grateful too. I have often thought how lucky I am, as a woman, to be alive today, but never as vividly as when I thought of the consequences of my unwanted pregnancy in any other culture. Only 20 years ago I would have been berated for my promiscuity and the subject of my family's shame unless married off immediately. Like a factory reject, I would be auctioned off to the highest bidder. If my father had been rich and willing, I might have risked a trip to Mexico, or I could have left the kid with grandma and headed for the high life in New Orleans. But most likely, I wouldn't have gotten pregnant. Desire would have been too dangerous, the consequences too dire. Legal, affordable abortions give women the opportunity to explore their sexuality without fear, to take possession

of their own libidos, a privilege men take for granted. Coming of age in a jungle of male images and myths, the girl child needs access to her fire.

Abortion is a complex moral issue which can be addressed from many angles. What is at stake? The right of an unborn fetus to fulfill its human potential? The right of a woman to control her body? The right of a child to be wanted? Women who have had abortions, and probably those who have children, understand intimately what is at stake. Most feel a sense of loss and of biological violation. My pregnancy felt like a mistake, but many women bearing children must feel the same way.

The papers are filled with horror stories of abuse and neglect, babies left to freeze or be eaten by pigs, flushed down toilets and thrown off bridges, or the one about the mother who marched her 3 kids 2 miles at gunpoint, in pajamas, screaming they were possessed by devils. More subtle cases of abuse litter the streets and some of us are all grown up, probably many fertile females are not prepared to raise children.

Regardless of one's personal feelings, the legal question of state support seems simple to me. As long as there is no overwhelming popular consensus against it, abortion ought to remain a matter of personal choice. No woman should be prevented from making that choice because of the economic inequity of the system. Those who argue that welfare abortions infringe on their rights as taxpayers by forcing them to support "state financed murder" should look at capital punishment, the Vietnam War, or state support of televangelist regimes. Taxpayers can only censor the state's activities when they are organized into an effective majority.

And that, of course, is what the Right-to-Life movement is trying to become. The pro-lifers' grassroots ought to be a group of individuals, mostly women, and other middle-class housewives expressing their conscientious objections to the murder of unborn children. What I am confused by is the outcry against the abortion of potentialities in a world where real rooms, real children, and real people are eating and every day. I respect their passion as genuine, if irrational. The mystery I have is how this traditionally passive constituency was organized and who funds their campaign.

There is a man named Richard Viguerie, a most political tactician, and some light on the growing power of the pro-lifers. As a young, frustrated conservative, Viguerie lit on the idea of using marketing expertise to "proselytize middle America" through direct mailing campaigns. Starting with seed money from Joseph Cook's Heritage Foundation, and expanding mailing lists from Reagan's campaign, the National Rifle Association, Reader's Digest and the like, he began soliciting money for conservative causes. Included in the mailings were "issue polls" which probed the intensity of voter opinion on a spectrum of issues: gun control, desegregation, gay rights, unionism, defense spending, and of course abortion and the ERA. By computerizing these results he eventually generated lists of conservatives that could be mobilized around single issues. He ran the system in high gear in the '74 Wallace campaign, sending "personalized" letters to millions of reactionaries, informing them of Wallace's position on their issues. He raised about \$15 million. Since then he has had the lengthening list for a variety of conservative causes: Bryant's Save Our Children, Southern States USA, National Right to Work, American League for Life, anti-union promoters and the National Life Committee. The Catholic Church's "important" contact center for the new conservative movement, the National Council on Human Relations, would women's rights. The Catholic Church sponsors speakers and occasional sessions on abortion. Morev Sheridan, former of Catholic Communications Northwest, a national Christian resource, works closely with Vanderhooff, producing Human Life, distributing educational packets, handling letters and organizing letters to Congressmen. Human Life has a mailing list of 22,000. Although Vanderhooff is active with the legislature, he is not considered a lobbyist because he is not paid for his work. Human Life is registered as a non-political tax deductible charity organization, and

therefore eligible for contributions from the Church.

Vanderhooff is also Chairman of the Board of the National Right to Life Committee in Washington, DC. National headquarters publishes a "hit list" of Congressmen for its members to attack. The list is to be directed against those who have been the strongest supporters of abortion, not rather against general political enemies of the right. Senator Frank Chafee, who sponsored a bill that permitted hospitals to offer abortions services according to their own medical policies, is on the list. This gives cause to suspect that Viguerie is courting this traditionally conservative constituency to take advantage of their very political passivity and their intense emotional involvement in single issues to manipulate voting blocks for their own political purposes.

Since many of these people also oppose the ERA, one might presume that the list has been compiled in haste. But it is not that they don't want women to work. Women have always worked. The women's struggle stems more from a perceived need to maintain the existing social structure than from a desire to keep women out of the economy. The family structure is very effective at keeping women in their place. The man is less likely to spend his money on himself, and more likely to depend on the woman. The woman's dependence on the man is a psychological reality, not a political one. The woman's exercise of power in the family is not a political act, it is a survival strategy. The woman's dependence on the man is a survival strategy, not a political one. The woman's dependence on the man is a survival strategy, not a political one. The woman's dependence on the man is a survival strategy, not a political one.

But we are not. The TV family is a myth, and a 7 dog exists only as a mythical norm. People are not that anymore. Single and gay marriages, second and third marriages, remarriages, divorces, are increasing. More and more people are choosing to live in families to meet our own needs. This transformation causes the fears on which the pro-life campaign feeds. And the political danger, of making these fears to bring about more prisons, more police, a stronger army, a stricter welfare system, and a minimum wage, affirmative action and a stronger economy, is clear.





Women

'Reduce But Do Not Destroy'

Muhammad's comment on clitoridectomy

An article entitled "The Genital Mutilation of Females" by Fran Hosken, who has researched the subject for 4 years, recently appeared in the Women and Violence issue of *Heresies*. Female "castration" as practiced in Africa, takes two forms; clitoridectomy, or the cutting away of the clitoris and the labia minora, and infibulation, the scraping and fastening of the outer lips to form a scar that reduces the diameter of the vulvular opening.

Infibulation is a common practice in East Africa: Somalia; Sudan, Eritrea and Kenya. Anthropologists have long understood the practice as "virginity insurance" to protect complex intratribal marriage taboos, which many uphold as efficient genetic controls.

Clitoridectomy is more widespread, occurring throughout West Africa and the Congo (Zaire) as well as in East Africa. This research is less thorough. The mythology behind it ranges from a belief that women are born hermaphroditic and the removal of the clitoris banishes the male spirit to the idea that the clitoris would sting men during intercourse, or infants at birth.

The operations are unsafe, performed with crude instruments causing a long list of complications: hemorrhage, shock, blood poisoning and other infections, scars, obstetric ailments and infertility. An estimated 30 million women are affected.

A tradition perpetuated by women, it seems to be a ritual of pain. Strange legacy, the pulling out of tongues. In spite of the pain, women are convinced of the necessity of the operation and believe that terrible punishment would befall any who evade it.

The recent information on the extent of these customs brought forward by African midwives has caused an uproar in the West. Many feminists advocate boycotting the offending nations and the modern hospitals which perform the operations for those who can afford it. The Carter Human Rights Commission is investigating too. Ever since the missionaries the imposition of Western values has contributed to the colonization and capitalization of African political economies. However, these findings suggest that violence could play a critical role in the origins and implementation of male supremacy.



Rally For Basics

Three hundred people, most of them women, found their way to the Capitol Building in Olympia March 6th to rally against three proposed anti-abortion rights bill in the state house, against forced sterilization and in support of the ERA. The rally was sponsored by MUJER, a chicana women's group, J.P. Stevens Boycott committee, Women Acting Together (WAT), Radical Women (RW) and the United Feminist Front. Participants included Tacoma, Bellingham, Olympia and Seattle residents.

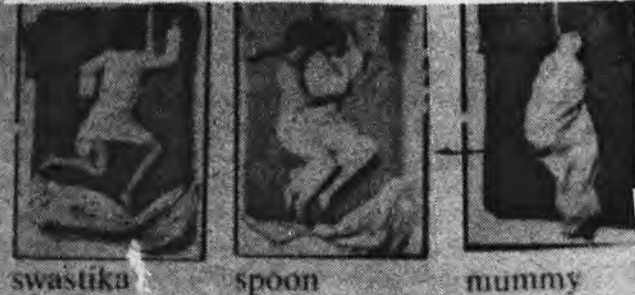
Gloria Markham, spokeswoman for Radical Women, referred to her own participation in the 1969 effort that began the fight for abortion rights legislation at a rally "in this very place." That campaign ended with the passage of a state initiative making Washington one of the first states to legalize abortions. "I don't know about you," Ms. Markham called to the crowd, "but I'm sick and tired of coming down here!"

A WAT spokeswoman described abortion as "every woman's right, not a means of population control or a solution to social problems." She also spoke against attempts to eliminate state funding of abortions, saying that since "wealthy white women have always had access to safe abortions," such cuts would have nearly the same effect as outlawing abortions. A sign held aloft by one woman read "If men could get pregnant abortion would be a sacrament." The MUJER speaker talked of forced sterilizations common among minority women. She stated that 22% of chicana, 21% of black, over 25% of native american and 33% of puerto rican women of child-bearing age have been sterilized.

The three bills under attack would prohibit advertising of abortion services; exclude abortions from medical assistance programs (subject to approval of vote voters in November); and require physicians to give emergency treatment to all "viable" fetuses. This last bill apparently contains wording which would effectively outlaw abortions after the fourth month. Though none of these bills have made it out of committee, they may be revived in the special session.

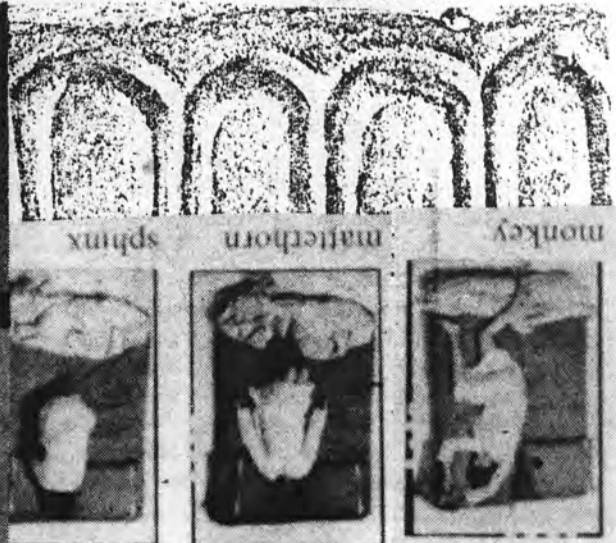
Conspicuously underrepresented at the rally were the older, middle class women frequently associated with such organizations as the National Organization for Women (NOW). The Yakima chapter of NOW did endorse the rally, but the larger, closer, Seattle NOW did not endorse. The Seattle chapter was notified of the rally several weeks in advance. However, when contacted by phone and asked to endorse a week before the rally date, they refused, saying they "didn't know exactly what endorsement meant" and did not feel there was time to sufficiently deal with that issue, according to Sue Docikal, a rally organizer. However, Ms. Docikal stressed that NOW "knew what the content of the rally was, and offered personal support, encouraging their members to attend. It would not be fair to make any charges." The Washington State National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) was also contacted, but did not reply. In January, NOW, NARAL, the ACLU, and the Washington State Council on Family Planning sponsored a pro-abortion rights demonstration inside the capitol building. If the numbers of people attending the two separate rallies were combined, and one considers the additional individuals that organization cooperation could attract, pro-abortionists could easily outnumber their adversaries in public demonstrations. However, some feel that public protest is ineffective and, in any event that kind of cooperation does not seem likely. But that cooperation could be decisive in upholding abortion rights, particularly those of poor women, in Washington.

-Shannon West



swastika spoon mummy

SARAH STRANAHAN



Abortion: The Body Politic

I was twenty and alone when I had my first abortion. The father left me, in the wake of an interrupted journey to New Mexico, in the nearest city, Boulder, Colo. I spent my days waiting and wandering through the hot, dry foothills, acutely pregnant. I moved slowly, as if I were carrying a bowl too full of water. My chemistry changed completely; my breasts were full and tender, my blood seemed thicker and my pulse stronger, as if I were in a constant state of arousal. I liked it. I felt a sense of womanhood I had not known before. I felt my design, my machinery, humming like a honey hive. I could not believe I was going to kill it. Yet I knew I would not do what my mother had done. I was not finished growing up, running wild, making mistakes, finding out. I was not ready for a baby.

