

# BEACHHEAD



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March 1985, Number 183, P.O. Box 504, Venice, California 90294

(213) 823-5092

## Victim of Violence

Elaine Damrosch

I was on my way to work as usual. I had 2 blocks to walk between the bus stop and the barnlike building in Venice where I work. It was just before Christmas and I had my mind full of presents I was going to give, parties I was going to attend. I was humming a song I'd just heard on the radio. I was too carefree to notice anything unusual about the man who suddenly came up behind me at the corner of Vernon and Hampton Drive. I thought he was a local bum who'd been sleeping it off. I think he murmured "HI, honey" or something like that. He put his arm around me.

Instinctively, I tried to push him away. He hit the left side of my head with his fist. He hit me so hard I fell to the sidewalk. You only get a tenth of a second to wonder what's happening when somebody mugs you. In my tenth I thought: "He's going to hit me again. He's going to rape me. He's going to kill me." In less than a fraction of a microsecond I expected more blows to come. But he ran away. Slowly I picked myself up from the gutter. My purse was gone. So that was it.

I began to run--not down the alley where I thought I had seen the man run--but down Vernon. One of my shoes fell off. I didn't care about a shoe. I ran until I came to the front of the building where I work. One of my co-workers was sitting in his car. "I was mugged!" I cried. "Am I hurt? Do I have a black eye. I was stunned, my head ached a bit, my hands were grimy from the pavement, and I felt lost without my purse. I'd only had \$5 in my wallet, but the wallet itself, a leather souvenir from a trip to England, all my I.D. cards, my house keys, my address book, were gone--all in a tenth of a second's time.

I lost most of my work pay that day because I had to call the police to report the crime, be driven around the "scene of the crime" in a futile search for the perpetrator, had to have my locks changed, my bank accounts cancelled and re-opened under new numbers buy a new wallet. The Venice police were relatively polite and objective. I told them all I could remember and they showed me a dozen mug shots of men who did not look like the mugger



as I remembered him. We drove around and found my shoe but not the mugger. I did not want to see anyone who looked like that man.

It wasn't until late in the day that I was able to go home and 'relax' after the incident. And the full impact of the violence done me was buried under my daily routines and the holiday season. Okay, people would say, you're still alive, you weren't hurt, you didn't lose very much money. I'd never see my purse or its non-monetary contents again as they had probably been thrown in the garbage. A detective from the Venice precinct came around to my workplace early in Jan. to tell me the police were about to arrest the man who'd hit me. He'd been working with a gang of 3 men--one was already in custody, another had been

Continued on Page 14

## Urban Terrorist Revealed

JIM PRICKETT

The first reports about the subway shooting in New York suggested that it was a clear case of self defense. Four black teenagers, armed with sharpened screwdrivers surrounded and attempted to rob a lone white passenger. Fearing for his life, the white passenger pulled out a gun and shot the youths. Explaining that it was selfdefense, he left the subway. Thousands of New Yorkers flooded the police switchboard with calls offering support for the "vigilante" and urging police not to look for him. Conservative politicians and columnists applauded the act. For once, they insisted, it was the bad guys who suffered. Throughout the United States, the vast majority of people supported the shooting as a positive attempt of the little guy who was fighting back against crime.

This case has a particular relevance for Venice. Our community is very different from New York, but the same volatile mixture of tough, black teenagers and frightened, paranoid whites exists here in Venice. I am not suggesting that all whites are frightened and paranoid any more than all black teenagers are tough and menacing, but I am saying that there are more similarities between New York and Venice than we might care to admit. It is important for us to know what happened in that subway and to think through the implications of the way the political right is exploiting the case. Although not all the facts are in, there is enough information to suggest that the earlier version of the shooting is highly questionable.

Bernard Goetz, who has admitted to the shootings, does not fit the role of a humane, decent man who was simply pushed too far. Goetz turns out to be a known racist who was removed from the Board of Directors of his luxury condo co-op (He comes from a millionaire family.) for repeated offensive and racist comments. He is also a known arsonist, having set fire to an abandoned newsstand in his neighborhood, which he considered an eyesore. Goetz also considered the presence of a homeless shopping bag lady on his street an eyesore, so he set fire to the shopping bag which contained all her belongings.

Continued on Page 14

## Wombs: Property of the State?

Carol Fondiller

I'm holding a picket sign again, my feet hurt again, and people look past the sign that I picked up from a pile of signs, something about abortion being legal and bombings are not. Yep, back in the ol' fox hole - again.

For the past five years now, abortion clinics have been torched or bombed, doctors have been kidnapped and clients and patients have been harrassed and threatened by people who plead, "Oh, don't kill your baby!"

It's a marvel to me how people forget current history.

In one of Reagan's campaign speeches he spoke of how far women had come in his administration--as if he and those of his political ilk had helped them get there. Its as if there were no history of women's right to choose over their biology, no history of suffragists chaining themselves to public buildings, marching, being arrested, no history of women acting in an "unladylike" manner in their struggle for enfranchisement. Its as if someone wiped out all of history.

Before Ronnie was the Void.

Its particularly galling to see women under thirty buying the whole repressive package--"Yes, I'm a doctor, lawyer, policeman, truck driver, C.P.A., miner, general, anchorwoman--but I'm not a women's libber and I got to where I am with no one's help!" And the ever-popular real women don't argue, they discuss. These post-Beatles' era women who can now have

"non-traditional" jobs and even THINK of asking for on-site day-care and even think about thinking about comparable pay, think about the same athletic scholarship opportunities offered to women as are offered to men. These women who were born when I was in college are taking for granted attitudes and choices I didn't



even imagine when I was in high school. And that goes from the right to wear jeans and shorts to school to the right of access to accurate unbiased information about birth control.

Well, Goddess knows, there's a saying that those who forget or don't learn about history are condemned to repeat it. And, my dear younger sisters, this is the history Phyllis and Jerry and Ronnie have in store for us. January 22nd was the 13th anniversary of the ROE v. WADE decision of the Supreme Court.

As I remember, that decision reversed a decision of a lower court's ruling that abortion was murder to the decision that the matter of abortion was a private matter between a woman and her physician. I read Simone De Bouvoir's "Second Sex", and Grave's "White Goddess" in high school, so to me that decision was long overdue. Anyone remember what's her name and the thalidomide baby, and how she went to one of those cold liberal northern countries for an abortion? You do? Well, your 30-year high school reunion is coming up, also.

I'm one of those women who's had a taste of the world when abortions were illegal, and a sample of how it is now that women have the right to their own choice--and I am stating here and now that abortion is not my favorite form of birth control. But what happens if you are ill from the pill and the diaphragm slips? In the past, bar maids, receptionists, dancers, students, teachers

Continued on Page 13



# Letters

Dear Essie,

Any subject you write about is worth reading, even reviews of restaurants 300 miles away from my habitat. I enjoy reading choice pieces of your clever observations aloud to my mate. Thanks for your continued contributions to the Beachhead.

