

THE VENICE BEACHHEAD

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Aumentos de Renta

Pagina 2

Who Needs The War?



Bad News At Lincoln Place

For some of the tenants at the Lincoln Place Apartments (there are 800), it was bad news. The Evening Outlook of March 31 carried the story that the huge apartment complex was sold to an organization calling itself the Equity Specialty Plan, and the new landlords were planning to turn the housing complex into condominiums. What's that? Condominiums are new to Venice, but in places like Marina del Rey and Miami Beach they are all over the place. In Marina del Rey some of the condominiums sell for \$50,000. No question that this is housing for the rich and upper middle class who are tired of owning their own houses. And all the gimmickry of yacht clubs, swimming pools, fancy restaurants, golf courses for lonely rich souls to while away their idle hours is what surrounds the condominiums.

The Beachhead has been warning its readers that the implementation of the Master Plan with the high rises was about to beset us. We could not have predicted that the Lincoln Place apartments, located on land east of Lincoln Blvd between Lake St and Milwood would be snatched up first for the posh living the masters plan for Venice. Why did it come as a surprise? Well, the Lincoln Place apartments were built in the 1950s with FHA money by a guy called Joe Ussem. Since they were government funded, Ussem could not raise the rents like he wanted to. Therefore the apartments went for lower rents than many in Venice. And since the complex was built with FHA money, we would have thought that the tenants were protected from just any greedy gouging landlord who could turn them out. But we were wrong and we see that anything can be bought and the homes of the old and poor are not sacred. Does the FHA regulation not specify protection for the tenants of government funded housing? This will be one for the lawyers to argue and win. Otherwise, government funds belonging to the people are being used to fatten up landlords. And who paid back the government loan? The rents of the tenants. And after paying and paying they are about to be ousted by the new landlords to make way for those who can pay for condominiums. We hope the tenants at Lincoln Place Apartments will get themselves together to fight for their homes. And many of us who see the injustice of ousting poor people from Venice - will join us in the fight.

The Venice Health Council meets on Wednesday, April 26th at 7:30 pm at the NAPP office, 1101 W Washington. Community is invited.

Welfare or Jobs — Page 2

Police In Your House — Page 3

Off With His Head — Page 5

Calendar — Page 7

Public Housing in Venice

To the Egyptians, shelter for the dead was more important than shelter for the living. Today, our factories suggest that shelter for dead things like automobiles, airplanes, munitions is better served for these than for people. In more primitive days in America and particularly to the Indians, a man's house was sacred together with the landscape around it. The tipi, the hogan and stone shelter gave housing a kind of logic that has been lost to urban dwellers.

We are crowded together into a small land area in Venice, thus having the highest density of any coastal town on the Pacific. We also have more than 40% old dilapidated housing that makes tourists refer to Venice as that run-down place. The houses that had seen fresh paint 20, 30 or 40 years ago still stand and young hippies living in squalor inhabit them. Houses infested with vermin and roaches and having too many violations to be rescued, are boarded up waiting for some big change in zoning and a new buyer. Tenancy of mice, rats and roaches in old decaying houses is a serious problem to health. Landlords are not making major repairs as they used to and tenants are being forced to make their own.

If Venice desperately needs decent low-cost housing, why has no such movement succeeded here? There have been some attempts to get people interested in buying land co-operatively and building low-cost housing but nothing came of that. The people at Israel Levin Center and Marge Buckley and Rick Davidson talked about ways of getting government housing for the elderly but nothing came of that either.

The problem of public, low-cost housing takes a strong people's organization to move the obstinate forces in government. And the private sector in real estate is always fighting the building of government funded housing because it competes with their own business. Land prices are high, construction materials expensive and labor costs prohibitive, though it need not be so. In addition, money lending by banks provides a headache. But for the government to sponsor

housing would be a simpler matter if pressures on government from real estate lobbies weren't there. And ITT who owns Levitt Bros. and other building outfits together with other rich corporations could not influence government to spend the people's money in Vietnam and other places around the world, building military bases.

In Venice the VCIU better understood as the Venice Community Improvement Union, attempted to start a movement for low-cost housing back in 1965. Black people needed decent housing desperately and VCIU was going to work to get it. They met and pushed Congressmen and Assemblymen and did get some government funds. But what benefit the community obtained from the federal funding is obscure. Venice did not get low-cost housing. And

the general opinion of ex-VCIU members and others in the community is that whatever housing did come, resulted in profit to the landlords. This is most frequently so.

There are the usual arguments against low-cost housing by middle-class and upper class people who can afford to pay high rents. They claim that low-cost public housing deteriorates in a short time. What they don't investigate is why these low-cost houses are built with poor materials, poor planning, inadequate maintenance and bureaucratic management. The manager becomes the voice of a landlord.

However, there is a way of making low-cost public housing a desirable solution to the housing problem for poor people but that takes a willing government and people willing to organize and work for their own housing.



Bread and Butter Issues



THEN, HOW COME WE'RE STILL POOR?



Welfare or Jobs

Most of Governor Reagan's so-called welfare reforms were knocked out by the courts. He wants to prevent anybody with any kind of income, no matter how small, from getting welfare.

The judge declared this illegal so the governor and his commissioner Carleson are trying a new scheme. A welfare applicant who applies now must take home a 19 page form to list his silverware, dishes, beds and one hundred or more other things. If he can't fill it out, he must get someone to help him before he makes application for welfare.

A food stamp applicant has it easier by comparison. He fills out only a seven page form. People who live together and are unrelated, are not eligible for food stamps. That the governor hates social progress, living together and hippies is no surprise.

Aliens who are here illegally cannot be aided even if their children were born here. Food stamp applicants must register for work and report regularly if they don't want their food stamps cut off.

All this is an attempt to do through harassment and red tape what the governor couldn't do with his laws. He and his commissioner hope that applicants will become so disgusted that they would prefer to starve. He also hopes that welfare workers will be so overwhelmed with all the

new forms that they will give the clients less attention and discourage the poor still more.

But the governor's hopes for cutting welfare off are in vain. People who have no income or little income and can't find jobs are not going to accept starvation in the most affluent country in the world. Perhaps the best answer to the governor is a good welfare rights organization in our community.

Pearl White is a black woman who has lived in Venice many years. She doesn't understand why HRD (Human Resources Development) housed in the Venice Service Center on Lincoln can't get her a job. And yet the HRD says that's what their function is, to get poor people of the community jobs.

Mrs. White doesn't want welfare. She has written the welfare office and asked that they remove her from the rolls and find her a job. Physical examinations have revealed that Mrs. White is able to work. To date, HRD has not given her a job. Mrs. White and others plan to take action against HRD and she is asking for those on welfare who want jobs to line up with her and those who wish to force the issue that welfare recipients are not lazy and want to work, to help. Call 399-4108 or 396-6912.

Letter

I think the apt I live in here at Ocean Front and Clubhouse Ave. is about the worst example of what has happened here in Ghetto Venice. (It isn't Santa Monica.)

Two years ago April, this 75 year old building was sold - 8 apartments at \$65 monthly and one 3 bedroom at \$85. No improvements have been put in either the 2 room or the 3 room. But rents on Ocean Front (charging for sand view) are now \$150 per month, and the \$85 one is now \$185. Side apartments are now \$125 and \$135. Isn't that terrible?



traffic. The community cannot survive as a livable place when exploitation of real estate is the basic policy.

2. Participation by Venice people and organizations in the planning process through a community-wide planning Council is a critical necessity to meet the pressures cited above. The decisions for community action may impress and even persuade governmental bodies.
3. The Venice Summer Festival and Planning Conference planned for June 17-18 is a serious effort to encourage community participation in the planning process. The series of workshops on housing, zoning, traffic, tax reduction, etc. can be a great opportunity for the community to get itself together, attract city-wide attention to the needs of Venice, and provide the community planner valuable input for a community plan. Perhaps the conference should be called the "Venice Survival Conference."

The planning issue that covers all the above is how Venice's residential neighbor-

Aumentos de Renta

Parte dos del programa de Nixon para "estabilizacion" comenzo 1-1-1972. Permite a los duenos el derecho de aumentar las rentas a lo siguiente :

1. Si el dueno tiene 4 apartamentos o menos, y el vive en uno, puede aumentar las rentas tanto quiere, a menos que hay un arriendo.
2. De otro modo, un dueno puede aumentar la renta cada ano 2 1/2 porciento para mas costa de operacion.
3. Con aumento de 1 1/2 porciento de la costa de mejoramientos mayores. Como pintando o reparacion
4. Con aumento para impuestos aumentados.
5. Con aumento de 5 porciento, si no hay arriendo y esta usted en apartamento antes de 5-15-1971.
6. En todos casos, el dueno tiene que darle aviso escrito de 30 dias antes del aumento.

