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# FREE VENICE

# BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

FEBRUARY, 1976 NUMBER 74 P.O. BOX 504, VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291



**WE SURVIVE  
ON YOUR  
DONATIONS**

396-9325 396-1941

## MURAL MADNESS

Open letter to the Commissioners:

In reference to a letter dated November 1st, 1975 sent by Ms. Myrtle Wilson to various city departments and to Mr. Kang, the owner of the market, she has made several erroneous accusations regarding the mural at Dell and Venice Blvd., that we would like to clarify.

The first accusation is that we had no approval for the mural from the City of L.A. The mural was approved in February 1975 at an Area Council Meeting by the Area Council and Christina Schlesinger and Silvia Morales from the Mural Resources Center. After that, we hand carried the drawing with a petition to the Canal Community for approval. Mrs. Wilson stated that we received approval from the community, yet she says that this is not what the community wants! Emily Winters (Cordova) and Nancy McCulloch then presented the drawing to Mr. Kang on March 19, 1975. At that time, the drawing had been by the Area Town Council, the Canal Community, and the Mural Resources Center. Mr. Kang was pleased with the mural and gave his permission without arm twisting or any other persuasion. He did not interpret it as degrading to the police department. In fact, he called Emily Winters, after Myrtle Wilson called him on November 4, and said he was very confused by Myrtle's interpretations. He also said how happy he was and considered the mural a beautiful work of art.

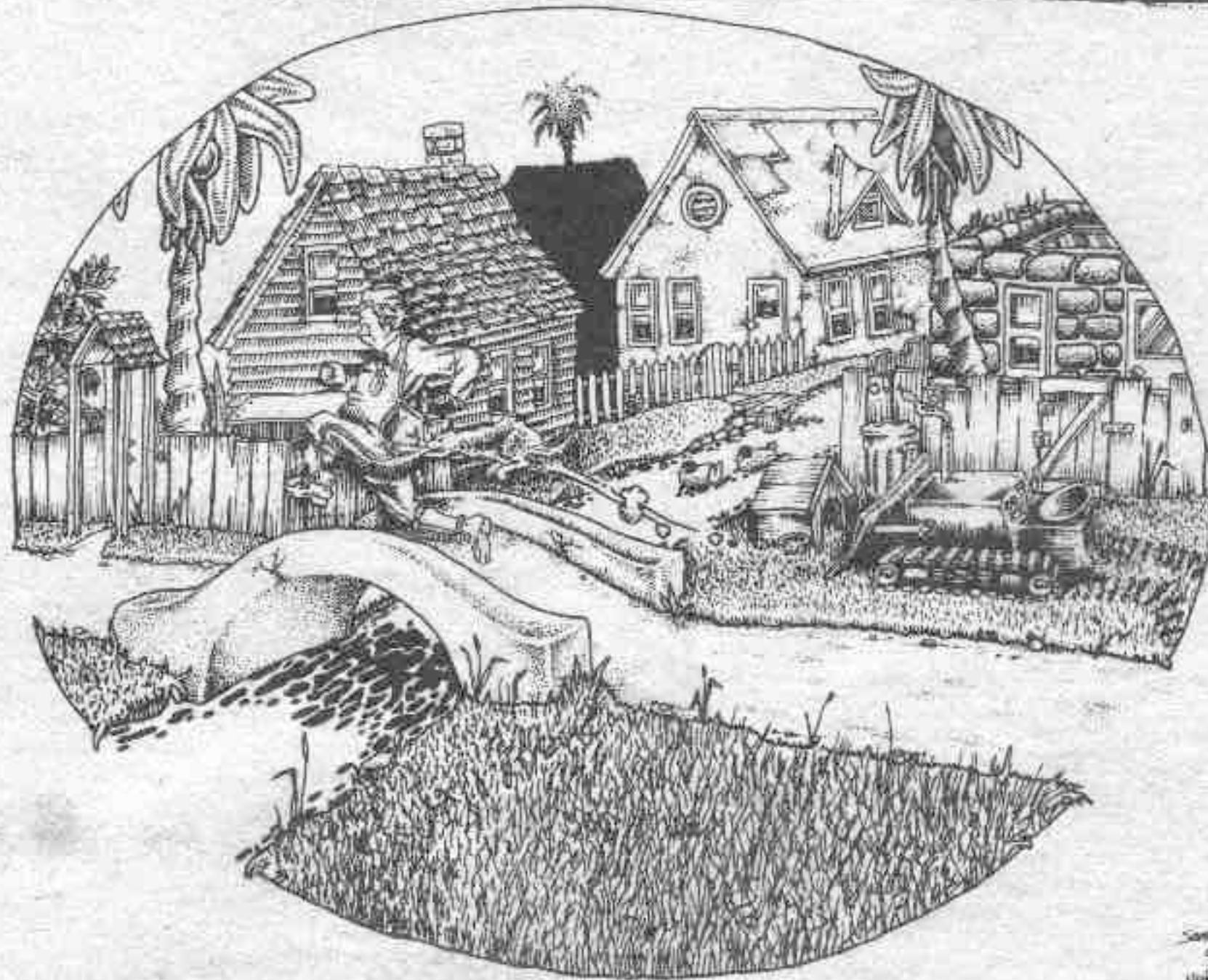
Myrtle Wilson then writes her assumption that "stop the Pig" is degrading to our police forces. "Stop the Pig" is a statement about greed. If Jaya had meant for "Stop the Pig" to be an anti-police statement, wouldn't you think that police would be depicted in the mural? Rather, the mural shows a community continuing to exist despite the speculators, the realtors, the developers and any forces that put property rights above human rights.

Myrtle Wilson has challenged our right to express ourselves as members of the Canal Community and as a collective of women artists. We are not challenging Myrtle's right to speak, nor to be heard. We are challenging her right to speak for or against a community that she does not reside in, or own property in. We are also challenging the deceptive way in which she gains attention. Myrtle and her small group call themselves the Venice-Marina Women's Chamber of Commerce. Their letters state "The Chamber feels.....The Chamber is very concerned.... Upon a little investigation we find that they are a non-profit corporation, Licence # 193288 with a post office box for an address. We find the membership consists mainly of realtors (Myrtle and her husband own a real estate company in Mar Vista) a few small time speculators and one canal property owner. They do not publicize their meetings and indeed, they are not even listed as a Chamber of Commerce in the local telephone book. Myrtle has misled and misrepresented herself through an impressive letterhead to various city agencies involving the unsuspecting representatives of the city in a perpetuation of this fraud.

Katie O'Hara, President of the Marina Women's Chamber, which is a part of the Marina Chamber of Commerce with membership of over 200, has described them as a renegade group; as one having no connection with the Marina Chartered Chamber, or the Venice Chamber of Commerce with its 250 membership. Ken Jewett, President of the Venice Chamber in conversation states "that Myrtle should just be ignored, that's what the Venice Chamber does." But it's rather hard to ignore people that see everything as a commodity, whether it is people's lives, people's money.

