

# FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968



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# Rustling with Russell

by Geriatric Jack

Well, the die is cast. They have made their "cherces" and they are stuck with them. She wants lots of growth for L.A. and the big campaign contributions it brings from developers (Howard Hughes from the grave). He wants controlled growth for L.A. and figures it is a vote-getting issue as evidenced by your support for Prop. U. She is Councilwoman Russell from our District (6th) who is up for election in the spring, and he is Councilman Yaroslavsky. Both have mayoral aspirations. He has my vote.

I'm a 16 year Venice resident and I think it is time to retire Ms. Russell. It is unfortunate that we vote mostly "against" candidates but that's the way it is, say the experts. Ms. Russell has been in office for 17 years. In her early career she was constituent oriented. That has changed. If you want to run for mayor of L.A. you need big money. Big money comes from the business interests and their only concern seems to be unrestricted growth. Trivial items like pollution of the environment don't seem to bother them or Ms. Russell. The pollution of Santa Monica Bay hasn't been one of Ms. Russell's priorities. She is supporting uncontrolled growth (the Summa-Hughes project, etc.) when the sewage treatment facilities can't even cope with the existing waste that is going into Santa Monica Bay.

When I moved to Venice from West L.A., one of the first things I noticed was the Venice median strip from Lincoln to Pacific and the potholes called Venice Blvd. I figured naively that Venice residents paid their taxes and should be entitled to paved streets and a nice median strip like the one on San Vicente. The least they could do is pave it for parking. Meters would pay for it. In the course of talking to some very glib people in Ms. Russell's office over the years I have received nothing but broken promises. Don't forget now, 16 years have gone by. Try not to be surprised if Ms. Russell shows up for a groundbreaking ceremony before the next election.

A few years ago, Ms. Russell got people to participate in the Venice Community Plan. A lot of people worked very hard on this plan. Now Ms. Russell is supporting developers (speculators) to undermine the plan. She is supporting a proposal to change the zoning of two blocks on Ocean Front Walk from residential to commercial. This has the potential of converting 60 residential units to commercial use. How about the destruction of three residences on Market St.? What the hell. Who needs a place to live?

I recently received a request from Ms. Russell's office to attend a meeting about Santa Monica Airport noise. Where were you, Ms. Russell, when Santa Monica was fighting with the Federal aviation people a few years ago? You were invited. They could have used your support. Too bad you were a no-show.

And now for Venice's favorite topic -- parking. The Venice Town Council and others have submitted more than one proposal to alleviate some of the parking problems. The L.A. Transportation Dept. thought many of them were very practical. Where have you been, Ms. Russell? This problem didn't happen overnight. Some of my friends have received invitations from Ms. Russell to attend a meeting to discuss the parking problem. What a coincidence with the election coming up next spring.

Ask the folks in the Westchester area what she has done to contribute to the destruction of their residential neighborhood. They are boiling mad. A project bigger than Century City in their backyard. What about her wonderful Coastal Corridor Plan, whereby builders would pay some money for the additional traffic they would bring with their new construction. Assemblyman Hayden's office research says that the amount of traffic will be way over Russell's estimates and the amount of money will nowhere come near covering the cost of the additional traffic.

Don't be surprised if between now and election day next spring you see Ms. Russell at quite a few weddings,

'RUSSELL' continued on Page 8.

# Griot Festival Venice Bards at Silverlake

By Ron Singlewish

I was staying at my sister's house in the hills of Echo Park, sleeping in a sleeping bag on a couch on the porch with a view each night of millions of pin point lights quivering below in the L.A. basin. I'd just arrived in town broke fleeing a miserable divorce back east, so those lights were sad lights, lonely and strange.



My sister had given me the word, one week on her porch then go away, so finally on Sunday morning there was one night left before I'd have to descend among those million lights and find my own way. I'd been in similar circumstances before and just like then I found myself rather clear headed and calm and decided to kick back and enjoy the day. The beautiful blue, cloudless California sky, with the downtown skyline crisp and clear to my left and the Hollywood sign on my right, so vivid I felt I could reach out and grab a letter.

I was strolling down Cerro Gordo St., not a thought in my head, when I absently reached down and picked up a piece of paper from the street...GRIOT FESTIVAL, it read, then that days date, then a list of poets and a short definition of the word "Griot", an African Poet historian, a keeper of the oral tradition...then a hand written note from some guy named Larry to a Billy Hipolito, saying there'd be free food and drink and bring as many people as you want. I looked up and saw people walking into an entrance between two large hedges and without thinking followed them in.

Inside the hedges there was a grassy rectangular yard with rows of folding chairs and a concrete patio at the far end which was set up as a stage. People were setting up microphones, loudspeakers and sound and video recording equipment, as us guests sauntered in, helping ourselves to cold beers and wine and a table filled with raw cut vegetables, dip, tortilla chips and fresh salsa. At first I was uneasy, being a gate crasher, until it became evident that I was welcome, then I decided the day was an omen and began to enjoy myself.

The crowd was diverse and all seemed rather happy to be together, chatting, laughing, old friends hugging and strangers introducing themselves. I eased back under an avocado tree and ate and drank, played with a friendly little dog and watched the scene.

Finally a blonde woman named Tina, who I later found out lived in the frame house adjacent to the yard, took the microphone and called the Festival to order. She spoke in a living tone about the poets, saying they were like Griots. She had a suave, charming manner which

'VENICE BARDS' continued on Page 8.

# Homeless at 10961

by C.A. SUE

This story results from many rumors about how the homeless, needy, and destitute are being treated by "Doing Paul Shitty Service" aka D.P.S.S., your local neighborhood helping hand.

As the streets of Venice seem to be increasing in its' homeless numbers, one begins to wonder about how the so-called "vouchers for hotel program" works. And for who?

How bad were the hotels? The rumors ran the gamut...from roaches, rats to rape. The rape story was one that had been told to this author by the person who had been raped, and did carry the element of truth.

To begin, the L.P.O.P. (Little Police on Pico) are not friendly. Several people had been in the office waiting since 8 a.m....and at 5 p.m. were still waiting, one man in a cast.

And being put aside time and time again. A teenage girl was at the counter at 6 p.m. complaining loudly about where she was or at this point wasn't going to be staying for the weekend. She was also obviously going to be without food. She left miserably, at 7 p.m.

Another woman had been waiting all day long and had had difficulty with the hotel she had been put up at. (With the manager.) A man was being turned down for help for what appeared to be the fact that his I.D. showed an Hawaiian address. A semi-violent argument occurred and the same black woman who refused me assistance turned this man out into the street. He screamed, "YOU FUCKING CUNT" and his papers strewn across the room, fled. The very polite, temporary, security guard removed the angry man from the building.

'HOMELESS' continued on Page 8.



## Prisoner

DAVID WAYNE BROWN# 21661  
P.O. BOX 607  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89702

(We print these addresses from prisoners in hopes that someone out there will write to them. These people are lonely!!)  
THE BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE)

Dear Beachhead:

Some may have forgotten 1986 press reports that literature has appeared in the USSR contemplating a cost-of-living adjustment to relieve the burden of price inflation on lower incomes, and that mainland China intends a nation-wide graduated income tax adjusted for area prices beyond a flat amount.

Dated: 12/1/86: "Dr. Mr. Gregg: Thank you for your recent correspondence expressing your concerns regarding Social Security... The Reagan administration, despite their repeated assertions of support for Social Security, has consistently attempted to reduce the benefits due to our senior citizens in order to cut federal deficits." Edward M. Kennedy, after several years.

Generalized Senate sales letters remind us of the real winner of the November election: a dead man, FDR. Close to 150 bank failures and only wealthy depositors painlessly hurt; large-scale consumer credit (an income support component), propped by giant federal deficits; retirement security programs; a reminiscent farm crisis of the 20s and 30s, the New Deal therein dismantled; large scale Wall Street scandals and only a down-scaled SEC could spot the problem; an apparent down-sizing of middle incomes reported though other bureaucrats are proposed \$100,000 annual incomes.

