

inside

Venice Logic
Wheatgrass
Gay Robin
N.Y. Nukes
Rose Bowl
RCP Rapped
Klan Exposed

FREE VENICE SINCE 1968 BEACHHEAD

CHEE
WAT-WAH
FREE

JULY 1982

ISSUE NO. 151

P.O. BOX 504 VENICE CALIFORNIA 90291 823-5092

DIVIDING VENICE

CRIME & RACISM

Oceanside Waterslide

L.A. GAME PLANS

BY ARNOLD SPRINGER

Strapped by declining revenues, the Recreation and Parks Department of Los Angeles is on the prowl for additional sources of moola. And like the opportunistic coyote, it is finding new money in the pockets of citizens who have already paid to use the public parks thru their taxes. Coincidentally the people who tend to use parks the most are those who can least afford to pay twice. Special user taxes like those pioneered by Recreation and Parks in L.A. fall heaviest on the poorer classes of the city.

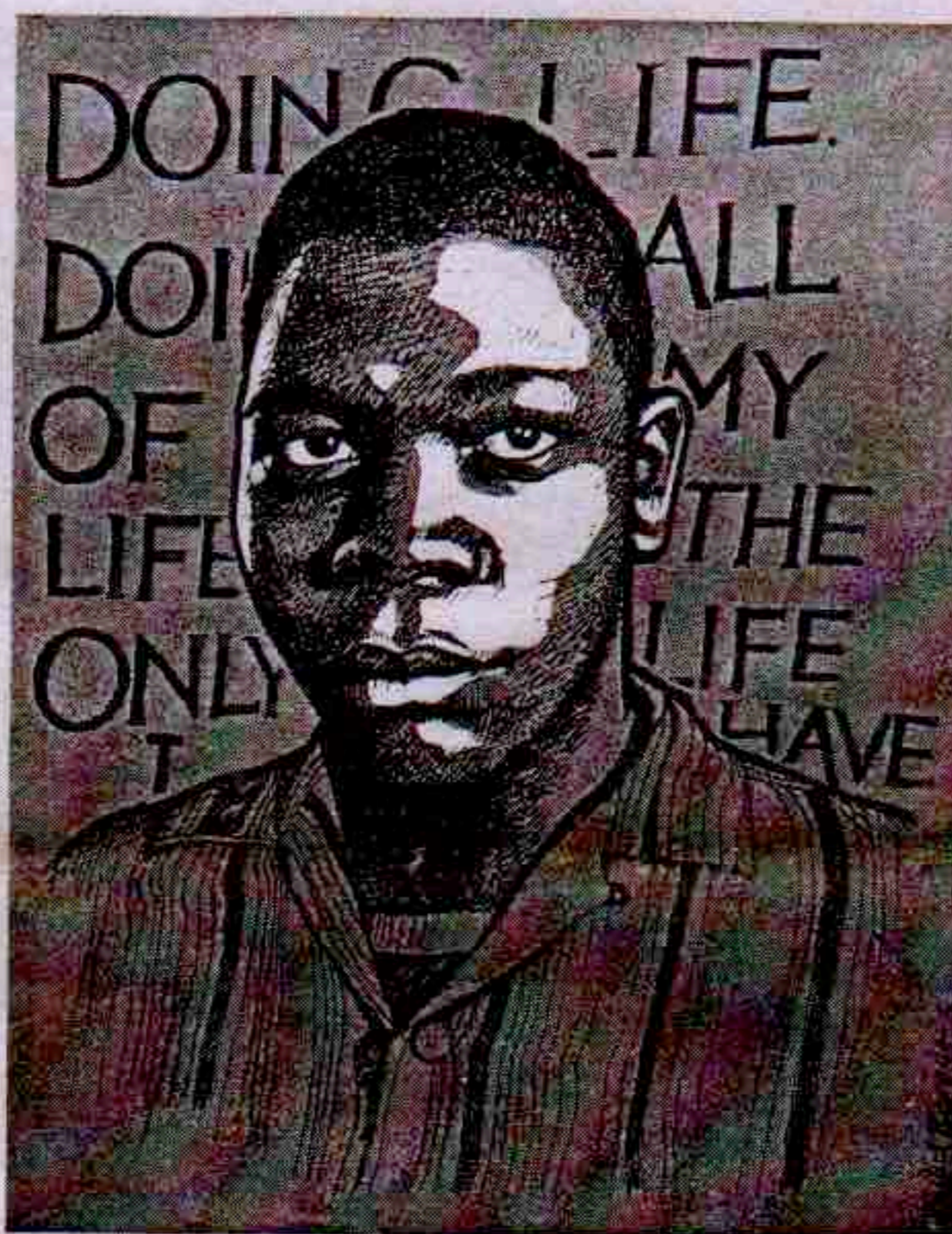
Testing the Waters in Venice

Hard upon the successful imposition of a use tax on Griffith Park visitors, the Dept has decided to test the waters in Venice. It has put out to bid, and has received 25 proposals to operate, its Venice Pavillion facility. According to Mr. Jessie Miller of concession management, Recreation and Parks, the Venice test is necessary because the dept. has been hit by declining budgets and is being forced to reduce operations and to lay off staff. In an effort to keep its facilities operating at the seem level, to keep public use high, the department has turned to 'innovative fund raising'. So far the Griffith Park user tax has raised about \$1 million for the hard pressed department and managers hope to repeat this success on a reduced level at the Pavillion facility

Video Games and Waterslides

Recreation and Parks plans to re-open the hot dog stand and the roller skate and bicycle rental concession at the ocean end of the pavillion. Two newly proposal concession ideas are being considered by the finally strapped department. One is to install a significant number of video games (how many is not certain) in and near the pavillion. Such games are considered to be money makers and are being used to entice prospective bidders to up the ante's on their concession bids. The video game idea is in fact a department pilot. If it is profitable it could be installed in other facilities operated by the dept.

continued on page 10



CPF

by JIM SMITH

The recent series of rape and robbery attacks have brought the realities of "life in the big city" home to many Venice residents. The fear of being the victim of a crime, of being raped or murdered has created much paranoia on my block.

The media has been quick to point out that this particular gang is Black, no doubt residents of Oakwood. A recent newspaper article said the police describe Oakwood as "the turf of a pack of violent young men who prey on the surrounding neighborhood."

This view of the Venice Black community should come as no surprise since the attitudes of the LAPD and their leader, Daryl Gates, concerning Black people have been well publicized lately.

The question is, how will the "decent Joes" of Venice respond to the problem of rising crime in the community?

Well, one "decent Joe", a longtime Venice resident who should know better, is quoted in the L.A. Times as saying "I'm buying a gun, I don't think the bad guys should win."

If there is any question about who Joe thinks the bad guys are, it is resolved in his next quote: "When people get out of jail, they move to Oakwood. The worst people in the world live over there..."

Joe's view of the world, as described in the Times, is, I believe, not only out of touch with reality but is extremely dangerous to all of us.

Joe's statements create more division between Black and white in Venice, as if the railroad tracks that slice our community into Black and white sections weren't division enough.

Joe has a right to be angry. The crimes committed by this gang are horrid and cruel. But, before rushing out to follow Joe's example by buying a gun to defend ourselves against Black Venice residents, maybe we white Venice residents should stop to consider a few facts.

by Thomas Casanova Richardson

One of the strongest society of America is the young Black men who have went to school and study programs of the peace nature of the world. Living in Venice for sometimes hearing of the situation that have to recover the study of the young Black ways. Before decided to write this being a man of wealthy thoughts it was quite unpleasing that this have to be put in the area of the well form pleasure. Nights that young Black man walk the streets who being stop by policemen who whatever their lifestyle telling that they can see more a criminal in the Blackmans' society than his. Its getting hard to walk the streets went you pay your taxes to a force that is not helping the income of the America.

First of all, Joe's view of Oakwood as the place where the worst people in the world live" is completely opposite to my experience and I'm also a longtime Venice resident.

Oakwood has been the most stable area of Venice for years. It is a place where families have lived for generations. It is to my knowledge unique, the only seaside Black community in Southern California.

Like Black people all over the country, Oakwood residents, because of institutionalized racism, live in permanent economic depression with extremely high unemployment rates and very limited promotional opportunities for those fortunate enough to be working.

Now, with the rest of the country sinking into a depression, the worst since the "Great" depression of the 1930's, the situation is becoming desperate in minority communities like Oakwood.

Add to these economic difficulties, Reagan's disdain for welfare, poverty programs and federally funded jobs programs and you have a prescription for hopelessness, violence and drastic increase in crime.

Not long ago the LAPD organized a neighborhood meeting on my street to discuss the crime spree. The meeting happened, possibly coincidentally, the same day that 10,000 of us turned out to show the President what we thought of his policies

continued on page 4



2 Yellow Thunder on the Black Hills

Russel Means visited Los Angeles in May seeking expressions of solidarity with YELLOW THUNDER CAMP.

Yellow Thunder Camp was established by the Dakota American Indian Movement on April 4, 1981 in the Sacred Paha Sapa (called the Black Hills of South Dakota in the English language).

Within the text of the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, the last formal and binding agreement between the sovereign Lakota(Sioux) Nation and the U.S. government, it guarantees the entire Black Hills region as the heart and center of the Lakota Nation forever,

The land was illegally seized by the U.S. government in 1877 after extensive gold deposits were found in the Hills. The U.S. Supreme Court has recently recognized the government's land stealing thru its ruling that the Lakota are entitled to monetary recompense for the land.