Asi el fuero protege los derechos de propiedad del dueno, y en este parte del programa, el dueno pequeno se protege mas. A causa de la falta de casas y porque los arrendatarios no son organizados, es una lucha muy dificil. para ellos. Muchas veces ellos nos dicen que los duenos cargan tanto que quieren. Y hasta hay un sindicato de arrendatarios, ellos deben de luchas serarados yendo a la oficina de informacion y quejas a 300 N. Los Angeles St. en edificio federal. Telefono 984-3944. Pregunta para una forma para queja. Puede conseguir un inspector federal para ayudarle, si el dueno hizo una falla.

Venice Community

Can the people of Venice develop their own community plan? The Venice Ad-Hoc Community Planning Committee has been meeting since October with Ken Norwood, Venice Community Planner for the purpose of developing a community plan.

What is happening? What are the Planning issues? Where is it going? Most important, how can the Venice Planning Office best save the Venice community's objectives for survival against mounting pressures of high cost -- high density development?

The greatest single need is HOUSING for the people of Venice. Only when there is permanently available housing for young and old, black and brown, poor and moderate-income whites of Venice can the present community survive. Related to the housing need, however, are the other basic needs for a livable urban environment. The immediate issues are :

1. High density zoning in Venice causes land speculation, high taxes, over-building on small lots, congested parking and

hoods can be maintained and improved for a variety of housing types, density, and rentals for all income, ethnic, cultural, and age groups, present and future. There is no doubt that there will be more high cost buildings put up in Venice, but the community can continue to be a diverse social mixture and an enjoyable place to live if the needs of community people are effectively communicated to City Hall, Sacramento, and Washington D.C.

Major alternatives will be required. Instead of automobiles :walkways, bikeways, mini-busses and rapid transit. Alternatives to absentee-landlordism :cooperative housing, cluster design, self-help housing. Alternatives to congestion :more open space, playgrounds and parks. But most of all, the alternative to community back-biting and internal dis-organization must be a new spirit of purpose, "WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED OUT."

Staff for this issue:
Rachel, Doug, Frank,
Milton, Don, Susie
& capt guts

Food Stamps

Soon Venice will have its own community food stamp selling agency sponsored by the Westside EYO area council. Community counselors are being trained presently at the Broadway School in Venice. They are learning the intricate rules and regulations of who and what buys food stamps. They will complete their training on May 30th where a film entitled, "Hunger in America" will be shown.

The food stamp selling program will eliminate the efforts of the Bank of America and the Security Pacific and the 80 some cents that they received for each transaction from the Dept. of Agriculture. We hope that the money will go back into the community for some necessary and worthwhile project to aid the poor people. And the many needy people who are being deprived of food stamps like students sharing living expenses, communes, unrelated adults sharing a common household will work with the people in the community to get the right to food stamps restored.



"Let 'em eat fish!"

Police Visits La Policia

The much ballyhooed crime prevention program is about to be launched in Los Angeles County and it is wise to ponder awhile on the organized assault on the "uncontrollable" wave of neighborhood burglaries and thefts. A brisk scenario now follows:

One pleasant evening in Venice when there is a fresh supply of peanut butter and Moody Blues is wailing its majestic chords of philosophic cacophony, a light but distinct rap is heard at your door. It is the kind of knock coming from a knuckle not belonging to your newspaper boy or the kid trying to sell peanut brittle. Without much celebration you open the door and find yourself face to face with Law Enforcement, smiling benignly. He tells you that he is here to rap with you about the techniques at his command to thwart burglaries and con artists from entering your house illegally. He stands there peering inquisitively into your house and you are both surprised and annoyed. His smile transforms slowly into a smirk and what was described as a visit for a noble cause turns into a hassle. What can you do?

The police have NO RIGHT to be in your house or yard without a search warrant. If you voluntarily want them to be there when there is probable cause for them to be investigating a crime or a suspicious act, that is your decision. The present crime prevention program may give them cause to come knocking at your door, much like the stopping of your car for vehicle inspection. Even this point has to be decided yet in court. If you wish you can step outside and rap with the cop in the street. You might be asked what you have to hide, but of course you have nothing. Or you may say politely that you KNOW your house is well secured and you don't need any advice on the matter. Remember, the police usually do as they please when they please. There is no need for appeasement, nor will rudeness keep

The Heat's On



things cool. If you can exhibit a healthy and firm attitude that you usually keep strangers out of your house, you will be acting in your own best interest. The US Constitution and the Bill of Rights, Article 4 guarantees the privacy of our dwellings against illegal search and seizure. The American Civil Liberties Union will take on cases of illegal search and seizure - 626-5156.

The legal firm of Sandy Nathan and Carl Schwartz has moved from W Washington Blvd. The Law Collective no longer is. Nathan and Schwartz will continue to be available for legal counselling. Call them at 396-5538.

Comenzo un programa de la Policia para ayudar la gente de Los Angeles a asegurar sus casas contra los robos. Van a visitar las casas para examinar todo tocante a esto. Es su derecho a permitir o no permitir pasar la policia. Chicanos tenian mucha experiencia con la policia que no es muy agreable. Y muchos Chicanos temen que la policia buscan otras cosas cuando pasan por las casas. Si no le gusta a que le visiten la policia, es sabio a decirles que no hay necesidad para la visita. Es su derecho. Pero, tambien, es sabio a ser cortos.

It Was Easter Sunday

It was Easter Sunday, a warm, beautiful sunny afternoon in Venice when the excitement began. Everybody in Venice became the enemy at once to the centaurs on motorcycle, the law and order men in shiny white helmets, grim faces, gritted teeth and loaded guns.

The flower children and the Mardi Gras fops wanted their party, no matter what. They painted their faces and swung their torsoes in costumes from out of fantasy land to the music of the rock bands.

God bless America Jesus freaks taunted the "sinful" flower children and in response, some hooted, heckled while others blew kisses as the nearby palefaced centaurs snickered and itched.

Suddenly there was a commotion. The centaurs went into action. They were pouncing upon a young slight, blond-haired woman who had been collecting change for Green Power into a cigar box. A young man, witnessing the naked brutality felt shame and resentment in the name of fair womanhood. He put his objection into angry words and was thereupon pounced on by a centaur giving him a choke hold until his face turned blue and his saliva gurgled. The helpless victim has dragged to the police van and the young woman was thrown in too. Onlookers who were shocked at the open display of violence shuddered and a young boy was about to retch.

Everybody in Venice has become the enemy, the poor, the elderly, the long-haired freak and even the bicycle riders who deviated from riding the freeways that Sunday. One middle-aged, respectable bike rider was ticketed for riding on the wrong side of the street. Yes, everything went wrong in Venice that Easter Sunday according to the centaurs who could teach us all how to do things right with their strong arms.

All this is not new. This had happened here at the last Green Power beach concert and it will undoubtedly happen again and again until there are enough of us who want to organize a citizens committee to police the police. Anyone who is a member of the American Civil Liberties Union would do well to start a chapter here in Venice. The Beachhead would be happy to know when that happens.

Taxes and the ITT

Higher and higher taxes to pay bills for the Vietnam War, the U.S. military bases around the world, the shenanigans of the CIA, the welfare millionaires and their government subsidies, the FBI and its spying on war protesters, the do-nothing government politicians. Still the bills do not get paid and taxes are being raised higher once again.

What did the Washington money experts propose? The printing of more money, 64 billion in the next two years. And where is it all to come from? A piece out of every dollar, yours and ours. More paper entitling us to less and less goods. That's inflation and together with higher taxes, it results in the lowering of the standard of living of the poor and middle class.

If you are living on food stamps and welfare, you have harder times ahead with rents and food prices going up. If you are working for wages, you will get to feel that you are working for the government and the big corporations (one and the same thing) and your tax money is not going to improve the enormous problems facing the nation but the policing of American foreign investments.