My own output and person is barred from schools, colleges and universities in the USA, arising from difficulties in obtaining transcripts from Indiana University, and enrollment application forms from there, the UC system, USC, University of Oregon and Michigan State. Following the Bill of Attainder passed in Indiana, only the US Senate (Hartke, Bayh) would intercede, if only to a formal extent. A paper trail exists of no apparent concern to the Assembly 44th, Chair, Subcommittee on Higher Education.

Nevertheless what has been shown has been received. My own academic interests are unconventional--extrasensory perception is actually learned predictive behavior like the little animals modify food gathering behavior according to unseen climate in advance--in my arrests other people got off when my cases were dismissed. Mathematical prediction is rational and therefore not ESP, but the order of prediction that is ESP is likely that rational.

Had I kept a wife, or had children: imagine the abuse directed by local faculty and administrators at their lives and know that a person like me had to stay alone. What is barred from the university is barred from academic journals, all scholarship: though many behavior scientists would love to see their names where mine appears, the prestigious journal Public Opinion Quarterly.

Threats of police interference arise because of the way in which I use statistics, faculty against me: in this state apparently supported at the 44th A.D., its staff and supporters.

Sincerely yours,  
Philip W. Gregg, M.A.

A MAD SHEPARD & HIS FLOCK

Archbishop Mahoney, hard-assed head of the L.A. Archdiocese, must want all "gay" Catholics dead. "Tough shit," he says, That's just hard cheese; the Lord can't stand those who cossert catamites who've come out of the closet." He must have foot-in-mouth disease; won't let medicos speak with ease, to his Latino parishioners who've recently waded our borders, on using condoms and beating A.I.D.S Scared they might not reproduce so quick? Wants a large power-base even if sick? Or perhaps he enjoys deadly plagues!

Don Johns



Dear Carol:

Thank you for the statement you printed in December's issue of the Beachhead, next to my article on the march. I'd like to assure you that there's probably not a single individual among us who would disagree with your criticisms of either David Mixner or Propeace. We all breathed a sigh of relief, when the pair went belly-up, because we knew from our earliest encounters with them that they could not seriously challenge the system that prevents us from achieving our goals: a nonviolent and peaceful world. I appreciate the courage it took to acknowledge the difference between Propeace and its successor The Great Peace March and to declare your support for our efforts in the latter. One of our greatest trials throughout the nine months has been countering the Yuppie-image generated by Mixner during his reign over Propeace. Another, ironically, has been resolving the love-hate relationship we've been thrown into with him.

It was, after all, his vision that drew us together and his hope that ignited ours. Thank you, as well, and all the folks there at the Beachhead for using my articles during the march. I hope I get a chance to meet some of you someday. For the present, however, I'm stuck here in Minneapolis where my family is feeding and housing me, while I earn enough money to return to L.A. Take care of each other. And keep the faith -- the potential for Peace lies within each of us.

Respectfully,

Frank E. Holmgren, Jr.

P.S. I plan to write an afterview of the march in a couple months and am working on the development of a grassroots organizing network (North American Grass-Roots Organizers Network -- NAG-RON!) I'll send what I write to you and, if it's appropriate for the Beachhead, please use it. Take care. Peace.

Dear Editor:

The seething volcano I often ponder over an -- an inconsistency in human behavior that denies our very existence as a democracy. Most people, if given an alternative to their life-style, do not imagine themselves, among other attainments, as President of the United States. Their ultimate wish is to rule an empire. There, they can play the King and do as they wish, regardless of who is hurt, or worse. Look around you and you will quickly see how many people theatricalize in daily life, as if they were actually monarchic! The stride and the imperious demeanor is a clear signal of their secret wish. Knowing all this, then one is left to ask just why did we go to the bother of founding our republic in 1776? A democracy is, outgoing. An antarchy hates humanity! Period!

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Krengel

## Veggies to Glow On

by LOISE NEVILLE

"United States food is irradiated," writes Senator Alan Cranston. "The American people should know about it."

Last May a law authorizing food irradiation was passed quietly by Congress, without any advance publicity. Most of us didn't even know that food was ever deliberately irradiated with radioactive material despite the fact it had been done for some time on pork, grains, spices and many exported foods.

Due to public pressure a law to prohibit the irradiation of our food was introduced in Congress. Apparently it's still there. The California State Assembly and Senate presumably passed a bill

## FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Kelly Hall, Memphis Slim, Kathy Sullivan, Carol Fondiller, Jim Prickett, Miriam Goodwin, Kate Keeling, Diane Nickerson, Patrick McCartney and Victor Wightman.

Thanks to Stephen Clare. The **FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD** is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics or other material of interest to the Venice community. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used.

prohibiting irradiation of California produce.

But, who knows now what is or is not irradiated in the local markets? Labels won't help because the new law declared they don't have to label irradiated food anymore.

When a bill is pending to cancel an earlier bill that must mean the first bill is still in force. So, irradiated food. But which food? The Federal bill said all food, including fresh fruit and vegetables. Earlier the warehouses irradiated pork, beans, flour grains, all packaged foods and spices without a bill permitting it and without informing the public. We can assume that California fresh fruits and vegetables are not irradiated. Or can we?

Why do we send atomic radiation thru our food on purpose anyway? Irradiation kills bugs, that's why. It also adds 5 days of "shelf life" to fresh foods. Good for business presumably, though it does raise the price.

The FDA says irradiation is OK, no problem. (The FDA also OK'd 100 dangerous drugs and methods which later had to be pulled off the market including thalidomide which made armless babies.)

Non-FDA researchers both in the U.S. and other countries say irradiation is not OK, that it removes the most important "items" of food value from our already devitalized food and adds "radical particles" which are carcinogens, cancer-creating.

Has food irradiation been tried elsewhere? Yes, in the Netherlands until people refused to buy such food. In India where irradiated wheat was tested on children until it had to be stopped because it created serious malnutrition.

You might ask the manager of your local supermarket what foods sold there are irradiated.

When questioned about irradiation, the manager of the local Boys Market said "I've never heard of it but I'll check and call you back." He did not call back.

You ask!

Meanwhile to get up to date on what's happening and what you dare buy call the Chapter of the Coalition To Stop Food Irradiation (the CSFI) at (213) 682-CSFI. Information is free.

CHEERS TO ALL!!

BEACHHEADERS, thank you for sharing & caring & daring to do all you do, say!  
Without you, our little corner of the world would not be the same.

Love,  
Tina

(Dear Tina, Thank you for your thoughts, your help. We look forward to more poems from you in the new year!)

THE BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE.



# Weapons for Profit Secret Team

Janette Rainwater

There is a "secret team" that has been operating in this country for 25 years to fight their definition of "communism", according to a 95-page affidavit released by the Christic Institute on December 12th. Daniel Sheehan, the chief counsel, alleges that this group got its beginnings when Vice President Nixon was made chairperson of a secret group within the National Security Council charged with prosecuting a secret contra war against the socialist government of Cuba.