The Lakota have rejected this offer; **THE BLACK HILLS ARE NOT FOR SALE!**

Laboring on Your Behalf

Assemblyman Mel Levine (D-44th District) in a letter to Mary Nichols, chairperson of the State Air Resources Board, has requested an investigation of the extent to which public health has been threatened by excess emissions of vinyl chloride from waste dumps in Southern California. He quoted Richard O'Reilly's May 20 article in the Los Angeles Times describing the continuing threat to public health posed by toxic chemicals in the South Coast Air Quality Management District including the Ornyte facility in the 44th AD. Levine has sponsored AB 1156 to establish annual inspection of major polluters to be tested for compliance with existing health standards. He is also strongly supporting AB 2525(Hannigan) which would significantly increase criminal fines and penalties for serious violations of air pollution and toxic chemical control laws.

In a related action, Levine introduced an Assembly joint resolution (AJR 177) opposing the lease sale of oil drilling tracts off the coast of Southern California. •

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Yellow Thunder has petitioned to have 800 acres withdraw from public domain. Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm has introduced a bill HR 5664, into the House of Representatives supporting this request.

Yellow Thunder needs your letters, telegrams and phone calls to the members of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee urging them to: 1) hold hearings on HR 5664 and 2) vote the bill to the house floor, to be considered by the entire House of Representatives.

Morris K. Udall is chairman. The California members are Philip Burton, Tony Co Coelho, George Miller, Jerry M. Patterson. All may be reached at House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., 20515.

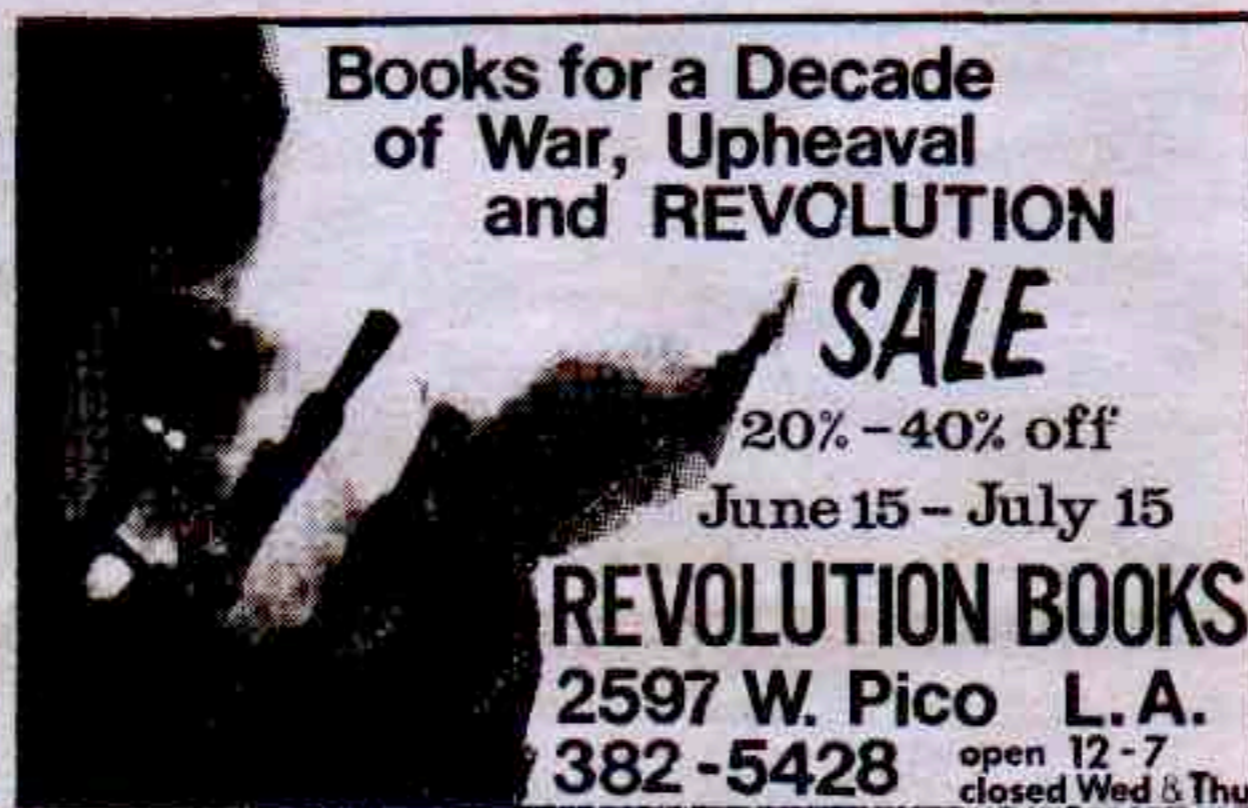
Donations of supplies and monies are still greatly needed at Yellow Thunder. Send to Yellow Thunder Camp, Lakota Nation, via P.O.Box 9188, Rapid City, SD. 57709.

For further information contact the American Indian Movement, P.O. Box 26019, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

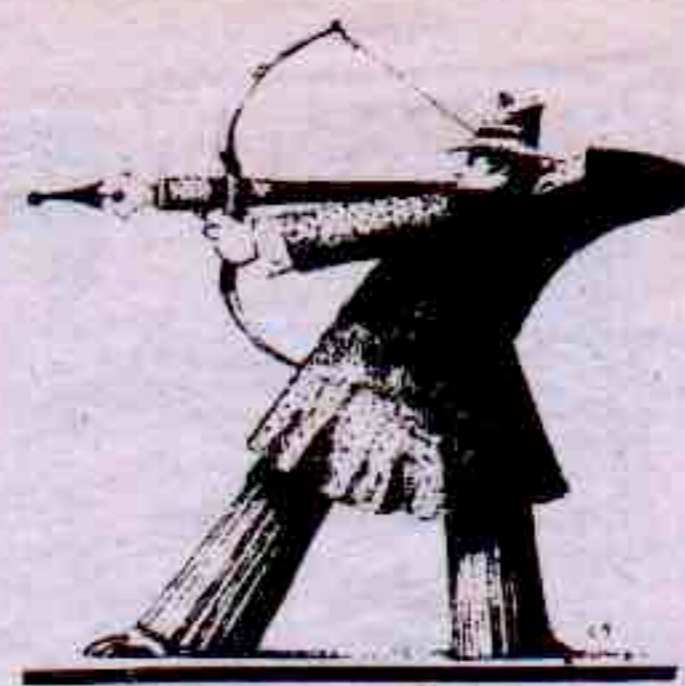
Bob Avakian cops a plea

by memphis slim

On June 3, 1982, 10 of the original defendants in the "U.S. vs. Bob Avakian et. al." trial pled guilty to misdemeanor charges of rioting and simple assault. Charges against Bob Avakian, head of the Revolutionary Communist Party(RCP), were dropped. If the original charges had been tried, Avakian, now living in France, would have asked for political asylum in that country. This brings an end to the extended legal maneuvering resulting from a violent confrontation between RCP members and the police during the visit of Teng-Hsiaoping to Washington, D.C. in January, 1979. O



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Letters

Dear Beachhead,

Please suggest to Mit Mandlen ("Unemployment Blues") that maybe the time has come for him to start writing "what will sell" and not "what he likes to write."

A Videogame Programmer

The author replies: What "sells" is an ever-changing concept and not only in the field of writing. Trying to keep up with the changing demands of the marketplace can be exhausting, demeaning, and sometimes not worth it. Human needs remain the same (food, shelter, companionship); human whims are subjective. Did you like the article? If it had not been free for the reading, would you have bought it?

Dear Editor,

I have no means in which to pay you for what I ask, but I do hope that your newspaper will be so kind as to print my ad.

I am presently serving a 10 yr. sentence for possession of stolen property. If you think your readers will be interested, I could send you a few articles on prison life in exchange for having my ad placed.

Thank you very much,
Edward Paradis

My Ad,

I am a young man, 26 yrs. old, in prison with no family or any friends who care. I am seeking to hear from sincere individuals to help me lose my loneliness. If you would like to write, send all mail to:
Edward Paradis #13237
P.O. Box 607 N.S.P.
Carson City, Nevada 89702-0607

Dear friends,

I've been reading the Beachhead now for the past 8-9 years (whenever I dropped into the area) and have not only appreciated the paper itself but also the time and effort you as a collective have put into each issue. After reading (every word of) the June issue, it is necessary that I pick up a pen to say thank you for a beautiful job.

Sincerely,
Jim Congden

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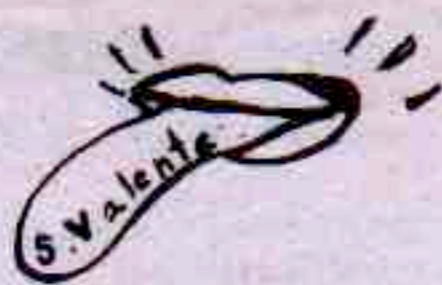
FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Staff: Chuck Bloomquist, Elizabeth Elder, Moe Stavnezer, memphis slim, Lynne Bronstein, Joan Friedberg, Emily Winters, Olga Palo, Arnold Springer, Thomas Casanova Richardson

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. 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.

TONGUE IN CHIC



Relate (as in "I can relate, man")-----Hibe
 Rules of Order-----Menu
 Solidarity-----Adj
 Spirit-----Vorce
 Struggle-----Gleesh
 Write a Grant Proposal
 (constant pursuit of
 arts groups)-----Gadge the Zroril

By Lynne Bronstein

Is the English language doomed? Experts say we are experiencing a definite breakdown. Not that what we have here is a total failure to communicate, but evidence mounts that Americans are becoming less articulate and more insecure in their speech mannerisms. Give an ear to the increasing use of the passive voice, the modification of almost every simple declarative sentence with "like" (as in: "I bought a pair of boots that cost, like, sixty dollars"), the widespread misuse of certain verbs and adjectives, mismodified nouns and pronouns, boring redundancies. Yes, we know all this, as we know we are wrecking the meaning of all meaning by our use of many a non-euphonious euphemism. Remember when a "controlled substance" was a drug, the "Animal Control Department" was the dog catcher, and "limited nuclear war" was, by any other name, pure lunacy?