Finally, lets talk about using taxpayer's money. Canal women in Jaya have been called upon to attend 6 meetings at the Department

(continued on page 2)



PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND PROGRESS  
UNTIL IT GETS IN THEIR WAY.

WE UNDERSTAND PROGRESS.  
EACH TIME WE LOSE OUR HOMES,  
OR PAY A RENT INCREASE, BECAUSE  
OF A TAX INCREASE  
OR WATCH A TREE COME DOWN OR  
THE GRASS DISAPPEAR OR  
THE DUCKS DISAPPEAR  
AND THE CONDOS GO UP  
WE UNDERSTAND PROGRESS.

IT'S UP TO US NOW TO STOP THE  
PEOPLE THAT LOOK AT LIFE AS A COMMODITY  
TO BUY OR SELL WHEN THE MARKET DEMANDS

IT'S UP TO US TO BE STRONG, FREE,  
UNITED AS ONE, ACTING AS ONE.

IT'S UP TO US!

Nancy McCulloch

# FOOD STAMPS UNDER ATTACK

By Milton Takei, New American Movement

On January 23, 1975, the banner headline in the Los Angeles Times street edition read: L.A. POLICE TRAIN FOR FOOD RIOTS. A smaller headline at the very top of the page read, "Cut Social Spending-Ford." The thought passes through one's mind that the two headlines were somehow meant to be connected. Though there was no such connection, one year later, President Ford and others have submitted proposals to the U.S. Congress that would severely cut back on the food stamp program, and this is merely part of a general attack on government social services.

Food stamp recipients are being portrayed as driving cadillacs and buying steaks. Yet, a survey done for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (which runs the food stamp program) showed in 1973 that 45% of food stamp households had an after tax income of less than \$3,000/year, 92% had incomes of less than \$7,000, and there were virtually no food stamp families with incomes over \$10,000/year. There is much talk about "food stamp chiselers" yet the Department of Agriculture itself says that less than one tenth of one percent of all participating households commits fraud.

The attacks on the food stamp program are part of a general attack on government social services. The recession has increased the costs of programs, while cutting government revenues. More important, big business is talking about a "capital shortage" - they "need" money for investment (about \$20,000 per person in the U.S. in the next ten years)

and are willing to beg, borrow or steal it. Big business is concerned about the federal government competing with them by trying to borrow money from the same sources - thus they want the federal budget as low as possible, and they'd rather not hurt the profit-making military budget. President Ford is willing to spend billions to build bombers, aid reactionary governments abroad and intervene in Angola, yet says he wants to cut back the food stamp program out of "fairness to over-burdened taxpayers."

Big business does not really need this money, except to insure its own profits. A big part of the money would go to extract more coal and oil, and build more power plants, especially expensive and dangerous nuclear plants. More solar energy, extensive mass transit and serious conservation measures would dramatically lower energy costs. However, these measures would dramatically lower profits, as well, so are not given much priority.

We need to organize against the attacks on the food stamp program. At the same time, we must try to look beyond the present food stamp program towards a food distribution that will truly serve everybody's needs.

There are many problems with the present food stamp program which make it considerably less than ideal. Only a fraction of eligible people participate in the program: as of May, 1975, the program had 19.6 million participants out of some 29.2 million

(continued on page 4)



# Letters



To all male readers:

When you are hitch-hiking, and I drive past you, I have a reason for doing so. I am Female.

When you approach me in broad daylight to ask directions, or just to see how I'm doing-please forgive me if I don't return your honest, friendly greetings. But I am Female.

I have recently had some BAD experiences with guys, and unfair as it may seem, I tend to distrust every guy I meet. I came THAT close to being raped at knifepoint by a complete stranger. The main reason I write, is to plead with all you "normal" men to be aware of the type of situation I speak of. Influence your brothers to treat all women as humans; not to be taken advantage of, or be forced against their will.

And, also to help us destroy the weapon wielding perverts on the streets right now.

MJD  
Milwaukee, Wisc

Dear Beachhead,

Los Angeles County Supervisors Ward, Edelman & Schabarum admit they know nothing about herbicides or dioxins, yet they approved a 90 million dollar grant to the Forest Service to maintain recreational services, disregarding the fact that the Forest Service continues to use the chemicals 2,4-D and 2,4-DP and in some instances 2,4,5-T which is "Agent Orange" that causes children to be born with an extra chromosome and badly deformed bodies that will not attain more than a 7-10 year old mentality in adulthood.

It is not only a terrible health hazard but a big waste of taxpayers money, not only for the cost of the chemicals but for the inevitable lawsuits that are sure to follow when the mothers find out who caused their childrens monstrous deformities.

These chemicals were used in Vietnam as defoliants until the U.S. Surgeon General ordered them stopped from military use in 1970, so now the Chemical Companies are unloading their deadly defoliants on us.

Furthermore, the Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) findings show that most of our food is already contaminated with this deadly DIOXIN.

There are no known antidotes for these herbicides and THEY SHOULD BE OUTLAWED NOW, but they will only be outlawed when enough of "little people", who are finally beginning to get wise to whats making this the sickest nation on earth get mad enough to march and demonstrate, demanding action to stop the Chemical Companies from killing and maiming us.

Arthur Lasner  
226 4th ave.  
Venice 90291  
399-0077

P.S. The National Cancer Institute statistics show cancer death increased 5.2% in the first seven months of 1975 and environmental pollution the probable cause of 70-90% of cancer deaths and heart disease.

Dear Beachhead,

A few nights ago I drove to Van Ness Avenue in West Hollywood to pick up my date. She was late getting home so I walked up and down the street waiting for her. Within ten minutes of nervous pacing I was rousted three times by three different residents of the street. Who was I? What did I want? Who was I looking for?

Turns out they've had heavy rip offs lately and are doing something about it themselves, their West Hollywood police apparently like our own, being all tied up in busting topless dancers and fairies.