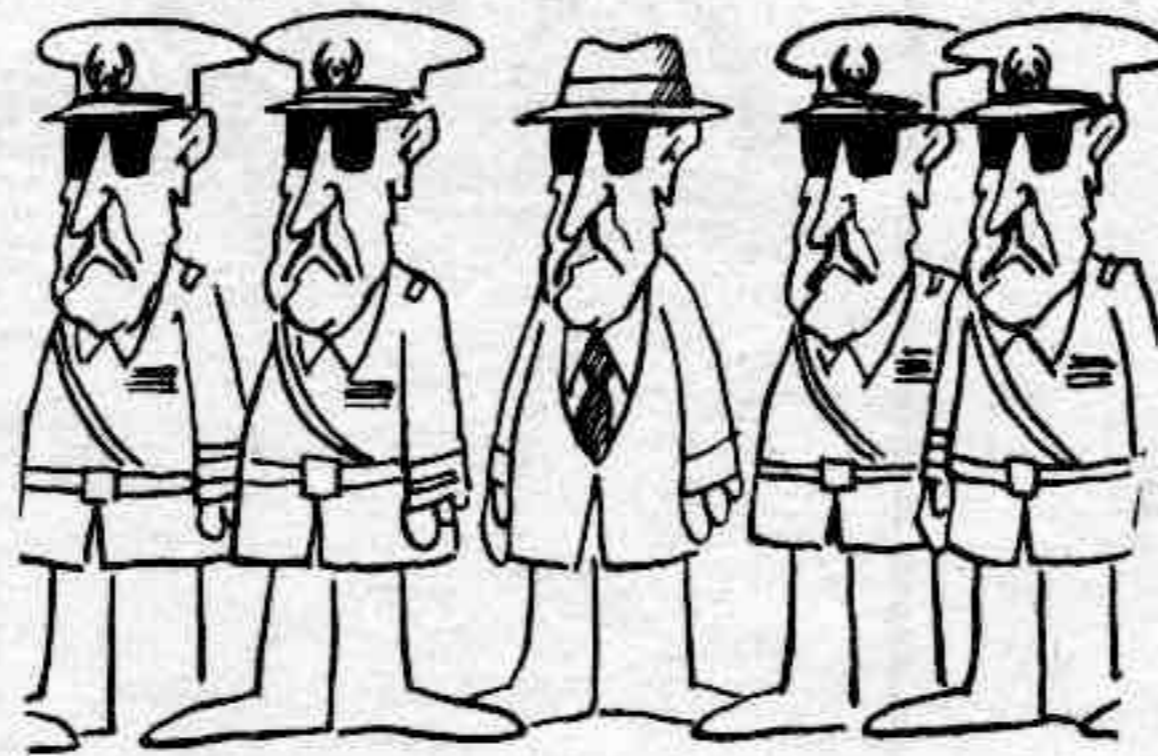
Sheehan says that some of the "shooter team" that was trained back then in special assassination techniques are now defendants in a \$22 million damage suit that the Christic Institute filed in federal district court in Miami in May on behalf of Martha Honey and Tony Avirgan. Plaintiff Avirgan was seriously wounded in the 1984 attempted assassination of Eden Pastora (the contra commandante who would not accept CIA control) in a press conference at La Penca on the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border in which three people were killed and 24 wounded.

In their investigative journalism to establish the identity of the terrorist Honey and Avirgan first found a huge disinformation web spread by US and Costa Rican authorities, according to Sara Nelson, the director of the Christic Institute. Honey and Avirgan allege that the deed was done by Amac Galil, an anti-Khadaffi Libyan who had been brought in by part of the Secret Team which was also using American citizen John Hull's ranch to land plane loads of arms for the contras and transshipping drugs to four points in the US to make the money to finance their operations.

There are 29 defendants in the La Penca Bombing case, including John Hull, Adolfo Calero, Pablo Escobar, Robert W. Owen, John K. Singlaub, Thomas Posey, Richard Secord, and Albert Hakim.

There are two important defendants whose names have not yet made the headlines: Theodore Shackley and Thomas Clines.

According to the history of the Secret Team that Daniel Sheehan gave a group of us in a meeting last week, Shackley and Clines were CIA operatives who supervised the training of men in the covert war against Cuba in Kennedy's Operation Mongoose from 1961 to 1965. In 1965 Shackley and his deputy Clines were transferred to Laos where, Sheehan alleges, they cooperated with a druglord named Vang Pao to get control of the opium trade (later joined in this by Santo Trafficante.) Their official duty was to oversee the "joint task force on unconventional warfare" (headed by Gen. John K. Singlaub whose deputy was Maj. Richard Secord).



According to Sheehan, Shackley and Clines made the decision before the US withdrawal from Vietnam that they would no longer accept the supervision of their president, their CIA directors, the US Congress or the American people. They felt they knew the best way to "fight communism"... to hunt communists down and assassinate them, using drug funds to finance the operation. Accordingly, they transferred large quantities of Vang Pao drug money to a secret account in Australia and pilfered hundreds of tons of military equipment from US arsenals, moving them to a secret cache in Thailand.

In 1976 Shackley was put in charge of all covert operations for the CIA worldwide in which capacity, Sheehan says, he set up a team to help the Shah of Iran's SAVAK hunt down and assassinate possible "terrorists". According to Dan, this was also the period in which Secret Team members Richard Secord, as assistant undersecretary for defense for foreign military sales, and his assistant Albert Hakim developed the technique of buying US aircraft and weapons from the government at the low manufacturer's cost and selling them to the Middle Eastern markets at their much higher replacement cost, then depositing the profit generated into the secret Australian account.

Remember Edwin Wilson, the CIA operative who was prosecuted for selling explosives to Libya? At that time, according to Daniel Sheehan, "Stansfield Turner, the director of the CIA, was able to have the identities of Shackley and Clines shuffled into a sealed portion of the indictment. They were never prosecuted, but were forced to resign from the CIA." The affidavit states that Turner and President Carter were unaware of the activities of the Secret Team. Dan hypothesized that their immunity to prosecution was a result of their knowledge of the CIA-authorized dirty dealings in southeast Asia. Shackley and Clines continued as business partners with Secord and Hakim in the Egyptian-American Transport and Service Company, according to Sheehan.

Now we come to that point in time when the US cut off military aid to Nicaragua's dictator, Anastasio Somoza, due to the passage of the Harkin Amendment (which prohibits aid to a regime which systematically violates the human rights of its people.) Immediately, Daniel Sheehan alleges, Somoza received a business offer from the Secret Team to supply him with arms... which they did from March - July. After Somoza fled from Nicaragua the Secret Team supplied and subsidized some of Somoza's henchmen who were regrouping in Honduras.

This continued until Ronald Reagan took office in January, 1981. Then, according to Sheehan's recital, at a series of meetings chaired by Chief of Staff Edwin Meese and attended by Bush, Reagan, Casey and National Security Advisor Richard Allen, it was decided that the CIA would take over the operation of the covert war against the Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

The Secret Team was called back in after the passage of the Boland Amendment (which prohibited the use of US funds to overthrow the Nicaraguan government). Sheehan said that this decision was made in meetings attended by Meese, Bush, Reagan, Casey and Bud McFarlane, and that McFarlane's deputy, Lt. Col. Oliver North was delegated to contact the Secret Team and have them reactivate their contra-supply operations.

The Christic Institute has distributed copies of their affidavit to members of all the various investigating committees and to all the major media. Have you heard or read any reports?

This case contains some incredible data that needs to be known and acted upon.

Contact your legislators. Demand that all the facts come out.

If you want your own copy of the 95-page affidavit, contact:

The Christic Institute  
1324 North Capitol Street  
Washington, DC 20002

Telephone: (202) 797-8106

The Christic Institute is the public interest law firm that successfully prosecuted the Karen Silkwood case. (Daniel Sheehan was also the chief counsel on that one.)

They also need money... for personnel for further investigations and for bodyguards. The Steven Carr who died under mysterious circumstances in Panorama City last week was scheduled to be a witness in the La Penca Bombing case. ●

## Iranguano

by Carol Fondiller

Why is everyone so surprised that Reagan's running a covert operation? He said he wanted to get government off our backs. He really wanted government off his back, so that government could see how many shiftless, lazy souls were lining up for two hours at daybreak for a delicious meal of Edwin Meese's vegetables - catsup with homily grits - before going back to their luxurious cardboard crates and hallways to idle away the time.