I was confronted at the clinic door by a group of angry women with dolls, crosses, and bloodstained sheets, carrying signs crying MURDER. I passed by with my head bowed, I did not need to be reminded. During the week I had had to prepare for the operation, I had never considered the pain, which was starting and sharp. As I lay on the recovery cot, the swollen magic feeling drained from my body with the blood. A Catholic girl, who had lied about her age, lay next to me with cramps, moaning "O God, if my father ever finds out." Too broke to buy a belt, I pinned a Kotex to a pair of borrowed underwear and got out of there, hitching home across the mountains. My body was back: stone-kicker, rock-hopper. My head was no longer a burning cloud; all the edges came back to the world, the distinct lichen eating the distinct stone. Also came the pain, which had lain in wait while the egg still ripened. My torn and bloody womb screamed like a kildeer over an empty nest, but the pain was contained, unlike the fog of fertility which had preceded it. As my head cleared, I remembered their righteous faces and was angry, angry that they invaded my grief with their cruel symbols and slogans. I wished I had spit at them, I wished I had backed them into the street like a hissing cat, claws extended. I am not an unfeeling criminal. I am a woman making a difficult choice.

I was grateful too. I have often thought how lucky I am, as a woman, to be alive today, but never as vividly as when I thought of the consequences of my unwanted pregnancy in any other culture. Only 20 years ago I would have been berated for my promiscuity and the subject of my family's shame unless married off immediately. Like a factory reject, I would be auctioned off to the highest bidder. If my father had been rich and willing, I might have risked a trip to Mexico, or I could have left the kid with grandma and headed for the high life in New Orleans. But most likely, I wouldn't have gotten pregnant. Desire would have been too dangerous, the consequences too dire. Legal, affordable abortions give women the opportunity to explore their sexuality without fear, to take possession

of their own libidos, a privilege men take for granted. Coming of age in a jungle of male images and myths, the girl child needs access to her fire.

Abortion is a complex moral issue which can be addressed from many angles. What is at stake? The right of an unborn fetus to fulfill its human potential? The right of a woman to control her body? The right of a child to be wanted? Women who have had abortions, and probably those who have children, understand intimately what is at stake. Most feel a sense of loss and of biological violation. My pregnancy felt like a mistake; but many women bearing children must feel the same way.

The papers are filled with horror stories of abuse and neglect: babies left to freeze or be eaten by pets, flushed down toilets and thrown off bridges, or the one about the mother who marched her 3 kids 2 miles, at gunpoint, in pajamas, screaming they were possessed by devils. More subtle cases of abuse litter the streets, and some of us are all grown up. Obviously, many fertile females are not prepared to raise children.

Regardless of one's personal feelings, the legal question of state support seems simple to me. As long as there is no overwhelming popular consensus against it, abortion ought to remain a matter of personal choice. No woman should be prevented from making that choice because of the economic inequity of the system. Those who argue that welfare abortions infringe on their rights as taxpayers by forcing them to support "state financed murder" should look at capital punishment, the Vietnam War, or state support of terrorist regimes. Taxpayers can only censor the state's activities when they are organized into an effective majority.

And that, of course, is what the Right-to-Life movement is trying to become. The pro-lifers' recruits appear to be a group of individuals (mostly white, upper-middle-class housewives) expressing their conscientious objections to the murder of unborn children. While I am confused by the outcry against the desecration of potentialities in a world where real, round, already-born people are eating spit every day, I respect their passions as genuine, if irrational. The mystery is how this traditionally passive constituency was organized and who funds their campaign.

There is a man named Richard Viguerie whose political tactics shed some light on the growing power of the pro-lifers. As a young, frustrated conservative, Viguerie lit on the idea of using marketing expertise to "prosper middle America" through direct mailing campaigns. Starting with seed money from Joseph Cook's Heritage Foundation, and existing mailing lists (from Reagan's campaign, the National Rifle Association, Reader's Digest and the like), he began soliciting money for conservative causes. Included in the mailings were "issue polls" which probed the intensity of voter opinion on a spectrum of issues: gun control, busing, gay rights, unionism, defense spending, and of course abortion and the ERA. By computer indexing these results he eventually generated lists of contributors that could be mobilized around single issues. He put the system in high gear in the '74 Wallace campaign, sending "personalized" letters to millions of reactionaries, informing them of Wallace's position on their pet peeve. He raised about \$15 million. Since then he has had the lengthening list for a variety of conservative causes: Bryant's Save Our Children, Schlafly's Stop ERA, National Right to Work Committee (union-busting duke promoters) and the Right-to-Life campaign.

The Catholic Church is another important connection for the new conservative movement. Priests make special pitches from their pulpits, urging women to get involved. The Catholic Church sponsors speakers and educational sessions on abortion. Morev Sheridan, president of Catholic Communications Northwest, a regional Christian resource, works closely with Ken Vanderhoeff, president of Human Life, distributing educational packets, mailing leaflets and organizing letters to Congressmen. Human Life has a mailing list of 32,000. Although Vanderhoeff is active with the legislature, he is not considered a lobbyist because he is not paid for his work. Human Life is registered as a non-political tax deductible charity organization, and

therefore eligible for contributions from the Church.

Vanderhoeff is also Chairman of the Board of the National Right to Life Committee in Washington, DC. National headquarters publishes a "hit list" of Congressmen for its members to attack. However, it seems to be directed against those who have been the strongest supporters of abortion, but rather against general political enemies of the right. Senator Frank Church, who sponsored a bill that permitted hospitals to offer abortions services according to their "institutional ethics", is on the list. This gives reason to suspect that Viguerie is courting this traditionally silent constituency to take advantage of their very political passivity and their intense emotional involvement in single issues to manipulate voting blocks for his own political purposes.

Since many of these people also oppose the ERA, one might presume that the goal is to keep women at home. But it is not that they don't want women to work, women have always worked. The efforts to restrict women stem more from a perceived need to maintain the existing social structure than from a desire to keep women out of the economy. The family system is very effective at keeping women in their places. The man is less likely to express job dissatisfaction, striking, quitting or getting arrested if he has a wife and children dependent on his wages. His powerlessness and frustration can be psychically transferred to the authority he exercises over his family. The woman at home is indoctrinated, via television, magazines and advertising with a concern for her house, her cooking and her appearance, creating the illusion of control. She is supposed to be satisfied with these illusions of control and gratification.

But we are not. The TV family with a 2 1/2 car garage and 7 dogs exists only as a statistical norm. People are not like that anymore. Single and gay parenting, second and third marriages and unmarried couples are increasing. More and more of us are choosing our own families to meet our own needs. This transformation causes the fears on which the new conservative campaign feeds. And the potential danger of mobilizing these fears to bring about more prisons, more police, a stronger army, a stricter welfare system, and an end to minimum wage, affirmative action and education is clear.





'Reduce But Do Not Destroy'

Muhammad's comment on clitoridectomy

Rally For Basics

An article entitled "The Genital Mutilation of Females" by Fran Hosken, who has researched the subject for 4 years, recently appeared in the Women and Violence issue of *Heresies*. Female "castration" as practiced in Africa, takes two forms; clitoridectomy, or the cutting away of the clitoris and the labia minora, and infibulation, the scraping and fastening of the outer lips to form a scar that reduces the diameter of the vulvar opening.

Infibulation is a common practice in East Africa: Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea and Kenya. Anthropologists have long understood the practice as "virginity insurance" to protect complex intratribal marriage taboos, which many uphold as efficient genetic controls.

Clitoridectomy is more widespread, occurring throughout West Africa and the Congo (Zaire) as well as in East Africa. This research is less thorough. The mythology behind it ranges from a belief that women are born hermaphroditic and the removal of the clitoris banishes the male spirit to the idea that the clitoris would sting men during intercourse, or infants at birth.

The operations are unsafe, performed with crude instruments causing a long list of complications: hemorrhage, shock, blood poisoning and other infections, scars, obstetric ailments and infertility. An estimated 30 million women are affected.

A tradition perpetuated by women, it seems to be a ritual of pain. Strange legacy, the pulling out of tongues. In spite of the pain, women are convinced of the necessity of the operation and believe that terrible punishment would befall any who evade it.

The recent information on the extent of these customs brought forward by African midwives has caused an uproar in the West. Many feminists advocate boycotting the offending nations and the modern hospitals which perform the operations for those who can afford it. The Carter Human Rights Commission is investigating too. Ever since the missionaries the imposition of Western values has contributed to the colonization and capitalization of African political economies. However, these findings suggest that violence could play a critical role in the origins and implementation of male supremacy.

Three hundred people, most of them women, found their way to the Capitol Building in Olympia March 6th to rally against three proposed anti-abortion rights bill in the state house, against forced sterilization and in support of the ERA. The rally was sponsored by MUJER, a chicana women's group, J.P. Stevens Boycott committee, Women Acting Together (WAT), Radical Women (RW) and the United Feminist Front. Participants included Tacoma, Bellingham, Olympia and Seattle residents.

Gloria Markham, spokeswoman for Radical Women, referred to her own participation in the 1969 effort that began the fight for abortion rights legislation at a rally "in this very place." That campaign ended with the passage of a state initiative making Washington one of the first states to legalize abortions. "I don't know about you," Ms. Markham called to the crowd, "but I'm sick and tired of coming down here!"

A WAT spokeswoman described abortion as "every woman's right, not a means of population control or a solution to social problems." She also spoke against attempts to eliminate state funding of abortions, saying that since "wealthy white women have always had access to safe abortions," such cuts would have nearly the same effect as outlawing abortions. A sign held aloft by one woman read "If men could get pregnant abortion would be a sacrament." The MUJER speaker talked of forced sterilizations common among minority women. She stated that 22% of chicana, 21% of black, over 25% of native American and 33% of puertorican women of child-bearing age have been sterilized.

The three bills under attack would prohibit advertising of abortion services; exclude abortions from medical assistance programs (subject to approval of vote voters in November); and require physicians to give emergency treatment to all "viable" fetuses. This last bill apparently contains wording which would effectively outlaw abortions after the fourth month. Though none of these bills have made it out of committee, they may be revived in the special session.

Conspicuously underrepresented at the rally were the older, middle class women frequently associated with such organizations as the National Organization for Women (NOW). The Yakima chapter of NOW did endorse the rally, but the larger, closer, Seattle NOW did not endorse. The Seattle chapter was notified of the rally several weeks in advance. However, when contacted by phone and asked to endorse a week before the rally date, they refused, saying they "didn't know exactly what endorsement meant" and did not feel there was time to sufficiently deal with that issue, according to Sue Docikal, a rally organizer. However, Ms. Docikal stressed that NOW "knew what the content of the rally was, and offered personal support, encouraging their members to attend. It would not be fair to make any charges." The Washington State National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) was also contacted, but did not reply.

In January, NOW, NARAL, the ACLU, and the Washington State Council on Family Planning sponsored a pro-abortion rights demonstration inside the capitol building. If the numbers of people attending the two separate rallies were combined, and one considers the additional individuals that organization cooperation could attract, pro-abortionists could easily outnumber their adversaries in public demonstrations. However, some feel that public protest is ineffective and, in any event that kind of cooperation does not seem likely. But that cooperation could be decisive in upholding abortion rights, particularly those of poor women, in Washington.

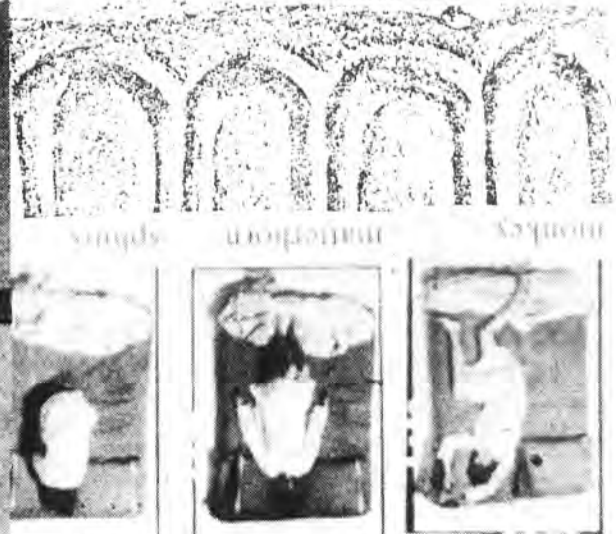
-Shannon West



swastika spoon mummy



SARAH STRANAHAN



ON THE JOB AT FEUDAL U.

By Sarah Stearns

If you've ever gone to school on a fairly large American college campus, you probably got a rather severe culture shock at first. Perhaps you thought it was just that you were finally on your own, which is a frightening enough experience to disconnect your sense of reality for a while. Or if you were an idealist, maybe you thought it was the natural result of being exposed to famous scholars and scientists in pursuit of the Holy Grail of Knowledge. (Actually, it's not likely you were that much of an idealist...)