Enclosed is a \$25.00 donation for postage and printing costs.

Yours,

Gail Williamson  
Santa Cruz

Feb. 19 1985

Venice Pillboard correction committee.....where are you now that we need you??

best wishes,

## POETRY YALI

by MICHAEL COWAN

Like some Pepsi slogan (usa)  
under the breath,  
the boy sang softly,  
"sequimos el frente con el frente".

Fingertips curled, he hung from the bus  
window's edge,  
he peered at nikon, polaroids, and plastic

TURISMO said the bus, loud!  
to all combatants gazing from the hills  
surrounding Yali-mountain town, vic(tim)tor!

the boy sang softly sequimos....  
past and future passing through that melody,  
a catchy phrase.

And then his boy comrades called,  
not yet to a weapon more than bat and ball

I thought of another small Yali,  
infant eyes filling a fresh, brown face--  
His father, then, mobilized, walked beneath  
sharp lite stars  
to stop a horror so not  
to silence that soft breath, sequimos...

that a generation in and of Yali  
shall have no Guardia, no war.

In the tomorrow, Yali, your plaza shall be  
for baseball, basking,  
chatting--

In the tomorrow, Yali, you shall be a man  
with comrades working--

And the father will rock on mahogany and  
tell tales of sequimos...how the  
frente followed, founded,  
freedom.

Yali is a mountain village near Jinotega in  
Nicaragua, approximately forty kilometers from  
the Honduras border. I visited there with a group  
of north americans the last week of January 1985.  
The man who had, on previous visits, been my  
guide named his infant son for this town, recall-  
ing its capture by the counter revolutionaries,  
its resistance and its eventual liberation. He  
treasured the town also for it is at the bound-  
ary of the Pacific and Atlantic coasts, accesible  
only from the Pacific side, its river empties  
into the Atlantic.

At the time of our visit my friend was mobilized,  
serving as a political officer in a battalion  
near Rio Blanco in the Matagalpa region.



## Venice Town Council

THURSDAY, MARCH 14 7:30 P.m.  
Beyond Baroque Center  
681 N. Venice Blvd.

### AGENDA

1. Announcements and Minutes.
2. Human Needs Committee Report.
3. Presentation by Planning and Development Committee on Venice area planning. Guest speaker, David Gay of Los Angeles City Planning Dept.

Note: At the February 14 meeting of the Council, the members voted for the Town Council's new Charter and Bylaws. The Council is now eligible for reduced postal rates, and is an official community group.

For David at 2:00 in the Morning  
Deep inside me is a sensuous heart,  
encouraged  
by even the most sublime events--  
the heat of the noonday sun, which  
trickles  
a bead of sweat over my breast, or  
a breeze--just so--  
as it pricks the skin beneath my hair.  
sometimes, it's just a familiar scent  
nudging memories of yesterday's lovers.

--Lisa Dee-Howell

I am the girl with the mudflat eyes,  
big and round.  
mudflats are cool  
boggy places,  
green and brown  
colors of the earth.  
life begins there  
in my eyes.

--Lisa Dee-Howell

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Diane Nickerson, Jennifer Pirie, Bob Rivkin,  
Moe Stavnezer, Pat McCartney, Kate Keeling,  
Sandy Blixton, Kathy Sullivan, Memphis Slim,  
and Carol Fondiller.

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.

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# Butcher of Beirut

by memphis slim-thank to Geoffrey Aronson and I&P

Ariel Sharon accuses TIME magazine of committing "blood libel against Jewish people" in its February 1983 article on the former Israeli defense minister's role in the massacre at the Sabra and Shatilla Palestinian refugee camps that previous September. Sharon's 50 million dollar lawsuit against the magazine has just been tried in New York.

Sharon's unusual characterization of the TIME article reveals someone still determined to become Israel's prime minister.

wards the Jewish people—deemed unsuitable for inclusion in human society. Blood libel has always been associated with the vilification, torture, murder, or expulsion of Jews.

Sharon has placed TIME within this tradition of senseless hatred towards Jews. He has accused TIME of defaming the entire Jewish people. This charge has apparently been lost on American audiences but it will play well among many Israelis, whose deep belief that the "gentiles" are unremittingly hostile to Jews and the Jewish state is easily stirred. Sharon himself sees no difference between his personal interests and those of the state.

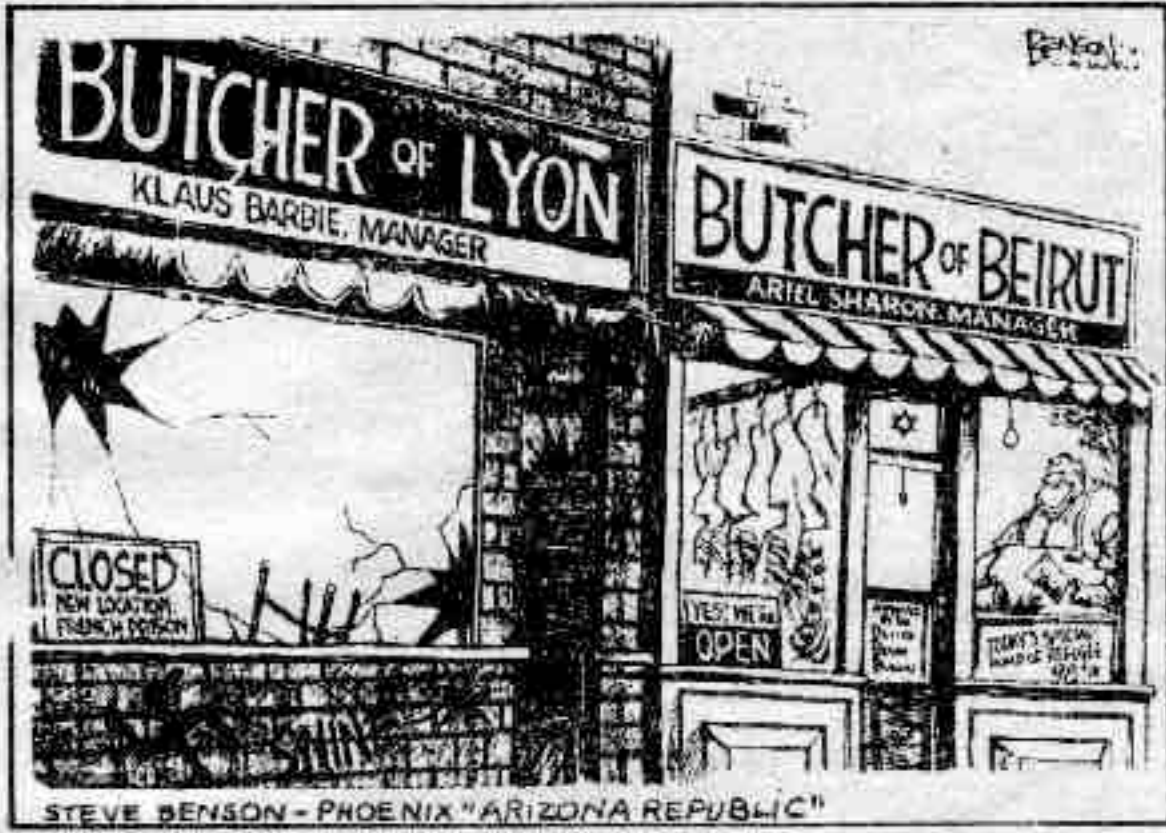
Sharon's lawyer has already suggested that what occurred at Sabra and Shatilla was perhaps not a massacre at all—that most of the victims were men, that only a small number of women and children were killed.