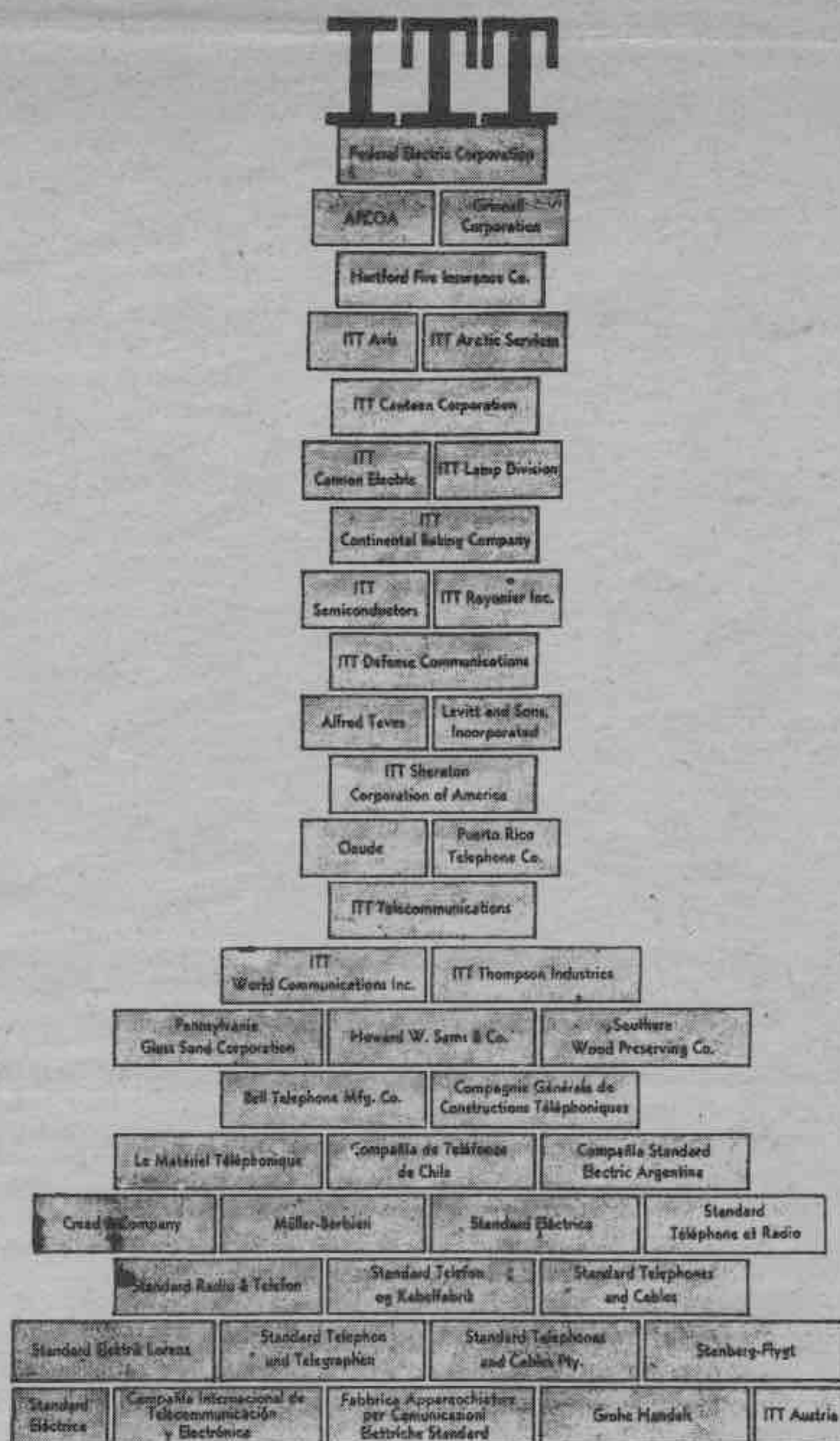
The federal courts are about to hear two cases relating to war taxes. The American Friends Service Committee is challenging the right of government to attach a person's bank account or property if he has refused to pay the federal income tax. In the federal court in California, AFSC is a defendant forcing the government to prove that war-supporting taxes are legal. 1,500 persons refused to pay the federal war tax on the use of the telephone. These persons have set up a fund to fight the tax on the grounds that Congress's power is limited especially in the financing of a war never declared.

We all know that Governor Reagan did not pay his state tax for several years but no punitive actions were taken against him. Like the king who can do no wrong, he calls for increased bombing of North Vietnam. And the ITT admitted to not paying federal taxes for the years 1967, 1968 - not because they do not favor the American military operations overseas.

Yes, there were more than 200 giant corporations who did not pay a corporate tax. And they are not anti-war protesters. It's just a matter of having special privileges and ITT does.

The ITT was originally Bell Telephone and in the 60's acquired the following: Avis Car Rentals, Sheraton Hotels, Won-

der Bread Bakery, Levitt & Sons Buildings, Industrial Parks and many others. It climbed to eighth place in the scheme of industrial merger and power, pushing US Steel aside. Jack Anderson spilled the beans on the ITT scandal, showing the corruption of the government in the 40,000 bucks paid to the Republican



Publisher George Drury Smith announced the appearance (April 10) of Beyond Baroque 712 the sixth volume in the continuing series of avant-garde collections. In paperback form and newsmagazine size, the color-filled 75 page book contains the prose and poetry of 23 American and foreign writers.

BEYOND BAROQUE, Southern California's oldest regular independent literary magazine, is one of the nation's foremost. It is regarded as unique in its approach to literary experimentation and use of graphics.

Smith, who has published Beyond Baroque since 1968, also announced the incorporation of Beyond Baroque Foundation, a non-profit tax-exempt organization that will carry on and expand the goals of the magazine. For further information :Beyond Baroque Foundation, 1639 V. Washington Blvd., Venice, Ca., 90291, phone :(213) 396-6551.

Convention for letting ITT off the prosecution hook for trust practice. If anybody body doubts the connection that exists between big business and government and tax evaders - here it is.

But who pays for a government unwilling to prosecute the ITT, a Reagan, and the many trusts stealing in tax returns? We do who needs the war? ITT and the rest of the giant American corporations.

Resistance in the Military

Last March, when the newspapers were saying that they expected heavier fighting in Vietnam, they said that four aircraft carriers were being stationed off Vietnam.

What the newspapers didn't say was that on each of those same four carriers, crew members had refused to ship out, showing that they were against the continued bombing of Indochina.

Last January, just after the US began stepped-up bombing of North Vietnam, active duty airmen and women at four air bases organized coordinated demonstrations to show that they were against the bombing.

These actions on carriers and air bases didn't just happen by accident. They're part of a widespread movement of resistance that has recently started to grow inside the military.

A few of the bigger things got covered in the news:

* In early 1969, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade sat down on the battlefield and refused to go into combat.

* Later in 1969, a rifle company refused to advance down a dangerous trail while on CBS-TV.

* During the invasion of Laos, in 1971, Troop B of the 1st Cavalry refused to recapture their Captain's command vehicle



When they enter the military, rigid control is clamped on them like an iron hand. Then that iron hand takes them away from their family and friends, and drops them anywhere it pleases, in Vietnam or hundreds of other places where the US has a military bases.

Many GI's are coming to realize that all they get for accepting this iron hand and its control is a Purple Heart, a wheel chair or a pine box. While they are being used to make the iron hand stronger, they are forced to ignore the racism, poor education, lack of jobs and other problems in their own communities at home.

With these realizations, GI's are fighting back.

A lot of these things have been true for a long time. There is nothing new about the way the military controls people. But there is something new in the way people relate to the military.

One of the most important reasons for this has been direct experience with the war and with the purpose and nature of the military. GI's have been ordered to carry out a war that most people are against. In the process, they have seen that carrying out wars in other countries, against other peoples, is what the US military is really all about. Because of this, they are less likely to just keep on doing what they are told.

At the same time, GI's who have wanted to fight back have found a lot of support and encouragement from civilians on the outside.

Civilians and GI's have worked together on all kinds of activities like putting out

underground newspapers, running coffee houses and organizing demonstrations. Also, civilians have helped raise money to make sure that activities can continue to happen.

One of the civilian groups that helps support the activities of GI's is bases here in Los Angeles. Called Support Our Soldiers (SOS), it helps provide money, films, literature and other materials for GI's.

If you'd like to know more about SOS and the GI movement call 399-8697, or write to SOS, PO Box 24942, L.A. 90024.

Nixon to Moscow

The president plans to unload another piece of deception upon the American people. He will call his trip to Moscow in May his new peace mission. On his old peace mission to China he was told by the Chinese leaders to talk to the Vietnamese delegation in Paris about US peace plans. That didn't upset the Nixon bags of tricks, a take-off from the old John Foster Dulles paraphernalia. Feed the animosity of those you wish to conquer and let the warring factions fight it out while America takes the spoils from both sides. So will the South Vietnamese and the North Vietnamese fight it out while America plots further her entrenchment in Asia. South Viets will be fighting Laotians, Thais fighting North Vietnamese and Cambodians etc. etc.