Reagan's always believed in the private sector for social services, so why not the private sector for social change? He's got Edwin Meese shifted from Agriculture to Attorney General, and you know how Eddie believes that the Supreme Court decisions don't carry any weight and the decisions the Supreme Court makes is not the law of the land, especially since there's a lady on the bench. We're letting Reagan be Reagan. He's making diplomatic points with the Iranians by overcharging them on arms. Well now, Ronnie isn't doing that; he has no memory of it. The question should be: What did he forget, and when did he forget it? And while citizens all over the U.S. are pissing in jars to prove drug-free purity, the instigator of this drug mania believes in firing the druggies but will let no funds loose to cure them. And now it turns out that this elderly paranoid was drugged out himself and is really just a figurehead for the power-addicted arms dealers, Mafioso, dictators, and other lovable old coots. Is this an Eddie Murphy movie or what?

Do you really believe that Casey came down with a brain tumor? Don't you know a case of electrical burn when you see it? He's either

in there for an implant, or they're replacing the batteries.

Ol' Cap Weinberger - this is such a surreal cast of characters that even he looks sane.

I love a parade...of witnesses. It stirred me up something grand when I saw Oliver North get up in front of the Foreign Affairs Committee in Congress - Oliver North, every mother's son, and son of every mother, death's handsome shadow eyed boy - hero, general planner of the Granada invasion. Hey, Ollie, let's turn this here dangerous air strip for Commie war jets into an air strip for tourist planes! That's what it was in the first place, whines the murdered Prime Minister

With solicitude that oozed into hero worship, California's B-1 Bob "I love a man in uniform" Dornan, Korean War pilot, protege of Joe Pyne, radio's Wally George, adapts Kipling to praise Ollie. Another California Congressman, Lantos, apologizes for putting the soldier under so much pressure, and offers to donate to his defense fund.

Lt. Col. Oliver North respectfully and regretfully takes the Fifth on the advice of his counsel. I didn't know that officers in the Armed Forces were allowed to take the Fifth when testifying before a Congressional Committee. If he's acting under orders of his superior, why would he have to take the Fifth Amendment? Whom is he really protecting - Reagan's mich-worked-on ass? So what if the profits from the Iran deal were supposed to go for arms to the Contras - the Contra Generals claim not to have anything, and Kushoegi, the Iranian arms broker, claims to have been bamboozled.

Pat Buchanan is accusing the media of savaging and brutalizing the President. No more than the President and his men have been savaging and brutalizing the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Some yanoo from the right wing organisation, "Accuracy in Media", is going on news shows accusing THE MEDIA of being UN-American because not this much publicity was given to the supposition that Russian prime minister Andropov was implicated in the attempted assassination of the Pope, well of course not!!!

As good Americans, we all know those crafty soulless Commies are capable of anything. What's the surprise? The news? And the Pope is head of a foreign country. Reagan appointed an ambassador to Rome. Iran is going on here. And Lt. Col. Ollie North without consulting any one, is using profits from one illegal deal to finance something that even our cowardly congress has been shilly-shally-ing about.. So Ollie has been making foreign policy without the knowledge of THE BIG GIPPER. This is according to the B.G. himself. And isn't it treasonous not to believe our Pres.?

A little Looie making foreign policy --hey, that's man bites dog time. I have to cop to something. I wrote this whole piece, because because i saw the punchline:

"Another fine mess you've gotten us into, Ollie!"





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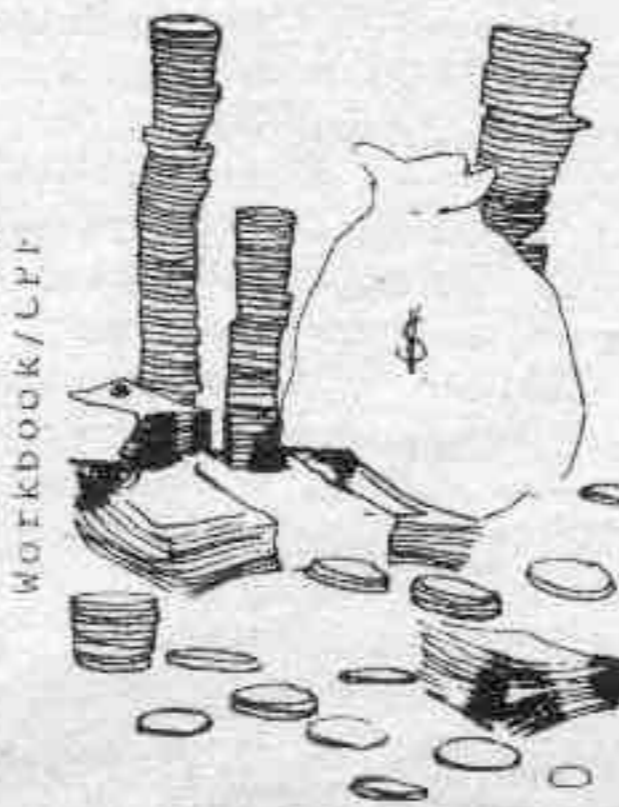
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with you. Love,  
good wishes. Carol.

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BIKERS

Poetry



Newskeal/cpf

Hail To The Chief

In the foggy bottoms of his muddled mind he plays deadly war games with real soldiers, invades small countries, & arms terrorists. He acts as though life were an old war film & tries to be tough as a movie hero with fantasies like those projected by the mind of a soft D.I. from Pendleton on the peeling walls of a Tijuana "crib". Swapping limp phallus for celluloid gun, he has a world-view based on fantasy & yearns for the days of his Movie-Tone youth; but his mind, inflexible as his aging spine, is rigid as a pair of frozen long-johns flapping stiffly from a clothesline in Winter... Hail to the chief!

Peace, .  
Don Johns



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OOPS!!

by Geriatric Jack

Accidental nuclear war becomes an alarming possibility during a crisis. Both the U.S. and the Soviets have moved towards basing the decision to use nuclear weapons on early warning of a perceived attack rather than on confirmation of an actual attack, placing their land-based missiles on a hair-trigger. A launch on warning posture would dangerously increase the risk of accidental nuclear war.

From 1977 through 1984, we had 20,784 false indications of missile attacks on the U.S. 5% were serious enough for a second look. Space debris have been mistaken for possible Soviet missile launches.

In theory, only the President has the authority to order the use of U.S. nuclear forces. (Think about President Rambo in charge.) In practice, however, hundreds of Americans, mostly in the U.S. Navy, have the physical capability to use nuclear weapons without authorization. (Shades of Dr. Strangelove, when one nutnick sent off nuclear weapons.) The risk doubles because the Soviets can make the same mistakes.

Both U.S. and Soviet nuclear missiles can reach the target within 6 to 13 minutes from launch with 380 times more power to destroy than the bomb that leveled Hiroshima.

There is no defense against nuclear annihilation except peace and disarmament.

I recommend THE DEFENSE MONITOR, the main source for this article. Headed by Retired Admiral Gene LaRoque, the Center for Defense Information, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 provides the most reliable research in this area and is one of the most effective lobbys for peace. Join it.