Sharon is seeking to exploit the historical Jewish experience—the persecuted Jew struggling against a hateful and powerful accuser. Sharon thus becomes the 20th century Baruch, a poor, innocent Jew who refused to bow under torture during a blood libel trial in Lublin in 1636. Baruch of course, was innocent. Sharon's responsibility for what happened in Sabra and Shatilla is a matter of record.

TIME is depending upon this record to justify its "Verdict is Guilty" cover story. Sharon views the trial as an opportunity to present his own version of history to the jury, the international community, and most importantly, to the Israeli public back home.

The jury decided (after the former Israeli Supreme Court Justice gave the Court his impression of the secret Appendix) that Sharon was not libeled but the information TIME used was false and defamatory. Sharon will return to Israel beaten but defiant. He will wear his defeat at the hands of the gentiles as a badge of honor—one more

CONTINUED BOTTOM NEXT COLUMN



What is "blood libel"? According to the "Encyclopedia Judaica", blood libel is "a complex of deliberate lies, trumped-up accusations, and popular beliefs about the lust for murder and blood-thirstiness of Jews, based on the conception that the Jews hate Christianity and mankind in general. It is combined with the delusion that Jews are in some way not human and must have recourse to special remedies and means of subterfuge in order to appear, at least outwardly, like other men."

Blood libel has been used since pagan opposition to monotheism as an instrument of Jewish persecution. Blood libel is an expression of the non-Jewish world's unremitting hostility to-

## A magazine for the 80's High Tech Killing

by MOE STAVNEZER

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210 DEFENSE ELECTRONICS OCTOBER 1984

If this article isn't funny, it will probably kill you.

Did you have any idea that you were helping to spend \$25,000,000 on a military program dealing with "Non-cooperative Target Recognition"? Have you ever heard of a cooperative target? How about a mere \$29,000,000 for "Enhanced Post-Attack Capabilities"? What the hell is that?

Enough small stuff. Did you know that our government last year spent \$1,758,000,000 on "research and development" for the "star wars" program. Or \$2,170,000,000 on the partially approved B-1 bomber? Would you have guessed that we spent in excess of \$2.8 BILLION on "Electronic Warfare" affectionately known as EW?\*

In your wildest, I MEAN YOUR WILDEST imagination have you conjured up a magazine devoted to the promotion of electronic war?

Well brace yourselves. Here it is, Defense Electronics! A slick thick rag filled mostly with ads touting this or that company's piece of electronic hardware and software designed for war. Articles are have titles such as "Some Perspectives on GaAs MM-Wave Monolithic Integrated Circuits" or "Pulse-Compression Radar: ECM and ECCM" or "Nuclear Effects on RF Propagation" or "EEROMS Are in Shape" or, my favorite of the moment, "B-1B and Stealth Spark Funding and Political Debate."

California, of course, belying its laid back image is at the forefront of this industry. Hughes Aircraft, for instance, is the top defense electronics contractor receiving 90% of its total sales thru contracts with the government (Hughes \$4,444 million in sales ranks it the top company in the field). These facts are happily touted in DE.

But its the ads that capture my attention. Ads for systems or components of systems for killing. Ads that pitch aircraft that's battle tested (the Israelis) or jamming devices or unjamming devices or ads that are incomprehensible to think about.

\*\*These 3 programs alone are more than the cost of the following domestic programs that Reagan wants to totally eliminate from the budget: Community Services, Legal Services Corp., New HUD Housing, Amtrak, Postal Subsidies, Small Business Administration, and Strategic Petroleum Reserves. ■

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN)

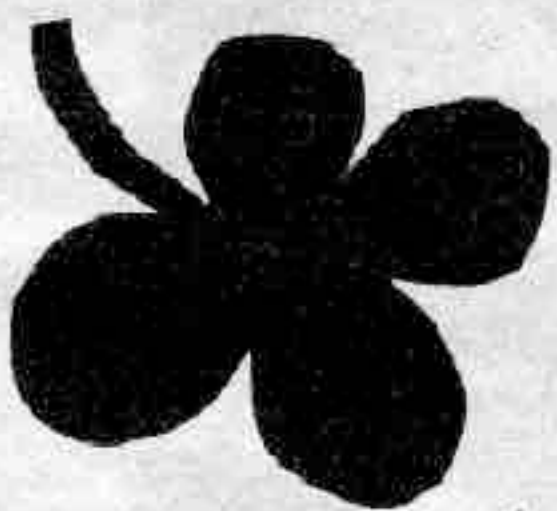
reason to reject the advice of outsiders regarding the war, the economy, or anything else. Israelis interpret the West's condemnation of the war in Lebanon as a thinly disguised form of anti-Semitism.

Sharon and others believe international hostility towards Israeli policy in Lebanon is an expression of unchanging anti-Jewish passion—blood libel unmasked again. ■

