

VENICE 5 FREED!

Five Venice residents who had been imprisoned after they refused to testify before a federal grand jury in Tucson, Arizona have been freed at least temporarily by a court order granting them release on their "own recognizance" pending appeal of their contempt commitments.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, finding that the appeals presented serious legal questions, ordered release on December 23 of Teri Volpin and David Scheffler, who work in Support Our Soldiers, a civilian support group for anti-military GI's, Lee Weinberg, a UCLA counselor, Karen Duncan, who works at the Midnight Special Bookstore, and Pam Donaldson, who was active in Movement politics at UCLA. Teri had been imprisoned since November 3, David since November 19, Lee since December 2 and Karen and Pam since December 3.

The grand jury is purportedly looking into the purchase of dynamite in Tucson by a man the government says is a Weatherman and its transportation into California, and has already indicted John Fuerst, who remains at large, for possession of explosive devices. It has become clear, however, that the special U.S. attorney in charge, Guy Goodwin, is using that isolated incident and supposed violations of the Rap Brown Law (the Federal Anti-Riot Act of Chicago Conspiracy fame) as the basis for a general fishing expedition into Movement politics in West Los Angeles, particularly at UCLA; and questioning of the Venice witnesses has, consequently, centered primarily on their political beliefs, conversations, associations, and activities.

Despite the fact that Fuerst has been indicted already, Goodwin has indicated the grand jury session, previously extended once to March 31, may be extended again to December 31, 1971, the maximum permitted by law. That points to the conclusion that the Government has absolutely no evidence against Los Angeles people and that it needs time to subpoena and interrogate many more witnesses in the hope that something will turn up. Even if it uncovers nothing, the Government still wins; Movement workers who refuse to testify are granted immunity from prosecution and if they still refuse to talk are railroaded into jail the same day after what passes for a contempt "hearing".

Goodwin's questions--extremely broad and entirely unrelated to the Tucson incident--assured that the witnesses would refuse to testify. Typical examples follow: "During the time that you lived at such and such an address, name every person who lived or visited there and describe all conversations you had with those people;" "Describe fully your participation in any riots, demonstrations or disorders during 1969 and 1970;" and with reference to a long list of names, "describe the nature of your contact with each of those people and all conversations you had with them."

Each of the witnesses refused to answer questions like those on the legal grounds that the first and fourth amendments forbid Government intrusion into privacy of belief, association and speech, that the fifth amendment allows a witness to refuse to incriminate himself or herself, and that the Government's refusal to allow attorneys into the grand jury room violates the sixth amendment.

Their blanket refusal to testify stems from an understanding of what the Government is seeking to do in Tucson (and in other cities across the country). As the crisis in the economy deepens and as

THE ORGANIC RIP-OFF CONTINUES

by Sharon Brannon and Rich Connors

Ghetto groceries are nothing new to Venice. They can be recognized by their incredibly high prices which are often more than stores in wealthy areas. Because few residents have the means to get out and compare prices, they are forced to shop in stores nearby, even though the prices are higher, the food is stale, and the owner has a total lack of empathy towards the community.

This being the Aquarian Age, we now have an organic ghetto grocery to capitalize on a developing concern for healthful eating. New Pars, on the corner of Windward & Pacific is owned by Phil Parker who also owns Pattons Health Food Store in Hollywood and Phildon Electrical Contractors. Parker is a very wealthy man; when you see the prices in New Pars, you will understand why. (See the November BEACHHEAD).

When the store first opened, Venice was almost unanimously delighted. We really needed a health food store. People poured in with ideas to make the store aesthetically more pleasing, more in tune with the community--suggestions like art on the walls, using a lot of natural wood, and getting rid of the antiseptic atmosphere and plastic signs. It was my own feeling that the community should make the store responsive to its desires by showing Parker that it was to his advantage in the long run to lower the prices and listen to the Venice people. Unfortunately Parker placed himself above concern for our community. He is so hung-up on making money that nothing else is important. The prices are outrageous and still rising. The painters had to walk off the job to get paid and the carpenters who built the store still haven't received all their money. Most of the Venice residents who have staffed the store have either quit in disgust or have been fired. We wanted a health food store but we got the same old ghetto grocery.