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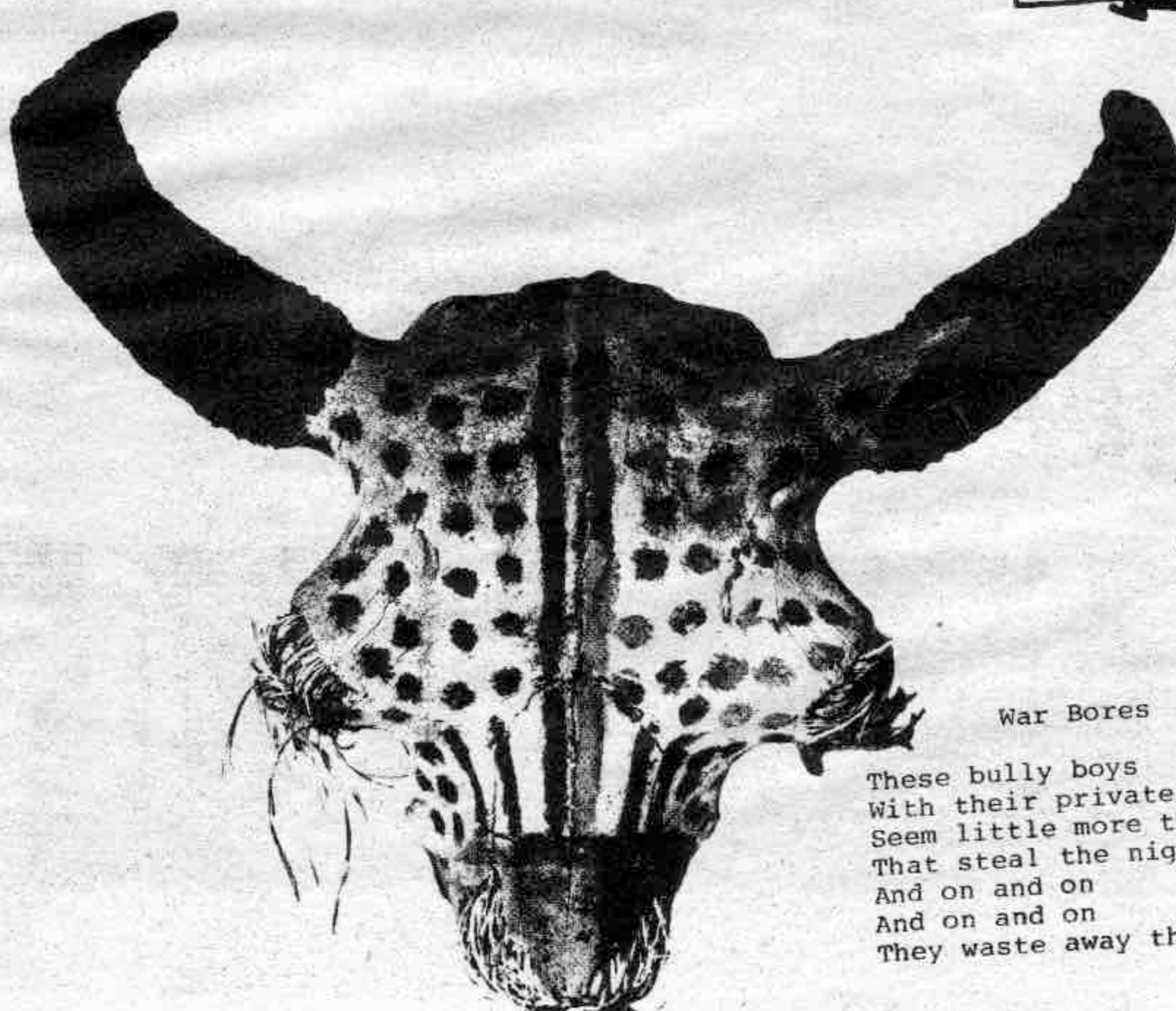
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And on and on  
They waste away the day.

Kelly Ball



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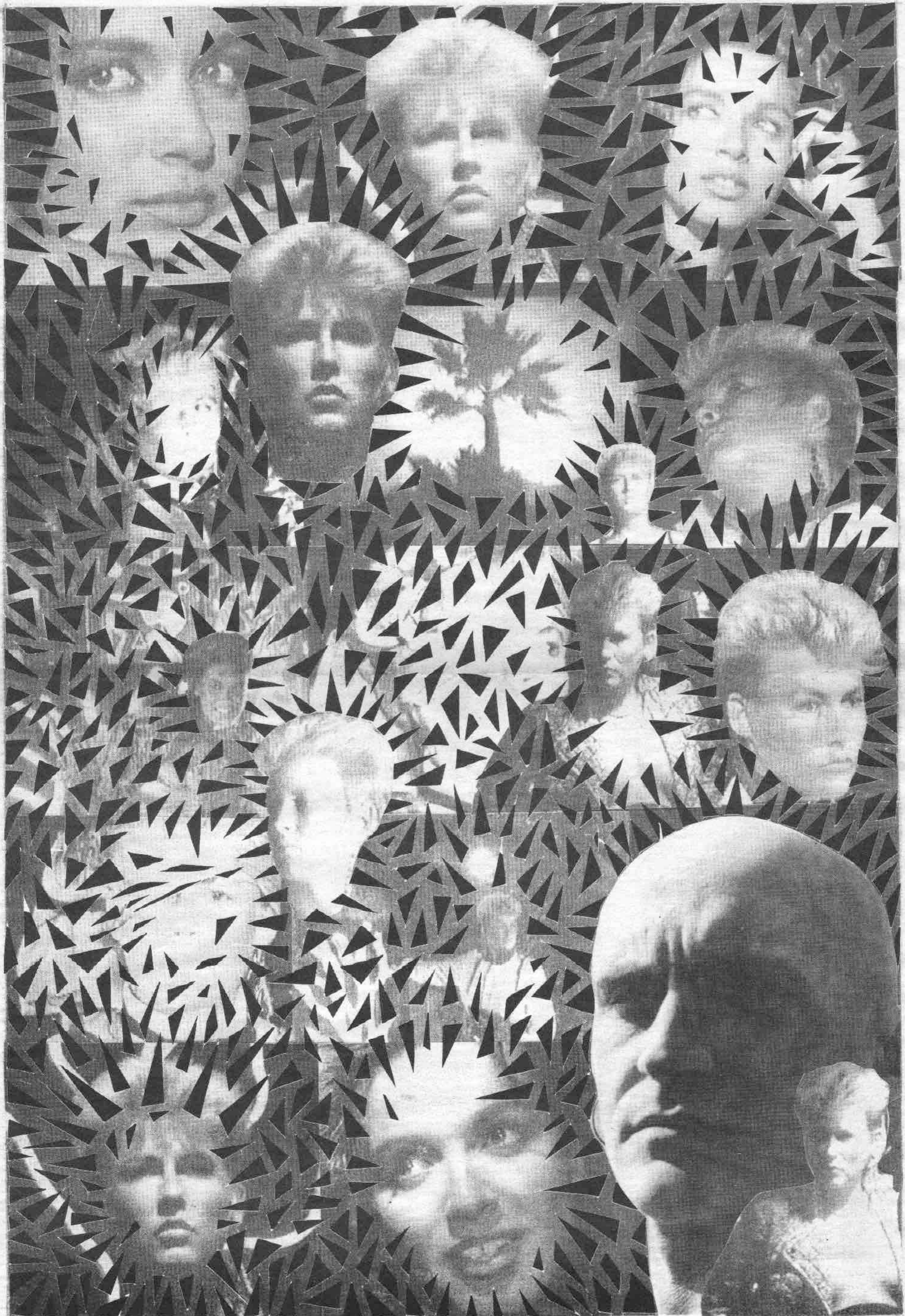
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VIDEO: HEAVEN BUILDERS ASSOC.







## Continued from Page One.

## 'RUSTLING WITH RUSSELL'

christenings, bar mitzvahs, senior citizen centers, ground-breakings, etc. Her public relations staff must be working overtime. I've seen more news items about her in the last few weeks than I can count.

For those of you who are concerned about Ms. Russell's retirement years, don't worry. She will receive between 36 and 40% of her present salary as a retiree. Just as her former aide, campaign manager and advisor has, she will have no trouble latching on to a lobbyist's job at a very lucrative salary. All the ex-council members have done very well.

Yes, elected officials do change. Elections can remove them. Yes, it is difficult to defeat an incumbent because they get all the money. I think the time is ripe for a change in the 6th District. Ms. Russell's opposition to Prop. U, her catering to the interest of the real estate speculators and her disregard of community needs and desires are creating a groundswell which should defeat her next spring. Two very viable candidates have declared and I recommend them to you. They can use your help and money. They are Ruth Calanter (398-6693) and Patrick McCartney (306-7756).

Bye-bye, Ms. Russell. Enjoy your retirement. ■

## 'Venice Bards'

RON SINGLEWISH continued from Page 1.