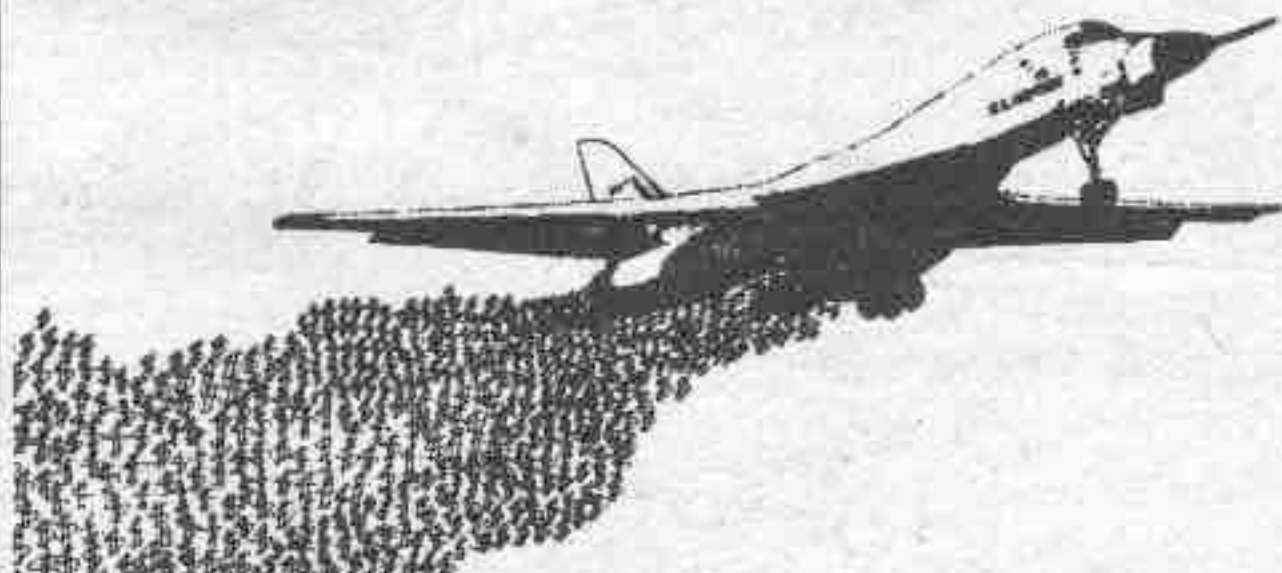
I'm writing this with the hope that maybe we might try the same thing here in Venice - a few questions asked by the right people of the wrong people just might cut down something or other.

Arnold Berman

## STOP THE B-1 BOMBER! CONFRONT ROCKWELL!

ROCKWELL SHAREHOLDERS MEETING  
February 12, 1976  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00

Beverly-Wilshire Hotel  
9500 Wilshire Boulevard  
(One Block West of Beverly Dr.  
Beverly Hills



The B-1 Bomber costs \$92 billion and is already obsolete. Currently more than half of your tax dollar goes to military spending; repeated studies have proven that expenditures like the B-1 are a major cause of both inflation and unemployment. Further the B-1 Bomber is a serious threat to the environment. Only our protests will stop the B-1 Bomber.

Rockwell International is the largest contractor of the B-1 Bomber. Since Rockwell signed its contract six years ago, the price has more than doubled - Rockwell profits and you are paying the bill.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published once a month by the Beachhead Collective as a community information service. It is distributed free, but if you wish to be placed on the mailing list for a year, please make a contribution of \$5.00 or more. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make decisions collectively on material published and is independent of all political and community organizations. The printing is financed by the ad donations. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, artwork, short fiction, or other contributions of interest to the Venice community (send them to P.O. Box 504, Free Venice, California 90291). If return of the material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany it. No payment is made for material used. The Beachhead collective subscribes to Liberation News Service (LNS) and is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate (APS). For information on deadlines, call 396-9325, 396-1941.

### MURAL (continued from page 1)

of Public Works, 2 meetings with the Mayor's office, 2 meetings with the Police Department, 1 meeting with City Council and a meeting with the City Commissioners. All these meetings were held in order to give the community equal time to respond to complaints, made by Myrtle in previous meetings with the same city officials. That's around 20 meetings in the past year. Now we know the taxpayers are paying for the scheduled time of the city's representatives. The topic of each meeting concerned the Venice Canals. How is it that Myrtle Wilson, a Los Angeles resident, with a real state business in Mar Vista, can create meetings to make decisions concerning the Venice Canals? We question her validity and credibility and feel that neither she, or her corporation, has any legitimate right in Canal Community business. We are tired of wasting our time, your time and taxpayer's money.

We thank the city-wide Mural Project and the Department of Parks and Recreation for the opportunity to express ourselves as a community and as women in the arts.

Sincerely,  
JAYA

### WOMEN 16 - 18 -- AN ON-GOING RAP GROUP

How do you feel about your body? Do you ever feel pressured to act "liberated"? What is a "liberated woman" anyway? Would you like to hear how other women feel about sex, marriage, having babies, being women:

Come share your feelings about these and other things with women of your age

Contact: Sally McCollum  
Westside Women's Health Care Project  
1711 Ocean Park Blvd.  
Santa Monica - 450-2191

## HARPY DROPPINGS



On February 19, 1942, with the strong support of California Attorney General Earl Warren, liberal journalist Walter Lipmann and Time Magazine, F.D.R. signed Executive Order 9066 authorizing the Secretary of War and appropriate military commanders "to prescribe military areas...from which any or all persons may be excluded."

The order set the stage for the forced relocation of 120,000 Japanese Americans in inland detention camps.

On February 9, 1950, Senator Joseph McCarthy addressed a Lincoln Days dinner in West Virginia with the infamous "I have here in my hand the names of 205 men who are known to be Communists to the Secretary of State and who are working and shaping the policy of the State Department." Some years later he confided that the paper "here in my hand" was just a laundry list.

On February 21, 1965 Malcolm X was assassinated.

Seen the headlines in the papers proclaiming "Food Stamp Fraud?" and read no further, taking it for granted that some under-earning layabouts are scarfing steaks at your expense? Wrong! It seems that the "vendors" of said food stamps have been "borrowing" the money received by them to invest for their own purposes, some of them illegal - of course the recipients of the food stamp programs will pay for this in the form of more papers to fill out, and more restrictions.