Now, fortunately, there is an alternative to that exploitive food racket. Free Venice has formed a food buying cooperative. Good food is purchased in bulk and distributed among co-op members at cost. There is no profit. Everyone shares the work and everyone benefits from that cooperation. There is a large selection of organic foods from Alta Dena dairy products to natural grains, nuts and honey. Fresh fruits and vegetables are also available at low prices (hoping eventually to have organic produce as well). Below are a few of the items and prices now enjoyed by co-op members. They are compared, whenever possible, to New Pars' prices (their cheapest) as of January 2, 1971, out of sheer delight.

If you are interested in joining the Free Venice food co-op, call Sharon at 821-2889, or Don at 392-7225.

ITEMS	CO-OP	NEW PARS
Jacks organic honey	.22 lb	2.40 5lbs
unhydrogenated peanut butter	.40 lb	.89 lb
Alta Dena cheddar & jack cheese	.95 lb	1.23 lb
cold pressed soy & safflower oils	.66 qt	1.05 qt
wheat & soya spaghetti	.29 lb	.34 8ozs
natural brown rice	.17 lb	.29 lb
Vita Grains	1.40 3lb	2.10 3lbs
tomatoes	.10 lb	
romaine lettuce	.13head	
mushrooms	.15 lb	

PUKE THE LITTLE DUKE by PUBLIUS

When last we left Puke, dear departed Duke, it was later than you think. On the precipice of victory, engaged in mortal combat with a corpulent freak, name of Feisty Freak, and righteously pursuing him down the alleys and all assorted byways of the ocean front, when certain and mysterious hands, often known as Willing Hands (to be further described below and anon) seized young Puke, royally descended Duke, and did their will on the body of his person. How this was accomplished, in what degenerate, perverse and sexually nefarious ways, we refer you to the last explosive number of this BEACH-HEAD paper. (For those of you who read that issue and this column, and are vainly scratching the armpits of your memory for that salacious description, complete with palpitating adjectives and salivating adverbs, some really first rate mind fuck, we are sorry to report that all of this was censored, cut, and otherwise done mayhem to by the prurient management of this completely free BEACHHEAD paper, who keep such shit for themselves, to enjoy in the privacy of their own homes. You call that free, Free Venice? Let's bring this into the open! But, be that as it was, and back to our story, Puke was hoodwinked, being dragged to sea, into the fast running surf. We were moved to put the question: "IS THIS THE LAST OF PUKE?" Alas and verily, depending on your bent, and/or ideological persuasion, it was not!!! Read on, Puke fans, and discover how our dear Puke, escaped an almost certain death.

...And so Puke, our limpid and bedraggled Duke, found himself on land again. Needless to say, he could have kissed the ground, and did. But, dear reader, sad to say, his troubles weren't over. As he bent down to plant his lips on good old terra-firma, his posterior raised to the perpendicular, a rabid dog, foaming at the mouth, sank his teeth into Puke's left buttock. And wonder of all wonders, as Puke struggles in the embrace of the aforementioned dog, name of Retch, on the canal bank, getting weaker by the moment, who should happen along on a raft but Puke's old nemesis, Feisty Freak--remember him, Puke fans?, his usual companions, Marvin Mooch, and Hanna Hype. Feisty was pushing the raft along with a long pole, and Marvin and Hanna were along for the ride. Observing Puke's plight, Feisty was moved to tears. As was Marvin Mooch. As was Hanna Hype. And indeed, Puke's plight was uttermost pitiful.

Well, Feisty, Marvin, and Hanna, realizing that further rescue efforts would be futile, as their raft was moving rapidly downstream, away from the tragic scene, shouted in unison, back to Puke, as loud as they could, hoping he could hear, KNOWLEDGE IS POWER! POWER TO THE PEOPLE! However, sad to relate, Puke could not hear anything, being where he was, and how he was, which was more and more in the baddest of shape, as we must take our leave of him, till next month. IS THIS THE LAST OF PUKE? Don't miss the next portentous (free) issue of the Free Venice BEACHHEAD!