Stoke the fires, says Nixon and sell weaponry of both the Russians and Chinese is his ace in the hole. He is going to Moscow with his lunatic overkill arsenal of a lead of more than 3,200 warheads than the Soviets have. Yet the Pentagon shrieks that the Soviets are building up for a first strike against us. The Pentagon is re-escalating the war in Vietnam.

Therefore, the new defense budget adding up to \$6.3 billion is only the down payment in the most sensational escalation of the arms race to date. Is this a peace mission to Moscow or a smokescreen for a more costly lunatic arms race? This will please the munition makers who make heavy contributions to Nixon's campaign to seize the election time, and tickle the trade unions silly with more jobs in war industries. But eventually, the arsenal of weaponry will have to be destroyed to be rebuilt or used. That's all in the choice with Nixon, friends who keeps ranting about his concern for a generation of peace.

More War

The Pentagon General Westmoreland was interviewed by the Los Angeles Times. His interview was summed up in these words; he (Westmoreland) "foresees possibly several more years of war in Indochina with the U.S. continuing to assist South Vietnam."

The motive for the prediction campaign is to prepare the public for large-scale fighting and an effort to establish that U.S. is winning in Vietnam. Some of the people against the war, will support a winning strategy and take more war.

We want out now. We must expose the Nixon lie that U.S. is winding down the war. We must work harder for an end to the war.

Schools

The Mexican American Legal Defense Fund is responsible for holding up the purchase of new textbooks for the schools. The organization insists that as long as textbooks portray the ethnic minorities inaccurately, these books should not be brought into the schools. A Sacramento judge issued an injunction and the case will be argued further in May.

The publishers involved are Field Enterprises, Brace and Jovanovich and Laidlaw Bros, and their business in these textbooks runs about \$2,300,000,000.

The Mexican American Legal Defense Fund argues further that the textbooks in question reinforce the prejudices of white children toward children of color and reinforce feelings of inferiority in children of the colored races.

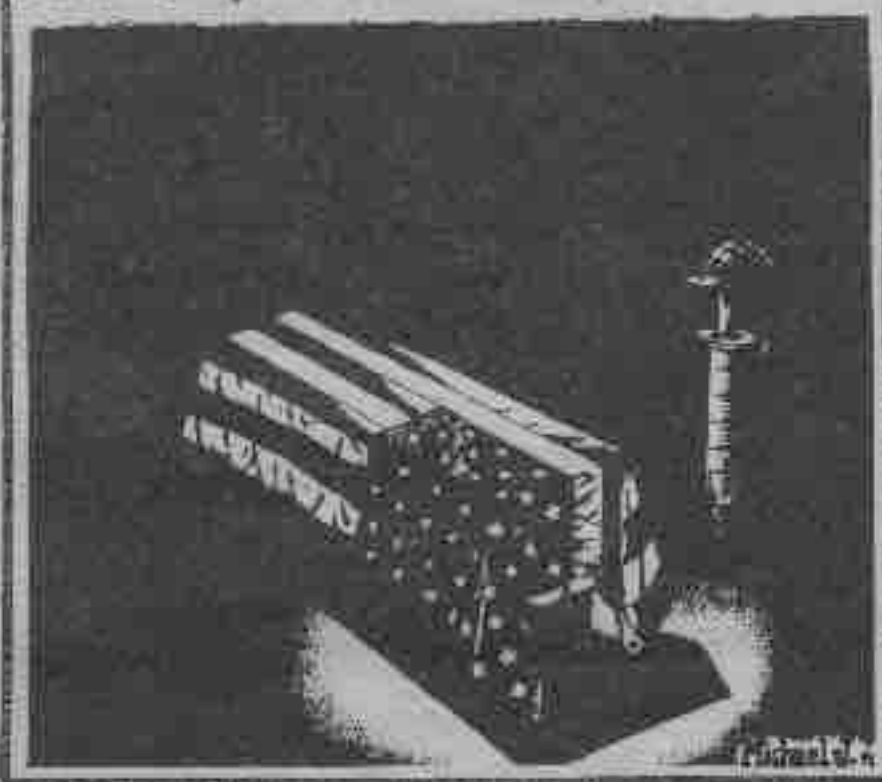
Fortunately, schools can select their social studies texts, and there are some better ones around. At Westminster School some of the children are reading Rudy Acuna's book of the Mexican-Americans Past, Present and Future. He is a Chicano professor that has fought hard to get the true heritage and story of the achievement of the Mexican immigrant and early settler (before the white man) into the textbooks.

The newspapers recently report about the failure of Title One to make any difference in the achievements of poor kids. Perhaps the answer does not lie in only pouring money into schools without well thought-out plans and educational philosophy.

A study by the Ford Foundation to help break the deadlock of underachievement in ghetto schools came up with some interesting observations and conclusions. Two schools were part of the study: a middle class school and a ghetto school. The experimenters looked for factors to explain the difference in achievement, motivation, attendance, etc. They found that parental involvement in the school life of the children was the key factor.

Now what do we find in some of the Venice schools? At Westminster School there is no PTA functioning and there hasn't been one for some time. A Broadway the PTA meets but gets only 2% of the parent body involved. Both of these schools have a large percent of non-white students. For parents who do not readily relate to non-white institutions, there must be more effort expended to involve them in their children's school experience so that the children may thrive in school. Perhaps more decision-making opportunities for parents will be one of the answers.

no deposit--no return



containing secret operations orders.

* In 1970, 1500 Black GI's met in Heidelberg, to work out a strategy against racism in the military.

* On Armed Forces Day, May 16, 1970, demonstrations planned by GI's closed down 22 bases across the country.

* On Armed Forces Day, May 15, 1971, thousands of GI's across the country again organized actions against the war and against the military.

These are just a few of the headline actions that leak out to the press. They are the surface signs of the discontent inside the military that sparks individual and collective actions ranging from passive resistance to sabotage and even mutiny.

What's going on inside the military is a growing awareness among GI's that, for all the hard times and sacrifices they make, there really isn't anything in it for them.

Rent Increases

Phase Two of the Nixon "Stabilization Program" started Jan. 1, 1972. It gives the landlords the right to raise the rents as follows:

1. If a landlord owns four units or less and resides in one of them, he can raise rents as much as he wants, unless the tenant has a lease.
2. Otherwise, a landlord may get a two and one half percent increase each year for higher operative costs.
3. Plus a one and one half percent of cost of capital improvements, such as painting or major repair.
4. Plus an increase to cover higher taxes.
5. Plus a 5% increase if you have no lease and have occupied the apartment before May 15, 1971.

6. In all cases, the landlord must give you written notice 30 days before the increase.

So the law goes protecting the property rights of the landlord and in this phase of the economy, the small landlord gets the bigger break. Because of the shortage of housing and the fact that tenants are not organized, this is a hard fight. Tenants of ten tell us of the cases of landlords' rent gouging. And until we have a tenants' union, tenants will have to fight their own battle individually by going to the Office of Information and Complaints at 300 North Las Angeles St., near Temple St. In the Federal Bldg. Call 984-3944 and ask them to send a complaint sheet. And if you have been had by the landlord, a Federal inspector should come to your aid.

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Persecutions: Anti-war Activists

"Now for the evidence," said the King, "and then the sentence."

"No!" said the Queen, "first the sentence, and then the evidence!"

"Nonsense!" cried Alice, so loudly that everybody jumped, "the idea of having the sentence first!" "Hold your tongue!" said the Queen



Off With His Head

The government is harassing Daniel Ellsberg and me because we dared to expose the true history (the Pentagon Papers) of the Vietnam war. Were there a real independent Grand Jury it would protect us from the vindictive action of Nixon. Grand Juries were originally independent citizens' panels constituted for the purpose of reviewing the king's evidence to decide whether it was really justified, or was a vindictive action on the part of the King. There is no law in the United States which says we have to be prosecuted, but we do not have the protection of a real grand jury and therefore Nixon is free to prosecute us. Grand juries have come to be tools of the president and, in effect, cater to the whims of his power lust.

Proof of this lies in the fact that when I was summoned to the Grand Jury I was not allowed to speak to Patricia Jones, the Grand Jury foreman. When I asked her if she represented the people, David Nissen, the government prosecutor wouldn't let her reply. He actually stood between us when I tried to question her and would not allow her to speak; instead he spoke for her. Such is the corrupt nature of the President's Justice Department. The people's trust stands violated. When we say "Power to the People" we mean things like having people's grand juries and not Nixon grand juries.