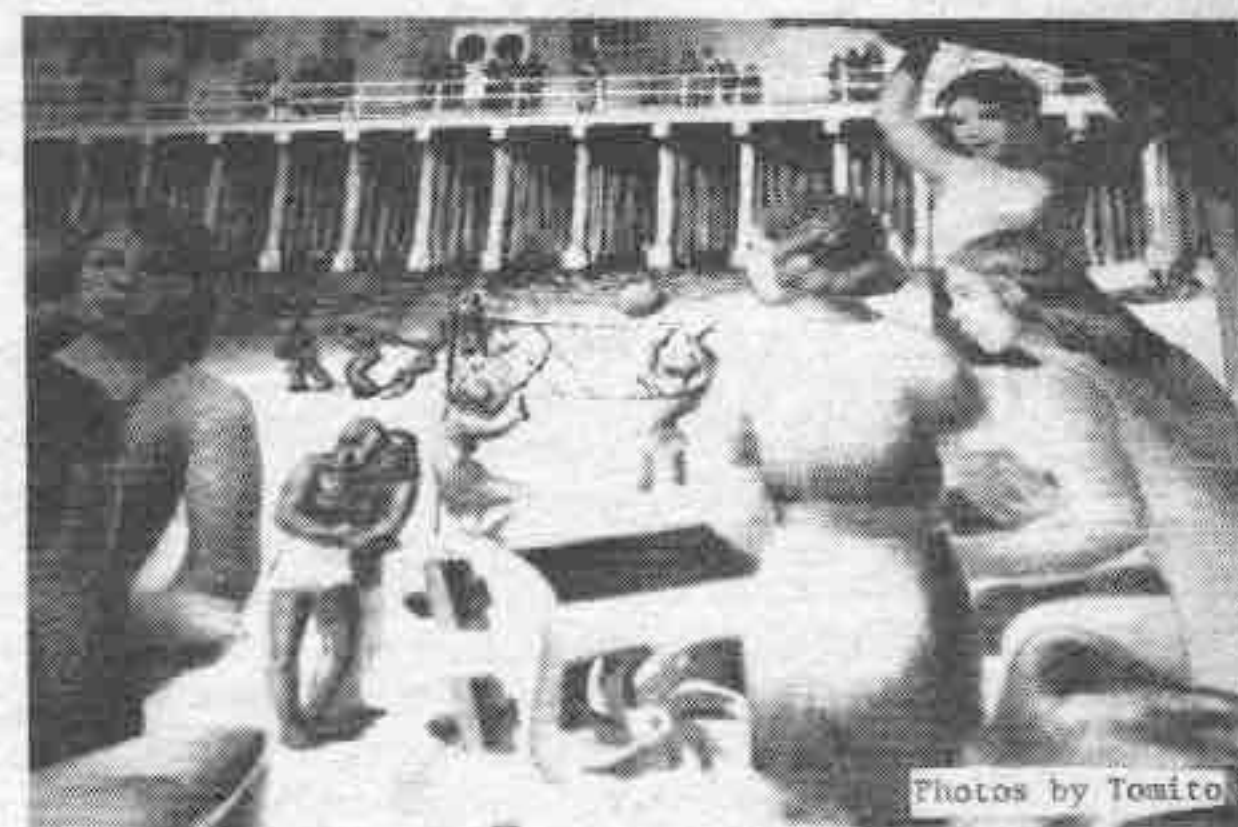
The Doctors have been whining about the cost of malpractice insurance. They want the state to take over malpractice insurance. Our Governor who to some has the mind of a mystic because he doesn't think like your average politico and seems to have a sense of humor has proposed that the state administer the malpractice insurance with the proviso that the doctors allow 10% of their practice for poor people. The doctors have said no -- alright for socialized insurance - ixnay to socialized medicine?

On February 24 Elizabeth Gurley Flynn lead the Bread and Roses Textile strike of 20,000 women in 1912.

Ingmar Bergman gave everyone a Valentines gift that will keep on giving.

He took the magic of Mozart's "The Magic Flute" and put it on the screen, and nothing was lost in the translation. The opera is intact with the magic of Bergman's sense of fantasy and humor. The Magic Flute was produced for Swedish television. It has been released to the movies. The opera is sung in Swedish, with intelligent and witty subtitles. The actor singers are elegant and subtle, and all the music is there. The overture is a joy. Those who are put off by the innate insanity of people yowling as they do in opera will be charmed by this witty intelligent production set in a jewel box opera house.

With all that's wrong in the world, the Harpy is glad that there's Mozart, Bergman and boogying.



Photos by Tomito



### FOR THE LOVE OF FOOD

COOKWARE  
HERBS & SPICES

R&D BAKER  
A. JANE GANZORN

396-0590  
1601 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.  
VENICE, CALIF. 90291



# A HISTORY

By Mitch Giller

Venice has been in the news more and more in the last several months and the new skirmish between the local residents and tenants (represented by the Venice Town Council) and the local realtors, property owners, and developers (represented by the Venice and Marina Chamber of Commerce) is a continuation of a long six year battle. The battle has been fought in municipal meetings, Chamber of Commerce back rooms, Town Council meetings, and recently in the California Coastal Commission board room. This only scratches the surface of where and how this battle has been fought but the real question of why this battle goes on is left unanswered. How is the battle going to end? What is going to happen to Venice? To get the picture a background of the development of Venice placed in the context of the development of Los Angeles is necessary.

Venice, it is well known, was the brain child of Abbot Kinney, a real estate developer in the Los Angeles area. The Soldiers Home at the V.A. (a big white two story building that can be seen on the left side of Wilshire driving east towards the 405 freeway) and Ocean Park were some of his earlier exploits. The Ocean Park development, built in 1896 consisted of two hundred summer cottages, a library, a main street row of stores and businesses and a long wharf where ships could land. Kinney and associates (including Collis Huntington) had hoped to divert the Los Angeles Harbor sight to Santa Monica or Redondo Beach. The Panama Canal by the late 1890's had been contracted for and large Los Angeles interest groups contested for a harbor spot in between San Diego and San Francisco. The Southern Pacific R.R. had planned for this occurrence and had developed railroad lines to Redondo and had bought up the lines in Santa Monica making those places the only feasible harbor spots. In 1889-90, the Santa Fe R.R. entered into competition with the Southern Pacific when it built lines going into San Pedro. Each group marshalled its forces of local business interests in a battle that lasted 10 years. The Santa Fe - San Pedro spot and the Chandler Los Angeles Times newspaper maneuvered a victory that should have gone to the Southern Pacific and the land in the other harbor sites were freed to be developed in other ways.

Kinney, who owned beach front property from Clubhouse Avenue to a spot South of Windward Avenue as well as a partial owner of property near the Venice Short Line formed with others the Venice Development Corporation in 1900. By 1904 he had finished the project, Venice of America, a city of canals and a central lagoon along the style of Venice Italy. Kinney had made provisions for large summer houses and small cottages with walk ways and bridges in between them. He also planned for a gigantic mall area on Windward Avenue which contained dozens of shops and a pier area off of Windward that had an amusement park area and a large auditorium. The Red Cars of the Pacific Electric Co. connected Venice with Inglewood, Santa Monica and Los Angeles. Because of the accessibility of the beach front and canal housing the boom town development was a great success.

Venice was not the only boom town made successful by the Red Car. Hermosa Beach in 1902, Redondo Beach in 1907, Beverly Hills in 1909 with Watts and Long Beach following several years later.

The expansion of Los Angeles was based on real estate speculation and the non-stop immigration of ruined small farmers from the midwest looking to resettle in a warm climate as cheaply as possible. Los Angeles grew from this Midwest immigration from fifty thousand people in 1890 to one hundred thousand in 1900 to three hundred twelve thousand in 1910.

Venice remained a successful boom town and tourist attraction until the 1920's when cracks began to appear in the dream. The canals needed rebuilding for better drainage. Sewage periodically backed up into the canals and the roads needed to be enlarged to accommodate cars. However no money was spent for these repairs and at one point before Venice was annexed to L.A. City in 1925 the city treasurer ran away with the money. Los Angeles promised to repair the canals but, in 1927, filled most of them in and paved them over instead.

In 1930 with the depression, Venice sank into a long period of stagnation. Oil was

# OF



The Venice Post Office Mural

Photo by Tomito

discovered in 1930 and the canals area and the coastline by the marina became an oil field. The refinery nearby and off shore oil drilling contaminated the air and water. The sewage plant by the marina also contaminated the water and Venice Beach from the late 1930's to mid fifties was periodically quarantined.