Anyway, you probably felt kind of strange for a while. Then you got used to it and got down to the hard case of pursuing your own Holy Grail: grades.

Well, I still feel strange, and I've been on a Washington State college campus for over 7 years. Not as a student, but as a clerical worker, connected by a typewriter to all those aforementioned scholars and scientists. But at least now I think I know why I feel strange.

It's because every day when I come to work, I have to step back into the 11th century. This campus (and it's probably not very different from many others) operates like a medieval barony or fiefdom. It's a very feudal (sometimes futile) environment.

The most striking example of this is that every social class found in medieval life can be matched with a similar class on campus. These can be roughly divided into four categories.

The nobility—the Lords—are the faculty members, each individual Lord having his/her own manor. (Very few "hers." Affirmative action has had little effect on this fief.) The Lords care mainly about three things: their promotions and pay increases, the grants they get (or don't get), and their retirement money. In other words, cash. They also have some concern with the respect (obedience) due them as Lords and most insist on being addressed as "Professor."

The people who serve the Lords comprise the two lower classes on the fief:

the Squires (students), and the Serfs (clerical and technical employees). Until the Squires become accustomed to life at Feudal U, they naively think that the whole purpose of the place is to serve them. (After all, it's a school.) This misapprehension usually clears up after their first term here, or sooner if they happen to draw an unusually capricious bunch of Lords as instructors. The Squires then wise up and pursue their real education—how to get along with the Lords. Male Squires usually are able to keep this on an intellectual level. Female Squires are not always so lucky.

I, as a secretary, am a Serf. Unlike the class ratio on a real medieval fief, there are less Serfs here than either Squires or Lords. But in most other respects our position is the same: we do the shitwork of the fief. We type papers, answer phones, do filing, run experiments, fix machines, and feed the gos of the nobility. If the Lord is very rich (i.e., has lots of grant money), he can hire enough Serfs so that some of us may do little but feed his ego. There's some potential for revolution among us, but unfortunately it always drains off, because if we get very unhappy we can always run away (=transfer) to the manor of a rival Lord who may be happy to steal a hard-working Serf from his enemy.

There's no change of rising out of the Serf class into the nobility unless you are Knighted, which means getting a doctorate. But, as in medieval times, there is one way for Serfs to rise in society: through the Church, the 4th social class on campus.

The Church is represented by the bureaucracy—the administrators. While the Lords make the money, the Churchpeople handle it and levy tithes, fees and all sorts of tributes from all the other classes in the fiefdom. The Churchpeople are hated by everyone. The Lords blame them for all the roadblocks they encounter on their way to becoming ever-more-powerful rulers;

the Squires must flatter and cajole the Churchpeople to get around campus rules; and the Serfs must petition the Churchpeople for the materials they need in their work. However, the Serfs soon come to a recognition similar to that of the Squires: "You gotta work the system." So some Serfs "join" the Church—i.e., become supervisors and managers, apprentices to the Churchpeople. They may even rise to become the equivalent of medieval bishops or cardinals, and thus achieve enough power to harass their former bosses, the Lords. The nobility, of course, do not enjoy being harassed by their own former Serfs and resist this upward climb. In fact, the Lords, though some of them are known in town as "those pinko campus radicals,"

are the most socially reactionary group on campus.

What's a day like on this fief where the Lords are strutting, the Squires are scrambling, the Churchpeople are monitoring and the Serfs are toiling? Pretty weird, that's what. Here's one Serf's schedule for the day.

8:30 An office Serf (me) arrives at her office. She's supposed to arrive at 8:00 but no Lords are here at that hour and her Serf mentality tells her she's safe to be late. Besides, there are no Churchpeople located in her immediate area.

8:35 The first Squire arrives. He complains to the Serf about the latest requirement his supervising Lord has set up for him and how unreasonable, unnecessary, illogical and just plain shitty the whole business is. Can the Serf

type a paper for him that's due if he pays her next month, he w... She says No, she's broke also, an... makes more as a research aide th... she does, anyway. Squire depart... pished, to approach another (dur... Serf about his paper.

9:00 The Head Lord, Professor Lancelot, arrives on his Gitane b... ringing the bell loudly all the wa... the hall. He greets the Serf chee... dumps on her desk several poun... material he wants Xeroxed by 1... plus an illegibly handwritten 20... paper which must be typed by 5... He tells her that if the Rival Lor... (Professor Marauder, who has an... downstairs) wants him, he's not... ble. Lancelot wants her to find... from a Church person just when





Cartoon by Kate Thompson

pe a paper for him that's due today
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takes more as a research aide than
e does, anyway. Squire departs,
essed, to approach another (dumber)
erf about his paper.
00 The Head Lord, Professor
ancelot, arrives on his Gitane bicycle,
nging the bell loudly all the way down
e hall. He greets the Serf cheerily and
umps on her desk several pounds of
aterial he wants Xeroxed by 10 a.m.,
us an illegibly handwritten 20-page
aper which must be typed by 5 p.m.
e tells her that if the Rival Lord
rofessor Marauder, who has an office
ownstairs) wants him, he's not availa-
e. Lancelot wants her to find out
om a Church person just when the

money from the latest grant will be
available, as he wants to buy some
laboratory equipment to use in his
scientific war with Marauder. The
Serf makes the call and is put on hold
for 10 minutes, then cut off. She
redials, with Serf-ish patience.
9:30 The Lady, Professor Guinevere,
arrives. She has worked on the fief
for 8 years and despairs of ever get-
ting any power for herself, though
she is a legitimate noble with a PhD
and her own grants. Lancelot, her
mentor, does not take her seriously,
treating her more like a professional
consort than a colleague. She is mak-
ing an attempt to desert to another
fief and must tell him that soon, which
makes her nervous. Not having prop-
erly absorbed the male Lords' sense

of social hierarchy, she frequently
consults seriously with the Serf on
this problem, and they discuss it now
with the door closed. The Serf silently
decides she'd rather be a Serf than an
unenfranchised female noble. Then
she decides that's a lousy decision to
have to make.
10:15 Lancelot comes in, closes the
door with an air of conspiracy and
complains for a half-hour about
Marauder's latest treachery. This is
not a consultation but rather a mono-
logue. In the middle of it, the Rival
Lord himself barges in and the two
lords greet one another with excessive
cordiality; ignoring the Serf who types
disgustedly.
10:30 The Old Lord, Professor
Absentmind, whom everyone wishes

would go away on a crusade, because
they need his salary to hire themselves
more minions, arrives and borrows
the Serf's door key because he can't
find his own, as usual. Then he can't
find the letters she typed for him yester-
day. Then he wonders when a
PhD exam is today, and is told it was
the day before yesterday. Absentmind
receives, besides his University salary,
retirement pensions from two separate
governmental agencies, plus numerous
consulting fees. He makes, altogether,
about 9 times what the Serf makes.
She was told when she came to work
here that he was a "charming old
gentleman." She has found the middle
adjective to be true.
11:20 The Assistant Lord, Professor
Gawain, comes into the Serf's office
to check his mail. He does most of
Lancelot's grant work while Lancelot
wars with the Rival Lord. He finds
nothing he's interested in and leaves
it all in the box. Most of it has been
there for 2-3 months, including phone
messages, while he stays in his labora-
tory. Gawain never does anything the
Churchpeople request; he always refers
them to the Serf, who of course has
no authority to do anything, but must
listen to their complaints. Gawain is
a very bright Lord and will some day
inherit the fief.
12:00 The Serf goes to lunch with
another Serf at the Student Center,
among other serfs, Squires and Church-
people of lower levels. The Lords and
higher Churchpeople eat across the
street in the Faculty Center, in noble
splendor.
1:30 The Serf attempts to order some
office supplies and spends 30 minutes
dealing with Churchpersons about the
exact names, descriptions, prices and
necessity of the items. She is visited
by another Squire who tells her of his
desperate love for a female Squire.
Lancelot comes in during this tale and
orders her to come into his office,
where he tells her the results of his
most recent medical examination (he

is a hyper-hypochondriac). After some
time, she reminds him of his paper
which she hasn't finished typing yet.
He sternly tells her she'd better get
busy.
2:10 On returning to her office, she's
met by Professor Absentmind, who
wants her to type up, duplicate and
post on foot, all over the 700-acre
campus a notice for a seminar which
will be held at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.
She stares at him in unbelieving horror.
He looks blankly back at her.
3:30 The Serf's son calls, home from
school, and reminds her to get bread,
milk, toothpaste, cat food and toilet
paper on her way home from the fief.
He would also like her to stop off at
a stereo equipment store and buy him
a sound system that happens to be on
sale for only \$1150. He reads off the
bills she has received that day in the
mail. This takes a long time.
3:50 While she's considering bank-
ruptcy, Professor Gawain comes in to
complain to her about the rising prop-
erty taxes on his \$125,000 palace.
Lancelot joins him and complains that
his palace is almost paid for and thus
he can't take much of a deduction on
his income tax. Besides, both his
Yacht and his Porsche need repair.
They finally notice the Serf quietly
sobbing, and tell her she shouldn't work
so hard, she's looking a bit frazzled.
4:45 The Serf pokes around into vari-
ous offices and discovers the only soul
left on the fief is a friendly Squire, who
tells her to Have a Good Evening. She
wishes him the same and leaves the fief
in his hands. Outside, she discovers
that the Serf who checks car stickers has
ticketed her car because it's parked in
the wrong place (her proper place is 3/4
mile from her office.) She reflects that
the Lords are issued parking places im-
mediately adjacent to their buildings.
This reflection causes her to violently
kick the tires of the car parked next to
her, a Lord's legally-parked Mercedes.
Perhaps a Peasants' Revolt isn't such
a bad idea after all.

Bringing Nagasaki Home

By Norman Solomon

Lyman E. Quigley is challenging assumptions that ushered in the atomic age—with major implications for future radiation standards and nuclear weapons policies.

A third of a century ago, Quigley—then a 23-year-old U.S. Marine stationed in the Pacific—didn't know anything about atomic bombs. But in the past several years, Quigley has become something of an expert on nuclear warfare. He believes he has been one of its victims.

Quigley, 57, is now seeking service-related benefits from the Veterans Administration, contending that his chronic bad health has been due to nuclear radiation exposure during U.S. military cleanup operations in Nagasaki, Japan in the autumn of 1945. Within the past year, about 50 such VA claims have been filed by ex-servicemen and widows, who blame persistent ill health and fatal cancer on Hiroshima and Nagasaki radiation exposure.

Quigley's story is an all-American tale with ironic and disturbing twists.

As a Marine serving in the Pacific for more than two years, Quigley saw combat in battles that became famous: Tarawa, Okinawa, the Mariana Islands.

Stationed in the Marianas for over a year, Quigley worked in a Marines bulldozer crew on an island used as a base for B-29s loaded with explosive bombs, and—twice—atomic weapons.

Like many millions of Americans, Quigley reacted to news about Hiroshima and Nagasaki with relief. "All I was thinking was, the war was over, I'm coming back," Quigley recalls. "We were all happy, we were going home. But it didn't turn out that way. Unfortunately."

Quigley and other Marines in Company C of the Second Pioneer Battalion were sent to Nagasaki, arriving in the city's harbor on September 23, 1945. They were among the first US occupying troops to reach the city.

"We walked into Nagasaki unprepared," Quigley recalls, "and we were shocked as hell at what was there. We had no idea what we were going to see."

US authorities did not issue precautionary guidelines, despite the fact that a plutonium-fueled atomic bomb had exploded over the city six weeks earlier. "We weren't given any instructions whatsoever. All we knew was the war was over, and some kind of bomb had been dropped," Quigley recalls.

The Marines drank city water. Quigley and others with him remember they were not provided with radiation badges or other instruments to monitor for radioactivity exposure. About 150 of the Marines bunkered in and around a partially-destroyed schoolhouse less than a mile and a half from the blast center where the atomic bomb had exploded on August 9.

Quigley was a corporal in charge of a bulldozer crew razing what was left of buildings, cleaning up debris and leveling the ground at the nuclear blast center. Other Marines in the immediate area did guard duty, drove armed forces vehicles and cleared out roads.

"Really, we were ignorant about what the hell the bomb was," Quigley says. "We were—amazed, shocked—and yet stupefied." Among the city's Japanese residents who were still alive, "women's hair was falling out, the men all had their heads shaved, and all of them had running sores on their head, ears, all over."

On November 4, 1945, Corporal Quigley received a Good Conduct Medal, and later that month was sent back to the U.S.

"When I got back, I had burning, itching, running sores on the top of my head and the top of my ears," Quigley recalls. The sores had the same appearance as those he had observed on Nagasaki's residents.