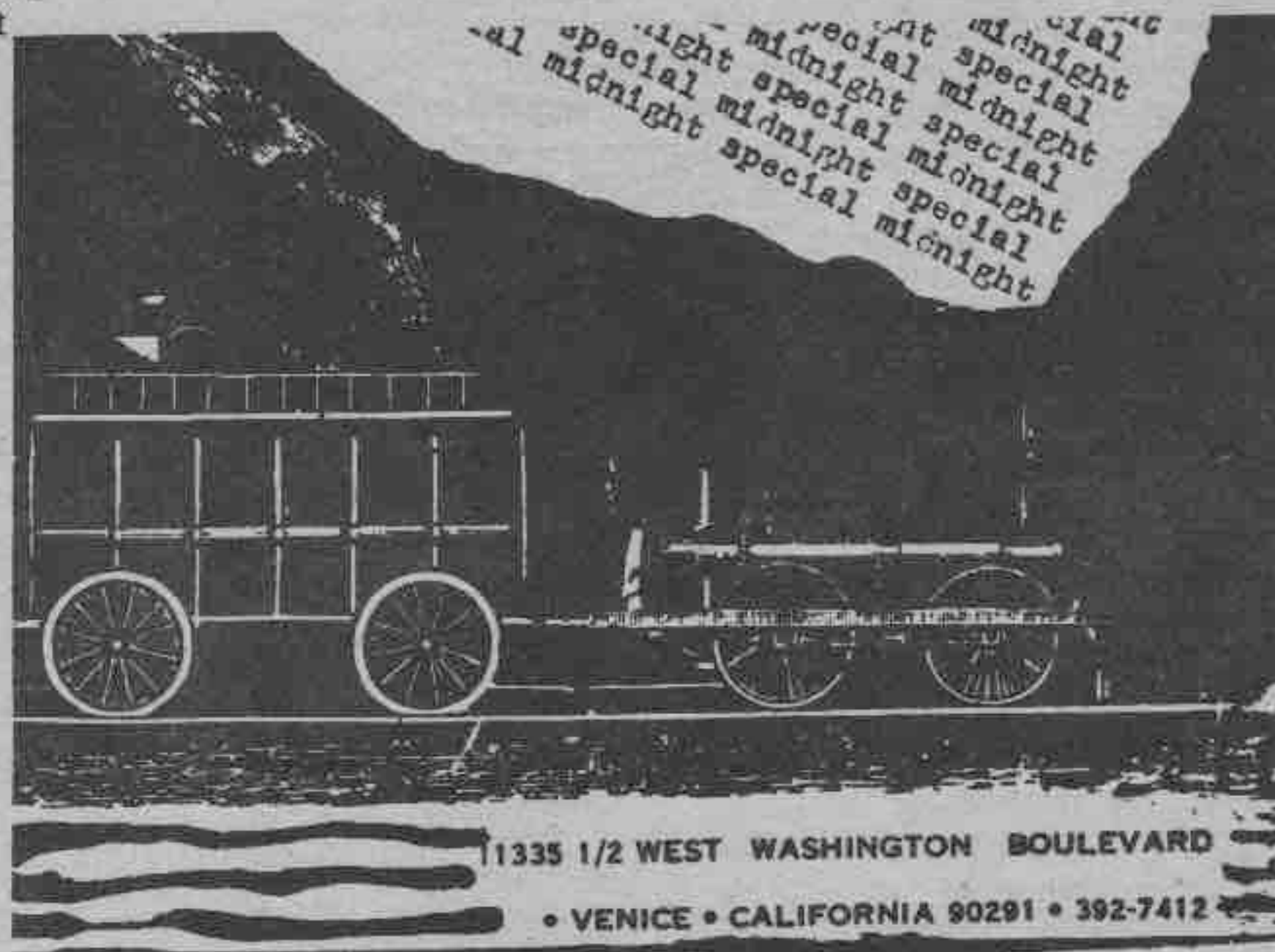
Elisberg and I are charged with a total of fifteen counts ranging from "conspiracy to defraud the government" to stealing, receiving, concealing, communicating, national defense documents and stolen government property."

All this really means that the government is trying to make itself into a space age administrative mystical occult with Richard Nixon as the Grand Dragon. In this case the Grand Dragon wants to be our god and punish us for disobeying him when we oppose his criminal war. But Grand Dragon Nixon's heaven is an, over,se, perverse, OBscene version of the universe - OB means "out of balance." Only the people can right the balance. In individual cases like ours only the jury can free us; do they represent the people? Yes and no. Will they free us? Maybe RAND knows. Maybe they will. One thing is certain, if they are fair and believe in the American peoples right to know as a fundamental democratic right, then the jury will ac-

quit us. The government has shown time and again however that they don't believe in the Bill of Rights and the governments beliefs influence the middle and upper classes who usually make up the juries. Therefore it is the poor people that we have to look to for support to balance the prejudices of the government and their effect on the middle and upper classes.

When people follow their conscience instead of Nixon, the grand dragon, it freaks him out. With the support of the oppressed people we will win. When we win there will be a deluge of leaks much more important than the Pentagon Papers; and the illegitimate authority based on lies, secrecy, and deceit (establishment LSD) will fail.

I hope everyone comes to support us at our trial in June in the federal court house at 312 N. Spring in downtown L.A. (watch for the date). We need help from everyone in the Santa Monica -- Venice community -- even people who work at RAND -- as well as the people who live down the street. All those interested in a government of, by, and for the people have just as much stake in the trial as Dan and I. If you support us, we will win. Those wanting to help write P.O. Box 41, c/o Pentagon Papers Peace Project, Venice, Calif. 90291. Remember the famous American Revolutionary words: "Together we stand - divided we fall."



Fear in the Air

The seventeen foot steel mesh fence, newly erected around the back of the courtroom, the heavily armed sheriff's deputies in evidence everywhere, the occasional ominous buzzing of helicopters overhead testify to the fear aroused in the authorities by Angela Davis on trial for conspiracy, murder and kidnapping. The courtroom seats only 30 newsmen and 30 spectators -- several people are turned away daily, some after travelling across the country or distant parts of the world. Those first 30 are submitted to frisking, photographing, and have to give identification, social security number and pass by a metal detector-- anyone for whom there is a warrant is arrested then and there.

As the trial proceeds it becomes daily more evident that the charges of conspiracy may well be levelled at the wrong side. Even some of the press are aware of the credibility gap. For example it is evident that Assistant Attorney General Albert Harris has drilled the prosecution witnesses to testify as he sees fit:

1) Juror Maria Elena Graham testified under cross examination by defense attorney Howard Moore that she was "ashamed to admit" that Harris had really "influenced" her to "remember" things she did not testify to in earlier depositions.

2) Photographer Kean, from the scab San Rafael Journal (also a personal friend of the slain Judge Haley) could not remember, under cross-examination, where he had parked his car, where he had met Sheriff Hughes, or what equipment he had with him — while he meticulously marked on the prosecutor's map exactly where he had seen each of the persons involved in the escape, where he himself was standing each time, and the exact route of the hostages to the van, every foot of the way!

3) Captain Teague could not positively identify the gun brought in evidence - whether it was a police weapon or not - the serial numbers were scratched out.

It is clear that Harris is trying to minimize the political aspect of the trial, which has attracted world-wide attention - by giving it a sensational slant, emphasizing a more useful motive from the prosecution's viewpoint.

"She was not interested in prison reform, she was not interested in social justice," he hammered at the jury in his 4-hour opening statement. "Her motive was passion—pure and simple human passion. She was only interested in George Jackson."

We can see the absurdity of this accusation when we recall that Angela and George Jackson met only once, in prison. To say she was not interested in prison reform or social justice is also an absurdity, when we recall the Regents' outcries against her "political activities" on behalf of Bobby Seale, Erika Huggins, and her publicizing of the events surrounding the shooting of students at Jackson State and Kent State, and her insistence on social justice for the poor and oppressed everywhere. As early as three years ago she was fired for her "political speeches" on behalf of all the Soledad Brothers!

Poised and eloquent, Angela brought out these points in her much shorter opening statement in her own defense. "Mr. Harris is taking advantage of the fact that I'm a woman, and women are supposed to act only on the dictates of their passions. This is typical of the male chauvinism so prevalent in this society." She explained how she long fought for justice for all prisoners and had become fond of the families of all the inmates involved in the struggle for justice in the prisons.