The Black population that had been settled by Kinney in the Oakwood area about 1912 grew from 500 to several thousand by the 1940's. In the fifties and sixties Venice did not change very much, the only development was the expansion of the Black ghetto in Oakwood when the Santa Monica Freeway displaced the S.M. ghetto. The reason for the stagnation was the hyperion and refineries and the problem of redevelopment.

Suburb developments of the fifties and sixties, the great tract home era, were built in the style of the boom town of the 1900's and 1920's. Developers took big parcels of land, subdivided it into lots, streets, shopping centers, schools and utilities concessions and offered lucrative contracts to builders construction companies and utility companies to build the project quickly. These new communities were located in the outlying regions and the new post WWII immigration as well as residents of the inner cities moved into these areas. This kind of building was much cheaper than redeveloping older sections of the city because of the time and expense involved in approving a redevelopment plan. More than half of Venice was (and still is) owned by 14,000 individual property owners who could involve these developers in a maze of suits and litigation. Most of the original property owners became absentee landlords renting their houses and cottages out cheaply and Venice became a haven for Blacks, Chicanos, old people on fixed incomes, students and artists.

By 1970 Venice had a population of 45,000 people. 35% of the houses were dilapidated, 25% of the population had less than a 7th grade education. 3,000 within the black ghetto had no jobs and no skills, 15% of the population were old people on fixed incomes, and another 10% were on welfare. Over 50% of Venice workers work in blue collar manufacturing jobs and over 50% of population is under the age of 25. Average rent in Venice was 90-125 for a one bedroom. However rents in Venice are now much higher.

In contrast to the decline and stagnation of Venice is the growth of Los Angeles especially its industrial development.

Industry in Los Angeles from 1900 to 1930 remained small. Only relative small amounts of electricity could be imported from hydroelectric stations in outlying regions like Owens River Valley. With the discovery of oil not only in Venice but El Segundo, Torrance, San Pedro and Long Beach, industry was able to greatly expand. As an index of production 105 thousand cars were assembled in 1941 and by 1948 650 thousand cars were assembled. Los Angeles employed 17.5 of all workers in California by 1940. Los Angeles employed 41.1. During WWII Kaiser Steel built a steel plant out in Fontana, and during the postwar period, U.S. Steel, Consolidated Steel and Columbia Steel three eastern companies set up plants in Los Angeles too. The Hoover Dam and a fifteen hundred mile gas pipeline from Texas to California as well as the local steam generator plants supplied Los Angeles with a cheap energy source. The U.C. system, State and City Colleges in the L.A. region also made it an attractive place for new industry.

# VENICE

Atlantic Richfield, Union Oil, Shell, Standard, Mobil played the most strategic role in the development of new industries and helped such companies as Hughes and Douglas establish their base in the late twenties. By the war these airplane companies were the major employers in Los Angeles and in the post war period were able to expand with more military contracts. Airplane and aerospace industry attracted new industries based on technology, exotic metal manufacturing, new plastics and synthetic fibers made from oil, computer electronics and others. Companies such as North American Rockwell, Lockheed, General Dynamics, Grumman Industries, Honeywell, Boeing, and Northrop are large Los Angeles bases aerospace companies that developed during the post war period. General Electric, General Motors, Ford, B.F. Goodrich, Goodyear, I.B.M., I.T.&T., Kaiser, R.C.A., Speer Rand, and Westinghouse are Eastern based multinational companies that also established a western base during the post war period. Litton Industries, a conglomerate company also has its home in Los Angeles.

By 1970 the importance of Los Angeles as an industrial center can be shown with some statistics. L.A. county had 9.6 million people in it, 4 million of them were gainfully employed and one million were employed in manufacturing. The Gross regional product is 50 billion dollars a year and the retail sales amount to 20 billion a year. Bank deposits amount to 19 billion a year. L.A. County has six million motor vehicles. Four and one half million of them are passenger cars. Total exports out of the region are one and 1/2 billion and total regional imports amount to two billion a year. The importance

of the oil industry can be seen by the fact that 70% of all tonnage going through the San Pedro Harbor is either oil or gas. Los Angeles also happens to be the largest fishing port in the U.S.

Returning to the Venice situation, Venice is a small privately owned (for the most part) decaying part of the L.A. County beach region nestled near these gigantic industries yet the e industries are hampered from developing the area by small local powers like a City Council or Chamber of Commerce or even individual tenants and owners. The Eastern cities during the Progressive Era were able to reform local governments. Essentially they eliminated the local ward system of representation in favor of large industries and banks having the major say in a city's development. But Los Angeles was different. The industry and oil were late comers on the scene and the local interests still had formidable control of local government. Locals could hamstring plans of industry and oil that did not take their interests fully into account. Industry, then had to play a waiting game, weaken its opposition, and use the state and Federal agencies money and contracts to short circuit local control.

The granting of the Marina Small Yacht Harbor and the subsequent Marina J development spurred small Venice real estate speculators, who organized into the Chamber of Commerce to begin a plan for redevelopment. The plan called for the rezoning of certain areas, street widening and utility improvements, condemning of certain property and the redeveloping of the Venice canals into a kind of yacht harbor - expensive housing development. There was enough consensus among the small group of real estate holders to allow them to band together and fight the tenants and individual property holders

cont'd on p. 4



# ANGOLA: SUPERPOWERS BEHIND CIVIL WAR



Angolan liberation fighters celebrate the beginning of the first day of independence from Portugal. For 400 years Angolans have fought to get rid of the colonialists. Now the superpowers are trying to move in where Portugal was kicked out.

(Reprinted from FIGHT BACK)

On November 11, the Portuguese government lowered its flag for the last time in Angola. This signalled the end of Portugal's 500 year old colonial empire in Africa and a great victory in the long struggle of the Angolan people for freedom. But on the very day of this victory, Angola was in the middle of a deadly civil war between organizations that had fought to free the country from colonial control. Egging on the opposing forces in this civil war are the rulers of the United States and the Soviet Union, interfering in Angola to try and grab up what the Portuguese capitalists had to let go.

Angola is the most recent of the more than two dozen African countries to win independence from colonial control in the last 20 years. It is also one of the richest, both in agricultural and mineral resources with large gold and diamond mines, and extensive oil fields in the Cabinda district, separated from the rest of the country by Zaire.

Even though Angola was a colony of Portugal, it was American capitalists,

who benefitted most--Gulf Oil for instance controlled the Cabinda oil fields. The U.S. government gave constant military and economic aid to Portugal to maintain colonial rule there. Although Portugal is gone now, the American ruling class does not intend to give this prize up. After Portugal's defeat, the U.S. switched tactics and is now working to see a government friendly to U.S. investment and influence take over. But the U.S. has competition. Throughout Africa, the new capitalist class that rules the USSR is trying to add to its growing economic empire, posing as a "Big Brother" to the African people. For the two superpowers Angola is a prize for more than its wealth. Its location gives it key importance in influencing events in the southern tip of Africa, where the masses are fighting to overthrow white minority settler governments in Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), Namibia and Azania (South Africa).