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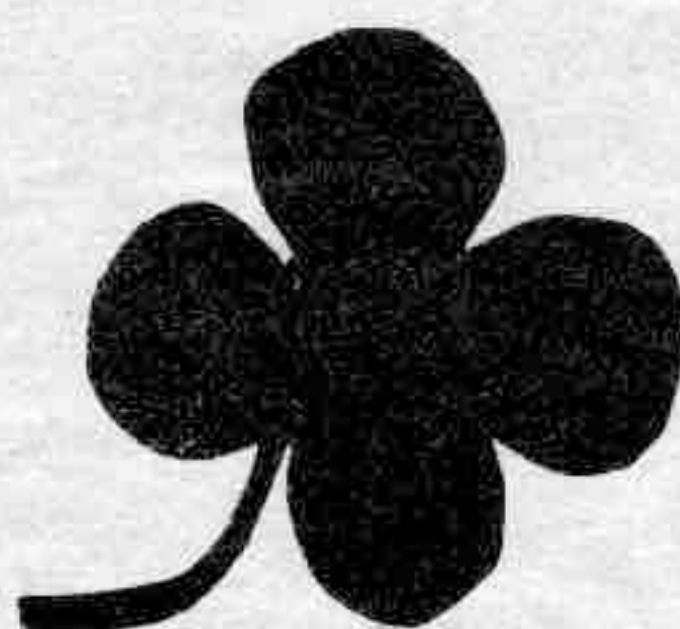
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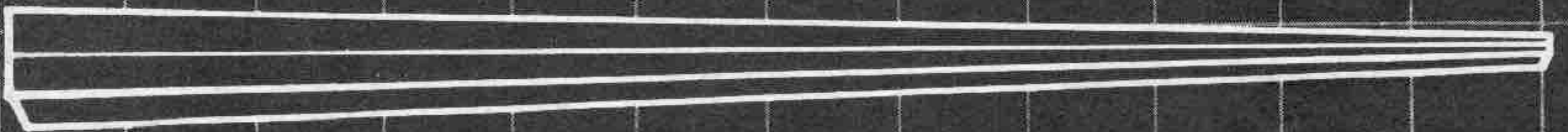
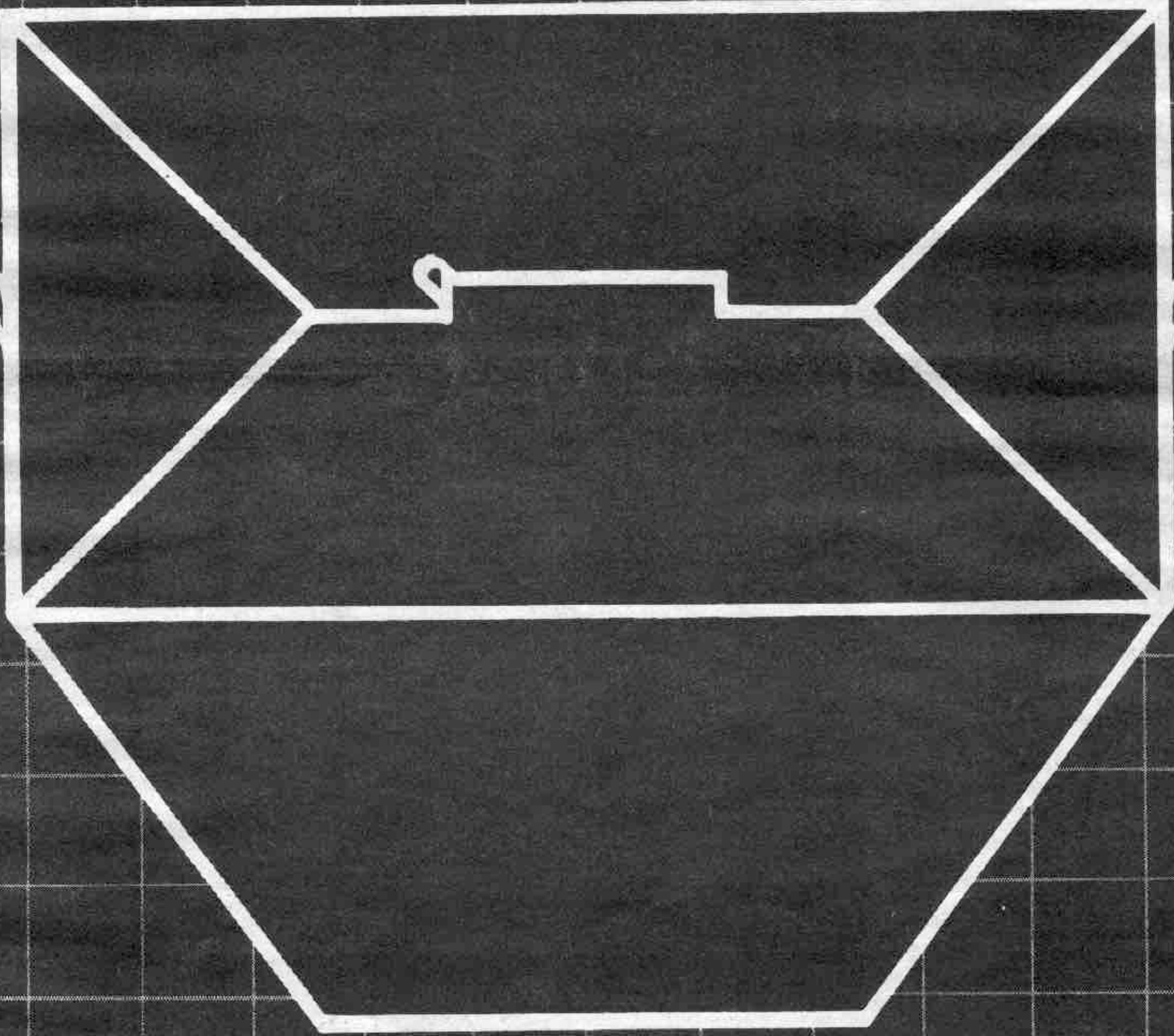
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# Revolution and "The Killing Fields"

by Patrick McCartney

In December, 1979, I drove my car through Central America to Costa Rica. In Nicaragua, the evidence of the July revolution was still fresh; I saw a bullet-scarred police station in a small town where the city hall was still in ruins, and repeatedly drove my car over or around filled-in tank traps in the highway.

In the northern area, I saw an odd sight that came to symbolize the war to me. On a hilltop several hundred feet above a village, the nearly intact remains of a Somocista cargo plane rested where it had apparently crash-landed. The plane, one of the fruits of Somoza's military aid from the United States, now served as a makeshift monument to the victory of the Sandinista rebels against his regime.

The first time I approached a Sandinista roadblock, my pulse quickened. Seeing teenagers casually handle automatic weapons is unnerving enough, but when you realize that they just might have something against you as a gringo who brought them Somoza, well, certain thoughts run through your head.

You can imagine my relief when, after a perfunctory glance in my Honda filled to the windows with necessities, one Sandinista asked me if I would give his girlfriend a ride up the road, and waved the two of us on after I'd readily agreed. No fluke, the exact same experience happened to me at one of the other two Sandinista roadblocks I encountered.

That experience in Nicaragua lifted my fears and allowed me to enjoy the national celebration in progress.

I relate this anecdote because I want to make a point about revolutions after seeing the current movie, "The Killing Fields," which is about the Cambodian (or Kampuchean) revolution. The film, written by Bruce Robinson from a book by New York Times correspondent Sydney Schanberg, is nominated for seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Screenplay, Best Director (Roland Jaffe), Best Actor (Sam Waterston), and best Supporting Actor (Dr. Haing S. Ngor).

"The Killing Fields" is a beautiful film (did I mention Best Cinematography nominee Chris Menges?) about an abominable revolution. The Khmer Rouge revolutionary army of Pol Pot defeated the forces of Cambodia's Lon Nol after a long civil war of insurgency, aggravated, as the film points out, by Nixon's secret "sideshow" bombing of eastern Cambodia.

The N.Y. Times man who was there, Sydney Schanberg, and his Cambodian interpreter, Dith Pran, witnessed the triumphant entry of Pol Pot's forces into the capital city of Pnom Phen. Before long they learned about, along with the rest of Cambodia's people, the paranoia and utopian intellectualism of the new regime.