We cannot believe that the woman who so patently lives her philosophy was moved by irrational selfish typical passion that male chauvinists attribute to women. The Phi Beta Kappa philosopher who constantly fought for the oppressed and poor of all races, who emerged from the ivory tower to implement what she had learned through childhood in Alabama, schooling in Europe, and experience as a black intellectual woman in America, is surely being attacked in a supreme last effort by the forces that be. Let her not be silenced! She fought for the oppressed, and is being persecuted now herself.


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Lady Beware

Once a month the Venice Police hold Basic Car Plan meetings with the community to try to build a rapport with the people living in the area that they patrol. At the meeting held on April 4th at the Venice Pavilion the topic was "Lady Beware." There was a short film followed by a demonstration by a judo-expert on self-defense tactics that women could use if attacked. The audience felt, and the police spokesman agreed, that the tactics shown would be effective only if the attacker were cooperative. Women were advised that they should "remain as calm as possible" and "scream to frighten the attacker away."

Following the demonstration the people and police discussed rape, which is a genuine threat for women living in the Venice area. Last month there were 3 rapes reported to the Venice police. However a recent F.B.I. report shows that only about one of every 10 rapes is actually reported.

Women who are raped are usually advised to report because they fear to be attacked again, either by the same man or by his friends. Also, women who are raped often feel ashamed of what's occurred and blame themselves. We impressed upon the police that a woman who is a victim of rape and is being held for ques-

tioning is often made to feel as if she is the criminal, not the victim. She is also less apt to be cooperative with the police since she has just been assaulted by a man, and being with policemen is not the most comforting situation for a woman at that time. She might want a woman there to help her feel comforted and less afraid. We told the police that at the Westside Women's Center, 218 S. Venice Blvd., there will be a list of women's names who will be glad to help during the time of her interrogation. We feel that once the rape victim feels calmed, it will be much easier for police to communicate with her, getting

the necessary information needed to identify the man who's raped her. We want her to have a choice as to whether or not she wants a woman present or not. The police agreed with this but said they would first need approval from the police chief, and then from the city. It's not known how long this will take.

We have told police we wanted priority for women who are in need of help over other calls.

Sisters, if you are assaulted and/or raped by a man, call the police first, and then the Westside Women's Center, 823-4774. See who gets there first.

Crash Housing

"I have no place to stay, no money, I haven't eaten for two days." A call that might be received by the Free Venice Switchboard. People come into town without any money, and want a place to stay until they can find a job, get on welfare, or decide to move on.

But in Los Angeles, the situation is very bad. There are a few small institutions offering free temporary housing, but nothing that really meets the needs. Places like the L.A. Free Clinic, Ex-Helps, the Gay Community Services Center, and different switchboards try their best. Existing facilities could be overwhelmed this summer when thousands of youths will be on the road.

In Venice, things are especially tough. Men and women sell their bodies for a place to stay, or spend the night walking the streets to avoid arrest. There are no institutions offering crash housing in Venice.

Perhaps the reason for the lack of free beds is that too many people steal from their benefactors. But the problem is that we live under the worst manifestation of capitalism, where there is plenty of money for moon shots and jet planes, but little money for helping people. When established institutions refuse to serve the people, the people must attempt to serve themselves.

Plans are well under way for a youth hostel in West Hollywood that would be run by representatives of the YMCA, the Gay Community Services Center, the L.A. Free Clinic and a group of West Hollywood churches. This hostel would house 25 or 30 people per night, at no charge for up to three days.

Beverly Edmon, community and welfare rights worker, has been successful in finding beds for people in Venice, in spite of community fear of stealing. However, the person seeking help must be honest and sincere in making real efforts on his part to survive.

Ms. Edmon says, "We bring into the scene sensitive questioning people who can quickly analyse the sincerity of the individual. We then find a bed and food amongst ourselves and give out all of the resource information we have about jobs, welfare, etc. The sincerity of the person is obvious if the individual makes personal efforts to use the resource information about jobs, welfare, school loans, drug programs, etc."

Venice desperately needs a hostel. In the meantime, the Free Venice Switchboard is trying to prepare for the summer rush by building up a file of people who will let people sleep on their floors or in their yards for a night. This summer, there will be many youths just trying to see the country while they are out of school. Those who can put up travelers or are interested in hostels should call the Switchboard at 821-6101, or write to 1727 W. Washington Blvd., Venice 90291.

needed here to make it successful is the understanding and commitment that taking control of the food selection process for the group, a process important to life, be shared democratically. Therefore no member burdens another by not taking on his responsibility.

In the centralized food conspiracy organization, distribution is different from the decentralized one. The food is distributed from one location, either a store of church basement. This eliminates the hassle of finding many distribution points and trucking the food to them. The Common Market Food Conspiracy in Madison, Wisconsin is a centralized food buying club. But they have grown so large that they have to distribute four times per week. Work is done by volunteers and each member signs up for a job when putting his food order in. The food conspiracy in Madison, Wisconsin has been in operation for several years. In St. Louis, Mo. there is a very large successful food co-op which has been growing by leaps and bounds each week. The Community Collectives Food Co-operative had to change from an individual membership structure to a group membership organiza-



rather than investigating and prosecuting those responsible.

The issues that were being raised by the community people when the committee was abruptly dissolved with the illegal surveillance done not only by the law enforcement agencies, but also by the D.A.'s office itself.

Marge Buckley stated, "The effect of obvious surveillance is to put a chill on the organized activities protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution."

She then added, "The D.A.'s office should be investigating these illegal activities, not joining them."

Marge Buckley's campaign headquarters is at 226 San Juan Avenue, Free Venice, Calif. 90291, 396-6876.

Buckley

Marge Buckley, candidate for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office, has called the sudden dissolution of the special Los Angeles County Committee to study conflicts between local law enforcement agencies and the Mexican-American community a slap in the face at the Chicano community.

She said, "The problems of the people in the community have again been ignored by the District Attorney who has failed to take any initiative in providing a strong leadership role in this controversy. Instead, he and his officers have followed the dictates of the Police and Sheriff Departments in walking out of the Committee."

The Blue Ribbon committee had been set up to deal with the problems between the police and Chicano community and it was dissolved hastily and secretly by the law enforcement agencies without the knowledge or concurrence of the community members.

According to Ms. Buckley, "As soon as it became apparent that the community leaders on the committee were concerned with achieving some meaningful solutions to the situation which exists in the minority community, the law enforcement agencies backed out. It is obvious that they could not stand the light of public scrutiny. This is another specific example of the D.A.'s office being used to cover up the worsening conditions

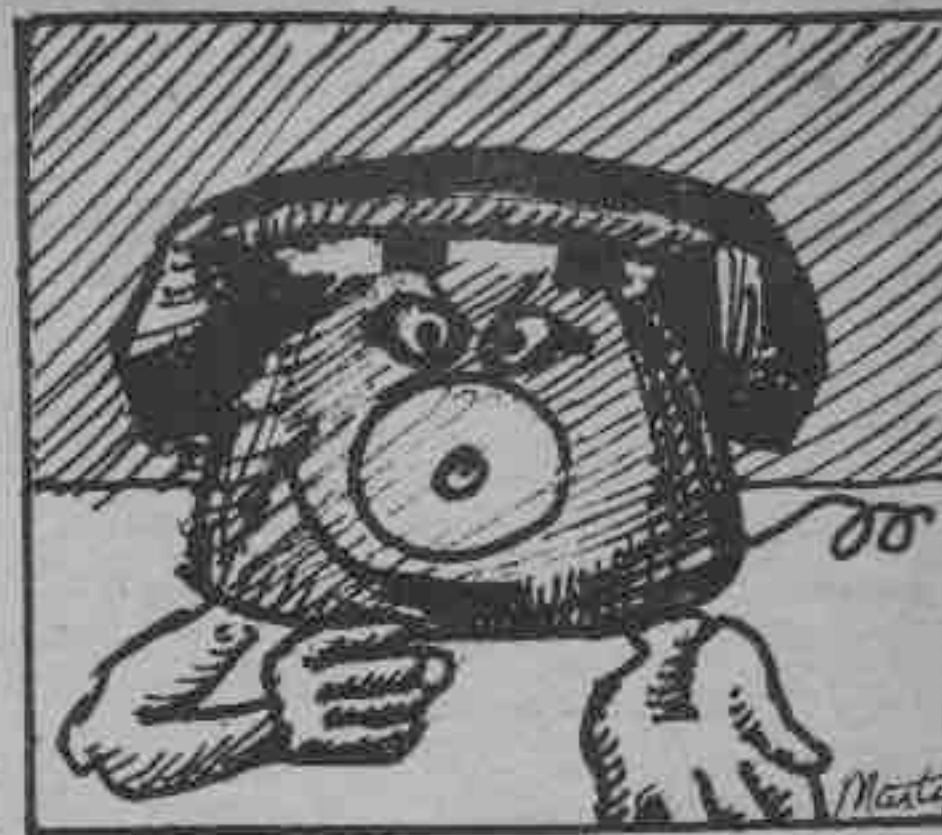
Food Co-Ops

Food co-ops are neither new nor typically American. It may interest our Venice readers to learn that Saskatchewan, Canada is one of the major centers of the world's co-op movement and there are gas stations, granaries, lumber stores which are co-op in addition to food stores. Their telephone and transportation system is also co-operative with the government running it. That would mean that one could trade in any coop store in the whole province since transportation is cheap, and accessible. The Canadian co-ops do share one of our problems though. American corporations to the tune of 40 billion are working against the co-op movement in Canada just as in Venice, the Safeway stores, a subsidiary of Standard Oil, tries to see that our Venice Food Co-op goes under.