Though we of the Alternative Lifestyle, Counter-Cultural, Bohemian-underground, Radical-Liberal, etc. genre, may balk at the intrusion of vapid modern babble-talk and Newspeak, we too are guilty of verbal obfuscation. We speak, too often, in a dialect of dialectic catch-phrases. True, we do our best to use the terms considered non-offensive by various ethnic and gender groups, and some of us have worked on clever plans for degenderization (if that's a word) of the language, but we've clogged the ears of most of our number, not to mention those of the mass media, with a sticky, insipid beeswax of buzz-words. We speak of our "affinity groups" and the "spirit" of same, of our "energy",

our "struggle", and our "solidarity". In the groups we form, we toss around a lot of concepts, actions and methods which mean more in practice than in their stilted-sounding names: "power trip", "documentation", "agenda", etc. We are at the foot of the Tower of Babel once again: do we know whereof we speak?

Wouldn't it be better to start all over again with a new vocabulary? It is in this interest that I present a glossary of Brand New Buzz-Words to replace the old ones:

OLD PHRASE	NEW PHRASE
Affinity Group-----	Space Cousins
Agenda-----	Ribble
Alliance-----	Spaceneke
Calling the Question---	Mark the Spot
Consensus-----	Onetrounce
Documentation-----	Scribs
Energy-----	Nej
Give Back(as in "she gives back to the community")-----	Dezoy
March-----	Moonwalk
Meeting Adjourned-----	Cut the Cake
Negative Attention-----	Negatin
Oral History-----	Craprap
Power Trip-----	Ilov
Principled Objection (this is when one member of a group feels so strongly about an issue that s/he must voice an objection to override the onetrounce of opinion)-----	Condemaz!
Quorum-----	Trouncette
Rally-----	Space Party

Now aren't these words niftier? Don't they intrigue you? Wouldn't it be fun to use them? Let's let them grow and flow into our everyday activist speech to add touches of color to our humdrum workaholic existence. As the Reader's Digest used to say: "Towards More Picturesque Speech." Have you memorized them? Good. Now see if you can understand (dig, grok, hibe to) the following:

I was able to hibe to the Space Cousins' desire to scribe the Space Party and Moonwalk, but I didn't have the vorce or nej at the time to want to help out. The onetrounce of opinion was that I was getting negatin by my laziness, that I was on ilov. "Dezoy, dezoy!" they told me.

"Condemaz!" I cried. "If somebody could gadge the zroril so I could live without working, I wouldn't mine." Our Nanilov said: "Let's use the Menu and get a Ribble." It was pointed out that a few crapraps existed of past Space Parties and we ought to do a scrib in adj with them. The Spaceneke would give us materials. But I was not satisfied. "Mark the Spot!" I said. "Is this what we're supposed to be doing for the Gleesh?" "Cut the Cake!" said the Nanilov and the Trouncette did. □

Studying the Logic of Venice

by MOE STAVNEZER

"The Logic of Venice" was the title of a presentation given by 12 Black women at Venice City Hall in early June. The women are from Central and South L.A. and are participating in a Public Affairs Training Program sponsored by the CORO Foundation. Given the very short time for research and preparation, it is not too surprising that these women could not really find a "logic" for Venice. But they did a remarkable job in the 2 days trying to discover that logic, gathering some data and pinpointing some problems.

The women divided Venice into 5 areas which roughly corresponded to the old Venice Town Council areas. The Peninsula, the Canals, Oakwood, Northeast Venice & North Beach were the subjects of their investigation. In general, all of the area residents interviewed expressed a dissatisfaction with the level of public services they received. These complaints ranged from lack of sewers on the Peninsula to inadequate bus service in the area east of Lincoln Bl. None of the CORO people indicated that any of the people interviewed made a connection between lack of local services and reduced revenues due to Prop. 13 and a variety of budget cuts.

The women collected some interesting, though not always consistent, data on each area they studied. They found that the median income of Peninsula residents is 48% higher than the Venice norm of more than \$11,000/year but did not have similar facts for the other areas. Home values in Oakwood were around \$87,000 while the Venice median was \$124,000--the Peninsula and the Canals registered the highest value with new homes and condos valued at from \$250,000 to \$400,000. Renters made up 66% of the population in the Canals, they claimed, and 75% of the population in Oakwood. No comparable figures were given for the other areas or for the entire community.

The Peninsula and Canals were overwhelmingly white, more than 90% in both cases. The Peninsula's population of 2,864 had doubled since 1970 but there were far fewer children which accounts for the closure of the Anchorage School this year. The racial character of the other areas broke down as follows:

Area	Pop.#	Hisp %	Black %	White %
Oakwood	8,962	45%	30%	24%
N.E. Ven.	5,221	23%	--	70%
No. Beach	6,800	11%	9%	80%

(all figures are based on 1980 census)

Other issues which the CORO group identified included crime (a major problem in N.E. Venice according to interviews), no control over decisions effecting the community (widespread), an invasion of privacy by beach-goers (mainly expressed by Peninsula folks) and a lack of an economic base.

The CORO folks did comment on an obvious, but rarely discussed phenomenon in Venice. The clergy was nowhere in evidence as spokespersons for virtually any part of the community. This situation is quite unlike the rest of L.A. especially in the Black and Latino communities.

But the women missed much of the below-the-surface tension that also characterizes Venice. For instance, the issue of Venice as both a residential and recreational area. Tensions among residents and between residents and visitors caused by this fact of daily life has great impact on the "logic" of the community. Similarly, the hiring practices of industrial and commercial businesses went uninvestigated (mainly for lack of time). In fact, there was little recognition of the many industries in the community (Edgemar Farms, Pioneer Bakery Tasty Spuds, New World Pictures, Hull Lumber Co. etc). Unmentioned, in fact, was the entire Lincoln Bl. commercial strip and the entire art community/industry.

But the CORO group report was by no means a waste of time. It raised some valuable points for discussion which were recognized by an impartial, outside group of intelligent, probing women. It is a shame that this was their only assignment in the community--we could certainly use and benefit from more of the kind of effort they made in their search for our logic.

NOTE: CORO is a private, non-profit, non-partisan educational foundation created to conduct research and education in the field of public affairs. ◀

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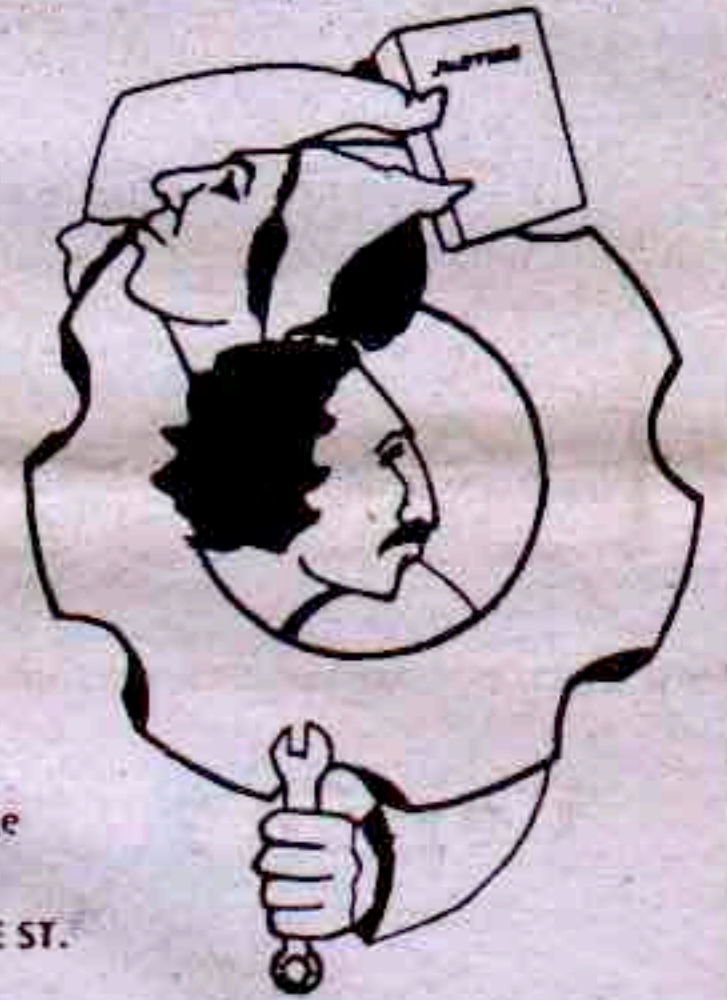
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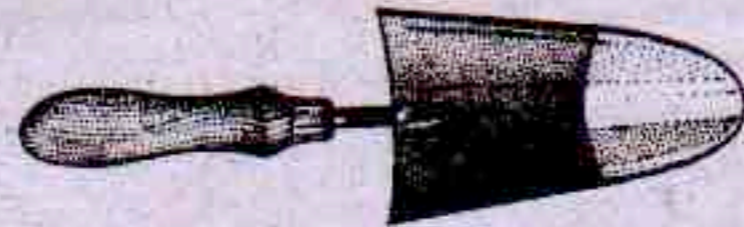


The Voice of the Vegetable

By Arnold Springer

Every morning at about 8 am John Scott loads his hand truck with 5 flats of beautifully green wheat grass and walks it about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile over Electric Ave., past Cabrillo and Riviera, to Windward circle. From his home and garden on Santa Clara St in the Oakwood district of Venice to the Naturally Venice food store on Pacific Ave., the trip takes about 15 minutes. There, at Naturally Venice, he or an assistant will pre-squeeze one ounce of fresh wheat juice for the interested and the curious.