Quigley called his running sores to the attention of a doctor during a routine discharge examination in December, 1945. "They list that in my medical records as a fungus, which is wrong. I know that now." Quigley adds: "I had a warm feeling in my lips. I remember that distinctly."

On December 21, 1945, Quigley received an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps. In the fall of 1946 he settled in Portland, Oregon, where he started

working for the city transit company, operating street cars and buses. That autumn he began suffering acute abdominal attacks.

"I'd wake up and be doubled up in pain at night. It kept getting more and more severe. I got haggard looking, I can't describe it to you. You'd have to go through it to know what it is. Excruciating."

(It was not until three decades later that Quigley learned similar severe, chronic stomach afflictions also began happening in 1946 to Junior Hodge, a Marine who did road clearing work near the blast center in Nagasaki. Both Quigley and Hodge, who returned to his home town of Sparta, Tennessee, did particularly dusty outdoors work while stationed in Nagasaki.)

In December 1951, doctors removed Quigley's appendix. The severe stomach pains, however, have persisted to this day. In recent years Quigley has developed several stomach tumors.

In March 1953, Quigley's lungs hemorrhaged suddenly, bleeding for over a week. A scar formed on a lung. Quigley was 31 at the time.

"The doctors told me they couldn't figure out what was going on," recounts Quigley. "This is when I first got a suspicion."

Quigley vividly remembers a day in the summer of 1953 when he spoke to his doctor about the bulldozer work in the post-bomb rubble of Nagasaki. "The doctor starts to diagram on the blackboard about the atom and the half-life and all this stuff. And all of a sudden he turns to me and says, 'I wish you wouldn't come to see me anymore.'"

In the late 1950s, Quigley developed a painful lump in his head. Surgery removed the tumor, diagnosed as a lipoma. Later, doctors took out "a tumor about the size of a hen egg" from the back of his knee. Pain and weakness in his legs have persisted.

By this time, Quigley was having trouble breathing. He was diagnosed with "chronic obstructive lung disease."

At the age of 43, Quigley suffered a heart attack. Three more have struck since then, the latest one in January.

In recent years his jaw bone has been deteriorating. Poor health forced Quigley to retire from his job as a taxi driver in 1973.

In mid-1975, doctors told Quigley he had a year to live—at most. Later that year, Quigley filed with the Veterans Administration for service-connected benefits based on radiation exposure in Nagasaki. The Portland regional VA held Quigley's initial hearing on August 9, 1977: the 32nd anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki.

"I got a will power to live," he said a few weeks ago, sitting in the kitchen of his Portland home, the table next to him heaped with official-looking correspondence. "I ain't giving up yet. I'm not ready."

Along with intensively reading about nuclear radiation during the past several years, Quigley has also been busy trying to track down Marine buddies who served with him in Nagasaki. The first one he was able to find out about was Floyd E. Crews, who also worked on the bulldozers at Nagasaki's "ground zero." Crews died on October 8, 1972 at the VA hospital in Portland.

Quigley said Crews' mother described her son's ailments as including severe stomach, intestinal and liver disorders, as well as serious difficulties breathing. He reportedly lost use of his feet and legs, becoming disabled four years before his death at the age of about 50. Quigley has lost touch with Crews' mother, and the VA has refused requests for access to Crews' medical records.

Quigley subsequently reached four ex-Marines who also bunkered within the Nagasaki blast center area. They now live in Illinois, Tennessee, Ohio and Pennsylvania. "We were in the middle of where the damn thing hit," said John G. Zotter, 54, speaking from his home in Pittsburgh. "I don't feel that they should have sent us in there, to tell you the truth. I don't think they would do that now, knowing what they know."

Those four ex-Marines have experienced unusually high incidences of chronic abdominal pains, blood dis-

orders, testicle damage and vulnerability to other chronic afflictions. None have filed VA claims.

But in the past year about 50 VA claims for service-related benefits have been filed, alleging that radiation from the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki has caused the veterans a multitude of blood disorders and other radiation-linked diseases. The bulk of those claims were filed on behalf of veterans stationed at the atomic blast centers in autumn 1945, while a few contend that airborne fallout caused fatal illnesses for U.S. soldiers stationed in nearby ships or in Okinawa.

Examination of case history files on 29 VA claims based on Hiroshima or Nagasaki radiation exposure revealed seven cases of leukemia, and several instances of other severe blood disorders including bone marrow hypoplasia. The VA has refused to grant any of the Hiroshima/Nagasaki claims.

The U.S. government has always contended that radioactivity diminished to harmless levels within a few weeks of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

But Quigley cites recent research findings that radiation levels traditionally viewed as insignificant (and presently allowed under government radiation safety standards) actually increase susceptibility to cancer and other serious diseases. And he points to evidence—such as the 13-million-person Tri-state Leukemia Survey—indicating that radiation exposure has the effect of accelerating the aging process, causing chronic diseases to set in at earlier ages.

As Quigley studied the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and emerging effects of low-level radiation, the official responses he was getting from government agencies seemed increasingly suspect.

Typical of the governmental responses was a letter written two years ago by Dr. Hohn D. Chase, then chief medical director of the Veterans Administration, reiterating a U.S. position which has remained constant since late summer or 1945: "Navy records indicate that ships did not approach Nagasaki until so long after the atomic blast that any residual radiation which might have existed would have been negligible."

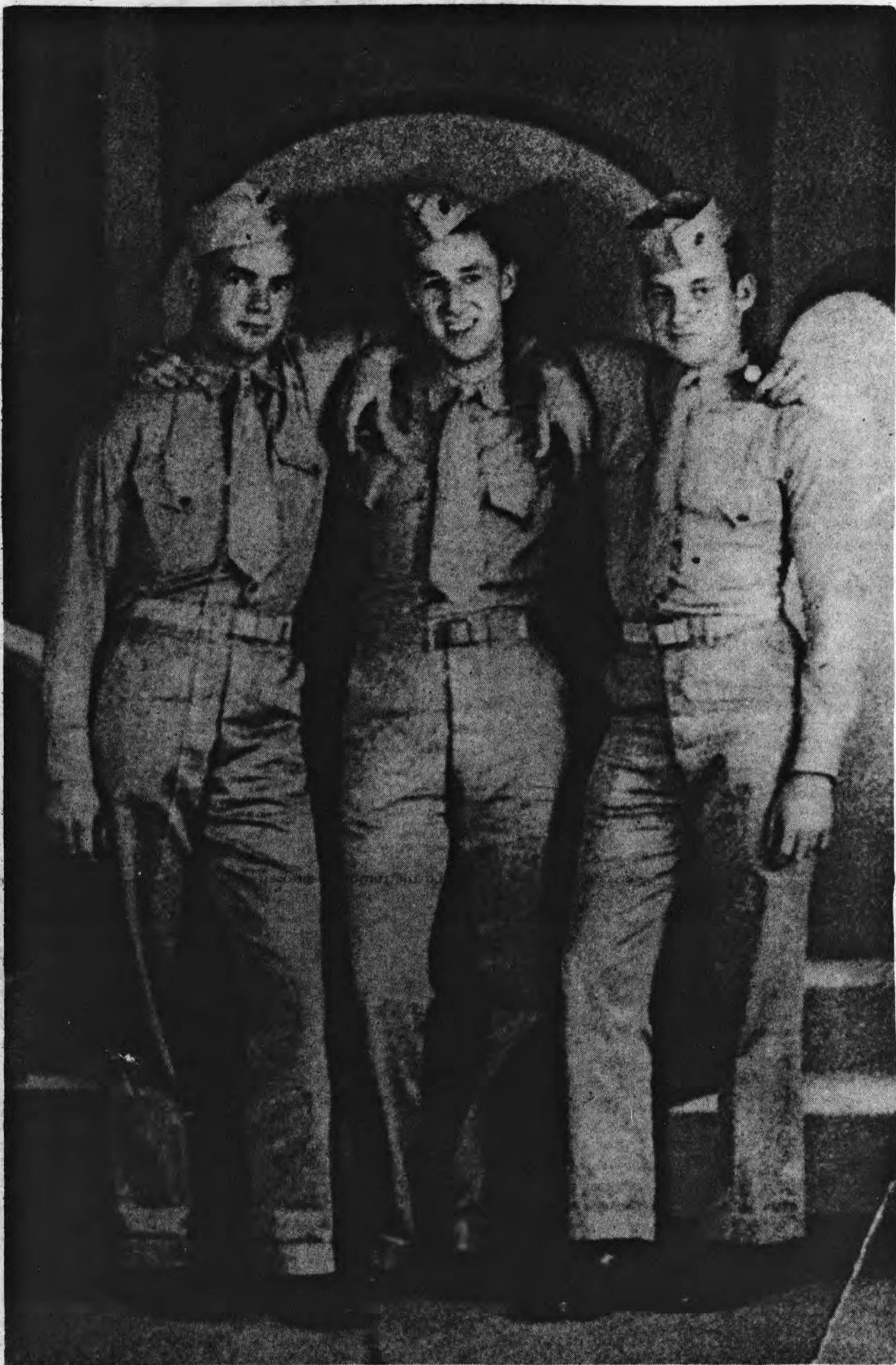
The implications of Quigley's often-lonely struggle could be far-reaching. "What this might suggest is that even people who moved quickly in and out of the blast area may have developed cancer and other diseases as a result," said Richard Pollock, director of the Critical Mass Energy Project based in Washington, D.C. "That could potentially spell the demise of the basic standards upon which our nuclear weapons and nuclear energy programs are predicated."

Pollock added: "It is symptomatic of a scientific and military elite that they hear no evil, speak no evil and see no evil. Unfortunately the evil they've created through the radiation programs they've created is assuredly in evidence."

Questions about long-term effects of low-level radiation—which the U.S. government sought to put to rest in the closing months of 1945—are now re-emerging more strongly than ever. "Recent studies suggest that low-dose radiation exposure may be more harmful than high-dose," explains Dr. Karen Steingart, a Portland physician reviewing the latest radiation research findings. "In light of this evidence we must ask the question—Is there an association between the tragic ill health of these Marines' lives and their stay in Nagasaki?"

That question has never been explored by the government in any systematic way, and as the news broke about Quigley's case and the existence of at least 50 other such VA claims, there were rumblings on Capitol Hill. Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.) said there may be reason for her and other members of the House Armed Services Committee to launch a Congressional inquiry into the cases of veterans who were stationed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Lyman Quigley sees his experiences as part of something larger than personal suffering. "The evidence is overwhelming," he insists, "that we of Company C, Second Pioneer Battalion, Second Marine Division,



Left to right: Marines Lyman E. Quigley, John Zotter and a friend, during World War II

have pioneered the long-term effects of so-called low radiation, which this great nation can ill afford to ignore nor tolerate any longer."

Recounting his 32 years of extreme physical pain, Quigley comments: "One does not say these things lightly, nor does one lightly accept them."

Quigley's wife of 31 years, Bernice, has been working in hospitals since the early 1970s, because of economic necessity. She is presently supervisor of house-keeping for an Oregon state hospital. The Quigleys have two children.

"I see the suffering that he's gone through," says Mrs. Quigley. "It's been hard on all of us, and especially hard on my husband." She adds: "We've gotten so we live day to day—we don't have long-range perspectives on things. It's probably made us closer."

The years of missed work and doctor bills have made for financial hardships. Medical expenses have exceeded insurance coverage by many thousands of dollars.

"We borrowed on the house, borrowed money on the car, borrowed money on the insurance policies we had," Quigley recalls.

"Kind of by the grace of God we've made it," says Mrs. Quigley.

Presently, Quigley receives about \$300 per month from Social Security for disability. A Teamsters Union pension provides \$140 a month.