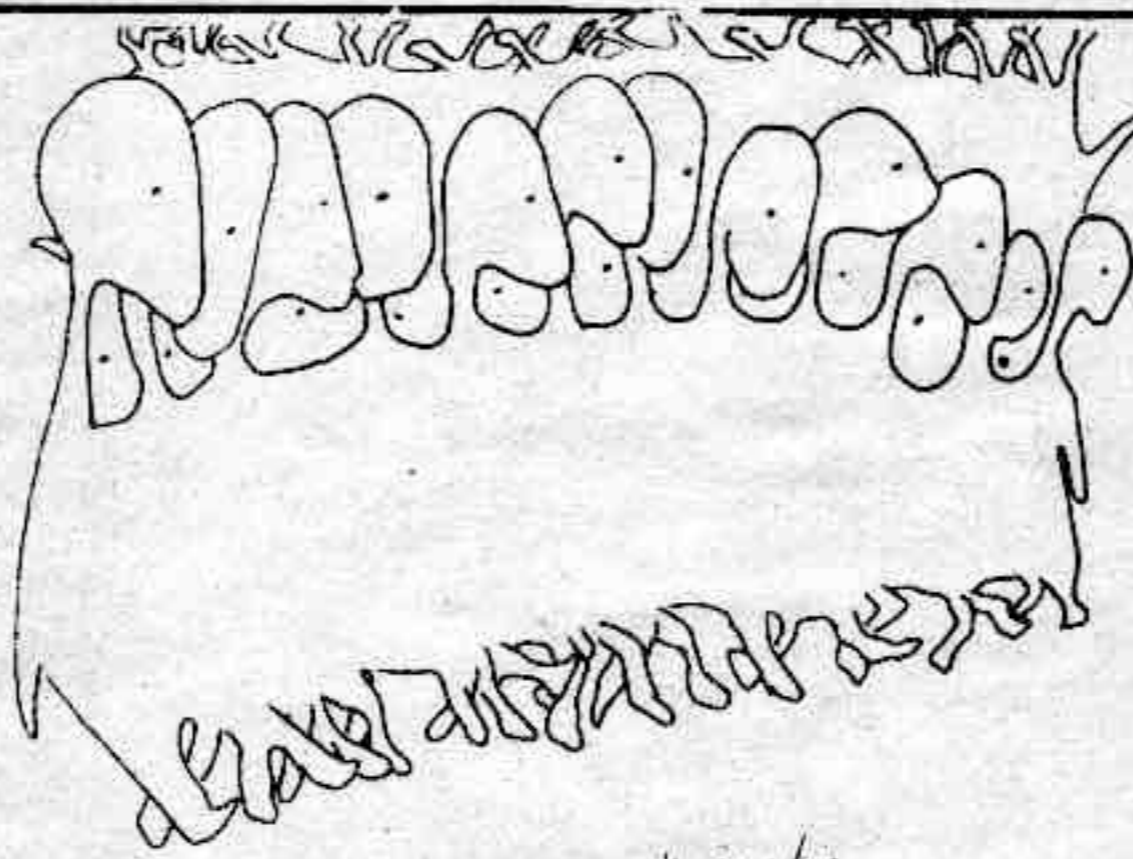
set the tone for the day even as the poets voices contrasted dramatically.

First up was a Venice poet named Rick Davidson. He wore a floppy wide brim hat and loose cotton shirt and had a relaxed easy style that went with the clear sunny day. He spoke of commitment and responsibility, he didn't recite poetry, rather he gave a short speech, demanding each of us to help resist atomic holocaust, to fight to stop the fouling of the planet. As he spoke, it dawned on me that I couldn't spend another night at my sisters. I couldn't remain directionless. I could make my own choices, I could do what I wanted, I could learn what it was I wanted. All Davidson's rhetoric hit me as a personal challenge to adulthood. He ended with a brief poem, a sweet lyrical message to someone, I took to be me.

The next poet was also from Venice. Larry Abrams was his name, a tall bearded black man wearing a vest over a beige silk shirt, with a red band on his head. He had a calm elegant manner as he shuffled pages between calloused fingers. He told of his recent trip to Europe and his feelings of distaste for what he saw, how the European soul had died and his odyssey in discovery of that fact. His images were bold and vivid and tinged with unconscious connections with his own distant African past. The piece was powerful and made me cringe in spots yet was moving for all the man's earnestness and vulnerability. These were words and ideas to be thought over and that would yield a spiritual harvest. I needed that kind of determination and clapped at the end of Abram's piece, almost solemnly, as if for myself.

Then Tina announced Steve Effingham, a poet from Echo Park, a well fed man appearing to be in his mid twenties. Effingham's was a narrative poem, a story told one night by an old man who lives on the streets of Echo Park, of a violent episode in Roman History with chilling parallels to Salvadorean death-squads. The poem was an indictment of patriarchy and the violence caused by the need to dominate, by the compulsion to be wealthy and powerful. As Effingham read, a hawk circled slowly above his head. The poem closed with the admonition of the old man to his youthful questioner, "better make your own choices. I thrilled to the irony of that demand. The youthful questioner (Effingham himself?) walks to Echo Park Lake and waits for daylight pondering the old man's story. My chest filled with emotion. All three poets had demanded action, had thrown the ball in our court.

Tina took the mike again, announced



intermission, and told us it was time to eat. The crowd, perhaps forty strong, rose and moved back to the tables which two teenage girls were laying out with food. A pretty teenager named Suzanne was in charge of the food. She told me later she wanted to go to cooking school and I told her she had the touch. We all stuffed ourselves with Chicken Pasta Salad and French bread and drank white wine. After an hour or so of nibbling Tina took the stage and called us back for more poetry.

First up was an actor from Silver Lake named Billy Sheets. He portrayed a Dadaist poet, Tristan Tzara, who had lived in Paris in the early teens of this century. Sheets dressed in a period suit, wore a monocle and carried a bamboo cane. He burst on stage from the back of the yard through the crowd shouting like a wild man. Tzara was a poet on the edge of the artistic and intellectual movements of his time, passionate, incredibly erudite, eccentric, funny and intensely suffering. At least this was Sheets' Tzara. He had us belly laughing at wild surreal images, then gasping at the perfect seriousness of Tzara's vision. Finally he bolted off stage, mumbling and swinging his cane, and disappeared down a brick staircase.

Before we could catch our breath the next poet had been announced and had taken the stage. She was Christine Choi Ahmed, another Venice poet. She had a confidence that suggested she was a veteran of many readings. Her poems were finely crafted and the language was dynamic and direct. I languished under my avocado tree and let the sounds wash over me. She spoke in cutting tough street talk, rhythmic and hard, distilling her mind for us, daring us to listen. One poem in particular struck me, inspired me. I don't remember any title, just that it was a passionate expression of her hate for racism. The images were stark and dirty - her talking about allowing a white racist policeman to have sex with her just so she could have the chance to off him, and when he licked her pussy she'd do it, she'd blow his brains out. Startling images! Yet her honest disgust at racism, greater than her disgust at having this man go down on her so that she might murder him, was beautiful...yes beautiful...amidst all our complacency Ahmed's refusal to be complacent was a jolt, a refusal that made me feel her love for humanity. That vulgar, mean poem warmed my heart.

Then came Rocky Solomon, singer-songwriter from South Central Los Angeles. Some people remained sitting and others got up and milled around, chatting, as the sun set and Rocky played guitar and sang Reggae music interspersed with poetry. The crowd literally beamed and drank and partied for the next hour or so and then slowly began to trickle away, many back to Venice, the rest scattering throughout Los Angeles.

I thanked the poets and the host, Tina Morehead, said goodbye to the dozen new friends I'd made and glided out on to the street.