John Scott and Bill Sullivan have been friends for several years. Bill has the big green thumb and his responsibility is to be master gardner. He tends the sprouts day and night. He and John built the greenhouse in which the sprouts are allowed to germinate and grow. Besides the sprouts the two men grow lots of other vegetables for their own consumption, but it is only the wheat grass that they market because, they say, "wheat grass juice is the top of the line" in terms of nutritive live food. Their backyard garden, in what used to be called appropriately "the Garden Section of Venice", lies verdant and lush. Besides the greenhouse the backyard is filled with several fruit bearing trees; figs, lemon, tangerine, orange, kumquat; vegetables (crown by the French intensive method) and herbs. Its a beautiful spot. Bill says it reminds him of the intensity of Jamaica where he visited several years ago.



crime & racism cont. from page 1

The block meeting occurred on the only street in Venice that was the scene of an attack by this gang outside the Oakwood area. Why wasn't the meeting held in Oakwood which has been hard hit by this gang? What did the police choose a white area where statements like Joe's would be aired?

Could it be that the police who have never been popular in the community are attempting to generate racism in order to build a base among white Venetians?

Local tactics like these also aid Reagan and his fat cat backers. If Black and white victims of Regonomics can be made to fight each other, it is not likely they will join together in unemployed committees or anti-nuclear coalitions to turn this country around. Sentiments like those expressed by Joe play right into this divide and conquer strategy.

Joe's statements not only help fuel racism but they lay the basis for fascism in this country. Joe goes on to say, "there aren't enough police around here."

Is it possible, Joe, that there can never be enough police to prevent crime if there is no other way to make a living? Is it really possible, Joe, to control the police so that they only protect us from those people in Oakwood and don't start investigating our personal habits and political beliefs? Can we have more and more police without having a police state?

Yes, something has to be done about crime in Venice and America. But first we have to identify the criminals.

John and Bill market wheat sprouts only at Naturally Venice. They are proud that their product can be presented in its optimum live form - fresh pressed - because, they say, it is most beneficial and powerful in that form. They make a few bucks on the sale of their product but money is not the principle motivating force behind their work. Raising wheat grass is labor intensive. They have no machines, tend the sensitive plants by hand, recycle everything.

There are some truths that they would like people to appreciate. First, that they can grow their own food, especially wheat grass, on a small plot of land, even in flats in their front yards, in the city. Second since wheat grass cultivation is labor, not capital intensive, people who raise it can do it cheaply and have the added benefit of eating the healthiest food and being free of the pollution cycle of foods produced by modern agro-business and chemistry. Showing people that they can achieve self-sufficiency in food, even in the city, say the two men, is a political and a social message that they want to pass on. It's not just nutrition they say, its a whole world view that they've gotten into with sprouts.

Bill and John are both vegetarians but they don't think that wheat grass is a panacea or cure-all for anything. Says John: If you live poorly and consume all that jive food, breath polluted air and live a stressful life, and expect wheatgrass to cure you while continuing to live in the same way, forget it. But if you try to live more naturally, more easily and make an effort to stop polluting your body and exhausting your spirit, wheat grass can give you added strength, can help purge your body of accumulated toxins, and begin to heal much of the damage caused by the unnatural way of life we live. There's no secret, no magic in it.

Both men work in the health food network, John at Naturally Venice and Bill at One Life Natural Foods in Ocean Park. Both are self taught in the field of nutrition and are convinced of its importance. They work hard at what they do, work hard in their garden, work hard at making their life healthy, strong and happy. They think others can benefit from what the produce and from what they have learned. ▶

Who are the criminals that are throwing people out of work and denying welfare to the needy?

Who are the criminals that are supplying weapons and encouragement to dictators and right wing death squads around the world?

Who are the criminals that may destroy all our property and out lives by setting off a nuclear war?

Joe said a lot to the Times reporter. He said, "The working class people are easy prey." I agree with you on this, Joe. We working class people, particularly us white working class types are easy prey to our prejudices and to the constant media barrage trying to turn us against Black working class types or undocumented working class types.

The real criminals, the Reagans, the military, the multinational corporations, including the TV networks, L.A. Times, etc. are very obvious and we are an easy prey. But we are not hopeless or helpless

Its important for all of us to oppose these criminals like we did that night at Century City. It's just as important to do something positive about conditions right here in Venice.

Instead of getting guns to protect ourselves against each other, how about starting some dialog between Black, Latino and white residents of our community.

Maybe we can talk things over and find some solutions to our mutual problems. Maybe we can get a lot of our neighbors to demand that Venice area industry be

FINA'S RISING

by Elizabeth Elder

I will freely admit that I am a Mexican food junkie and have been since I was a child growing up in New Mexico. Why, when the conversation turns to really fine New Mexico green chile (probably the hottest and certainly the most flavorful variety - and as scarce as hen's teeth in Southern California) I get a light in my eyes that I've heard only appears during a profoundly religious experience. So you might say I have a vested interest in seeing that my favorite Mexican restaurant in Venice stays open and does a decent business.

Fina's Place is that unremarkable-looking restaurant one door north of the flower shop at Venice Blvd. and Lincoln. When I first came to Venice circa 1971, it was called Taxco, a name it kept for many years. Josefina, the owner cum sole waitress, has been there as long as I've known about it. One day almost two years ago, a For Sale sign appeared in the window. I figured Josefina deserved a rest if that was what the sign meant. It stayed in the window for quite a few months with no noticeable effect and then one day bam! The place was closed. I was distraught. It was closed long enough for some Marinoid to buy it and change its name, fittingly to the Del Rey cafe. I ate there once in the vain hope that some of Josefina's Taxco had survived. The food, unfortunately, lived up to the name. Whoever heard of bland Mexican food? I went through a brief period of mourning. Life went on.

I was ecstatic the day I drove by and lo and behold, the Del Rey Cafe was gone and a sign proclaimed - "Josefina's Place - Grand Opening". It was too good to be true; even the old pictures were on the wall and there was Josefina smiling. When I walked in and said rather too loudly, "Now this is more like it." She laughed.

My rapture was short lived. Only weeks after the resurrection, a fire closed Josefina's Place. It was enough to make you cry, driving by the remains, with the bright "Grand Opening" banner still up.

But friends, the story has a happy ending, or next chapter, anyway.

A few months ago it re-opened. Risen from the ashes is Fina's Place, rebuilt after the fire, and once again serving those good relenos and nopales.

I've wanted for a long time to interview Josefina for the Beachhead. Her English is a lot better than my Spanish, but neither is good enough for a real interview. It may still happen though, since some other Beachhead staffers speak enough Spanish. Through an interpreter, I'd like to tell her why I call Fina's the Phoenix of Venice. ■



good neighbors by hiring more of us in proportion to our unemployment rates by race.

Maybe we can figure out how to get rid of some of the extreme reactionaries who claim to represent us at the local, state and federal level but who are contributing to our misery. Who knows, maybe some of us, even you, Joe, can get elected and begin doing something about our common problems.

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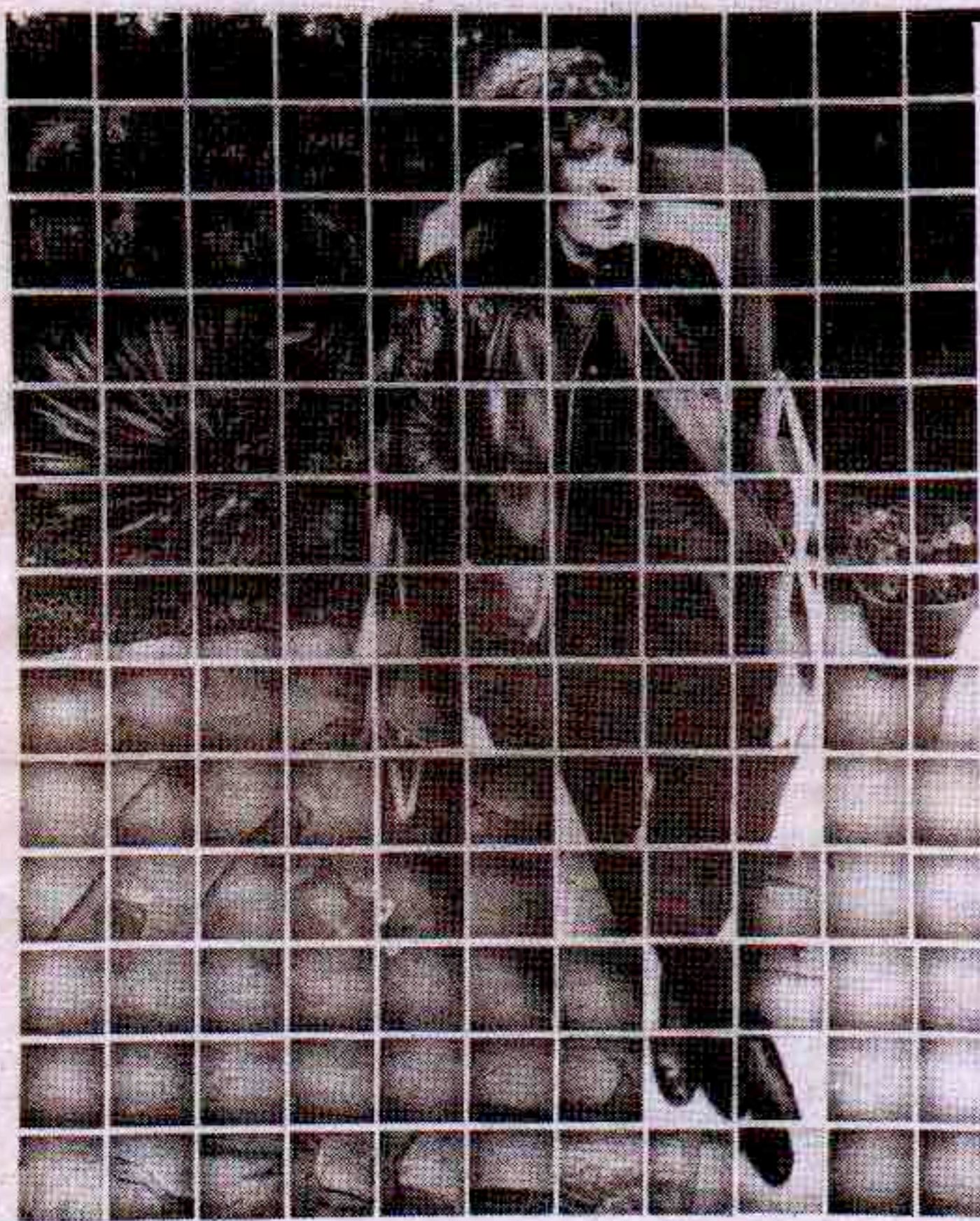
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Polaroid Paintings

by William Littmann

Art can be described as a look at the world through a child's eyes, untarnished and unfettered with adult biases. David Hockney's recent exhibit, entitled, "Drawing With a Camera," is also an innocent vision, except that this child is standing with his face against a window screen and through that, looking out and perceiving the world.