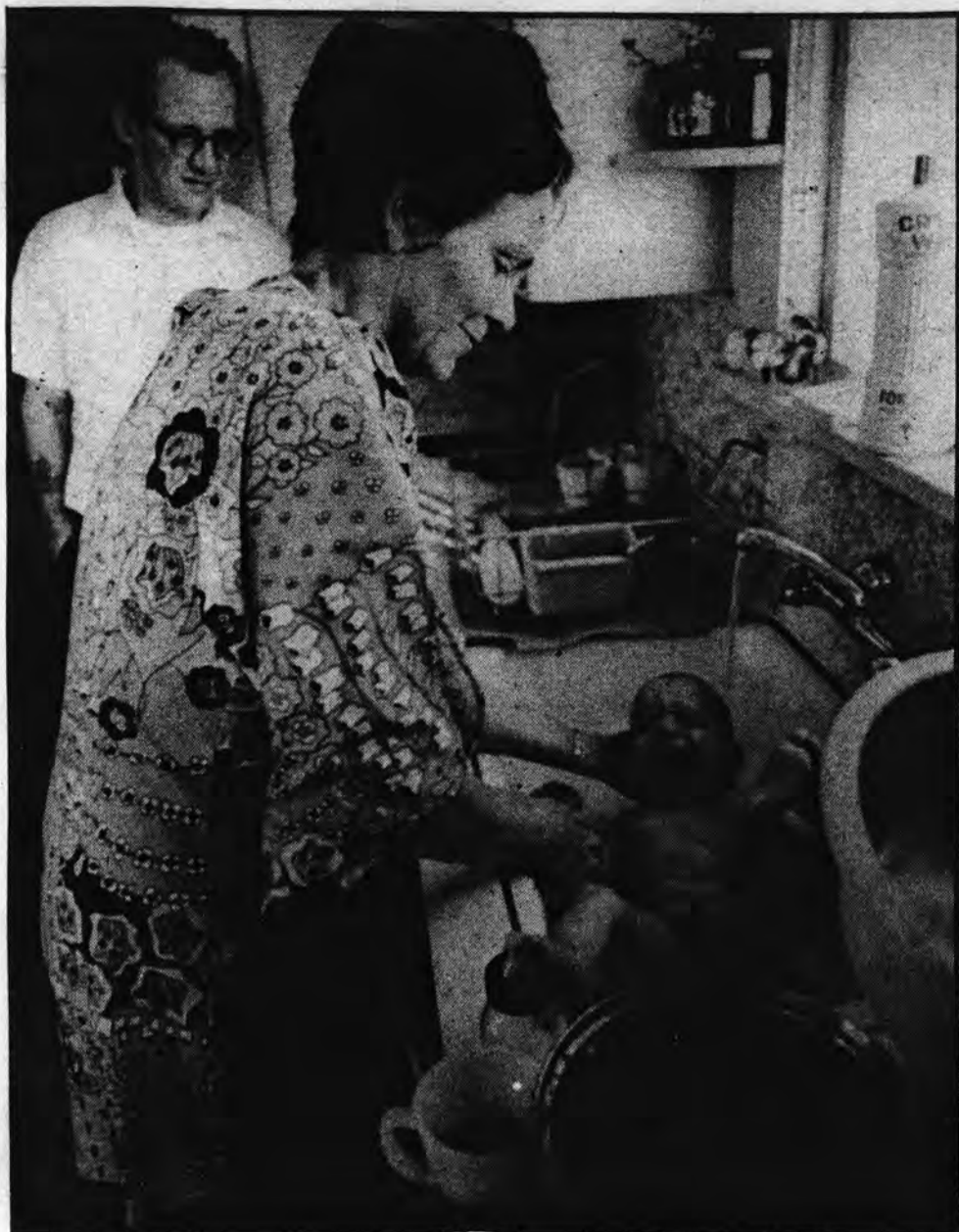
If Quigley is successful in gaining service-connected VA benefits based on 100 percent disability, he would receive about \$10,300 annually, according to Portland regional veterans service officer William H. Cade.

"It's an important case," says Portland attorney Ruth Gundle, who is representing Quigley in the VA appeals process on a no-fee basis, "because it raises questions concerning the degree of responsibility the government is willing to accept for the damaging consequences to those ex-GIs' health from low-level radiation."

Turned down by the Portland regional VA office, Quigley is in the process of appealing to the national Board of Veterans Appeals. If his health permits, he intends to travel to Washington, D.C., to testify at the hearing.

Lyman Quigley has felt an intimate relationship with the development of the atomic age: Now, more than seeking financial compensation or official acknowledgement of past wrongs, he is attempting to help shape a future recognizing the biological perils of atomic radiation. "Why do so many people have to suffer, finding out? Unnecessarily, I think. There's got to be a better way. And God help us if we don't find it."

Norman Solomon asks that any readers with information about the U.S. occupation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the soldiers involved, contact him at: P.O. Box 42384, Portland, Oregon 97242.



TENANT SQUEEZE

Young and Old Stuck in the Middle

By Sara Singleton

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As anyone who's house-hunted recently is well aware, there's a severe housing shortage. With vacancy rates at less than 1%, landlords are holding all the cards and can afford to pick and choose among countless prospective tenants. The "chosen few" rarely include the elderly or families with children.

I discovered this last fall when I decided that the small rural community in which I was living couldn't provide myself or my children with the things we needed (not the least of which was a job). So in early September I came to Seattle and began calling on the classified ads.

"Hello, I'm calling about the apartment you have for rent, could you tell me something about it?"

"Well, it's a spacious two-bedroom apartment on a quiet street and it rents for \$180."

"Do you take children?"

"Er, well, no, the place really isn't suitable for children."

It had sounded pretty "suitable" to me, and anyway, who was this guy to be telling me what was "suitable"?

"What do you mean it's not suitable?"

"Well, there's no playground equipment."

"But I'm not interested in playground equipment."

Finally, it would become clear that it just wasn't "policy" to rent to people with children. Often I spoke with managers who were basically sympathetic but who had little authority.

One woman showed me a poorly-constructed, depressing apartment with two postage-stamp-sized bedrooms and offered to knock \$5 off the rent (bringing it down to a mere \$275), because she "knows how hard it is for women who are raising children alone." I didn't appreciate either her "kindness" or her cracker-box apartment. She had asked if I was on welfare and it was obvious from the high percentage of single women with children who were living there that this landlord was "cashing in" on the short supply of housing available to families by offering substandard housing at inflated prices. Many are forced to accept.

Another landlord sounded quite interested until he discovered that I had two children. He then explained that he never rented this unit to families because it was on a busy corner and he didn't want them getting hurt while playing on the streets. I was tempted to say it was better than sleeping in them, which had begun to seem like a possibility.

Needless to say, I was getting panicky. My days were consumed by the classified section, the telephone and by simply walking around looking for empty apartments. My nerves began to fray and I started to feel

as if there was something "wrong" with me because I had children. Even dogs were looked upon more favorably by landlords.

It was my first real experience as a target of discrimination and I was angry and frustrated because there didn't seem to be anywhere to go. Public officials were sympathetic but told me that there was nothing illegal about a landlord prohibiting children from his building, therefore there was nothing that they could do.

I, of course, wasn't the only one having these sorts of problems. As I later found out, a survey done by a real-estate marketing analyst revealed that although 25% of Seattle households have children, only 8% of Snohomish and King county landlords will rent to them. Some of these families own their own homes but most can't afford to. Clearly there are large numbers of families who can't find housing.

Gabe Immordino, his wife, Terry Conti and their two-year-old son were one of these families. They were attracted by Seattle's "liveability"; so much so that for six weeks they spent their weekends driving up from Tacoma, unsuccessfully house-hunting for 6-8 hours, and then driving home again. They checked out more than 200 listings and finally resorted to stopping people with children on the street and asking them where they were living and if there were any vacancies. It was an "upsetting" experience, says Gabe Immordino, "It temporarily interfered with my relationship with my son. I began to almost resent him." Eventually Gabe and Terry found a place to live but the memories of the discrimination they felt they had been subjected to rankled. Other families they met reported similar experiences and agreed that something had to be done.

Late last fall they formed the Committee for Fairness and Equality in Housing. The group wrote letters to the Mayor and members of the City Council and circulated petitions in an effort to gather support for an amendment to the Open Housing Code that would include parental status as well as race, creed, sexual preference, etc.

In early December the Committee attended a housing convention sponsored by the Displacement Coalition, a group of tenants' advocacy groups. There they joined forces with the Gray Panthers, a group who some might consider an unlikely source of support since they might be expected to have many of the most commonly-voiced objections to admitting children to buildings: children are noisy, destructive, or, "I've already raised mine, I don't want to be bothered with someone else's." But elderly people are also the victims of discrimination although often it is less blatant

and more difficult to substantiate.

Evergreen Legal Services, a group who has been working closely with the Gray Panthers on this issue, cites many cases in which an elderly tenant has been evicted because his/her landlord felt he/she was "peculiar" or simply "too old" and should be institutionalized. One couple in their 90's, frail but mobile, was evicted after 20 days notice. The only reason given by the landlord was that the man would play the piano in the recreation room and "he wasn't very good." An 83-year-old woman with no health problems was evicted for no stated reason. A handicapped man in his early 60's was also evicted. Through utilization of such federal programs as meals-on-wheels and homemaker services, this man had been able to be self-sufficient. These programs are designed to help the handicapped and/or elderly to remain in their homes rather than being institutionalized. To many elderly people being uprooted from their surroundings and friends and being placed in an institution is catastrophic, tantamount to a loss of life. Once in an institution their mental and physical health tends to deteriorate rapidly.

The two groups saw the parallels in their respective situations and decided to seek an amendment that would block both forms of discrimination. The Displacement Coalition gave the issue high priority and has been active in its support of the proposed amendment.

The upshot of their combined efforts was an announcement last week by the Mayor and City Councilman Michael Hildt to the effect that they will seek to have the Open Housing Code amended to include non-discrimination on the basis of parental status or age. A public hearing will follow and a vote is expected sometime in April. Many community councils, day-care centers and churches have endorsed the amendment but reaction from the Apartment Owners and Managers Association has been hot and heavy and according to a special aide to Hildt, Paul Mitchell, it's going to be a controversial issue.

Mitchell said that, if passed, the amendment would transfer some of the decisions traditionally made by landlords to tenants. Some landlords are making "value judgements", he continued: to some, the only suitable dwelling for a family with children is "a house with a lawn and a white picket fence."

The President of the Apartment Owners and Operators Association, Donald Haas, has expressed a view very similar to this in a statement to the press (P-1, March 9). As Haas puts it, "Most apartments in the city are designed for singles and couples . . . families with children find more suitable facilities in the suburbs."

But Haas says that his own survey showed that 70% of landlords will rent to families with children. He dismisses the 8-10% figure used by Hildt and other proponents of the amendment as, "incorrect, simply propaganda."

Haas said that if children were to move into a building, other tenants will move out. In San Francisco, when a similar amendment was enacted in 1975, this was not the case. Haas claims that this is because of the "tight" housing situation in San Francisco. When asked how he would characterize Seattle's housing market he replied that it is "not a great serious problem" and that attempts to portray it as otherwise are "propaganda".

Haas also denies age discrimination and asserts that "some of our older people are our best tenants". He added, though, that "some want us to act as nursing homes," and that "eventually a lot of old people have to be institutionalized. Let's face it, we all have to go sometime."

Not all landlords feel as Haas does, some that I spoke with were sympathetic to families with children and supported the proposed amendment. But to allow such a basic necessity as housing to rest on the individual morality (or lack of it) and "value judgements" of landlord is farcical. Many of us don't want to be banished to the suburbs or prematurely placed in institutions. Even if passed, the amendment won't guarantee an end to housing discrimination. In a housing market such as Seattle's, where tenants far outnumber desirable rentals, it would be relatively easy for a landlord to circumvent the law, and housing discrimination cases are hard to prove. But it is a step in the right direction and to the elderly and families, the question of whether Seattle is the most "liveable" or "leaveable" will depend on the outcome of this amendment.

The public hearing is April 4 at 4:30, in the Council chambers, in the Municipal Bldg. at 4th and James. Anyone interested in volunteering support should contact: Gabe Immordino/Terry Conti at 522-0863 (after 6 p.m.), Sharon Feigon at 329-3644, the Seattle Tenants Union, or Barbara Wechsler at 464-5921.

Giving Notice

I have one Voodoo doll named White & Hotwater, and nightly I stick pins in, mumbling sotto voce, the clauses of my lease. I have evicted them, the landlords, and I am giving notice. Their apartments

will collapse in rubble, during a time of general strike. Their mortgage will come due, immediately, on a banker's whim. The wind will stop, then gust furiously. The Moon will

darken, and Allen F. White will stand in his own backyard, reading his letterhead and business card in the dark, at night, at midnight. It will be cold. In an empty room, they will pack boxes until

their hands turn clawed and rubbery. I will turn the heat off, and call the Bellevue police, claiming that they are vagrants and nuisances on his property. I will have their family pets executed by the Humane Society, after giving proper notice. Let them

wake out of a dream, to find themselves collectively wrapped in newspapers, ready for packing, marked fragile. Let them break in moving.

Three Hotwater will proclaim his laid-back liberalism into his eyes are red, and his blood runs out between his teeth, snarling his speech on due process, shouting on the first amendment rights. His pants are wet with good intentions. But I will place them both on a shelf with all due respect, in a rented room somewhere, slow at \$25.00 a month, with cooking privileges. The bathroom's down the hall.

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Squatting on Capitol Hill

By Barbara Wilson

"We do not question that the prosecutor will show that some of us were on the property. We will challenge her questioning of our right to be there, and assert that 'trespass' is not the point at all. The point is: There exist eight rundown but sound houses, sitting empty in the face of a housing shortage the likes of which Seattle has never before experienced—a housing crunch that, according to a United Way survey, made it impossible for 5,900 people to find even emergency housing last year."