Telling the population of Cambodia's largest city that the counterrevolutionaries were preparing an imminent bombing of Pnom Phen, Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge ordered all two million residents to leave. In a contemporary trail of tears, the lifetime residents, the wartime refugees, the rich, poor, lame, and injured streamed out of Pnom Phen.

When they arrived in the countryside, primitive communes were created, and the urban population was forced to work the fields in an insane and, in addition, dismally unsuccessful plan to create a new Cambodia free of the poisoning effects of bourgeoisie technology.

The terror increased. Anyone who had helped the previous government, whose education showed in manners or speech, or ultimately, who looked "wrong" to the young revolutionary warriors of Pol Pot, risked instant execution. Along with mass deaths by starvation, the frenzy of retribution killed as many as a third of the Cambodian population--two million in a country of six million.

The action of "The Killing Fields" is propelled when the Times' man, Schanberg, is forced to leave Pnom Phen along with the other foreigners, and his interpreter, Dith Pran, is left behind. Much of the rest of the movie concerns Pran's effort to survive, and Schanberg's efforts in New York to locate Pran and help Pran's wife and children.

The nightmare in Cambodia invited more trouble. The Vietnamese, historical aggressors in southeast Asia, moved into Cambodia during the chaos, and the remaining population of Cambodia, though saved from Pol Pot, seem to have lost their freedom a second time.

I believe that the Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge revolution in Cambodia is similar in political terms to the dilemma created in the 1940s when the scope of Stalin's brutalities became known. The American left wing was damaged then by a reluctance to condemn Stalin's actions.

I sympathize with both sides of the Stalinist debate. Russia was the source for revolutionary socialism, and held the hopes for many on the left. "You can't make an omelette without breaking a few eggs," Mao said about the Chinese revolution.

And yet, I am a reformist at heart, the product of a wealthy culture where a citizen can hope that, with enough good will the political lobbying, real progress can occur.

America's revolution happened before the memories of any of us; we left it to vague historical figures like George Washington to run a sword through "the enemy," and to shoot, burn, and destroy.

Two centuries after our own revolution, it becomes easier to condemn all violent revolutions, to deny that any revolution can be progressive. We forget that revolutions usually occur amid horrendous privations or repression--the kicking in of a rotten door, it's been called.

But back to the Killing Fields' revolution. Compare Cambodia to Nicaragua. In Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge leadership had trained in the universities and cafes of Paris. Nothing against intellectuals, but the Cambodian rebels were led by elitists who, once they took power, dreaded an intellectual-led counterrevolution. "The revolution lost faith in the people," one Khmer Rouge leader tells Dith Pran.

Cambodia's revolution ended up swallowing its own children, much like the French Revolution did when it descended into bloody chaos.

When the 1976 Managua earthquake leveled large areas, Somoza siphoned off American aid. The people of Nicaragua were outraged. As resistance to Somoza heightened, the leader decided to bomb the barrios into submission. Another mistake--the people united against Somoza and drove the rascal out.

Now, the good news: The first action of the Sandinista government was to eliminate the death penalty. Imagine that! They stated to the world, in effect, that theirs was not to be a revolution of revenge.

Not all revolutions end so badly. In Nicaragua, the Sandinistas crossed many social classes when they resisted Somoza and his family and friends. A small country, Nicaragua was half-owned by the Somoza family. And, of course, Somoza's father had been put in power by the United States.

In addition, the Sandinista regime appointed priests to cabinet positions, and imported teachers and doctors--not soldiers--from Cuba. Even La Prensa, the opposition newspaper, managed to survive and provide a balance to Sandinista press releases.

Not every revolution is a killing field. Personally, when "The Killing Fields" wins its awards, I'll be applauding loudly.

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TOWN COUNCIL CONTINUED from page 8

Human Needs and Concerns focuses on issues including those affecting the Elderly, the Youth, the Homeless, the Hungry, and the Poor in and around the Venice community. In addition, the Committee incorporates within its scope the issues of Public Safety/Law Enforcement and Education, because these are human-based issues which affect all regardless of our age or income.

A number of other active committees dealing with unglamorous but vitally necessary organizational matters such as fund-raising, publicity, newsletter, and charter/by-laws have been set up by the Coordinating Board which functions as the administrative body for the Venice Town Council. The Board meets every third Thursday of the month at the Westminster Senior Center from 7 to 9 p.m. Members and visitors are encouraged to attend and to get involved in the discussion and decision-making.

The Council has embarked on an experiment in spreading leadership chores around to all who choose to take on the responsibility. Although the Treasurer and Secretary are elected for six-month terms, the Chair or President is chosen on a monthly basis. ALL Council members are eligible to serve in this capacity and make a month-long commitment to carry out administrative duties.

Pavilion, Culture and the Arts and Beachfront/Recreational Activities, are two other committees originally mandated when a survey indicated that there was interest in these issues. Unfortunately, up to this point, the two have had some trouble in getting organized and working. If you're interested in the playful side of Venice, these two Committees need YOU!