What "Drawing With a Camera" (running through July 3rd at the L.A. Louver gallery in Venice) entails is a showing of Hockney's recent photo-mosaic work. Each piece is a portrait comprised of individual Polaroid photographs arranged in such a way to be representational of the whole. Each Polaroid is only a portion of the picture, one shot may be the subject's nose, while another may be a brick in the background. When assembled, the resulting image is a dreamlike view of the subject, with vertical and horizontal lines running throughout. It is as if one is looking through a window of many panes or, perhaps, through a fly's eye. Hockney's vision here, is of a world distorted, somewhat askew and probably more accurate than common perception.



Born in England and an emigré to the United States, Hockney has been critically acclaimed on both sides of the Atlantic. He now lives in Southern California and celebrates Los Angeles hedonism, narcissism and passions perfectly as only an artist who loves his subject can do.

The idea of a photo-mosaic is not new at all. Ever since those hard-backed Polaroids have stuck their little plastic tongues at us and told us to wait 60 seconds, artists have been playing around with the process. The Polaroid is a great piece of equipment for the artist, for it is of the instant. The artist doesn't have to wait two weeks for the Photo-Mate to come back with the pictures; the decision to use, abuse or to toss out is made in a split second.

Hockney is doing more than just simple Polaroid portrait work. His photo-mosaics are impressionistic, rather than realistic. His portrait of Ruth Lesser, taken in early 1982 as with the rest of the pieces in the exhibit, is of a vibrant woman. She is plump, red, sitting in a lounge chair, looking a lot like Doris Day in a tomato suit. Hockney has given Ms. Lesser two faces. In one Polaroid, we are given a profile of her, while in another shot, she seems to look out at us from the painting. Hockney has taken a cubist perspective and the overall effect is much like Picasso's middle and late period. Hockney may have realized how close he may have approximated Picasso's style, for one work in the exhibit is entitled, "Bing Looking at a Picasso".

In the photo-mosaics, each individual photograph works on its own. An amateur tends to shoot for the 'heart' of the matter, the person's face, or the front of a building. Hockney places importance on the insignificant pieces that make up the whole. In Hockney's world, even the slate under a subject's feet is vital in its own right.

The Polaroid camera can be much more than Mariette Hartley and James Garner giggling and taking snapshots of each other. It can be a viable piece of equipment for the artist. "Drawing With a Camera" is a fine exhibit demonstrating that photographs can be worked like sculpture into photo-mosaics and illuminate to the viewer a different and telling vision of the world, in Hockney's case, where the alignment of the Polaroids puts our world on a piece of graph paper. What better way for David Hockney to capture the ambience of Southern California than with the Polaroid. Our vacation toy has become the artist's tool. ▶

GAY ROBIN MERRY MADE

by BRIAN ROTHSTEIN

Venice playwright Glenn Hopkins' newest offering, a gay version of Robin Hood, produced by the Venice Mootney Company, is a comical and joyous romp through the ups and downs of gay life with a thought-provoking though sometimes preachy commentary on a number of subjects. There's a lot happening here, almost too much, as Hopkins manages to put in his views on such things as El Salvador, the nuclear arms race, the generation gap, and the Vietnam War, not to mention the gay experience. He gets away with it by sounding an obnoxious buzzer every time one of his characters tread over the not so fine line between the 12th and 20th centuries, transforming an over-zealous preachiness into a comical faux pas.

The legend of Sherwood forest and its merry men provide the metaphor for the gay and bisexual experience: Robin becomes a "fairy" who lives within his own subculture of fellow "fairies", i.e. his merry band of rogues. Here, Robin, played with conviction and charm by Martin Goslins, takes on an almost Peter Pan-like quality as gay life becomes the living out of a childhood fantasy. Maid Marion, Robin's only female lover, has to struggle against the "boys" for her sexual privileges with the man she loves. She becomes a parental figure, always reminding Robin of the reality of life beyond the forest which he would like to forget. As in the Mootney Company's previous production, "Not Job," which also deals with bisexuality, the woman's role is a precarious one, though it is one of strength. Twice, she rescues Robin and his men from the evil Sheriff of Nottingham, yet her character remains unresolved. While the play ends with hope for the future for the men of Sherwood, Marion is left undecided about her life and relationship with Robin. It seems that Hopkins does not know what to do with her and one wonders what she is doing there in the first place.

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What comes through over and above the gay message, which at times was hard to relate to, is a strong sense of brotherly love and a love of nature as well as a strong spiritual affirmation of life. This was best illustrated when the cast sings, "We are gentle loving people..." and when we are encouraged to sing along the "Crusaders" hymn at the beginning of the second act.

Overall, the cast showed great enthusiasm in creating a playful and joyful atmosphere. We are asked to shoot an arrow at a target before entering the theater and before we can take our seats we are introduced and greeted by the whole cast. This added to the fun and gave a good sense of audience participation from the outset.

The performances were spirited at best although some resorted to caricature. Jonathan Gochberg as the Sheriff and Paul Backer as his henchman and hunky S. & M. lover were truly enjoyable. Allan Trautman as Rollo, the artisan, also stood out. Christine Bart, who played a diminutive Marion, more than held her own as the only female member in a cast of 12 males, exuding a strong feminine presence.

"Robin Hood" was performed at the Richmond Shepard Theater, in Hollywood, from May 27 to June 13. The Mootney Company is looking to re-open the play, Hopkins said, possibly using the company's portable geodesic dome theater. Anyone wanting to volunteer a space for the theater or support of any kind is asked to call the Mootney Company at 399-0011, Hopkins said. ■

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TAKE THE TOYS FROM THE BOYS

MOVEABLE PEACE

by MARY LOU JOHNSON

East side, west side, all around the town they tripped the light fantastic to the United Nations to march to Central Park and rally in support of the Second Special Session on Disarmament which had convened earlier in the week. And I was tripping right along with them. On June 12, 1982, history was made in New York City as some 750,000 people gathered to make clear their intention to stop the madness of the arms race. Talk about a melting pot! Artists and labor organizations, children and the disabled, feminists and environmentalists, lawyers and tenant organizations, health field workers and religious, to say nothing of unaffiliated concerned people (26 different groups in all, each of which would have been a good sized demonstration in itself) assembled at different points to form the largest protest this nation has ever had. A "big apple" for the teacher and the teacher had better take a bite before the worms get it.

I had arrived in New York the first of the week to a frenzy of activity in preparation for the march and rally. As my constant readers know, I had been in Japan last August as a delegate to the World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs at which time the conferees determined to make the U.N. special session (SSD II) the focus of their ongoing peace activities. The energy in the United States was at a low ebb and the "peace movement" relatively inactive compared to Europe & Asia. The last ten months have seen a ground swell of opposition to the nuclear threat of historical proportions similar to the abolition movement against slavery. Maybe its all those "namu-myoho-renge-kyos" I learned to chant while living in the Buddhist temples in Japan.

Whatever, now I was in New York and about to join the peace marchers who had left Venice in October to walk across the U.S. to alert the nation to SSD II. The experiences of their march recounted by these peace pilgrims was transcendental. Some highlights: the mayors of small towns welcoming this motly assortment of monks with shaved heads, bearded men, and bedraggled women & children; a high school band complete with drum majors leading

them into their city; the Catholic bishop of New Orleans blessing them as they started the southern route of the march in sub-zero weather. Truly, blessed are the peace makers. Even though I felt a bit of an impostor, (having walked a grand total of eight miles) I chose to join them at the New York City end of the march. It was kind of interesting that for most of us in New York that march was the "biggie" but for the peace walkers the walk across the U.S. was the transforming aspect of their lives and the triumphal culmination was a mere postscript.

It was difficult to choose from the variety of conferences, forums, seminars, and cultural events that were going on. There was an International Action Conference, an International Religious Conference, a Conference on Youth and Disarmament, an International Feminist Disarmament Meeting, etc. etc. I chose to attend the feminist meeting. The mutually reinforcing relationship of militarism and sexism in maintaining the arms race was fully explored in a series of workshops. "Take the toys from the boys" was the slogan and the need to bring a feminist perspective to our work for peace discussed in depth. Women from throughout the world attended and the women from England and Argentina met as one group. The Women's Pentagon Action displayed the giant web that they had used to block access to the Pentagon. The non-authoritarian processes adopted by the women's organizations were used throughout the

meeting and we sang and danced a bit and closed with a ritual designed to let us feel our connection to each other.