With these words, Guila Howard defended her right and the right of the others arrested with her, to "homestead" an abandoned house last September. She and four others, Paul Finley, Michael Seraphinoff, Paul Zisel and Robert McQuarrie were on trial again, this time in the Superior Court of Judge Norman Ackery before a jury of twelve.

Seven people were arrested on September 6, 1978 on charges of trespassing in one of the boarded-up houses on 15th Ave. on Capital Hill. The subject of much local controversy, the eight houses had been unused for almost six years while the city tried to reach a decision on whether the owners could tear them down and build a fifty-unit apartment. Although the area is zoned for apartments, neighbors and the Capital Hill Community Council fought the zoning, claiming

that the quality of the neighborhood would be shattered if such an apartment building were to be built. The matter remains now with the city, pending an Environmental Impact Statement.

Meanwhile, the houses remained empty. Using the slogan "Houses Are Made To Live In," a group of people opened up one house and began repairs. They invited others to take over the other houses. They were peacefully arrested on the second day of occupancy while members of the Seattle Tenants' Union and other supporters formed a picket line outside on the sidewalk.

On Nov. 9th seven of them were found guilty in the courtroom of Judge Barbara Yanick. Although several people from various public agencies were prepared to testify in their support, Judge Yanick disallowed any testimony other than that of the house owners and police.

Charges against two people were dropped; the remaining five filed an appeal. Their second trial took place March 12. They were again found guilty, but not before they had a chance to make their statements and call their own witnesses to the stands.

One of their witnesses was Judy Greybill, formerly of Youth Advocates and now with Emergency Housing Services. Greybill painted a bleak picture of housing in Seattle. "Most major urban centers have an 85% occupancy rate," she said. "Seattle has

a 99% occupancy rate." A survey that her agency did in April 1978 showed that Seattle had virtually no low-income or moderate income housing available. Greybill described a "Grapes of Wrath situation" with "people arriving in Seattle bringing everything they have with them." Her agency turns away 150 to 200 people a week. She doesn't know where they go, she said. Some sleep in cars, others go back to where they came from.

Ellen Punyon of the Seattle Tenants' Union was another witness, as was Marie Crocker of Country Doctor who testified regarding what happens to people physically when they have nowhere to live. The defendants, most of whom acted as their own lawyers, also cross-examined two people who had been arrested and then had the charges dropped. Wendy Curtis said that after she was arrested and released, she went back and lived in the house on 15th for another two weeks. She testified that during that time she saw other people living in the houses, but she did not see Mr. Henderson, one of the owners or his attorney, both of whom had previously testified that no one was allowed to live in the houses. Her opinion was that they didn't really care, as long as there was no publicity.

Although the five were found guilty, Judge Ackery was more lenient in his sentence: \$100 fine or community service. The guilty homesteaders all plan to do the latter.

(Letters continued)

Bobby Clark, President of Lifers With Hope club; Oso Grego, Vice President of the Chicano Cultural Center; Al Gilcrest, Lifers' Business Manager; Kenny Fraiser; Bob Harstead; Gary Nobel; and Kenny Burnhart. These men were involuntarily transferred out-of-state because of their influence as leaders. The administration called them a "negative influence" because they would not passively submit to the increased level of repression being imposed by their captors. Prison officials have told prisoners that more transfers will follow, naming Ed Mead, Mark La Rue, Danny Atteberry and Auther St. Peter—the first three of which are political prisoners.

Washington's prison system, like that of most states, is in crisis. As the contradictions of an inhuman prison system unfold the administrators desperately seek scapegoats and try to implement stopgap measures. As Malcolm X put it, "the chickens are coming home to roost." The governor's approach to the problem is to shuffle administrators. Her third warden in two years, Spaulding, takes the approach of shuffling prisoners. Bull shit! We want the transferred prisoners immediately returned and a stop to future transfers. Letters should be written to Gov. Dixy Lee Ray demanding the return of any transferred prisoner who wants to return.

Walla Walla Brothers

Mark Cook: 'Presumed Authority'

Dear NWP:

I'm presently in the hole within the hole here at U.S. Prison #132 for receiving radical literature through the mail—50 days loss of good-time and/or indefinite in disciplinary segregation (hole within the hole).

Don't panic! I'm still getting the NWP—the pigs probably don't see it as being radical (nothing personal).

Having read your Feb. 5-25 issue completely and then some, as general reading matter isn't allowed in d.s., I'd like to add my opinion to two articles, Sea Police and The Rideout Case. The articles were well written and easy to read (which I can't say for the Jamaica article—very hard to follow). But to my

Sea-First Unions Still Without Contract

Women now represent 43% of the Seattle area work force: nearly 70% of these 300,000 hold sales, service or clerical jobs, and 120,000 of them are secretaries, bank tellers or bookkeepers. The average working woman in Seattle earns only 54 cents for every dollar a man earns [this information taken from a release from Seattle Working Women]. Most clerical workers are not unionized.

The Financial Institution Employees Association represents workers at Sea-First, 85% of whom are women. With a membership of about 2,500 it is the only bank union in Seattle and the largest in America. The FIEA has been without a contract since June 1977 when they refused a "final offer" from Sea-First which cut out existing union participation in grievance procedures and the right to organize at the work place. The turnover rate at Sea-First is about 30% a year. Harassed when attempting to organize and without a grievance procedure to protect them, the union was cut off from its membership. The FIEA affiliated with the larger, national Retail Clerks of America to help cover court costs. Together, they have coordinated with big re-

gional unions who have pledged to withdraw their funds if Sea-First refuses to negotiate. Union pension funds amount to billions of dollars nationally and comprise about 20% of all banking assets. The FIEA has already mobilized about \$2.5 billion or half of Sea-First's deposits. The tactic of using union money as a tool against the finance empire has been used effectively against Manufacturers Hanover and New York Life Insurance by the J.P. Stevens campaign, who cowed both institutions into dropping Stevens from their boards.

The exportation of industries and jobs to the South and overseas to exploit cheap, non-unionized and often female labor, is weakening the strength of once powerful American unions. The pressure on financial institutions, which are closely allied with individual corporations could be labor's most effective response.

The FIEA has taken the case to the National Labor Relations Board, and it looks like management will be prepared to resume negotiations, if the court rules against it, before provoking labor to withdraw. But negotiations are just a beginning.

—NWP Staff

my point and opinion on the Rape and Police Brut' stories. White and male supremacy have perverse privilege; that are interwoven into the U.S. culture as morally acceptable. The privilege is "presumed authority". Rape in or out of the family and police brutality are manifestations of this. To presume authority over anyone by use of force and/or violence is assault or murder! Folks must stop tangling up their minds with moral questions of "rape", "woman beating", "man beating" or "child-beating". The issue is assault or murder—no one must be allowed to presume authority by use of force over another person unless in self-defense and community defense.

I strongly support all efforts to stop rape and police brutality but I feel the accusations should be addressed specifically against "assault" or "murder"

rather than the easily manipulative terms of "rape" and "police brutality".

For a better future,

Yours in struggle,

Mark Cook

U.S. Prison, Leavenworth

The Reasons for Prisons

Dear Editor:

What are the reasons for prisons? Well, this depends on the point of view of the person speaking, reasons such as, to rehabilitate the criminal, to deter a person from committing more crimes, to protect society, finally just to punish.

Contrary to popular belief, prisons do not cut down on crimes committed. With a recidivism rate about 86 percent our prisons seem to maintain crime rather than cure it.

Prisons are a business, an industry that keeps hundreds of people employed, so by looking at it in this light it would seem the recidivism rate of 86 percent is a success rather than a failure. More prisoners equals more Prisons, therefore more Prison Employees!

The Prison System the way it is now does not even try to cope with the crime problem.

It is said, there is capable staff working in the Prison System to help us rehabilitate (this is a word that is used with great frequency and I'll go into what it means, and what it actually is later). And to find a staff with even a positive attitude is almost impossible! Nearly all the programs which would alleviate the pressure or lighten the Prisons' Population is looked upon negatively by the Prison Hierarchy. Their attitude is, nothing has ever been accomplished, therefore nothing can ever be done.

One of the favorite words used by the Proponents of the Prison System is rehabilitation. First, let's look at the dictionary meaning of the word: To restore to good repute; to re-establish a good name; to help make one capable; to return to a former state.

With Prisons run the way they are, there is no way they can rehabilitate. Your record follows and effects everything you do, so therefore you cannot restore your good name or reputation, and certainly there is no training available to help one adjust to the outside world.

Apparently, one would think our prisons are complete failures, as far as being able to rehabilitate but there is one aspect of it that is a complete success. Prisons do restore you to a former lifestyle after all how many of us on release are not going back to a former lifestyle. So from this point of view, it is not a complete failure.

Another popular excuse for prisons, that they deter a person from committing more crimes, this is a complete fallacy. A person entering prison for theft is likely to leave with a degree in armed robbery. Prisons are a college in crime!

As long as the public and the judiciary continue to have the apathetic attitude they do, prisons will continue to be a dead end road. Prisons are only a means to an end, a way to save the public's conscience, perhaps making them feel they are saving us from ourselves.

Washington has the highest recidivism rate in the United States. Thanks to the self-styled and self-proclaimed Penologists, Psychologists, Sociologists, Opportunists, Gullible Public, Sensationalists, and Public Media whose favorite tactic is to give a one-sided version of every event that would be and could be derogatory to the inmates of W.S.P.

Yours truly,

Frankie Noheart,

#249936, 2-E-6/Editor, Voice of Prison and Four Winds/PO Box 520/Walla Walla, WA 99362

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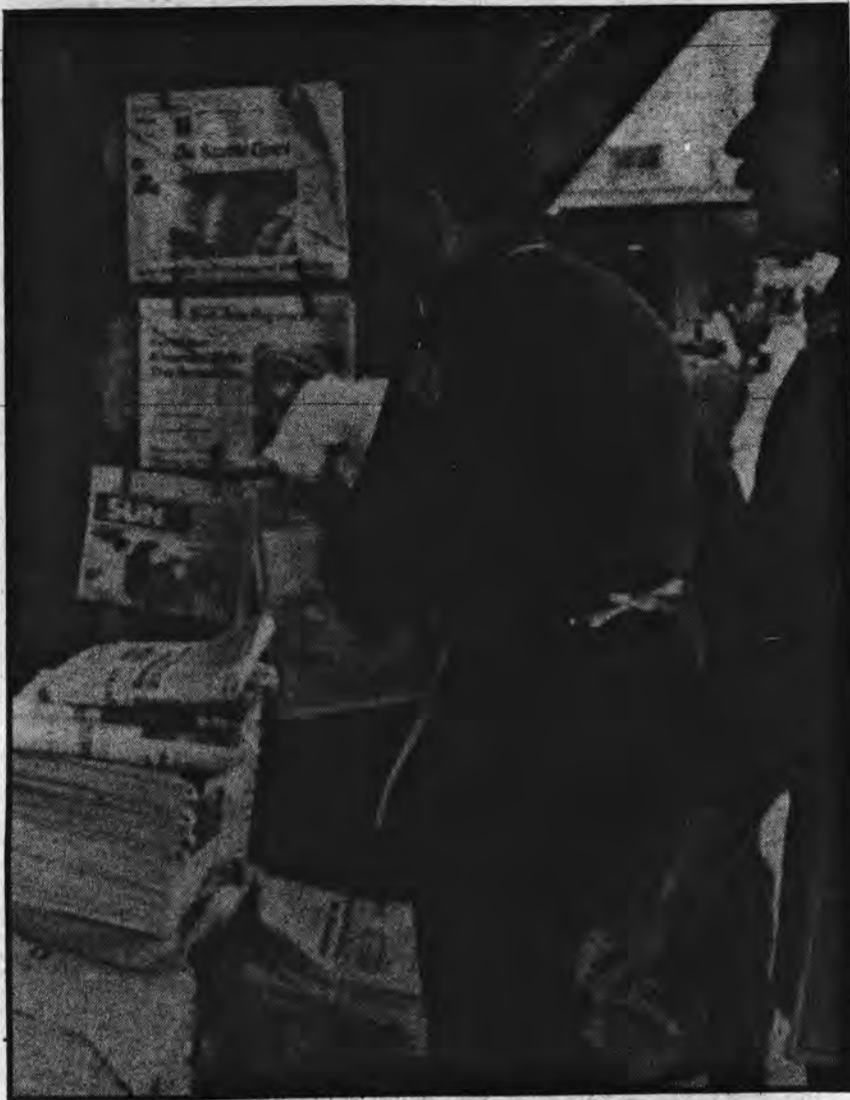
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Chris Nogaki/NWP

Unionism or Hearst

By Will Hatch

Slim Lynch was fired from the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* in 1936 for "incompetence". But Lynch, an officer in the newborn Seattle chapter of the American Newspaper Guild, knew better. He was fired for organizing a union—white collar no less—under the withering eye of Publisher William Randolph Hearst.