I went back to my sister's house, got my bags and said goodbye. I thanked her and kissed her and kissed her husband too and laughed because they thought I was crazy. I walked down the hill to Echo Park Lake and waited the night out on a park bench all the time looking for the old man in the poem. In the morning I found a room in a hotel down on Alvarado Street, and then a few days later I found a job in a bookstore in Hollywood...and most important of all, I bought a small notebook, so I could learn to write, and flower myself like those Griots that Sunday in Echo Park, and leave all my bad luck behind and someday be a Griot too. ■

## 'Homeless' C.A. SUE cont. from Page 1.

It appears that most of the hotels are downtown or in Hollywood. Bus tokens or change is given to an from. Food stamps are given, but, of course, on weekends are the Food Stamp Agencies open? Now who needs to eat for two or three days? Not to eat is part of being homeless. Now so is constipation???

Pity the Poor Soul: Homeless with no I.D. and no relatives. The procedure relates to a crime committed and an F.B.I. interrogation.

Immediately...two (2) photos and two (2) thumbprints are taken. Mr. H.K. Joe-F.B.I. begins his interrogation. His assistant, assists.

IF they cannot MAKE YOU...in short... VERIFY WHO YOU ARE...Goodbye, Adios, Forget it, Charlie! As example: No social security number, no drivers license, no relatives, no address.

If you had an address, you wouldn't be homeless. Now does this explain why human beings are sleeping outdoors on cold cement and are out on the streets???

"We don't know Who You Are!"

"We can't identify you!"

so in short-  
GET LOST!

(And if you are lost, you could be homeless.)

One final word--is there finally a turnabout and are whites being discriminated against? What about that, DUKE? A strong feeling about this exists in this author's mind.

Another criticism of the system... sometimes a person does not need or want monthly AID, Medi-Cal, and Food Stamps but may only need temporary sleeping quarters, due to rent disputes and temporary financial distress. What then? The missions and the local agencies are filled to capacity. Don't go to 10961!!!!

As the Newspapers and News Media report and broadcast all the donations, funds, food, etc. that has been donated to the homeless...as the steering wheel bangs into my leg during the night and my throat gets sore from the cold... Where the Hell is this AID?

What the source of the problem is that there is NO LOW INCOME RENTALS!!!!

Government land costs are too high for the developers to afford to build the low income housing that they are capable of doing. They can't afford the land.

Rents have as much as tripled within the last three years. Even the undesirable rental areas are becoming out of bounds to the poor. (Go sleep in the bushes, Ronny!)

The fixed incomes of Social Security and Disability have not increased with the rents. Under the current Administration, the Housing Programs have been DRASTICALLY CUT. The waiting list for Housing Assistance is one year minimum. You can wait two years, not get placed and then get kicked off.

Yet money that could be spent to develop / and or assist those in need of rental assistance is routinely being spent on non-humane government waste projects. WE CAN SHIP IT OFF TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND THE THIRD WORLD, BUT CAN'T AND WON'T TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN.

As the P.U.C., Permanent Under Class grows in numbers, possibly they should have a leader and guns. Living on the street is dangerous and you should be able to protect yourself from bodily harm.

A leader to unite the masses of the new race, lest they perish?

As Ronald Reagan goes into the hospital for Prostrate Surgery...I think of one thing...

"A PAIN IN THE ASS"

Happy New Year  
All you folks! ■



# Candidate for City Council Why I'll Work for Ruth

by Carol Fondiller

I became aware of Ruth Galanter when she was part of the conservationist-environmentalist "party" on the Coastal Commission. She has a degree in City Planning from Yale. She's always been involved in public advocacy programs, health care for the poor, legal aid, etc. She's lived on the West Side for sixteen years. She's lived in Venice in a house "the bank owns" for two years. Galanter has had experience in working as a bureaucrat. As a chairperson of the Coastal Commission, she carried out the act that the people of California voted for, and carried out the laws that the legislative body had passed. She also has her own consulting firm.

Ruth was urged to run by a cross-section of people in the Sixth District. "Residents in Westchester, Venice and Crenshaw have the same problems. They want a safe place to live, and they want clean water, and they want to be able to get back and forth to work, with a minimum of stress." She was instrumental in the inclusion of low-income housing in the coastal plan. This was later lobbied out of the plan by developers and their legislators. But the concept of low-income housing is still in effect in Los Angeles, as is the concept of public access which was one of the main priorities of the coastal act, and that is still in place.

Ruth Galanter says Pat Russell calls for plans and then they get shoved on the shelf. She was on a committee set up by Councilwoman Russell to study parking problems in the Peninsula. The resultant parking plan has vanished. Preferential parking is not a solution, says Galanter. Parking cannot be planned alone; it is contingent on other aspects of the City. However, the City of Los Angeles' coastal plan is still "languishing in various stages of incompleteness." Galanter states that any commercial building by the beach should strictly adhere to Coastal Commission parking requirements. She deplores the selling of city-owned lots. The sold-off lots have not solved the parking problem. Councilwoman Russell has not encouraged nor pressured the Coastal Conservancy to use its funds as it has done in other areas. Free or low-cost facilities should be made available in the coastal area.

Ruth Galanter was the Coastal Conservancy's project person for the Santa Monica Pier restoration. Workshops were held. Businesses, visi-

tors, and residents were represented. Ruth enjoys bringing people of opposing views together and working things out for the common good.

As Councilwoman, she would encourage community-wide meetings of vendors, residents, and property owners, etc. who have a commitment to the community to carry out plans. If there is no commitment, then the process is meaningless. She wants people to call her office.

Galanter says the Canal Restoration Project would be best accomplished if the City knew what they were going to do south of Washington Street. "A large part of planning is common sense. If you fill in a wetland, you can't back up. You need natural habitat. If the canals get "restored" with a straight slope, wildlife will not come to a bathtub." The City Council office can and should provide leadership and direction. The City bureaucracies will not move without the pressure and acquiescence of the Council.

Commenting on what's happening to the Ocean Front Walk where living units are being illegally converted to retail stores (more parking), and lack of cooperation from City enforcement agencies, Ruth Galanter commented that the Board of Zoning Appeals and other enforcement agencies react mainly from pressure from the Councilperson which has been lacking in Russell's case. Untrammelled, unregulated development has been going on in Venice despite protest from residents, environmentalists, and visitors. But Ms. Russell has done nothing to stop the developers. "To not act is to act," said Ms. Galanter.

Galanter has worked both sides of the counter. She has been a bureaucrat, a public advocate, and a State official. She knows the ins and outs of legislature; she works with people of differing views. Even those who disagree with her decisions admit she's fair. Ruth Galanter is a credible candidate and would be a quality Councilwoman. She's not in the developers' pockets. She needs peoplepower and greenpower (bucks). You can help!