Everywhere we went in New York we felt supported and encouraged by the people who live there. People constantly asked if we were going to march on Saturday. We were invited to dinners and treated as honored guests. One night, we decided to take ourselves to dinner at a rather chic restaurant. When the waitress came to take our order, she said "I see you're wearing anti-nuke buttons and its our policy....(I felt myself getting defens-



ive, apprehensive, angry and ready to walk out)....to give you a complimentary drink with your dinner. What a high!!

Throughout the city, peace slogans and specifically disarmament graffiti was in evidence. Some of these were obviously the work of organizations but a great number of them were individual expressions of people who are feeling the impact of the insanity of the arms race on their lives.

Spokesmen for the Administration stated prior to the march that it would not affect their policy no matter how many people showed up. They implied that as a people we didn't know enough to make a sensible decision on an issue of such vast importance. Big Daddy Nuke knows better. I say that the spirit of June 12, 1982 will change the destructive plunge of our nation and will return us to decency and national honor.

Peace is disarming. ☆

by MARC WAGNER

Returning to New York after an absence of two years I was anticipating a reunion with the people and places I had left behind. What was taking me back was a week of activities to be climaxed by the June 12th march and rally in Central Park. Not being a representative for any one organization was the same as being part of all. Each group, each organization had information to share and add to the main issue--Nuclear Disarmament.

We first hooked up with the people who had been on the Peace March. I had met several of the monks then and was surprised by the many who had joined the ranks along the way. One man from Washington DC told me of how he had planned on walking only a few miles and had ended up in New York. He was radiant. The marchers discussed the effects of the march and the next courses of action. This was followed by a communal dinner where the monks announced marches would be taking place in Europe. We then marched to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine for an evening of film, dance, and song.

The next day we went to the UN. Across the street is a small park named after Dag Hammarskjold. A children's march started there every day and at night parents and adults took over so the vigil could continue twenty four hours. The park itself had events happening all day, all week. There were jugglers, gymnasts, speakers, dancers, musicians and art. We stayed and chanted with the monks for most of the afternoon. The rhythm of the chant with the drums while kneeling towards the UN among the monks and marchers was one of the highest highs of my life. To be behind the most venerable Nichidatsu Fijii, Guru-ji and chanting Nam Myo Ho Renge Kyo was a cause with effects I will feel for a long time. Around the corner from the park was the Plowshares Coffee House where lectures, slides, films, and literature exchange took place all day.

Seeing the piles of petitions of almost three million signatures that were presented the next day to the UN I began to understand just how a grand a scale this issue is. They came from all over. And the main impression I had from everyone was not of anger or guilt but of

love. From the hibakshas who spoke of surviving Hiroshima to Orson Wells at the rally to the thousands of children and parents of those children--this was a mission of peace. As one monk had said only two precepts are necessary for world peace: to cherish life and to live a life of prayer. I don't think anyone at the rally would have disagreed.

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Rose Bowl Concessions

WHAT PRICE PEACE?

by memphis slim

The "Peace Sunday" rally/concert in Pasadena on June 6 was a musical and propaganda success. The musical acts were good, loud and progressive. The Speakers represented all philosophies concerned with the nuclear holocaust. While the political effects of the concert were good, the negative effects felt by the crowd can only hamper future events.

Tierra, East LA's super band, opened the concert with inspired salsa, funk and jazz-rock. After their set a Hiroshima survivor spoke, followed by the "Voices Of Japan". Jane Fonda arrived shortly to resounding applause. Her short but insightful speech belies the fact that she is one of LA's highest paid citizens. Following Fonda the eclectic program continued with Thelma Adair of Church Women United. Something for everyone from every conceivable humanist perspective.

Gil-Scott Heron and the Midnight Band then boogied out their message for the people. Gil-Scott, always with the cutting wit, struck a highly responsive chord with "Alien". One of America's premier, social commentary bands, the Midnight Band is so named because midnight is the start of a new day. Following the solid music two stars from "Private Benjamin" came on to speak. Remember this is Hollywood! Dr. Michio Kaku followed Hollywood relevancy with America's favorite anti-nuclear physics lecture.

You're starting to get the picture. This is non-stop culture/propaganda entertaining and

salving the already convinced. The afternoon is becoming awesome but some of the rougher edges are starting to show.

People were stripped of all containers upon entering the stadium. Food had to be in "small

pieces. I literally broke a 1/2 watermelon into 2 pieces before the "security" would allow it in. The tickets said "no bottles, cans or alcohol", but what happened before the concert was no liquids, no containers and very little food allowed in. Sleeping bags were forbidden because of being a fire hazard. Only one entrance was open until just before the concert when a second entrance was authorized. As the piles of junked containers, coolers and bottles piled up, the lines at the concession stands grew longer. The concessionaires were expecting up to 50,000. They got 80,000-100,000; twice what they were equipped to handle. As the heat bore down on the overflowing crowd, tempers flared. Security relaxed the rules on containers as the crowd swelled. The Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP) brought in a portable megaphone at this point and proceeded to harass/harangue concession lines to the point of near riot.

The standard wait for a coke was 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 hours; with or without an RCP tirade. The sun was hot. Some people noticed that Jane Fonda had come out with boots and a long skirt on and she wasn't even sweating (or is that perspiring?). I guess the stars are kept in the air conditioning. Concession stand prices for a coke is \$1, the bootleg price is \$5.

The facts seem to drive home the realization that the music, sound system and speakers were prepared and taken care of to a "T". Us

regular folks who were paying for this seemed to get leftover time, energy and thought.

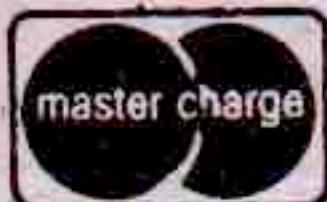
The coalition that put the program on made a deal with Avalon Attractions, a nemesis to many Southern California concert goers. Avalon had a deal with the concessionaires, who had a deal with the Rose Bowl, who had a deal with the City of Pasadena. Amidst all the deals the Audience's needs were overlooked. A good soldier for the cause ignores the minor inconveniences.

Ignoring is easier to do after you finally get those cokes and settle back to listen to Joan Baez on acoustic guitar. Who should join her but Bob Dylan. The real show stopper though was Stevie Wonder. He got a hot and tired crowd of 80,000 plus to chant; "We demand world peace today". Not bad for an entertainer noted for his pop songs.

The rest of the evening the headline rock acts make the apolitical types feel at home with one hit song after another.

Since the demonstration there have been rumors that Avalon Attractions made off with \$500,000 in accounted for revenues. One local radio station, KRQQ, withdrew its support of the event, after so many dissatisfied people called in from Pasadena.

The world watched as Southern California's largest demonstration rocked on but we who were there know what happened and for whom.



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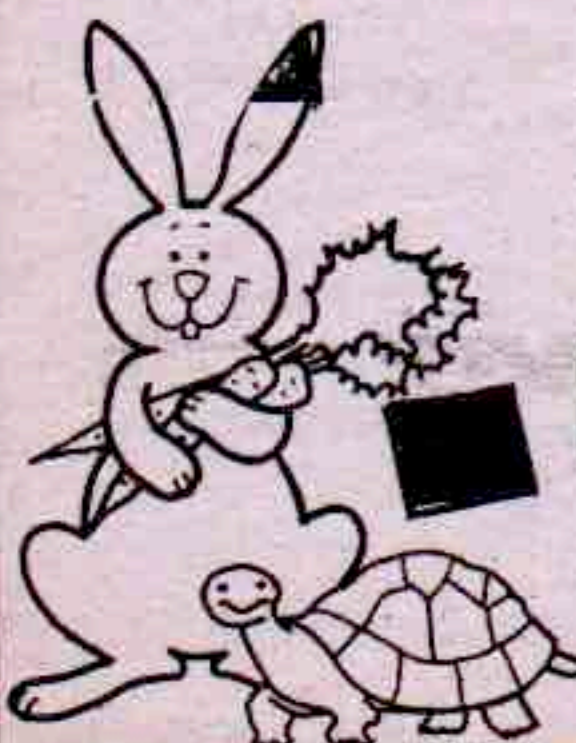