COURT DECISION GOES TO THE DOGS

Inty is the shaggy sheepdog usually seen on the roof of Doc Compton's house at Ocean Front Walk and Sunset Ave. Inty was recently picked up on the beach, and Doc was given a citation. Instead of paying the \$35 fine he asked for a trial. At the trial he told the judge the leash law was unreasonable because it discriminated against owners who obeyed the law and got licenses (if Inty'd had no license, Doc would have gotten no citation), and because it deprived dogs of their right to run free, which they need to do from time to time to keep their health. He said the City required licenses, but offered nothing in return; he proposed that certain times and places be set aside where dogs could run loose. The judge dismissed the charges. Doc Compton says he already has about 2,000 signatures on this petition, and he wants to get more so he can bring the matter to the City Council. BEACHHEAD readers who want to help can tear the following petition out of the paper and send it with their name and address at the bottom to Doc Compton, 523 Ocean Front Walk, Venice 90291.

INTY'S MANIFESTO OF DOGDOM

We, the dogs of L.A., endowed by the Creator with protective instincts to preserve life, do hereby proclaim this Manifesto of Dogdom that:

- 1) Whereas the right to life and the liberty to protect it are denied us by the City ordinance;
- 2) Whereas public beaches and parks are out of bounds for us even if duly licensed;
- 3) Whereas sanitation is a matter of deep concern to us as well as humans . . .

We call upon dog-lovers to support our demands that limited areas be set aside for our use in public places, restricted to specified seasons and hours (as in the cases of car parking and surf riding).

The good citizens, signers of this petition, have done so freely in their endorsement of the proposition that dog's rights to life and liberty must be preserved, and that all ordinances prohibiting exercise of their dog rights be repealed.

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THE COURSE OF HUMAN EVENTS

A new group composed of local community people will be doing plays at the Venice Pavilion Theater (at the foot of Windward Avenue). Works by G. B. Shaw, Karel Capek, J. M. Barrie, Sean O'Casey, as well as several original works will be performed. Actors, writers, directors, people to design and build sets, make costumes, handle lights, pass out playbills, and help inform the community about their theater are needed. Readings for the first play are Sat. & Sun. Jan. 8/9. A workshop that will be the decision making body of the group, meets on Tues. nights, 7:30, in the pavilion, and is open to all who are interested. The phone there is 399-2775.

CINDY SMITH AND BRENDA BEVAN from Downey

Your father has rewards out for your capture and detention. We may be able to help. Please contact Howard and Sue, 823-2649. You visited after a camping trip. We live by the library. Don't get caught! Stay free!

Local efforts to deal with the growing drug problem have resulted in the establishment of a half-way house, "Tuum Est" (It's Up To You) and a L.A. County program based around the use of the drug Methadone, as a non-debilitating substitute for heroin. Those interested in the Tuum Est program can call Jesse Pratt at 392-7773.

The Methadone program will begin with only 20 addicts, but eventually will include 500. For info, call Bill Brooks at 625-3212, ext. 387.

The Neighborhood Youth Association (NYA), has group meetings available to help those who want someone to talk with concerning health care before delivery, birth control pills, legal abortions or pregnancy tests. You do not have to be pregnant to come to the meetings. They are open to any female living in or around the Venice area.

Starting January 6 there will be rap sessions in the Club Room of the Venice Library, 610 Calif. Ave. every Wed. 4:00-5:00 PM for teenagers, and for adults every Wed. 3:00-4:00 PM.

INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS are available for teens or adults who cannot make the group meetings. Call Sandy Silverstein, at the Neighborhood Youth Association office 478-8241 any weekday, 9AM to 5PM.

Since its inception in July, Central City "Bricks", under the directorship of Gerald Hillsman, has been dealing with the multifaceted problems of ex-felons. The program, which was initially designed to serve approximately 50 ex-offenders during the first year of its grant, has handled more than 200 cases thus far.