There are various types of food co-ops. There is the co-operatively owned store where members buy stock and then shares

are sold. This kind of store is run like any other with prices usually only slightly lower and profits are returned to the members who use the co-op. Their staff is paid and the store of this kind tends to become impersonal like a cheap supermarket.

The other type of food co-op is the co-operative buying club, sometimes known as the food conspiracy. There are two ways of running this kind of food co-op, decentralized or centralized. In the decentralized co-op, the members get together once a week and draw up their collective food needs. Then some members go down to the wholesale market and bring produce back. The food is then distributed from various neighborhood locations. The work that needs to be done is shared by the members each one taking turns in doing the jobs. This kind of co-op is very flexible and can adjust work schedules and distribution work to suit the membership. But what is



AT & T

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company is the world's largest corporation, employing over one million workers. The Equal Employment Opportunities Commission has characterized AT&T as "without a doubt the largest oppressor of women workers in the US." AT&T also practices a policy of deliberate discrimination against its more than 100,000 Black and Spanish-surnamed employees.

AT&T has admitted that if it hired men as operators it would have to raise operators' wages, which are only half of what the male craft workers are paid.

Besides oppressing its workers, the Bell companies overcharge the consumer. They buy equipment from their own subsidiary, Western Electric. 1/6 of their revenue goes to stockholders as unearned profits. 1/10 is advertising and marketing costs, which should be unnecessary for a public utility, especially one that is a monopoly. The government agencies that are supposed to regulate AT&T's policies act as the company's servant instead. The Federal Communications Commission at one time assured AT&T it had nothing to worry about hearings; then it called the hearings off altogether, saying the federal agency was too short-handed to investigate the giant monopoly.

The New American Movement, a new nationwide socialist organization, is conducting research into the phone company in several regions of the United States. NAM has testified before the Price Commission in Washington, pointing out that a worker-controlled, socialist telephone company in a socialist society could save \$9,000,000,000 which is more than the current total charges for local telephone service. This means that as a minimum a publicly owned telephone company could offer free local service to all telephone users.

Besides free local service, NAM demands: an end to all discrimination now, no rate increase considerations until the discrimination ends, and sharp reductions in rates to fight inflation. The Inquiry on April 28 in Los Angeles is part of this nationwide program by the New American Movement, P O box 26303, Los Angeles.



tion. Each individual joins a group and each group has the responsibility of running the co-operative at different times.

One St. Louis food co-op hit upon a novel solution to cut down the amount of work because of too few volunteers. Shares for food are sold on a \$2.50 and \$5 orders and the multiples thereof and the range of ordering produce is limited. This eliminated waste and curtailed the amount of work hours. Every one had to order the same kind of foods, however.

The Venice Food Conspiracy has been operating as a decentralized food buying club, purchasing milk, cheese, eggs and other dairy products, fruits and vegetables, both organic and inorganic, as well as a wide range of grains, nuts and oils at

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

Monthly

Calendar

WOMEN'S CENTER OPEN STAFF MEETING
219 S. Venice Bl. Info: 823-4774. 3 pm
Monday.

CHILDREN'S DANCE CLASS - Venice Pavillion, Info: 399-2775, Ages 7-9: 3: 30 pm
Ages 10-12: 4: 15 pm. Monday & Wednesday.

RAPS ON BIRTH CONTROL, VD and just plain sex, Venice Youth Clinic, 821-3484, 6 pm, Monday-Wednesday-Friday.

CRISIS GROUP - Venice Youth Clinic, Call Denise, 821-3484. Takes place Monday night.

VENICE AD-HOC COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE meeting, at the NAPP office, 1101 W. Washington Bl, Info: 399-7737.

7: 30 pm Mondays.

CO-OP ACTION COUNCIL meeting on Co-operatives in Urban Areas, above the Co-op Market, 2021 Barrington Av, W.L.A., 7: 30 pm, first & third Monday.

WOMEN'S CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING GROUP - 218 S. Venice Bl, info: 823-4774 8 pm, Monday.

PEOPLE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE (west-side) meeting at the Santa Monica Unitarian Church, 18th & Arizona, 8 pm, first and third Monday.

GUITAR CLASSES - Venice Pavillion, Windward and Ocean Front. Children- 3: 30 pm Adults- 4: 30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday.

SANTA MONICA PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY meeting. Call 399-7663, first and third Tuesday.

HATHA YOGA CLASSES at Earl Newman's Prints, 1725 W. Washington Bl. donation requested. 6: 30 - 8 pm, Tuesday.

LAVENDER PEOPLE meeting, 829 Palms, Info: 823-2236, 7: 30 pm Tuesday.

Co-Op cont'd

wholesale prices. The conspiracy has grown in the two years of its existence but would still accept new members if they were able to give it the understanding and commitment that a co-operative venture requires, working with and for the people.

All cells meet every Tuesday at 8pm at the following locations: Dairy cell at 2505 1/2 Oakwood, Venice; Staples cell (grains, nuts, and oils) at 620 Lincoln, Venice; Inorganic Produce at Ocean Park Community Center, Hill and 3rd, S.M.; and Organic Produce meets at 441 Sherman Canal, Venice.

FREE VENICE FOOD CONSPIRACY

Meetings, Tuesday, 8 pm
Dairy-Bread-Fish - 2505 1/2 Oakwood
Staples - 620 Lincoln, above the Fox
Organic Produce - 441 Sherman Canal
Inorganic Produce - Ocean Park Community Center, 245 Hill, Santa Monica.

YOGA-MEDITATION - Instruction in Yoga postures followed by chanting and group meditation. Ocean Park Methodist Church, 235 Hill St, Santa Monica, Info: 392-1307 6: 30 pm Wednesday.

VENICE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE meeting to plan a nationwide Summer conference in Venice dealing with urban problems. Info: 396-6876, 8 pm Wednesday.

POETRY WORKSHOP at Beyond Baroque, 1639 W. Washington Bl, Info: 396-6551, 8: 30 pm Wednesday.

GAY STREET THEATRE - Call Gardner, 396-2462. Straights welcome. Wednesday.

WOMEN'S CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING GROUPS - 218 S. Venice Bl, Info: 823-4774 7: 30 pm Thursday. (If interested in forming a men's consciousness raising group, call Ron Butler, 396-4032.

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR Meeting of L.A. Chapter, 1508 2nd St, Santa Monica, Info: 451-9281, 8 pm Thursday.

YOGA CLASSES - Ananda Marga Yoga Society, Venice Pavillion, Windward and Ocean Front. Info: 392-1307, 9: 30 am Saturday.

LAVENDER PEOPLE Rap and pot-luck, for location call 823-2236. 2 pm Sunday.

Weekly

SAT APRIL 22 - Peace March Starts at Bronson & Wilshire (just east of Crenshaw) at 10 am. March east on Wilshire at 11 am Rally at Douglas McArthur Park at 1 pm Info: 487-3535.

SAT & SUN APRIL 22 & 23 - No Oil will explain their activities to the public.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

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821-6100, crash pads, info, etc.

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and
1607 Pacific (upstairs) - 392-4177
M-F 9-5

DRUG ABUSE
PRC (crisis) 6th & Sunset - 392-5744
and
Drug Clinic, 1806 Lincoln, 8am-9pm - 392-4151

YOUTH CLINIC
905 Venice Blvd., 4:30 - 10pm
821-3484, draft counselling, group therapy

CALIF. VETS
1508 2nd st., S.M., 451-9281

WELFARE & FOOD STAMPS
11390 W. Olympic, 478-5511

WOMEN'S CENTER
218 S. Venice Blvd. - 823-4774.
abortion referral

ABORTION REFERRAL
392-4163

FOOD CO-OP
Dairy: 2505 1/2 Oakwood, Venice
Inorganic produce: Ocean Park Community Center, 3rd & Hill,
S.M. Staples: 620 Lincoln; Organic: 441 Sherman Canal.