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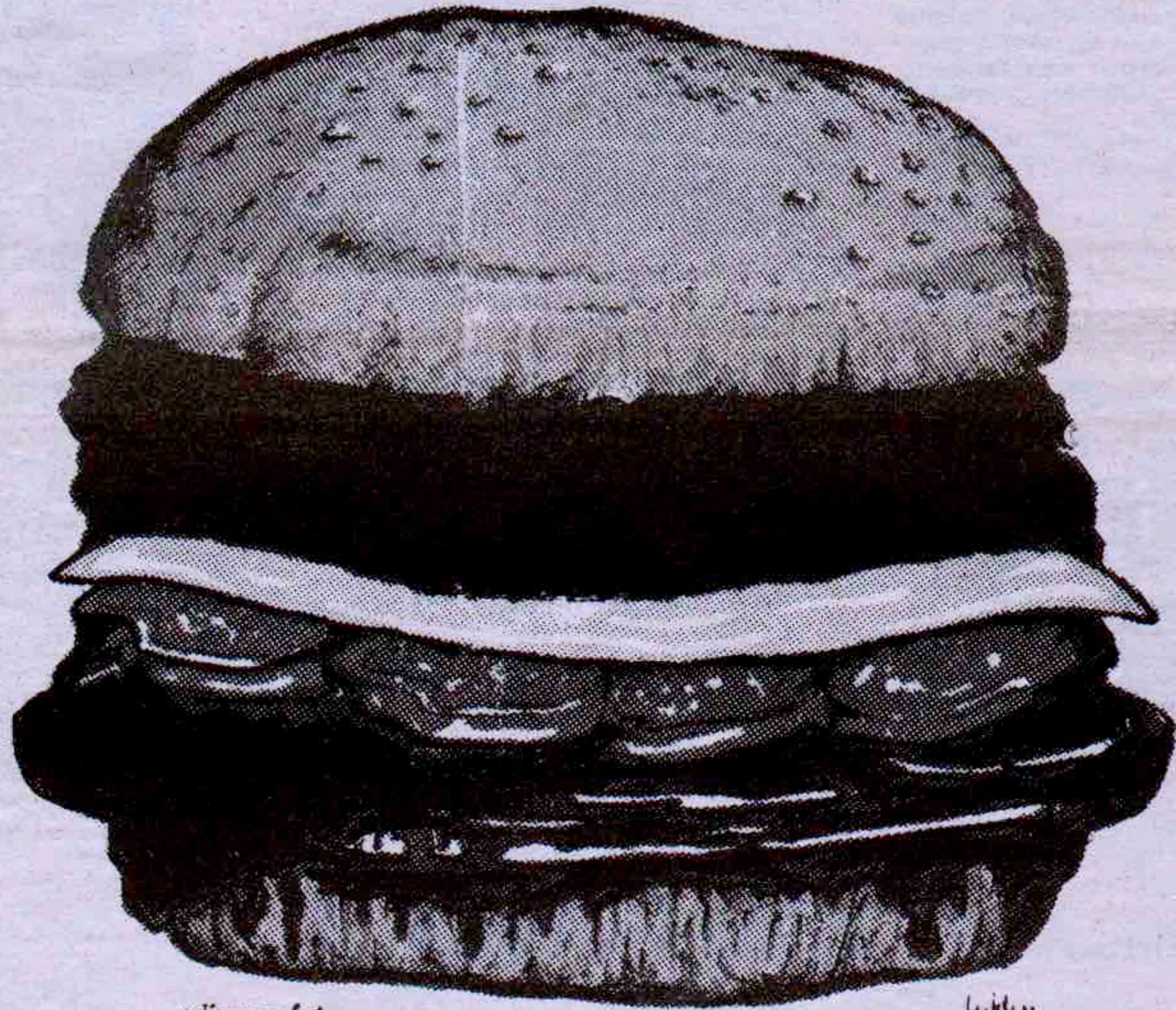
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TACKY TACTICS

by MOE STAVNEZER

"Fanaticism: Redoubling your efforts when you have forgotten your aim." That definition, by the Spanish philosopher Santayana, aptly fits the words and actions of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP). The RCP in thought and in deed represents, for me, the archetype of the "true believer." Their members are zealots--more concerned with making themselves heard than they are about whether anyone is listening.

The broad "left" has long snickered at the RCP's "spray can" politics and too long ignored the potential RCP possesses for mindless violence. RCP people are like some people who will do anything for attention--like John Hinckley who attempted to murder Reagan just to get noticed. But now there is a movement being born--a movement which combines many issues, from budget cuts in social programs to nuclear war, and also involves many diverse organizations. And the RCP still beats its fist on the sidewalk like a pampered child throwing a temper tantrum. My view is that the left has been too tolerant for too long regarding the RCP and its attention-getting antics. They detract, in a destructive way, from serious business.

RCP has learned from the "Moonies" that the media is attracted to the small, vocal minority of the fringe because they are "colorful", a "media event." Doesn't matter what they say, they're grist for the media mill--they provide "relief" from what can, to the camera, seem a boring political rally or demonstration. Why else would anyone pay attention to 10-20 people out of a crowd of 10,000? I frequently get the feeling that the RCP comes to demonstrations, not to join in & not necessarily because they care about or agree with the reasons for the rally, but instead to proselytize. Where else could they find such large, virtually captive, audiences? Certainly not at rallies that they call. And why else do they seem constantly to be talking/screaming at the assembled crowd rather than with it?

The underlying politics of the RCP appears, always, to be confrontational. And by god they'll confront and confront and confront. No matter that many other groups can find a common meeting ground and a way to work together on important issues, the RCP will find a way to confront them all, one at a time or together. The whole notion of cooperation seems quite foreign to the RCP unless you are cooperating with them on their issues.

Most of my personal contact with the RCP has been as a member of the Beachhead collective. On more occasions than I care to remember, the RCP has sent various of its members to Beachhead meetings not only to present articles, which is just fine, but also to engage us, against our will, in prolonged political discussion. Not content with attempting to impose their will & politics on the collective, RCPers have descended upon a number of us individually pushing their politics & trying to establish an "insider" on the paper as a supporter of RCP politics. It has been a recurring and uncomfortable battle since one of their tactics is to send different people forcing the collective or individuals to constantly repeat explanations of what the paper is and how it functions. I relate this experience because it appears typical of RCP and is disruptive and very counterproductive.

Solidarity requires cooperation and, at least, some commonality of purpose and goals. In my experience, RCP fails on both counts and has little claim on left wing solidarity.

The role of the RCP deserves critical examination by progressive people and groups. This must not take the form of a right wing witch-hunt, but the RCP must be prepared to participate in various aspects of political life without constantly subverting the purpose of the larger community to its own. If RCP is not prepared to do this, it should be isolated from and disowned by the larger community of left and progressive groups.▷

STOP THE TORTURE AND HARASSMENT OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS!

Sekou Odinga was captured one day after the attempted Brinks truck expropriation on October 20, 1981, by the Revolutionary Armed Task Force, an alliance of Black freedom fighters and white anti-imperialists under the leadership of the Black Liberation Army. Since Sekou's capture by the "Anti-Terrorist Task Force" he has been subjected to systematic torture by the FBI and local agencies. This torture has taken the form of burning cigarettes all over his body, his toenails being crushed, his pancreas seriously injured in daily beatings and his head held in a flushing toilet. Through it all, Sekou Odinga has remained silent and has refused to collaborate in any way with the attempts of the US government to gather information in their efforts to destroy the Black Liberation Army.

Sekou's stand of total non-collaboration continues in spite of daily abuse. He is being held in segregation, restricted to three visits a week, and these are denied if his visitor is just ten minutes late. No other inmate has such a limited schedule. For refusing to submit to strip searches and painful and humiliating "squat" searches, he has been denied meetings with his lawyers. They have recently started making him give them all his clothes to be taken to another part of the jail while he is left nude. When he refused to cooperate with a line-up designated to frame him and criminalize the Black Liberation Army, he was hit with a black jack in the groin repeatedly and beaten on the knees by four detectives from the Rockland County D.A.'s office. Even in handcuffs and leg irons, his neck locked in a brace, and chained to a bench, he continued to resist.

Why is the US government trying to "break" Sekou Odinga? Sekou has long been a fighter for human rights for Black people. Since his days as an organizer in prison, in the Black community in Queens, NY, and in the Black Panther Party, Sekou has been a dedicated worker for Black liberation. He has consistently and courageously defended the Black Liberation Army and the right of the Black Nation to wage armed struggle to achieve total liberation and to oppose the genocide his people face. Sekou Odinga is a leading part of the developing revolutionary movement for land and independence for the Black Nation (New Africa) which threatens the very heartland of imperialism.

We are asking progressive people to oppose the torture and harassment Sekou is facing and to show support for his continued resistance. In particular we are demanding: STOP the squat searches. PROVIDE normal visitation rights. END all abuse and physical harassment inside the jail. Send letters to:

Benjamin Ward, Commissioner
Department of Corrections
100 Centre Street
New York, N.Y. 10013

John Cunningham, Warden
Brooklyn House of Detention
275 Atlantic Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201

Jacqueline McNickens
Chief of Operations
Department of Corrections
100 Centre Street
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OFF THE SHEETS

NATIONAL ANTI-KLAN CONFERENCE

July 2-4 in Chicago, the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee is having a national conference. Whether people from the Venice area get to go or not, its important to know why this conference is happening because it will have political impact in LA. We in the Dare To Struggle Committee Against the Klan and White Supremacy are building for this conference to be part of a strong national movement against the Klan and to concretely support Black and other national liberation movements.

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee has existed for five years, working under the leadership of revolutionary Black forces, and is now located in seven cities: Chicago, New York, Wash. DC, Houston, Austin, Western Mass. and Bowling Green, Ky. They have developed national campaigns against killer cops, the Klan, mercenaries, zionists at the same time as supporting the liberation movements in South Africa, Palestine and revolutionary freedom fighters, like the Black Liberation Army and the FALN. This national conference is a call to people around the country to come together to build a program of action to fight the Klan and white supremacy.

Many white people here in sunny California don't believe the Klan is here or that it is significant enough to worry about. Actually, the Klan has targeted Connecticut and California as its two major recruiting areas outside the South. We must confront the Klan: this is a time when we can intervene and make a difference. Tom Metzger just won 78,000 votes statewide in his campaign for US Senate running as a Democrat. We must expose this bid for legitimacy; the Klan in a 3-piece suit is still the Klan. Whether its Metzger in a 3-piece suit or David Duke at the imposed border with Mexico, Bill Wilkinson running a paramilitary youth camp--the Klan in all its guises is still the Klan. We can build an anti-Klan movement that targets the US government as the leader of white supremacy and a movement that helps to advance the revolutionary struggle in California and around the country.

Our Committee is doing work in this area and we urge you to contact us at the following number:

Dare to Struggle Committee Against
the Klan and White Supremacy
213/466-3534 (leave a message)▷

Phoebe Hirsch

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Game Plans (Continued from page 1)

No Opposition to Be Heard

Video game arcades are not new to Venice. Several years ago when promoter Allen Saffron open is video game 'tent' and earned the sobriquet 'the tent man', there was a huge outcry from concerned businesspeople and residents. The proposed facility, located only a few yards south of the pavillion, would bring a boisterous and perhaps criminal element into the area. An energetic but ultimately unsuccessful effort to defeat Saffro, was begun, culminating in the 'Venice funeral' staged before the Coastal Commission when Frank Sirrocco emerged out of a coffin to confront startled and angry bureaucrats. A memorable moment.