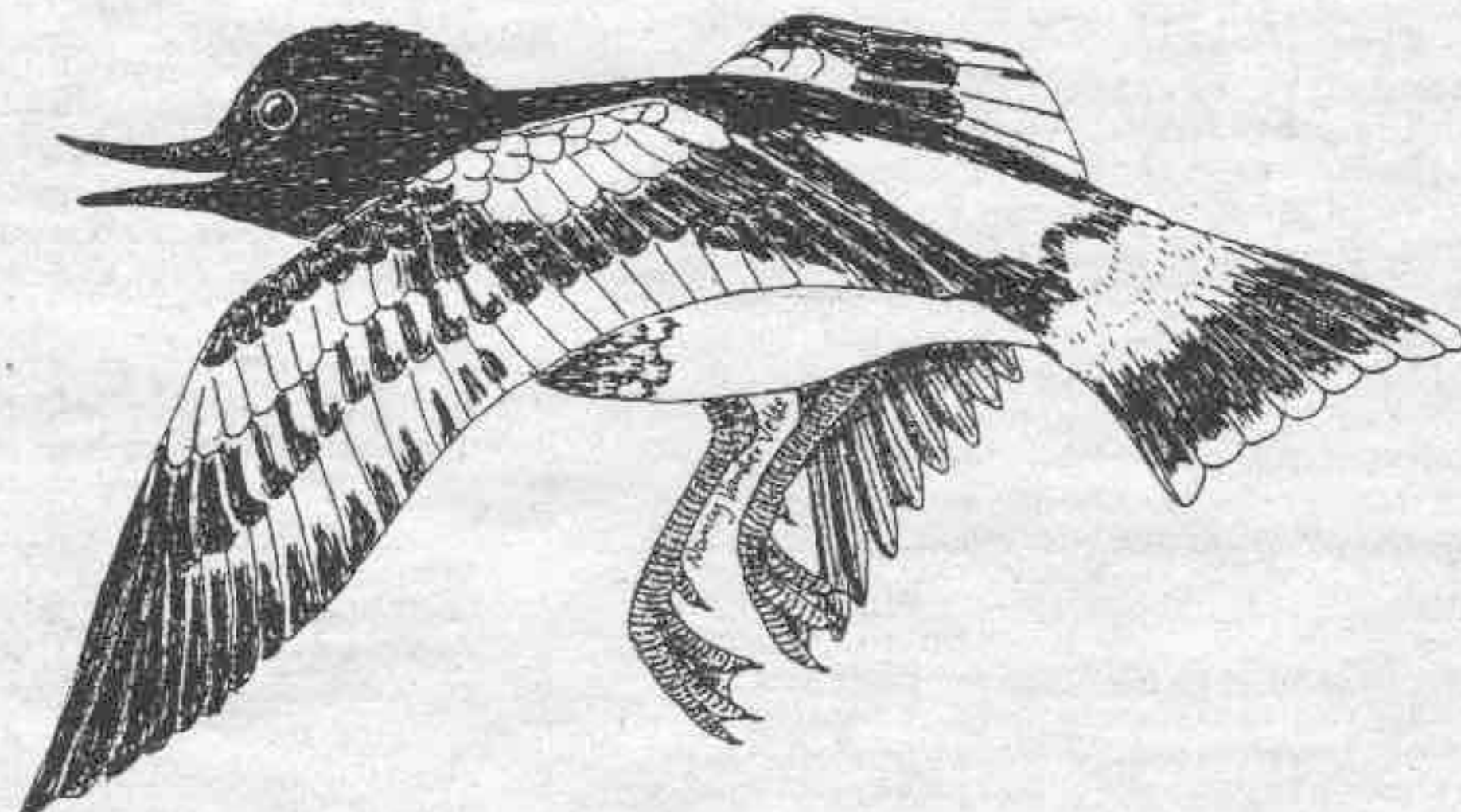
Remember the question at the beginning of this article? All--along with parking and literacy programs and an art show and daycare and oil wells and illegal land usage and theatre programs--are currently being acted upon or sitting on the back burner waiting for YOU to get involved.

The March 14 Council meeting will present David Gay of the Planning Dept. for a special discussion of Venice-area traffic and development planning.

For further information, call Patrick McCartney (392-7095) the Secretary; or Jim Wood (392-8296) the Treasurer.

Luke 13:25-30

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# PFP: Elections & Lawsuits

By John Haag

Besides the three Peace and Freedom Party (PFP) candidates running for the Community College Board of Trustees, two other Venice residents are running for office in the upcoming municipal election.

Murray Kane, an attorney who has lived in Venice three years, is running for the office of City Attorney. He believes himself best qualified for the job because of his experience as a prosecutor and as an administrator. During the past 14 years he has represented 25 cities in developing housing projects such as the present downtown effort to save the main library.

In cases of buildings that are unsafe or with fire violations, Murray would prosecute vigorously the individuals responsible. He would place a high priority on prosecuting downtown jewelers who put cyanide into the sewer system. He would take an active role in prosecuting street crime and other crimes of violence, using public nuisance laws to shut down hang-outs for criminals, jailing repeaters on probation violations and using probation to force criminals to accept jobs or go back to jail. Murray's campaign headquarters is at 317 Ocean Front Walk. Telephone: 392-3976.

Rick Tuttle, who is a member of the Community College Board of Trustees and an 8-year Venice resident, is a candidate for City Controller. He would continue in the Ira Reiner tradition of making the office an advocate for the taxpayers and in the public interest. (Rick has the endorsement of Ira Reiner and just about every other Democrat office-holder you can think of.)

The Controller is responsible for accounting, disbursing and auditing the city budget. Rick would continue to pre-audit travel expenses and maintain a tight inventory control. He would advise the City Council on enhancing the city's revenue position and city departments on how to get better purchasing deals from vendors. He believes revenue can be increased by more determined collection of business taxes and better utilization of city property. He would keep an overview of

the welfare of city employees, suggesting for instance, a child care center, which would improve morale and retention of employees. You can call his campaign at 827-1915.

A few days before the deadline for filing the Peace and Freedom Party candidates' nominating petitions, we realized that we would not have the 1,000 valid signatures we needed to file without paying the \$300 per candidate filing fee. Our chapter treasury held less than a single filing fee after paying this month's rent.

We had to decide which candidates to give priority to and which not to pay the fees for. At an emergency meeting we discussed what we wanted to get out of the campaign this year. One objective is to establish contacts at all nine community colleges, where possible in the form of student Peace and Freedom clubs. We realized that the Community College races would give us access to the nine campuses, their students and, to a lesser extent, their teachers (the American Federation of Teachers' Committee on Political Education has endorsed the incumbents). Since the Controller's race offered no such advantages, we decided to give top priority to the three Community College races.

It then became a question of money. In four days three PFPers raised \$800 from PFP members and supporters, enough that we were able to file petitions and pay the fees for Sandy Blixton, Kendra Cole and Julia Wrigley to become candidates for the Community College Board of Trustees. In all, 35 people contributed to the filing fee fund.



Unfortunately, we were unable to file Marvena Kennedy for the office of Controller. If we had been dealing with the County Registrar of Voters rather than the City Clerk, we could have filed all four Venice candidates. The County Registrar pro rates filing fees, reducing the amount of the fee in proportion to the number of valid signatures filed. The City Clerk demands the total fee if one fails to submit 1,000 valid signatures. Since each candidate had close to 1,000 signatures, by the county's system each

would have paid much less than \$300 and there would have been enough money to cover the fees for all four.

We now intend to file a lawsuit challenging the City Clerk's method of determining candidate filing fees. The lawsuit will allege unequal treatment by the City Clerk compared with the County Registrar, discrimination against poor candidates who cannot hire petition carriers, and violation of free speech rights because Marvena's petitions were rejected by the City Clerk when his office learned that she was unable to present the filing fee.

In the lawsuit we will ask for a court order to put Marvena on the ballot, a return of the excessive fees, and damages for the loss of exposure Marvena would have had, had her petitions been accepted. Over ten years ago, the PFP took the filing fee issue to the U.S. Supreme Court, which found the fee system unconstitutional. The Legislature then passed a bill allowing candidates to submit signatures in lieu of paying filing fees, but leaving the exact formula up to municipalities in the case of city elections.

Our experience with the City Clerk's office has been enlightening in an unpleasant way. When we first went in to file Declarations of Intent, the people in the City Clerk's office were surly and their instructions were confusing and sometimes contradictory. When we took in the nominating petitions we asked an attorney to go with us because we expected more hassles, but with the attorney along, no hassles occurred. Earlier that day, though, a City Councilperson was behind the counter observing his opponents file from the other side. Evidently the City Clerk is more directly an employee of the City Council than the County Registrar is of the Supervisors.