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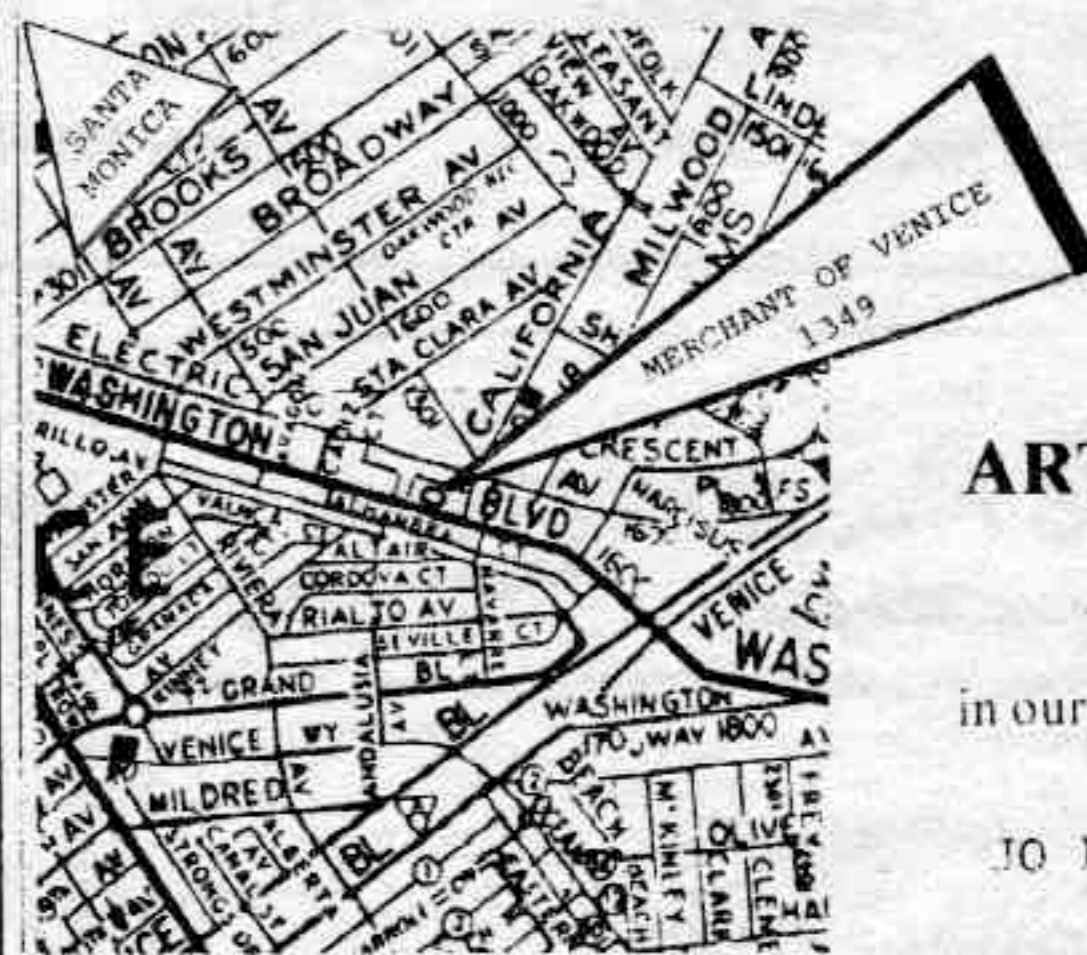
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# 12 Community Events

The Beachhead welcomes notices of public meetings and entertainment for publication on the Community Events page. To have your event publicized, please mail your press release to us at P.O. Box 504, Venice 90294 by the third Sunday of the month. Late additions can be called in at 823-5092 no later than the following Wednesday.

## SERVICES

Venice Skills Center is accepting enrollments now for job training programs in air conditioning/refrigeration, auto mechanics, electronic assembly, office careers, computer occupations, child care occupations, and medical office procedures. Students may also enroll in high school diploma and GED preparation classes. Classes are free. For more information, call 392-4153 or 392-3973. Venice Skills Center is located at 611 Fifth Avenue in Venice.

"Breaking Free - Changing Careers, Finding Your Life Work" is the title of a workshop being offered on Saturday Jan 24, 1987 by Lisa Frankel, MFCC therapist and career consultant. The workshop is geared for people who are confused about their work life and may be considering a change, or may be re-entering the work force. It will be held at Main Street Counseling Associates, 202 Main Street, Venice. For registration or information, call 399-3222.

The Center for Interracial Counseling and Psychotherapy presents a public forum/discussion on the racially and culturally mixed family on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:30 to 7:45 and Saturday January 10, at 10 to 11:15 a.m. There is no charge to attend but seating is limited so please call 202-0341 to reserve space. Various other support groups are offered. For more information call 202-0341. The talks and the support groups are being held at 12217 West Pico Blvd., Suite 3, West Los Angeles, CA.

## RELIGION

The First Unitarian Church, 2936 8th St., LA, 389-1356 has services at 11:00 Sunday morning. Child care is available, and the service is translated into Korean and Spanish. Speakers and topics are:  
 Jan 4. Donald Freed, "In Defense of Anarchy: Reflections on the Collapse of the Reagan Regime."  
 Jan 11. Rev. Philip Zwierling, "Salvador Visit: A Look at the War."  
 Jan 18. Rev. Philip Zwierling, "The Four Questions of Life: #1 Does Life Have Meaning?"  
 Jan 25, George McKenna, "Childrens' Lives are at Stake: Schools in the Inner City."

PETE SEEGER will headline a benefit concert at the First Unitarian Church, Friday, Feb 20. For info, call 389-1356.

## POETRY

Writers Jack Skelley and Andrei Codrescu will read from their work on Friday, January 16, 1987, at 8:30 pm at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd, Venice. Admission is \$3 for Beyond Baroque members. \$5 for non-members. Call 822-3006.

Poetry readings at Gasoline Alley, 7219 Memrose, Los Angeles. Call 937-5177:  
 \*\*Jan 4: Lewis MacAdams  
 \*\*Jan 11: Carol Muske  
 \*\*Jan 18: Open reading  
 All sessions at 3:00 p.m.

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## MUSIC

The Repercussion Unit, a contemporary percussion ensemble, will perform at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd, Venice. They will present a synthesis of contemporary, ethnic, and jazz-influenced music. Admission \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. For more info, call 822-3006.

## ART

Alan Pulner will present his MFA thesis show. Pulner's show assembles paintings and photographs to suggest narrative and associative connections relating the painting surface to the surface of the physical body. The show will be in Room D300 on the Cal Arts Valencia campus. Gallery hours at 9 to 6, Monday through Friday. Exhibition is free.

Southern California Women's Caucus for Art presents:

\*\*An exhibition of paintings by Lucy Blake-Elahi and sculpture by Ruth Ann Anderson will be at the Los Angeles City College Art Gallery. Opening reception will be January 9. For more information, call 669-4240.

\*\*Life-Cycles, a slide presentation and discussion on contemporary art dealing historically re-occurring themes of creation and metamorphosis. This event will take place at the Gorman Fine Arts Gallery, 1655 Stanford Avenue, Santa Monica, CA on Monday, Jan 19, at 7:30pm. For more information, call 453-5323.

California State University at Long Beach reports the following exhibitions:  
 \*\*PORTRAIT OF A COLLECTOR: STEPANE JANSSEN. January 27-March 8, 1987.  
 For more information, contact Wendell Eckholm, 498-5761.



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VENICE TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
 7:30pm Thur., Jan. 8  
 Beyond Baroque Center  
 681 N. Venice Blvd.

### AGENDA

- Public discussion of Venice parking problems to prepare Council for Councilwoman Russell's Parking Task Force. Election-eve fever may spell relief for Venice parking woes.
- COMMITTEE REPORTS:  
 Board of Directors (305-7149),  
 Planning & Devel. (399-3921),  
 Ocean Front Walk (396-1585),  
 Airport Task Force (396-6774).

## POLITICS

Friday, January 9, at 7:45 p.m. in the Kaizuka room of the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, 4117 Overland Blvd., Culver City, SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINGLES will host Craig Winters of the Coalition to Stop Food Irradiation and writer Nancy Appleton, Ph.D., in a program entitled "What the FDA isn't telling us." Requested \$4, for info, call 398-4141.

Friday, January 16, at 7:45 p.m. Javier Borgos of SUPRESS (Students United for Protesting Research on Sentient Subjects) will show the film "Hidden Crimes" and discuss why emphasis on experimental rather than clinical research is not only cruel to animals but results in bad medicine. The event is sponsored by SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINGLES, which meets every Friday at the Westwood YWCA, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd. Requested donation \$4; for info, call 398-4141.

A vigil will be held at the WINCON conference, a military and industry meeting, on Monday, January 26 at the Westlin South Coast Plaza Hotel in Costa Mesa.

Please join us "pagoda people" for our second annual "PEACE BOWL" parade and New Year's celebration, Thursday, Jan 1, 1987, starting at noon, Dudley Avenue and Ocean Front Walk. Entertainment and refreshments provided by the "not ready for mass media players", guerrilla theatre troupe. For more info, be there (or be square).

The Santa Monica Democratic Club meets the third Thursday of the month. For info call 453-5322.

Nerve Gas testing in your backyard. Find out with a FREE copy of the Winter RECON, PO Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

The Peace and Freedom Party meets on the first and third Sunday of the month. For info, call 396-3555.

## WOMEN

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