Curiously, this new proposal for what may be even a larger project has been met with a deafening silence and public apathy. According to Miller only about 30 people showed up at the pavillio, several weeks ago to hear a presentation by him and there was only one person who spoke against the games.

In the wake of the Saffron episode the City Council passed an ordinance forbidding game arcades in the Venice area but, according to Councilwoman Pussell's field deputy Carol Shapiro, this ordinance has lapsed. Presently video arcades can be established in Venice without police commission approval as long as less than five machines are involved. Machines have been placed in a roller skate rental shop on Windward and most recently in the empty building on Ocean Front and Westminister, across from the Lafayette Cafe.

Fun Park Concept Promoted

Another proposal received by the department which has received serious consideration is one that would put up a portable water slide on the grassy site in front of Horizen and Ocean Front. The waterslide is shaped like a giant corkscrem, about 80 feet in diameter and 40-50 feet high. This concession too would

be operated privately with the department receiving a percentage of the take.

A third proposal under consideration would be to turn the Pavillion into a chain type restaurant with seating.

So far the only opposition to the department's plans have been presented by Mrs Russell and by the Coastal Commission. According to Carol Shapiro the Councilwoman is neutral on the video games. She is telling her constituents however that no games can be installed in or about the pavillion until after the City issues a conditional use permit to the department. The issuance of a permit involves a public hearing. But department spokesman Miller insists that no such permit is required and backs up his position with a City Attorney's opinion. Miller claims that Recreation and Parks can issue an 120 day temporary permit for the video games and continue to renew it indefinitely without public hearing. He admits it would be politic to hold a hearing but that could take months, the summer season would be over, and the opportunity for increased revenues lost.

Coastal Commission Concerns

For its part the Coastal Commission has not indicated opposition to any of these proposals. It insists however that new development at the Pavillion (not the hot dog or skate concessions) would require Coastal Permits and would probably have to provide additional parking. Miller disputes this as far as the video games are concerned but agrees that more parking must be provided if and when a restaurant goes into the pavillion. Additionally the Commission is concerned about over use of North Venice and underutilization of the Peninsula beaches be the public. Staff has suggested that Recreation and Parks might consider the idea of putting the theme water park and waterslide on the peninsula beach to ease congestion in North Venice and more evenly distributing public use on all of Venices' beaches. People interested in the project can reach Mr. Miller at 485-5541 and the Coastal Commission at 590-5071.P

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POETRY

The Committee for Spritual Poetry will be offering the Sri Chinmoy Poetry Awards again this year. Competition for poetry that expresses the spiritual aspirations of mankind. Deadline for entry October 27, 1982. For complete info: SASE to Sri Chinmoy Poetry Awards, 86-16 Parsons Bl. Jamaica NY 11432

BEYOND BAROQUE FOUNDATION 681 Venice Bl. Venice 822-3006
 Fri., July 9 -Poetry reading and Publication Party. Featured reader Bill Mohr. 8pm \$2.
 Sun., July 11 -Open Reading 8pm
 Mon., July 12 -Two poetry writing workshops, intensive and beginning, led by Jack Grape Monday evenings. For registration call 8223006
 Fri., July 16 -Featured readers Ed Smith, Kim Rosenfield, John Miller. 8pm \$2.

ART

CAMERAVISION 4121 Wilshire Bl. LA. Exhibit will run July 2-Aug. 1. Bill Owens, Jim Goldberg, Bill Doggett. Opening reception for artists on Fri., July 8, 7:30 - 9:30 pm. Contact 380--4266
 Cameravision July lectures and workshop July 8 - Bill Owens discusses current exhibition.
 July 10- one-day workshop on "Self-Publishing". \$25.
 July 23- Jim Goldberg discusses his work and current exhibition.

The LOS ANGELES ARTISTS FOR SURVIVAL invites you to "Take Auntie Nuke to Lunch, Just for L.A.A.F.S." at the Venice Pavilion on Sunday, July 18th.

Luncheon will be served on the patio to the sounds of Jazz Empress Goodie Williams' Quartet. Guests then adjourn to the inside stage where Auntie Nuke sings for her supper in "Sex and the Single Bombshell" accompanied by Christina Olson & her Loose String Band. All proceeds go directly to the production of "Target LA, The Art of Survival" Anti-nuclear Art Expo August 6-9 in downtown LA.

You may reserve all or part of a table and individual tickets for the luncheon and show are \$20.00 (tax deductible). If you put together a party big enough, you will have space in the Souvenir Program(July 8th is the printer's deadline). Please call, as soon as possible, to make reservations or for more information: 396-5503 or 822-3283

[Make checks payable to AGAPE FOUNDATION and send them to L.A.A.F.S., 1727 North Spring St. L.A. CA 90012]

COMMUNITY EVENTS



COMMUNITY

LOS ANGELES MEN'S COLLECTIVE
 L.A. Men's Collective is a 7 year community organization open to men of all backgrounds, races and sexual orientations. Potluck suppers and rap groups are offered on first sundays of every month at The Meeting House, 1440 S. Harvard, S.M. Potluck 7-8pm; raps 8-10pm. \$3.

July 4--Men Alone facilitated by David Hulbert/ Ken Morgan.

THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF L.A. 2936 W. 8th St. L.A. 389-1356
 A Fourth of July Feminist Declaration of Interdependence. Deirdre English will speak on "The Fear That Feminism Will Free Men First". July 4, 11am.

UNITARIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 1260 18th St, Santa Monica 394-4318
 Sun., July 4 -Early Bird July 4th Desert Potluck/Picnic/ Party. 7pm. \$3.
 Sun., July 11 -"Some Stress is Good For You" John Hart, M.A., MFCC. 8pm \$3
 Sun., July 18 -"How To Keep Your Health Despite of it All" Integrated program of slides, tapes and techniques of dealing with pollution indoors and out. 8pm. \$3.
 Sun., July 25 -"The Key for Your Own Sexuality" Vieveg Taub, Phd and therapist. Sexual problems, disfunctions., and alternate life styles, 8pm. \$3

ALCOHOLISM CENTER FOR WOMEN hosts a gala "Monte Carlo Night" Sat., July 17. Fundraising event filled with black-jack, roulette, and bingo. The "Gambling" begins at 7:30pm. 1147 S. Alvarado St. LA For info: 381-7805

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ulation The CAOG stands for: California Association of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, a "Non-Profit Organization to Protect the Political & Economic Interests of Practicing OB/GYNs."

Physicians have been urged to, ". . . reassert our control of the patient and insist that we exclusively make the decisions relative to patient care, putting an end to the non-physician interference in this process."

You may not be a parent, or maybe your through with having any more children. But consider this, how do you feel about being in the exclusive control of your physician? How do you feel about your future grandchildren being mandatorily hospital-born?

The day is coming when parents who refuse a diagnostic technique, or medications, or any other procedure dictated by a physician - these parents will one day be held responsible for child neglect, child abuse.

MUSIC

22ND TOPANGA BANJO/FIDDLE CONTEST and Dance Festival Sunday, July 11 UCLA Athletic Field. 9:30am-6pm. Special Guests, Prizes, Jamming, Good Food available, Dancing. Donation:Adults \$3.50, UCLAites \$2.50 Teens: \$1.50 Seniors/Children Free. Info: McCabes 828-4497

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VENICE VOTES, half-heartedly, IN THE 44th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Less than 50% of the registered Democrats still in the 44th Assembly District voted on June 8th. That turnout was the lowest in the entire district which had a 59% turnout over-all.

In Oakwood, 47% of the Democrats voted and Tom Hayden, by a 60% to 37% margin, beat Steve Saltzman (actually only 88% of the voters voted in the Assembly race). In the area south of Oakwood (sometimes called Milwood) the figures are; 48% turnout, Hayden 63%, Saltzman 31% (91% voted in the Assembly race). East of Lincoln, the turnout was 53%, Saltzman 49%, Hayden 44% (with 94% voting in the Assembly race).

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Gwatkin, Henry M., The Knowledge of God and Its Historical Development (In Two Volumes) Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark, 1906

GIVING BIRTH AT HOME

by Cathie Morales

Webster's dictionary defines cult as, "The persons & rites associated with an object or worship or veneration." Worship may be defined as, "to love or admire inordinately." I must admit something. My love for my children prompted me to give birth at home attended by midwives. Admiration and respect for the childbearing process had prompted me to learn all I can and pass my knowledge on. Perhaps it is inordinate these days to pursue the best for one's children's births and to be dedicated to the Truth in perinatal care - but I call it integrity. I stand among the accused, i.e., a perinatal "consumer cult".

This ignominious label of cult is defaming educational groups whose purposes are to help. A recent article published in The CAOG Newsletter called physicians to arms, in order to, ". . . expose some (birth) movements for what they are . . . cults . . . brain-washing a large segment of our pop-

and if "something goes wrong" at a home birth and the infant dies, these parents will be charged with homicide.

- We are in the era of marriage between medicine and politics. Political-Medicine is an omnivorous ogre with many heads - consisting of The American Medical Association, The American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists, The Board of Medical-Quality Assurance, and all their affiliate groups (such as the CAOG). Political-Medicine has made these vows:
- 1) "To wipe out home birth within 5 years" (that was 4 years ago).
 - 2) Hospital birth for all, in the guise of regionalization.
 - 3) Regulate childbirth education.
 4. Avoid being done in.■