Our Campaign has begun to unearth some startlingly bad conditions at some of the community colleges. Equipment that is obsolete or doesn't work. Temporary buildings that have somehow become permanent, including bungalows

without air conditioning, not even a fan. An Associated Students Organization bungalow with a leaking roof. A financial aid program that doesn't work because of understaffing, loads of red tape and checks that don't arrive in time to save students from dropping out. A donated computer idle for two years for lack of software. Southwest College has no gymnasium.

Faculty members report that the present Board of Trustees is too much under the thumb of the Chancellor, relying for their information on staff reports prepared by the Chancellor's office. The one non-voting student "member" of the Board could not possibly represent the interests of over 100,000 students on nine campuses in the world's largest community college district.

Our platform will call for bringing the predominantly minority campuses up to the standards of the predominantly white campuses, straightening out the financial aid system to serve the students as it's supposed to, giving the students more representation in District affairs, eliminating tuition fees, providing draft counseling and examination of the curriculum to make sure it includes up-to-date information on ecology, political science, feminism and peace studies.

The community college faculties are well organized into chapters of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and of course our candidates support unions. This one, however, has its office in an odd location--right in the middle of the main administration office. This looks to me like a factory union having its main office inside the factory. Fine for a sit-down strike, but what about the usual kind of strike? Will they picket their own office? I guess maybe they don't expect to strike.

If you'd like to help with our campaign, come to a meeting of the Santa Monica-Venice Chapter of the PFP on the 1st or 3rd Sunday (March 3rd and 17th) beginning at 7:30 p.m. at 1354 West Washington Boulevard in Venice. Or better yet, call us at 392-5049 or 396-3555.

## Of Eyesores and Band-Aids

by B. Biarro

OF EYESORES AND BAND-AIDS

Has Los Angeles County's Traffic Dept. found a new and somewhat annoying way to spend the taxpayer's money.

In Malibu, all along Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) at designated intervals a series of signs, approximately 11-12 feet high and 4x4 feet square, are facing inward, only to be viewed by the property owners (who paid for them). They are painted "UGLY BRIGHT ORANGE AND BLACK" And more are on the way. Many more. The Installment Series.

Some ingenious soul has thought it necessary to prepare the heavily traveled, dirty PCH for the possibility of "BIG ROCK FALLING INTO THE OCEAN"

Big Rock was supposedly moving  $\frac{1}{2}$  per week. Now Big Rock has supposedly stabilized and is hardly moving at all. At least not measurably. Approximately 300,000 gallons of water per day is being pumped out. Yards watering, etc. puts back 100,000 gal. so that leaves us with 200,000 gal. leaving the Big Rock.

Approximately 15 homes on Big Rock have been condemned and vacated. One owner refuses to leave. And the cost is exorbitant. So therefore the band-aids come out; the SIGNS.

Now let's face it. IF Big Rock falls into the sea, it will be a major world event and no one on PCH will need a sign to advise them that there is a SLIDE AHEAD. It is rather

doubtful as to whether or not even Street Maintenance will be able to get their trucks out to turn these obscenities around to face the traffic. If this UNFORSEEN, MAYBE, NEVER TO OCCUR EVENT happens on Sat., Sun., before 8AM or after 4:30PM. FORGET IT!

Continued on page 15



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# People's Court

## NEIGHBORHOOD JUSTICE CENTER

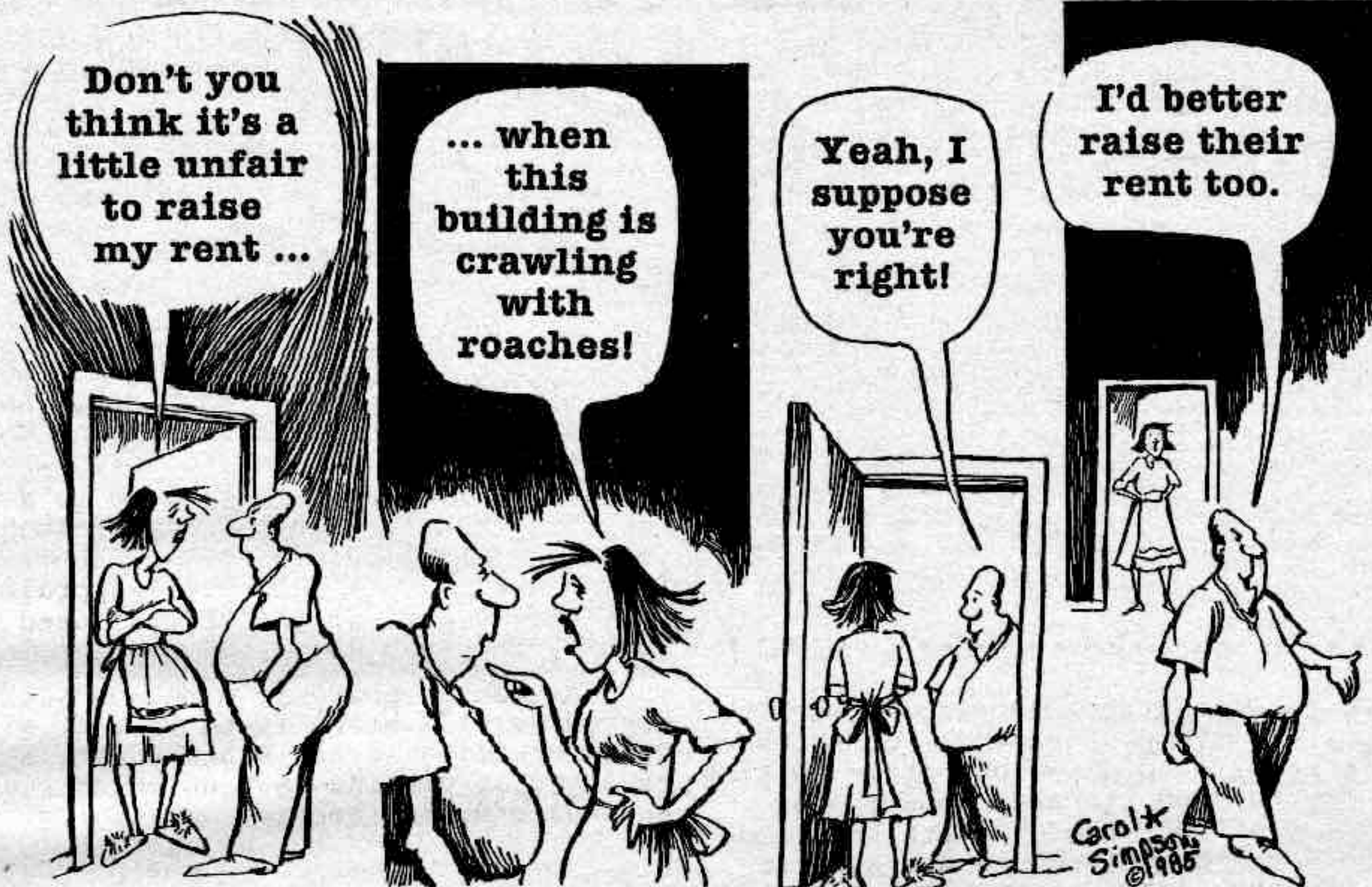
Recently, the Neighborhood Justice Center was contacted by Mark Elder in regard to a dispute he was having with a former employer, Vernon Marshall of the T-Bone Steak House.