In providing services for ex-felons, "Bricks" also involves itself with the problems of drug abuse and addiction, and secures legal aid for those who need it. For more information contact Cen-

Dr. Brian Hilton, consultant and lecturer on metabolism and applied nutrition, recently conducted a seminar and class for members and students of the professional schools at the UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Hilton's message to the group, "Your Health and Ecology" stressed the fact that the efficiency of the inner ecology of the body is equally dependent upon proper digestion, assimilation, metabolism and elimination. Foods that effectively nourish, lend impetus to the mechanisms of the body permitting them to operate physically, mentally, emotionally, etc., at an optimum level.

Dr. Hilton will conduct a seminar on Health and Nutrition at the Westminster Elementary School on January 4, 1971 at 7:30 PM. Admission is free. Everyone is welcome. (Hopefully, Dr. Hilton, who is from New Zealand, will become a resident of Venice).

Its getting so you can't even register people to vote these days. Jerry Wright, a deputy registrar from Venice and a member, fortuitously, of the Peace and Freedom Party, was busted on the Santa Monica Mall, Sat., Dec. 11, for doing just that. The charge was violation of municipal code #6423 which requires people making money or soliciting funds for charity to have a permit. Needless to say, the city attorney couldn't prosecute. Also, needless to say, the punishment for no crime had already been inflicted, for Jerry had to spend the night in Jail. Oh well, it's all part of living in a police state.

Make too much to qualify for Medical and you still can't afford the exorbitant fees of a private physician? A lot of us fit into that category. This system, unfortunately, doesn't recognize free medical care as a basic human right. So some people in the community got together to do something about it. They formed the Venice Health Council and out of it came a health clinic with a lot to offer. It is located at 316 Lincoln Blvd (UCLA Dental Clinic by day) and open from 6 PM-10 PM 7 days a week. It provides competent volunteer doctors and nurses, free medicine, an ambulance on call and has made connections with local hospitals for emergency care and lab work. A dollar donation is asked of those who can afford it. For further information call 392-4125.

VENICE POETS DEFENDED

by Lynn Shoemaker

Dear Bob,

Every time I read your review of the New Venice Poets, I get upset. I don't think you've been sensitive. I don't think you've been fair. Take your first quote, for instance. The lines come from the first part of "The Soldier With His Head Shot Off." They may be "reminiscent of the angry young English poets." I don't know. I haven't read that many angry English poets. But read further. The second part of the poem is strong-full of twistings and leaps. And the last line (a subtle linguistic experiment) is brilliant. Taken as a whole, "The Soldier With His Head Shot Off" is a powerful poem.

And your second group of lines? I don't feel that they're 1950-ish angry or full of unrendered feeling. They come from "To the Monument for the Workers." Krusoe is trying to portray the dignity of a group of "gargoyle-hunched" peasants. Oppressed by men and the elements, the workers built a road. This in itself is meaningful. But in addition, they transcended their oppression. They turned their backs on their road. Revolutions explode out of such turnings. I don't see the oldness. I don't feel the tiredness of this poem. I see the shadows of Che.

But New Venice Poets is not a lifeless Marxist tract. Of course, there's humor in the book. Not the "ha, ha" variety. It's always subtle, twisted, bitter, tortured. Look at the work of Jennings, Dashev, Salmins. Add to this the linguistic experiments of Hirschman, St. Louis, Russo. Add to this the nightmares of Joseph Hanson, Ann Ross, and John Harris. Add to this my own struggling-toward-light fantasy poems. If you don't like Richard Eiden's "The Shade of Ill-drawn Curtains" (the echoes of other poets in these lines don't bother me), then turn to the poet just before Eiden. S.S. Veri's "Loss Among the Honkies" is a gut-tearing major achievement.

Sure, New Venice Poets is not filled with avant-garde poetry. Sure, the poems are flawed. Who ever heard of a perfect poem? Sure, each of us has his debts to pay to poets who wrote before him. But trying to be sensitive and fair, I maintain that New Venice Poets is full of powerful original work.

If anyone wants to find out for himself, stop by Beyond Baroque, 1639 W. Washington Blvd., and pick up a copy of the book. It's only \$1.00. It's worth far more.