## THE DEFEAT OF PORTUGAL

The Portuguese landed in Angola at the end of the 1400's, but only won full control in the middle of the last century. From that time on there were constant revolts against the grinding exploitation and terror of colonial rule.

The Portuguese banned education for the Angolan people, fearing it would strengthen the resistance. They promoted fighting among different tribes and built up tribal chiefs as the only leaders of the Angolans.

The struggle was not stopped by these vicious schemes. The Angolan people launched a long guerilla war to throw the Portuguese out. Three liberation organizations arose, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the National Liberation Front of Angola (FNLA) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), each in a different section of the country and each drawing its main support from a different one of Angola's three main tribes.

Together with liberation movements in the other Portuguese colonies, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique, the Angolan people forced the Portuguese government to agree to unconditional independence.

With the common enemy defeated, the MPLA, the FNLA, and UNITA met in January at a conference of the Organization of African Unity, made up of the heads of independent African governments, and together set up a four-part transitional government with the Portuguese to prepare for independence November 11.

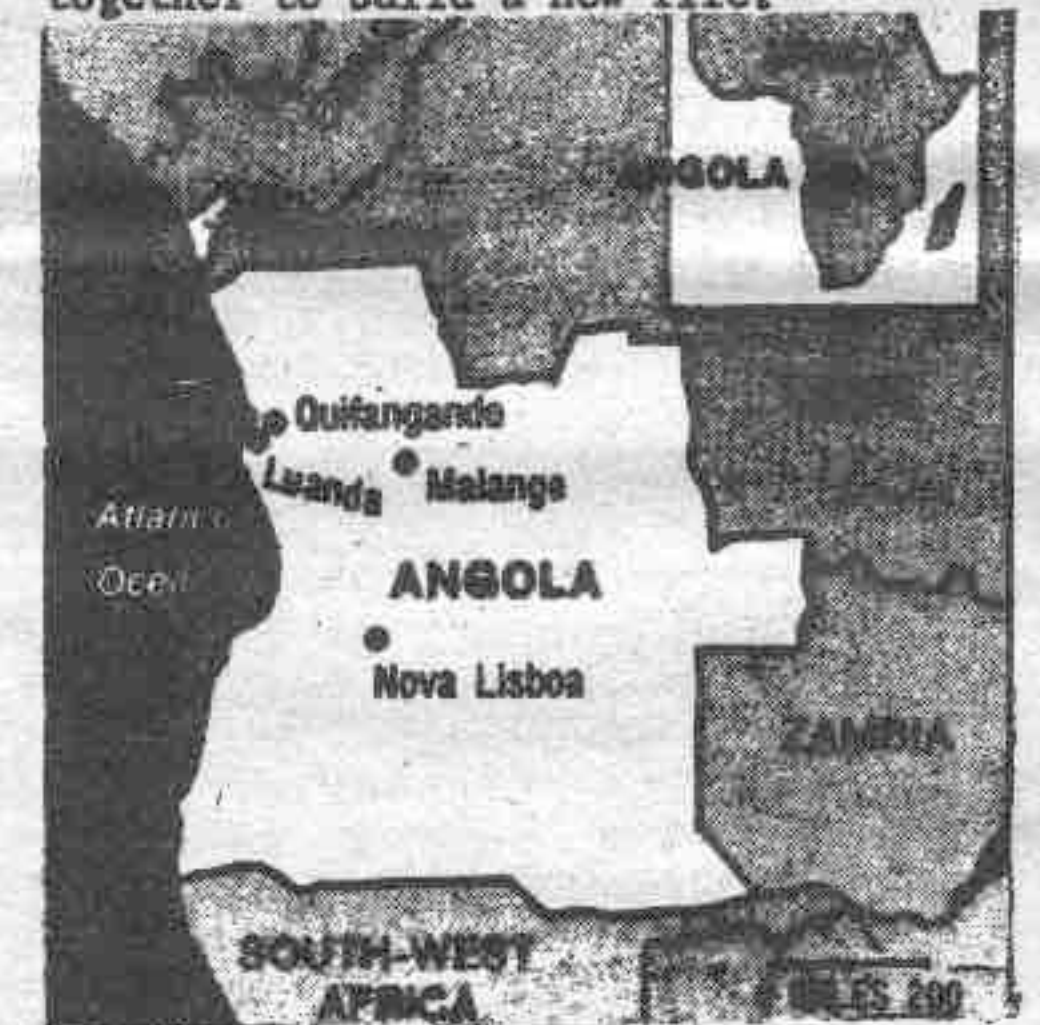
With Portugal on the way out, the U.S. and USSR each stepped up their efforts to get a big piece of the action in Angola. Starting in the 1960's to see that Portugal was on its way to defeat, the USSR gave small amounts of aid to try to influence the MPLA. The U.S. armed Portugal but hedged its bets by giving a little aid to the FNLA and UNITA. But once the fight against Portugal was won, they suddenly flooded Angola with military "aid". The U.S. funneled millions of dollars to the FNLA. At the same time the USSR began, as one African diplomat put it, "supplying weapons like armored cars and SAM mis-

siles to one of the liberation movements," heavy weapons "which it had never supplied during the fifteen long years of the Angolan people's struggle against Portuguese colonialism."

Fighting broke out in April between the groups and continued through the summer. At first MPLA controlled most of the country's large cities, but by the late fall a united front of FNLA and UNITA was rolling up MPLA from north and south and driving them into a small area around the capital city, Luanda. All efforts by the Organization of African Unity to work out a truce have failed.

On November 11, the Portuguese left and each side declared itself the Angolan government. The Soviet Union and several other countries recognized the MPLA as the "People's Republic of Angola" and sent "advisors" to fight with them. Then Kissinger set up a \$50,000,000 aid program to pump money to the FNLA-UNITA forces, who declared themselves the "Peoples Democratic Republic of Angola."

The two superpowers have replaced Portugal as the main cause of the Angolan people's problems. The centuries old struggle of the Angolan people against colonial enslavement has been manipulated, at the point of victory, into a war to see whether the U.S. or the USSR will replace Portugal as the main bandit robbing Angola. The superpowers must leave Angola alone. On their own, the Angolan people can resolve their present differences and struggle together to build a new life.



A HISTORY OF VENICE (continued from page 3) of Venice. The local tenants saw the plan would ruin low rents and destroy their community. They organized Free Venice and fought the Master Plan. The proposed plan failed to pass through because partially of Free Venice but the real power that stopped its development was Suma Corporation owned by Hughes. The result of this long running battle between the two forces is that several issues remain unresolved.

No real improvements in any of the roads or utilities or sewage system has occurred. Because of the master plan showed to real estate owners the possible value of Venice land property values have been sky rocketing within the last several years.