Looking for justice, Lynch blundered into the office of the Metal Trades Council (the firebrands who launched the Seattle General Strike of 1919). Lynch knew little about labor politics. All he had was a romantic fantasy about peace and brotherhood in the "realm of the Mystic Knights of the Sea." It didn't take long for Lynch to become disillusioned or for the Guild to be swept up in the rough-and-tumble civil war of organized labor. In entering one war, they started another. This one, directed at Hearst's newspaper chain, began with the 1936 Seattle P-I strike.

Roger A. Simpson was a student in William E. Ames' journalism history class when they realized that this "was not just another strike". What began as an oral history project twenty years ago has resulted in the well-researched *Unionism or Hearst*. Rejected by the University of Washington Press because of "unfairness" to Hearst, the two UW professors' book was published by the Northwest Labor History Association as the first in a series this winter.

The American Newspaper Guild wasn't ready to take on Hearst in 1936. Hearst was too big, the Guild too weak. As Terry Pettus, one of the organizers of the Seattle local, remembers it: "We never dreamed it could happen. It looked like another Milwaukee [the blood-letting *Wisconsin News* strike]. If we had lost this strike, we would have joined the eight other white-collar unions that came and went before World War II."

Until *Unionism or Hearst*, it's been an all-but-forgotten landmark strike. Overshadowed by longer and bloodier strikes such as the 1938 strike at Hearst's

two Chicago papers, the P-I strikers were the first to win recognition for the Guild and paved the way for the Guild at Hearst's papers in San Francisco and New York.

The almost total collapse of the US economy during the 1930s created widespread disillusionment with capitalism. Spurred on by FDR's New Deal legislation, trade unions were spreading rapidly. Seattle had earned a reputation as a hotbed of militant unionism. Even white-collar workers were realizing they had more in common with the rest of labor than they did with management.

Hearst ran the P-I newsroom like a sweatshop. Without a union contract, the writers were victims of paycuts and firings without warning. Replacing better-paid veterans with rookies who would work for next to nothing was common practice. Hearst's media empire was close to bankruptcy by the time of the P-I strike. Paranoia escalated when Bart Guild, Hearst's hatchetman from the *Los Angeles Examiner*, tried squeezing more profits from the sick newspaper. As Terry Pettus recalls, "when the iron ball was swinging, you didn't take your hat off until you looked to see if the pink slip was on your desk."

While the Guild organized secretly under the euphemism of the Mutual Benefit Uplift Society, Hearst did his best to kill the movement with loyalty pledges, "fink units", and "yellow dog" (individual) contracts. When the Guild's newsletter came out with an attack on Hearst, he counterattacked by firing Lynch. And Lynch went to the AFL.

These were critical times. On the West Coast, the radical CIO, represented by Harry Bridges' Longshoremen, had broken with the AF of L, dominated in Seattle by Dave Beck's Teamsters. The radicals gave their support to the Guild. The Teamsters wanted the Guild to complete their control of the newspaper workers. The conservative Central Labor Council run by the Teamsters voted to place the P-I on its unfair

list. The bewildered journalists—fearful of being martyred, blacklisted, and labeled as communists—found themselves on strike.

When the thirty-five Guildsmen gathered on the corner of 6th and Pine, they were not alone. Hundreds of longshoremen, teamsters, and citizens sporting "I Don't Read Hearst" buttons overwhelmed the pickets. Outnumbered, Hearst's "Angels", strikebreakers imported from California, stood apprehensively by. Not since the General Strike had Seattle witnessed such a spectacular show of labor solidarity. For 3½ months, the P-I did not print a single issue.

In the Alley Oop Ballroom of the Red Mill Tavern the Guildsmen celebrated the act of going on strike as a victory. They put themselves to work doing what they knew best—putting out the *Daily Guild*, a sensational sheet that would have made Hearst proud had he not been the subject of their attacks.

To break the strike Hearst followed the "scientific" methods of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM). Radio scripts exploited the theme of a shadowy communist conspiracy that included Beck, FDR, and all of labor. Right to work propaganda was disguised as a defense of the First Amendment and the Free Press. Under Hearst's guidance the industrialist Kirk Hillman organized the Law and Order League at the Rainier Club. It was rumored that they were building up an armed force of vigilantes.

Recognition became the Guild's chief goal when they realized Hearst wanted unconditional surrender. Hearst bluffed and stalled, refusing to negotiate. He was gambling on the result of the Presidential election and went on a media blitz in support of Republican nominee Alf Landon.

When FDR won a resounding victory in November, Hearst gave in. But the reinstatement of Lynch had to wait until the U. S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the National Labor Relations Board.

The next year, at its Constitutional Convention, the Guild adopted the philosophy of "industrial unionism" and switched affiliation to the CIO. This precipitated the 1937 *Seattle Star* strike. The Teamster boss made a sweetheart deal with the *Star* and raided the circulation managers' jobs. The strike eventually destroyed the paper. Following the strike, said Pettus, the Newspaper Publishers' Association's blacklist made sure that "none of the guys organizing in the early days got back into the industry once they lost their jobs."

Although victory at the P-I led to recognition of the Guild at other papers, Ames and Simpson describe it as a "hollow victory". In Seattle, the Guild didn't grow but split into factions with the right-wing taking control. Left-wing members came under attack during Washington state's un-American activities hearings in 1948.

Dave Beck ran the strike from back rooms but it was a personal victory not the strike that made Beck the real winner. Beck's successful libel suit silenced the opposition of both the *Seattle Times* and the P-I to him and helped to assure Beck of dominance over the Seattle labor scene. His power went unchallenged until the 1957 McClellan hearings charged Beck with racketeering. As described by Ames and Simpson, the strike becomes more significant as an episode in Beck's biography than a chapter in the American Newspaper Guild's history.

Menaced by Hearst's economic terrorism, educated by labor's "beef squads" on the picket line, and disillusioned by the AFL Executive Council's treachery, the Guild got radicalized. But Ames and Simpson upstage the strikers. They make a good case for the influence of larger historical forces—the national power struggle between the AFL and the CIO, the Presidential election, and Dave Beck's rise to dominance. The P-I strikers end up appearing as actors in somebody else's play.

The struggle between capital and labor today is played out with the same cast of characters. Only the names have changed. Capital is more concentrated, their methods more sophisticated, and the odds on labor worse. Media conglomerates like Gannett and Knight-Ridder (that would dwarf Hearst in his heyday) gobble up the last of the independent dailies. Automation threatens to make craft workers obsolete. Electronic technology may make newspapers themselves a thing of the past. Guild busting goes on at Madison, Wis. and Pontiac, Mich. NAM's Council on a Union Free Environment and the National Right to Work committee sharply cut back on organizing successes while decertification elections increase alarmingly.

Ames and Simpson don't oversimplify the complexity of history. This is no melodrama of villains and heroes. What should be emphasized, however, is the courage of workers to fight against overwhelming odds. It was the militant workers who took the risks and made sacrifices while their corrupt leaders cut up the territory. They won in spite of some of the larger historical forces.

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The Deer Hunter

MOVIE



Michael and Steven as prisoners of war in *The Deer Hunter*

The Way It Wasn't

By Doug Honig

In junior high Civics of the early Sixties, we used to talk of Red China as the ultimate threat to world peace. With so many people, what had China's leaders to fear from a nuclear conflict? The Chinese might even welcome a holocaust, some of us reasoned, as a means of population control.

In the mid-Sixties the Vietnamese acquired the mantle of the Yellow Peril. As General Westmoreland explained it, the Vietnamese just didn't have the same regard for human life that we Americans did. Apologists for the Vietnam War even put forth a "bloodbath" theory that claimed the Vietcong would slaughter thousands of their fellow Vietnamese unless American troops remained to keep them in check.

A decade later we Americans are supposed to be more enlightened. Aren't we all watching "Roots" and owning up to the injustices that Blacks have suffered from? We've even begun to watch movies that purport to deal honestly with our Vietnam experience.

Director Michael Cimino's *The Deer Hunter* is the latest of these. It's the tale of Michael, Nick, and Steven, 3 young Americans from a steel town in Pennsylvania who go off to war. The first hour of the film shows life in their hometown—the numbing routine of factory work, followed by escape through

beer and pool at the local tavern. The Orthodox Church and Russian immigrant culture provide rituals that weld the social fabric together, as seen in a lengthy sequence of a traditional wedding. The dreariness of the town is contrasted with the sublimeness of the nearby Allegheny Mountains (actually the Cascades near Mt. Baker were filmed); occasional hunting trips here provide the men with a sense of transcending industrial society.

Suddenly the scene shifts to the lush countryside of Vietnam, with Michael, Nick, and Steven there as soldiers. In the process of annihilating a village, the 3 Americans are captured by the Vietcong. One wonders if their captors will torture them to extract information or perhaps abuse them to express outrage at the bombings.

But no, the Vietnamese—just for sport—point guns at the heads of the Americans and force them to play Russian roulette! The Vietnamese leer as the bodies of losers are tossed in the river, and Steven is thrown into a rat-infested cage in the river when he refuses to pull the trigger. Of course, the American audience cheers its approval when Michael guns down his Vietnamese tormentors and leads a harrowing escape.

The scene is horrifying, yet central to the movie. It sets up all the succeeding action, as Nick is driven mad and Steven left crippled. Not based on any facts that I've heard of, the roulette incident can still be accepted as a symbol of the horror of war—the way it dehumanizes

The Way It Was

By Ticiang Diangson

Why is there always a trade-off? Why do we have to see dilemmas simply?

The Deer Hunter kept me awake at night or dreaming about it. Its effect on some of my friends frightened me. It will win Academy Awards and I will wonder how different it is from the WWII movies that now seem dated and gauche.

Gauche. Because now racism is out of fashion. And being racist in a film now is theoretically just being realistic. And *The Deer Hunter* seemed very realistic. Realistic enough that a part of me wanted to walk out but another part wanted to stay and find out exactly what was going to be influencing people, because *The Deer Hunter* is being billed as influential.

It is a story about the Vietnam War and working class men from a Pennsyl-

its participants and devalues all human life.

The problem is that the scene also typifies the way *The Deer Hunter* treats Vietnamese. Elsewhere in the film they are seen as a frenzied mob of gamblers who howl with delight when roulette contestants in Saigon blow their brains out; or as a whore who curses an American for refusing to have sex in front of her baby. There is not a single sympathetic portrayal of a Vietnamese in the entire film.

The Americans are at least depicted with some sensitivity. They are shown as big talkers who share the camaraderie of males—on the job, at the tavern, and in war. The hunting scenes, in which they affirm their male bonds, are unfortunately made hokey and pretentious by the voices of a male chorus crescendoing in the background. The characterizations generally rely too much on stereotyped views of working class men as beer-drinking, sex-obsessed louts; the character Axle says little more than "fuckin' A" throughout the film. And while Michael (Robert De

vaña Russian immigrant steel town. It is a story about what it means to be men—in just that simplistic and profound sense—and about how three men from that steel town viewed Vietnam. It is very like *Deliverance* and *Taxi Driver*: the violence men accept and pass on.

So maybe it will help men change how they treat themselves and others. Maybe it will persuade some that war really is totally unacceptable. But what will it do for Asians and Asian Americans? Because race, as much too usual, was the trade-off.

Here it is important to know that I'm a gook—not Vietnamese, but close enough to many eyes. And the friends whose reactions frightened me are white. The Vietnamese in *The Deer Hunter* were brutal. And no one explained that they were also brutalized. So the children who filled my childhood with reactions to Japs in WWII movies can teach their kids about gooks and tiger cages and Russian roulette and decadence. So more people can see an Asian woman and think prostitute.

The Deer Hunter is art. Art that points out one oppression while supporting another. Because we must be taught truths one step at a time; and if you are being taught about male oppression, other complexities like race or class interfere with art.

Dick Gregory wrote a book called *Nigger* so the word would stop hurting. After *The Deer Hunter* ends its run I will need a book called *Gook*.

Niro) emerges as the strongest of the lot, he remains a brooding, enigmatic figure.