LAVENDER PEOPLE
823-2236
guerrilla Theatre

HITCHHIKERS
399-ride

JOB INFO CENTER
316 Lincoln - 392-4811

VENICE LIBRARY
610 California, 821-1769
M-F, 1-9 Sat 9:30-1

North parking lot of the Co-op Market, 2021 Barrington Av, W. L.A. 10 am - 4 pm
Info: 478-3429.

SAT APRIL 11 - Environmental Movies and free wild flowers seeds at the Westside Environmental Center, behind the Co-op Market, 2021 Barrington Av, W. L.A. Info: 478-3429. 11am - 6 pm.

TUES APRIL 25 - Lecture on Chicano Education by Sal Castro at the Venice Library, 610 California, 7: 30 pm.

WED APRIL 26 - Venice Health Council meeting, NAPP Office, 1101 W. Washington Bl, 8 pm.

SAT APRIL 29 - Women's Center General Meeting, 218 S. Venice Bl, Info: 823-4774 11 am.

SUN APRIL 30 - Fishing Derby at the Venice Pier. Info: 399-2775, 1 pm.

THURS MAY 4 - Women's Research Group 218 S. Venice Bl, Info: 823-4774, 10 am.

SAT MAY 6 - Demonstration in support of Billy Dean Smith. Details: 451-9281.

SUN MAY 7 - Ananda Marga Yoga Picnic at Strand Park, 4th & Strand, Santa Monica. Info: 392-1307. Starts 2: 30 pm.

SUN MAY 7 - Bocci Tournament at the Venice Pavillion. Windward & Ocean Front. Adults. Info: 399-2775. 1 pm.

WED MAY 10 - Lecture: "Chicano Literature Written by Chicanos" Venice Library, 610 California, 7: 30 pm.

TUES MAY 16 - Lecture by Iceberg Slim, author of Pimp. Promises to be very interesting. Venice Library, 610 California, 7: 30 pm.

WED MAY 17 - Venice Woodwind Quintet Venice Library, 610 California, 7:30 pm.

THURS MAY 18 - Women's Research Group Info: 823-4774, 10 am.

SUN MAY 21 - Chin dip Contest Venice Pavillion weight-lifting area. Info: 399-2775 1 pm.

SAT MAY 27 - Women's Center General Meeting, 218 S. Venice Bl, Info: 823-4774 11 am.

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Community Bulletin Board getting it together

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BEACHHEAD needs help. Editors, reporters, typesetters, ad-getters if it's not to close down. Write P.O. Box 664 to offer your help.

Venice Day Care - ages 2-5; small group - two teachers. 9-4 call 399-6634; after 4 call 392-5170, 396-9972.

Jerry Goldstein, our staff photographer, will shoot your party, bodypainting, initiation or what have you for possible publication. 823-7374.

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An Actor-Hero and An Actor-Demon

Charlie Chaplin

Charlie Chaplin, the living legend of the international film world, the man who did as much to create the Hollywood motion picture world as anyone, the man who was shunned by this same Hollywood for being too far left politically, the man who had to leave this country because of his cinematic translation of his political beliefs into art, this profound, world famous man, is being honored by this same Hollywood at Monday night's annual Academy Awards Presentations.

Why, one might ask, should the Academy take one step back and to the left and honor a man they only 20 years before ran out of the country, declaring him a social outcast?

(Remember, this same Academy, this same weird Hollywood finally honored Orson Welles in 1970, almost 30 years after "Citizen Kane.")

I surely don't have the answer to this enigmatic question. It is important to realize that it was this country that brought out Chaplin's art to the world, and it was this country that essentially took it back from him. (Chaplin is English by birth and he didn't come here until his late teens.)

Is Hollywood trying to come to grips with its own guilt for "kicking this man out of America?" Is Hollywood trying to flow with the new times, the hip-times, as they realize that the youth of today

has made Chaplin, the artist, a hero, just as it made Che Guevara, the doctor, a hero? It's a sure thing that Hollywood is confused by the thing they have created; the beautiful monster called social art.

Says Andrew Sarris, film historian and critic: "For Chaplin, American is like Dawn Addams, a fantasy and a delusion, a marvelous world that he may revisit but that he will never reconquer, viewed as a whole, Chaplin's career is a cinematic biography on the highest level of artistic expression."

To delve into countless details about Chaplin and his work I think is unnecessary. We all know Chaplin. He has made us all laugh. Anyone who has seen even one Chaplin film knows the feeling of the great man. One only has to see his "Modern Times," (1936) an incredible parody of American mass production; or "The Great Dictator" (1940), his own personal vendetta on Adolph Hitler, to understand that the role of an artist is to see and then to report to the world what has been seen.

Charlie Chaplin has done this reporting, he has done his job, just as Leonardo Da Vinci and William Shakespeare have done theirs. He understands the human condition and the social condition. He has told us through his films what we are like.

Venice Conference Committee

The Committee is planning the Venice Event for June 17 and 18. This will be a combination summer festival-conference to explore with Venice residents the problems of the community and their potential solutions. Block parties are being organized to spread the word and the spirit. The Planning committee for the festival meets Wednesday evenings at 226 San Juan. Call 392-8341, 396-9972, 396-6876

for information.

The next block party is the last Sunday in April. Call one of the above numbers for more information.

The group providing the music is a new music group called the Venice Beach Blues Band. They currently give free concerts on Sundays at 1201 Ocean Front Walk. On Sat. and Sun. evenings they play at the Westwinds on the Oceanfront.



Venice Free Theater

The Venice Free Theatre II has begun work on MISA DEL MAR which will open July 4th weekend to run for five consecutive weekends at the Venice Pavillion, Oceanfront and Windward. MISA DEL

MAR is a rock musical story, original, created by members of the Venice Free Theatre. Admission is free. Planning meetings for the group at the Pavillion on on Thursdays at 8pm.

**STOP
THE
BOMBING OUT
NOW!!!**

**Demonstrate April 22 - L.A.
Assemble-Bronson & Wilshire 10 a.m.
March - Wilshire 11 am
Rally - McArthur Park - 1 pm**

Activist Priest To Jail Again

NEW MAG

A new magazine of travel hints called FREE is out. "It's about traveling free, living free, being free," says Bill Seavey editor. But the mag is not free. Subscriptions are \$298 for four copies and they can be gotten from FREE, 704 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif. 90401.



Father Philip Berrigan wrote in his prison journal (Prison Journal of a Revolutionary Priest) that the noose is ever present for the poor stepping out of line. Today his own head is being pushed into the noose. Serving a six-year sentence for anti-war activities, Father Berrigan has been reconvicted, this time for smuggling letters out of prison. Prisoners would chuckle at the hypocrisy of the court in this one. They knew that most prisoners have tried smuggling letters out of prisons at one time or another. So the persecution of Father Berrigan and Sister McAlister is selective.

How the establishment must hate Catholic priests who point to the tyranny and hypocrisy and evil of the government, and call the church to task for blessing the acts of Caesar - the war in Vietnam. And now with the reescalation of the war, they wish to silence Father Berrigan and Sister McAlister with more prison.

Father Berrigan has confessed that he would never be a partner to the bloodletting in Asia, nor the violence of non-white children, nor the violence to the poor. Dare we keep silent?

Governor Aspiring To Be President

(poem of an aging former star)

In the wake of all the grease turned out of the hamburger machines (the media) inundating us with election campaign propaganda.

greeting the governor is
walking barefoot over broken promises
they cut and they hurt
it's best to wear shoes or
avoid them
or him (permanent avoidance: out of office)



if you've seen one
redwood VETO ecology
VETO beaches VETO
students VETO migrants VETO
communists VETO earthquakes
VETO welfare VETO prison reform
VETO midical VETO highways VETO
teachers VETO amnesty
VETO another VETO
VETO VETO
more VETO
VETO and the cry of no money

if you've seen one
DEAD bird or fish or politician
questions:
why does offshore drilling continue?
why does the freeway straddle the san andreas fault?
true for false quiz:
the governor owns some fine horses.
some fine oil companies own the governor.
angela davis is innocent.
more questions:
who shot george jackson?
what ever happened to jane?
why don't they show The Killers on tv?

peter jones