No real improvements in any of the roads or utilities or sewage system has occurred. Because the master plan showed to real estate owners the possible value of Venice land, property values have been sky rocketing within the last several years, based on speculation. Just recently, the county tax assessor increases property taxes about 50 cents per hundred dollars of assessed valuation. In order to pay these taxes, property owners have to increase their rents. The high rents will force the poorer tenants out of Venice but landlords will find it difficult to find new renters to move into a dilapidated decaying house when they can move into new Marina apartments for the same price. Many small real estate holders will be forced to sell their lots and, within the next several years, Venice land will be consolidated into fewer hands than those which own it today. Eventually, the greater part of Venice will be owned by such people as Grubb and Ellis or Coldwell Banker and at that point industrial and financial development on a large scale can really begin.

## FOOD STAMPS (continued from page 1)

people who may be eligible in any given month. Food stamp agencies often do not publicize the program as much as they are required by law; the application process is a "maze" that might discourage even the starving," as one recipient wrote. There are often long delays between applying for food stamps and actually being able to buy the stamps. The Department of Agriculture's idea of a "nutritionally adequate diet" was recently junked as the result of a court decision, and the replacement plan is also being challenged as inadequate.

The food stamp program, in effect, lowers food prices for "needy" people through a government subsidy. We need stable, reasonable prices for all people, along with fair incomes for farmers, farmworkers, and other workers in the food industry. The government should subsidize food prices if this is necessary to cover the costs of the food industry. At present, the many subsidies used by the Department of Agriculture benefit, to a large degree, the corporations in the food

industry - this is "socialism for the rich, capitalism for the poor."

We need full employment, at decent wages, with a priority on work that provides necessities such as food, housing, clothing, health care, education, etc., not wasteful and polluting products such as B-1 bombers. We need nursing stations at workplaces for mothers with babies, and free child care. In this way, everybody would have enough money for living expenses.

But for now, people must organize to fight the cutbacks proposed in the food stamp program. The New American Movement (NAM) through the Community Economic Rights Center in Venice has been leafletting food stamp offices and shopping centers to mobilize people to oppose the bills introduced in Congress. People who are interested in joining this campaign should call 399-9553, 392-7690, or 392-9654.



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# CONTINENTAL WALK FOR DISARMAMENT AND JUSTICE



THE CONTINENTAL WALK FOR DISARMAMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE  
San Francisco to Washington/January to October/1976

by Phil Chamberlin  
"I'm walkin' to Missouri" would be an apt theme song for the first 2000 miles of the 1976 Continental Walk For Disarmament & Social Justice. With an ultimate purpose of confronting the Pentagon with a mass based demand for world disarmament as the key to the problems of racism and sexism, the Continental Walk to the Pentagon began January 21 at Ukiah, and passed thru San Francisco January 31, where it was greeted by several thousand joyous well wishers. Venice participants may swing aboard about March 6. In addition to walkers from the Venice area, the walk is soliciting overnight services.

Dan Ellsberg will talk in Royce Hall and Mimi Farina will play at Marymount University when the walk hits L.A. Proceeds go to the local support effort. Other proclaimed supporters of the walk include: Bella Abzug, Joan Baez, Ralph Abernathy, Daniel and Philip, Kay Boyle, Anne Braden, Dorothy Day, Noam Chomsky, Dave Dellinger, Ron Dellums, Richard Falk, Sissy Farenthold, Jules Feifer, Allen Ginzburg.

## NATIVE AMERICAN JUSTICE?

WHAT THE U.S. DOES WITH ITS NATIVE AMERICAN DISSIDENTS

by Red Bird

America has a tradition of disposing of its rebels. There are those who believe that if political dissidents were jailed or snuffed out, this country would be a quiet, peaceful land. But it just aint so! There is much too much social injustice toward Native Americans today, even if someone wants to wipe the slate of history clean. Russell Means, one of the American Indian Movement leaders, is the rebel the U.S. government is working to dispose of.

Means won acquittal on Wounded Knee charges in St. Paul some time back. But since then, he has been up for framing, eight separate trials to be held for him in the racist state of South Dakota. On June 7th he was shot in the back by the son of a CIA policeman, seriously wounded and arrested on assault charges against his assailant. The trial is pending. In addition, Russell Means has just been convicted and sentenced for defending himself in the Custer Courtroom Riot where Judge Bottum called in the state troopers when the Indian defendants refused to stand for him. This was one of the most brutal scenes inside a courtroom in American judicial history. The State troopers maced and beat the courtroom occupants and this was witnessed by Lutheran bishops who were present. Russell lifted a chair to defend himself and as a spectator, he was arrested for inciting to riot. Sentence, four years. For Russell's attempting to integrate a country club for whites only on the Indian Pine Ridge Reservation and refusing to

leave when ordered by the management, tried, convicted and sentenced to two years.

But the most serious frame-up, Russell Means faces is the trumped up murder charge in scenic, S.D. where the police "discovered" the badly wounded body of an Indian called Martin Montileaux in the men's rest room of a bar and where Russell and his companions had stopped to pick up a six-pack. Montileaux had made a statement to the police that Means had not shot him. But Russell is being charged as an accessory anyway.

The FBI's COINTELPRO program is filled with the tactic of destroying the Indian movement and its militant leaders. We have only learned recently how the FBI maneuvered to have one set of Black militants fight each other. We also know that government informers who were placed the ranks of the Indian movement are being used at Russell's and other defendant's trials. The process of neo-colonialism where the natives of a colonized country are used to wipe the anti-colonial dissidents is being employed in our situation, amongst our people. Then, the colonial masters call it a tribal war.

What can you do to help lift political repression somewhat? Let the U.S. government know that you disapprove of their tactics against Russell Means. Write to Dennis Ickes, Dept. of Justice, Washington, D.C. Spread the story of the political repression against Russell Means and Other militant Native Americans.

Send contributions for legal expenses to the Russell Means Defense Fund, Box 30116, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55165. Speak out against the dual system of justice wherever you go.



5

QUOTATIONS FROM WORK IN PROGRESS

Cats  
are recalcitrantly anti-fascist,  
not from conviction,  
but from hatred of crowds  
rigidity of habit,  
dislike of shiny surfaces  
and abhorrence  
of sudden loud noises.

Cats  
are capable of long  
journeys to obtain  
sex or to inspect  
a kitten judged  
otherwise incapable of  
survival  
but cats have notoriously  
lousy memory for masters  
instructions or dogs, a good  
head for heights and  
a wonderful sense of electricity.  
Many of us  
admire their replaceable  
presence  
or form attachments to their  
responsive fur.  
Have you ever heard of a faithful  
cat?

Cats are magnificently anti-fascist.

Cockroaches  
share with humans  
a constant vulnerability  
to the death penalty  
for the crime  
of being alive  
brown  
and furtive  
and needing water  
and warm spots.  
Cockroaches are  
inherently dingy.

Cockroaches make crummy  
coastal commissioners,  
and are most suspect in  
all other public offices.