Yet the film also portrays the men as essentially frail and vulnerable under their boastful exteriors. All 3 soldiers are deeply scarred by the war. Excellent scenes show Steven's sense of alienation as a paraplegic and Michael's malaise over the prospect of a "welcome home" party. In the final scene, the old gang appears tragic as it meets in the tavern and tries to reaffirm a sense of hope by singing "God Bless America"

It's a moving end to a powerful film. Indeed, the appeal of *The Deer Hunter* lies in its emotional intensity. The acting is superb, and the stunning photography gives its scenes a sense of stark realism, whether at a searing blast furnace in a steel mill or a tawdry nightclub in Saigon. Everyone I've talked to mentioned feeling literally terrified by the roulette scenes, which create a feeling of the immediacy of war that few Americans on the homefront have experienced. It's the kind of film you think about for days afterward.

But it takes more than shock value and 9 Oscar nominations to make a great film. *The Deer Hunter* portrays the Americans as tragic victims without attempting the briefest explanation of how America played a hand in creating the tragedy. While I'm not looking for cardboard heroes, I do expect some regard for history. I won't accept alibis for any movie that portrays the Vietnamese as bloodthirsty animals.

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Connections



JOBS

Experienced Auto Mechanics wanted: we need three people who are willing to work in a collective, non-sexist, worker managed auto shop in Bellingham. Write Bellingham Co-op Garage, 2236 Woburn, Bellingham, WA 98225 or call Wayne at 733-6938.

WIN Magazine seeks two staff for bookkeeping, advertising, promotion, and fundraising; editorial and writing responsibilities, too. Experience desirable. Commitment to social change necessary. Low pay, long hours, collective workstyle. Send letter about yourself to WIN Staff Search, 503 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11217. Apply ASAP, preferably by April 1.

Black Duck Motors- Seattle's worker-controlled community auto repair shop-needs another mechanic, man or woman, politically conscious. Must be responsible, anti-sexist, experienced. Non-exploitative working conditions, good pay. Call us at MU2-1432.

Director for SE Seattle Community Clinic- Experienced in community health administration and working with low-income population. \$12,000/yr. Send resume to Tracy Ream, Holly Park Clinic, 2840 S. Holly St., Seattle 98108.

Asst. director/business manager for nonprofit health care organization: MBA preferred, BS with accounting major OK; 2 yrs. exp. with boards. Duties include fiscal and contract management, and some supervision. Send resume to NHCS, 3110 SW Holly St. Seattle 98126.

Planning coordinator for Puget Consumers Coop- Democratic management, long-range, planning, financial and budgeting skills necessary. Full-time job. Start at \$4.45/hr. plus benefits. For details contact Bernie, Gayle or Norine at 828-4621 in Seattle.

Tired of the RAT RACE? Work for one of the Northwest's oldest collectives. **Advertising Manager** wanted to solicit and coordinate ads for the Northwest Passage. Enthusiastic person (hopefully with car) desired. Modest salary negotiable. Call at the Passage at 323-0354 in Seattle or come by our office at 1017 East Pike St.

Ad Manager Number 2 - The Passage's office in Bellingham has a similar position open. Enthusiastic person for modest wages. Call Brian at 733-6859 or 671-0191

Feminist Counselor/Therapist. Supportive and skilled. Individuals and self-improvement groups. Kris Falco, M.Ed. 783-5790

Wanted: experienced drummer to join anti-nuclear song and dance collective. Commitment to political and collective work essential. No pay but great fun. Call 325-6315 and ask for Shelly.

Forestry laborers wanted for MARMOT-collectively owned and managed. Experienced people and women preferred. Write to 1114 34th Ave., Seattle 98122 or call 325-4948.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Native American Conference and Cultural Festival being planned to deal with Indian families and their concerns. To be held June 7-10 at Daybreak Star Center. For further info. contact Andrea Luna, Site Coordinator, United Indians of All Tribes, Daybreak Star Center, Seattle 285-4425.

Rent Innerspace Coffee: House for women's meetings and events. Rates negotiable. Work exchange available. Call 525-0999, Seattle.

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Do the police have a file on you? Request your file! As a result of a public disclosure lawsuit, the Seattle Police Dept. is complying with individual requests for intelligence files. Interested people should not delay in making their request. Once restrictive legislation is passed (probably in April), the police may will destroy many files without notifying the individuals involved. Call the Coalition on Government Spying at 624-2180 and they will send you a form letter and other information on how to request your file.



The Association of American Prisoners is a new organization to expose and alleviate the brutality of American prisons. To get info or to help out, write Rev. Ronald Finkelstein, P.O. Drawer B, Stormville, NY 12582.

The Abused Women's Network is broadening its program to serve abused women throughout the greater Seattle area and establish neighborhood networks of women helping women. The Network connects abused women with others in their neighborhood with similar needs and interests to provide support and mutual problem solving. Contact Karen Kaur or Sue Stam at the Women's Institute of the Northwest, 4747-12th NE Seattle 98105. 523-2187.

These Whatcom County recyclers have been recertified by the State Dept. of Ecology: Assoc. Students of WWU
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Funds Needed for Oregon inmate serving a life term for crime he is innocent of. He's a Chippewa named Colin Hockings and the police destroyed evidence to secure the conviction. To help with federal appeal, send donations to Ann Gallaspy, Rt. 1, Box 103, Scott Mills, OR 97375.

Negotiate use of primitive cabins, studios in mountainous forest near San Francisco. Send name to NWP c/o Bill, 1017 E. Pike St., Seattle, WA 98122

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PERSONALS

Feminist women's house in B'ham looking for a 6th roommate-non-smoker without pets preferred. Rent \$67, plus util. 733-7901.

New Age Aquarian looking for correspondence with those into mystery schools, research, philosophy and intelligence. I am student of the masters. Write Reginald Hewett, P.O. Box 1000, Steilacoom, WA 98388. Write

Nevada inmate seeks correspondence. Write Bob Newberry, Nev. St. Prison. P.O. Box 607 Carson City, Nev. 89701.

LOST: an old friend. Darlene Owsley, please call me (408) 425-0883/688-5898 (collect), or write to me 208 East St., Aptos, CA 95003 Malcolm Dundas

Wanted: person interested in sharing time for personal growth work (no money exchanged). I'd like to work with patterns of gesture, intonation, attitude on to Reichian/Primal release (emphasizing spontaneity-not forced). Also work with energy: breathing, movement, etc. Group or paired. Jack, 364-9785, 632-4160

Woman-I Taste the rare Change the legendary ways, Dress yourself with the dawn, Fear nothing!
-from "Mujer", translated by Suni Paz

Single women wanted, experienced or interested in birth, to volunteer help in beginning a new organization to help needy unwed mothers nationwide, doing fundraising and beginning and operating shelters and birthplaces for them. Write with photo and description, skills, interests, experience, to: S. West, PO Box 66129, Seattle, WA 98166

A registry of individual performing and visual artists is now being compiled by Arts Resource Services, 1605 17th Ave. ARS is contacted regularly by agencies, businesses, community groups and others. If you are a performing or arts support group, you can get added to the ARS group list. (206)324-7506

A lesbian community organization is forming in Bellingham. People who want info contact Ruth at 733-1705 or Christina at 676-0921. Possible directions of the group include: study group, social activities, and establishment of lesbian resource center and peer counseling.

"Dancing: moving in flux", a dance/movement workshop exploring group improvisation, centering, vocalizations, and contact improvisation. Co-led by Milly Sonneman and David Stodden, Mar. 25 12-5, \$10, at ACDC Performing Studio 2320 First Ave., Seattle. Advanced Registration 623-2232

Open Door Clinic, 5012 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle 98105, is a community-based clinic staffed by trained volunteers. Services are free, but donations are accepted. Provides 24-hour, telephone crisis counseling, walk-in counseling, crisis outreach services, information, and referrals. Ongoing counseling and medical services are also offered by appointment. 524-7404

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CALENDAR

Events

Friday March 23 at noon: Bella Abzug speaks at the University of Washington HUB Ballroom. \$1.25.

Saturday March 24, 10-5: Rummage sale and raffle to benefit Seattle Tenants Union. Pike Place Market lower level (Pike Street entrance).

Saturday March 24, 9:30-3:30: "Liberating Self & Society," a conference on integrating spiritual life and political life at Friends Center, 4001 9th Ave NE in Seattle. Pre-register for \$4 to 413 Malden East, Seattle 98112. For childcare and information, call 322-2453.

Sunday March 25, 7-9 pm: Skate for SCAT at the Lake Hills Roller Rink, 164th & 8th NE in Bellevue (by the Crossroads Shopping Center). Children \$1.75, adults \$2.50.

Sunday March 25 at 7 pm: Families and Friends of Gays meet at St. Patrick Church, Broadway East & East Edger in Seattle. An anonymous support group for persons with questions regarding gay or lesbian family member or friend. For info, call 524-8350 or 232-3966.

Sunday March 25 at 7:30 pm: "Behind Peking's Invasion of Viet Nam" is featured topic for the Militant Forum at 4868 Rainier Avenue South in Seattle.

Tuesday March 27 at 7:30 pm: Meeting for people to discuss ideas and plans for direct actions against Trident. Emphasis will be on forming non-bureaucratic yet cohesive radical structure. 4664 1st Ave NE in Seattle. 632-6306

Wednesday March 28 at 7:30 pm: "How to Sue Your Landlord," a workshop on the legal rights of tenants by the University Area Tenants Organization, at University Heights School Auditorium, NE 50th & University Way in Seattle.

Saturday March 31 at 10 am: "Planting a Solar Greenhouse," a workshop. To register call 344-3440 and ask for S-5.

Thursday March 29 - Saturday March 31: Conference on the Emerging International Economic Order at Seattle Center. Numerous speakers and workshops. For more information, call Faith Fogarty at 477-3894 in Seattle.

Saturday March 31, 1-4 pm: ERA Speakout in the Opera House at Seattle Center, featuring skits and TV celebrities.

Thursday April 5: Bisexual women's support group begins. To register or get more info, call SISTER at 522-8588 in Seattle.

Thursday April 12 - Sunday April 15: Third Annual Equinox Gathering, annual conference for alternatives network in the Northwest. Sponsored by CAREL and to be held at Camp Sealth on Vashon Island. For more details or pre-registration (\$25), write CAREL, Box 1492, Eugene, Oregon 97440.

Tuesday March 27 & Wednesday March 28 at 8 pm: Korla Pandit, India's guru of modern and exotic music, in concert at Seattle Concert Theater, 1130 John St. \$5.

Wednesday March 28 at 7:30 pm: Annie Leibowitz, Rolling Stone photographer, talks about her photography at Rm. 120 in Kane Hall of the University of Washington. \$4.

Friday March 30, 6-12 pm: Okie Dokie String Band in a benefit for "Local Drizzle." Also arts & crafts and food raffle. At the Silver Spoon in Duval.

Friday March 30 at 8 pm: Teresa Trull in concert with Maggie Savage and Jude Fogelquist at the University of Washington HUB East Ballroom. \$3.50. Childcare provided.

Saturday March 31 at 6 pm: Benefit for Venceremos Brigade, with dinner, poetry, music and African fashions. At Langston Hughes Center, 17th & Yesler in Seattle. \$3.

Sunday April 1 at 8 & 10 pm: Black Britannica, a film about racism in Britain, showing as a benefit for the Venceremos Brigade. \$2. At the Comet Tavern in Seattle.

Friday April 6 at 8 pm: A benefit reading for the Crabshell Alliance legal defense by Jody Aliasan, Hylah Jacques, and Barbara Wilson at the Seattle Friends Center, 841 40th NE. \$2.

Saturday April 7 at 6 pm: Science fiction readings featured on "Surviving in the Patriarchy," lesbian feminist radio show on KRAB-FM.

Friday April 6 at 7:30 pm: Wood and paint works by Cheryl Wrangle open at the Women's Cultural Center, 4224 University Way NE in Seattle. Poetry reading by Eve Dumovich at 8:30 pm.

Arts

Friday March 23 - Monday March 26: New Women Playwrights' Festival at the Ethnic Cultural Center in Seattle each night at 8 pm. Free.

March 23: "Stiffed" by Trisha Arlin and "Deja Vu" by Barbara Benedetti. March 24: "Love Song for an Amazon" by Martha Boesing and "Dear Child" by Lisa Shipley.

March 25: "Diane" by Susan La Tempa. March 26: "Wax Cradle" by Jo Adamson.

Saturday March 24 at 1 pm: No More Nuclear Power Stations and Lovejoy's Nuclear War, anti-nuclear films shown to benefit the Satsop Legal Defense Fund. \$2 at the Harvard Exit in Seattle.

Saturday March 24 at 8:30 pm: Meredith Monk, composer, choreographer, and singer, in concert at and/or, 1525 10th Avenue in Seattle. \$5.

Monday March 26: Women's Collage Theater in benefit for Innerspace Coffee House in Seattle. Call 324-8647 for details.

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