M

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policy becomes more and more obvious, growing numbers are recognizing the necessity of thorough and fundamental changes in the capitalist economy and in all the oppressive and alienating institutions it breeds. More and more people have dedicated themselves to securing those changes. The Government is responding in ways that governments have always acted in times of impending crisis--out of economic and political self-interest in survival. That self-interest takes many forms, one of the most important of which is the use of the legal system to "legally" stifle and repress those who are in the forefront of the Movement for change. So the Government, desperately seeking a scapegoat to cover its failures, intensifies its laws, blatantly oppressive legislation like the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 and imaginative legal weapons like the

PINK PAGES available

"The UNITED STATES DIRECTORY has just published the Sixth edition of its widely-known GUIDE TO THE AMERICAN LEFT. The GUIDE, which contains over 5,000 listings in this edition, lists social protest, liberal, pacifist, socialist, communist, new left and movement organizations and periodicals complete with zip codes. The GUIDE also contains an extensive bibliography of several hundred publications on or about the American Left-Wing. This edition of the GUIDE, the largest yet published, represents thousands of hours of research time by the UNITED STATES DIRECTORY. Copies are available at \$5.00 each or two for \$9.00. The USD also publishes a similar GUIDE TO THE AMERICAN RIGHT with 3,000 listings for \$3.00 each.

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pam teri david

lee karen

punitive use of grand jury proceedings. Thus basic notions of "civil liberties" are discarded, thus the courts sanction the open and indiscriminate use of official force more and more readily, thus the Government's power to grant immunity from prosecution becomes a prosecutorial weapon discriminatorily applied. Understanding this, the people who have been subpoenaed have determined that they cannot assist the Government in maintaining itself under the present circumstances and they have consequently refused to give it any information whatsoever.

That has been the traditional position of the left, however, wide spread use of the subpoena power and grants of immunity could force a re-examination of that position. The possibility that large numbers of Movement people could be jailed for up to 18 months perhaps paralyzing Movement activities in some areas may be more damaging than giving the Government relatively harmless information. Certainly, that alternative must now be given serious consideration.

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to communicate information to those who need it. We are opening a communications center which will provide contact for jobs, housing, draft counseling, rides, day care, and whatever.

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EDITORIAL

Several weeks ago, on one of his brief visits to the United States, Yapping Sam Yorty told the Santa Monica Rotary Club he saw "the hand of subversives" in our fight to save the Venice Canals for the people. Maybe you saw it in the Evening Outlook -- page one, banner headline seven inches deep.

"The subversive forces have what they call a struggle movement in the Canals," said Yorty. He got a round of applause when he attacked "the doves and obstructionists who are against everything."

"What a beautiful area that will be if the Canals are built. You find that whenever we want to do something constructive, some opposition will spring up." The "beautiful, constructive" thing the City wants to do is to move the low and middle income residents out of the Canals and change the area into a very high rent millionaires' yacht basin. The people of the Canals have petitioned the City Council under California state law to be allowed to refurbish the area in such a way that the existing community will not be destroyed.

Putting aside the rumor that Yorty stands to make a great deal of personal money out of this yacht basin, if you keep in mind that he is not the Mayor of the people of Los Angeles but the Mayor of the money of Los Angeles, then you can see that he's right. We are subversives. We're out to subvert his "master plan" for moving all low-income and minority people out of Los Angeles to make way for the rich. We're out to save our communities from the land pirates and money sharks who work through City Hall, and to get a little power for the people.

Of course, that's not what Yorty meant. "Subversives" is a good word the money-junkies and power-junkies use to divide people against themselves. It's interesting the way the right-wing Evening Outlook played up Yorty's speech -- the Funk family that owns the Outlook is speculating heavily in Venice land. If the proposed millionaires' yacht basin goes in they'll make fat, easy profits; if we get our people's renewal area agency for the Canals they won't.

VENICE FILM MAKERS

Call Bea at 396-0827

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FREE ANGELA and ALL OTHER POLITICAL PRISONERS