From Part One of a Coexistence Manual

Pamela Emerson  
c 1976

REPLY TO MR. OTTROT'S CRITIQUES

People often ask me  
"how can you write such  
damning impassioned, anti-  
cockroach material, and  
yet let them breed with  
alarming fecundity in  
your oven?" and I answer,  
"three ways. One, hypocrisy.  
Two, love, true (albeit)  
Gandhian love of my fellow  
cockroach-being. Three,  
fear of poisoning and a  
dislike of immobile bodies."  
When pressed, I finally admit  
that they grow and multiply  
for my pleasure in humorously  
complaining of them, dismember-  
ing them, or crushing them  
into satisfying heaps.  
Like all good sex and slavery,  
it is mutual, reflexive,  
and just.

From Part One of a Coexistence Manual

Pamela Emerson  
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# Mind and Body



U.S.A. OWES N.Y.C.

A long forgotten loan by New York City to the Federal government 153 years ago could be the answer to New York's monetary woes.

City Council president Paul O'Dwyer reports the city's archivists have uncovered records of a \$1 million loan, which was never repaid, made by the city to the government during the war of 1812.

If you add in normal interest compounded at six percent yearly, the unpaid debt including interest now totals \$11.2 billion, or enough to bail New York out of its fiscal misery. --ZNS

#### NO AWARDS FOR POLLUTION CONTROL

The Environmental Protection Agency is dropping its awards program for companies making outstanding efforts to control water pollution, reports Business Week.

No one has ever won (Dollars and Sense)



#### CIA MADE ITS FOES STINK

EX AGENT SAYS

New York(UPI) ... "For instance Technical Services Division (of the Cia) has developed an invisible itching powder--that drives its victims wild for about three days," he said.

"My agents used a lot of it. They went to leftist meetings and sprinkled it on the seats of toilets..."

The CIA was eating beans, parlez vous?  
The CIA was eating beans, parlez vous?  
The CIA was eating beans  
And put some itchy in your jeans  
Hinky stinky parlez vous

The CIA was killing Che, parlez vous?  
The CIA was killing Che, parlez vous?  
The CIA was killing Che  
Lumumba, Trujillo and Duvalier  
Hinky stinky CIA

The CIA was beating me, parlez vous?  
The CIA was cheating you, parlez vous?  
The CIA was eating Jew  
Arab and Commie and Kikiyu  
Hinky stinky parlez vous

The CIA was awful mean, parlez vous?  
The CIA was off its bean, parlez vous?  
The CIA was quite obscene  
Today the Congress raised its pay  
Hinky stinky USA  
...by Tuli Kupferberg, reprinted from the Yipster Times



#### NUTS FROM ALL SEASONS

Are more schizophrenics and nervous people born under the astrological signs of Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces?

A study of almost 10,000 schizophrenics-people suffering from split personality symptoms-has found that a high percentage of these people were born during the winter months. The magazine says that another study of over 23,000 patients classified as "neurotic" also showed an unusually high number of persons being born during the winter, instead of during the other months of the year.

These same findings have been duplicated in studies all over the world, and scientists are just beginning to ask "why?" --ZNS

#### A BOTTLE IN TIME SAVES ENERGY

The Environmental Protection Agency has said that "a shift to a refillable bottle system would decrease beverage container litter by 60 to 90 per cent." Energy used in the production of all these extra bottles amounts to more than 108,000 barrels of oil per day.--LNS



"Whoever does violence to truth or to its expression eventually mutilates justice, even though he thinks he is serving it. From this point of view, we shall deny to the very end that a press is true because it is revolutionary; it will be revolutionary only if it is true, and never otherwise."

Albert Camus



## Venetians! Parade!

ANNOUNCING! The year of the rabbit is over! Welcome the year of the dragon. Friends of the dragon in Venice are planning to celebrate the new year with several actions. We invite you to join us - or create your own action! The Chinese New Year is a time of renewal. People in warrior garb symbolically chase the pestilence from their towns.

Come truck gypsies! Come music makers! Come lovers! Come warriors! Come everyone out into the streets. We are having a PARADE. Begin at old City Hall at 11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 1st. The route will be along West Washington Blvd. and south on Pacific. Have a block party! Have a picnic on the beach. Organize your own neighborhood celebration. It's now the time to reaffirm our community, renew our energy.

THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON HAS COME AND VENICE LIVES!

The U.S. Defense Department says that a recent inventory in the United States has found that tens-of-thousands of weapons and millions of rounds of ammunition are missing.

The House Armed Services Committee has been told that at least 18,000 military weapons have turned up missing since 1965.

The Army says that in the past five years, 1.1 million rounds of ammunition, 1259 rifles--mostly M-1's---and 169 machine guns have been stolen or lost. --ZNS

#### HOW TO COLLECT UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

This is a book--a handy 111-page guide that anybody going on unemployment should read before applying for benefits. It not only explains the necessary ins and outs and what to expect, but provides a strategy to collect the maximum amount of Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits you're entitled to after working the minimum amount of time. by Ray Avrutis, published by Schocken Books, 1975. 1.25



YOU CAN GET IT IF YOU TRY

## Donald Duck: Fascist Quack

The ever vigilant copyright attorneys at Disney Productions are fixing their sight on a new English language edition of a book published in Spanish called "How to Read Donald Duck".

The book was written by two Chilean literary critics several years ago and was published during the Allende regime. When the Chilean military overthrew the government, the "Donald Duck" book was one of the first to be banned and burned by the right wing element.

The book suggests that Donald Duck and his cronies are nothing more or less than imperialist stooges dedicated to oppressing the Third World, maligning the working class, and wrecking family harmony. In fact, the Walt Disney comic books and strips in Chilean newspapers are blatantly political. The story lines and dialogue are all written locally to go with the syndicated drawings. For instance, in one strip two vultures named Marx and Hegel are attacking Jiminy Cricket who warns the readers that "fire arms are the only things these bloody birds are afraid of."

In another, Donald and his nephews foil an attempt by some revolutionaries to steal natural gas resources in a Third World country. The revolutionaries are punished as crooks, and the friendly natives are convinced by Donald to let a multinational gas company take over control of the gas reserves.

The book, published now for the first time in English, promises in the introduction to "reveal the scowl of capitalist ideology behind the laughing mask of Donald Duck," and to unveil "the iron fist beneath Mickey Mouse's glove."--CPT Information from Take Over.



#### WORKERS UNDER FULLTIME SURVEILLANCE

At Blue Bird Food Products on Chicago's South Side, plant employees are under complete and total surveillance.

Thirty-five television cameras, mounted on movable tracks, monitor the performance of the plants 450 workers. In the monitoring room a timestudy "expert" keeps a detailed work record on employees suspected of working too slow, or of talking to other workers too often.

Video-tape gives management an "instant replay" of any worker's actions. Travel passes must be issued by a foreman before a worker can go to the storeroom, telephone or washroom.

A canine patrol circles the perimeter of the plant.

"It's meant to degrade the workers, to turn them into robots," says Al Tulik who works at the plant and is an officer at the plant's Amalgamated Meatcutters local.

Although other firms are watching Blue Bird to see if the full time surveillance works, the union wants to expose the plan. "Our problem today," said another union official, "might be someone elses tomorrow."...LNS (Community Press Feature)