On the last day of his employment, Mark had worked several hours overtime and had not received the overtime pay. As Mark and Vernon had parted on hostile terms, Vernon was not accepting Mark's phone calls to attempt to rectify the matter.

Out of desperation, Mark contacted the Neighborhood Justice Center to request their service of mediation. A mediation was set up at a time convenient to both parties and a resolution was achieved which satisfied Mark and Vernon.

This is only one of the various types of mediations conducted at the Neighborhood Justice Center (NJC) which provides neutral, trained mediators to help people put their conflict into manageable terms and find areas of agreement that meet the mutual needs of the participants. Other disputes most commonly mediated at the NJC are between landlords and tenants, neighbors, family members, consumers and merchants, and employees and employers.

NJC is a public service project of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and has served the Los Angeles community since 1978. The NJC is currently funded by the City of Santa Monica, the Los Angeles County Bar Foundation and private donations. For further information, call Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm at 451-8192.



# Building For Earth Day



Fifteen years have passed since Earth Day was designated as a time to focus our concern on our planet and its environment. On Wednesday, April 22, 1970 thousands of "teach-ins" took place in schools all over our nation to prepare our youth, teachers and parents for a necessary and long-overdue challenge: How can we save our planet and preserve its life-giving ecology for ourselves and future generations?

Now, fifteen years later, this same--yet even more critical--challenge remains. During this delicate time period, when clear-cut answers often seem harder to find, an opportunity for reflection and review is once again at hand. A refocusing on "Earth" education and citizen participation is crucial, especially for our youth. Today's youth are a generation too young to remember the first Earth Day, but nonetheless as sensitive and caring as the youth who brought about the original day of planetary awareness. And they are just as eager, if not more so, to participate.

That's why the Santa Monica/Venice Alliance for Survival invites you to join us at a "town hall" discussion and outreach meeting to help build momentum for Earth Weekend '85--three days of activities to stimulate reflection and review along with education, participation and celebration! (The Earth Weekend '85 Agenda (April 20-22) will include a "kickoff" Earth celebration at the church in Ocean Park followed the next day by a Sunday afternoon Earth rally at the Westwood Federal Bldg., and climaxed by a day of student and teacher-organized classroom projects and activities to highlight and observe this historic occasion.)

The first Earth Day "Town Hall" outreach meeting will take place Tuesday, March 5 from 7-9 P.M. at the Santa Monica Public Library located at 1343 6th St. (at S.M. Blvd). We'll be reviewing Earth Weekend '85 activities, discussing topical environmental and peace concerns and exploring avenues to promote further youth participation. We cordially invite students, teachers

and all of the general public to attend this important meeting--along with your ideas and suggestions on possible creative school projects.

Perhaps a speaker and/or slide show can be featured at your school dealing with any number of local or global concerns. Or, how about an activity highlighting poetry, art or music. A classroom time for letter-writing to various legislators might be stimulating. Or maybe tree-planting, or even the usual campus clean-up.

It's up to you, but please call us regarding your ideas and plans. Maybe we can help.

Let's plan now to make this 15th anniversary of Earth Day a time of creativity, responsibility and inspiration! See you at the meeting and Happy Earth Day!

For more information contact:  
Jerry Rubin,  
Earth Weekend '85 Coordinator  
c/o Earth Weekend '85 Project  
1013 Sixth Street  
Santa Monica, Ca. 90403  
(213) 399-1000

# Venice Town Council Update

by Shannon Wood

What do the Homeless, Prudential Insurance, the 1986 Mardi Gras, the Venice Skills Center, the Cadillac Hotel, and low-cost income tax preparation services for the elderly have in common?

Answer: The second Thursday evening of every month in the meeting room at the Old Venice City Hall, otherwise known as Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd, starting at 7:30 p.m.

That's when the newly-reorganized Venice Town Council holds its general membership meeting; the real business of the group, however, is conducted through its strong issue-oriented, activist committees. Now moving into its ninth month, the new Venice Town Council is alive and well, thank you!!

Two committees have been formed and meet regularly once a month. In addition to doing research and preparing reports for the General Membership to discuss and act upon, the two committees are in contact with public and private agencies and officials who are making decisions which directly affect what happens in Venice.

The two fully-organized committees are Planning and Development and Human Needs and Concerns. Each has met numerous times, adopted internal rules, and has given at least one educational program to the community on specific issues. More are planned over the next three months.

Planning and Development's mandate in part reads: "The Committee shall generate and discuss ideas relating to planning and development in and around Venice, shall keep itself apprised of (such issues) important to the community and take appropriate action in (its) interest on such issues...shall represent the Council before (various) public and private agencies in issue areas such as coastal plans...community plans...permit parki hearings...traffic...parking...historical preservation."

Continued on page 6

## Los Angeles Childbirth Center

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by MOE STAVNEZER

"Oh, ya mean the great underwater parking lot scam?" blurted one reporter when told of the City's latest folly in Venice.

So here we go again. All the ingredients of another scam by the City of Los Angeles involving the Ballona Lagoon. Late notices, confusion about whether the public would be allowed to talk, and, finally a hardnosed decision by Planning Commission Chairman Daniel Garcia not to allow any public testimony.

What this is all about is a scheme to trade some City owned lots for some privately owned land along and near the Grand Canal/Ballona Lagoon, on both sides of that waterway. Specifically: the City would trade 20 of the lots it owns for 11 lots owned by J.B. Graner and Venice Peninsula Properties (read David Rome) both of whom are major property owners on the Peninsula, including the Silver Strand. The accompanying map shows the placement of the lots in question.

According to the staff report, prepared by City Planner Ruby Ann Justis, despite the discrepancy in numbers, the 11 privately owned lots measured 3,000+ square feet more than the greater number of City lots. What the report doesn't say is that the lot size of the Graner/Rome lots is measured from their officially recorded sizes (on paper) rather than their actual sizes! What does that mean? It means that lots recorded as measuring 30 feet in depth are actually only 3 feet deep in some places. In other spots along the west bank of Ballona the lots are 16 feet deep, in others 25 feet deep. So we don't really know how much land the City will get for the 57,000+square feet it will trade away.

The reason for making this trade, though discussion on it was not officially part of the Planning Commission decision (which, supposedly was only to assure conformity with the various community plans) was to obtain land to provide public parking for beach access on the Peninsula beach. Theoretically, the City would get 60,000+ sq. ft. of land in a long strip along the west bank of the Ballona Lagoon. Perfect for the provision of parking...if the land was there. But it's not and there's more than one rub.

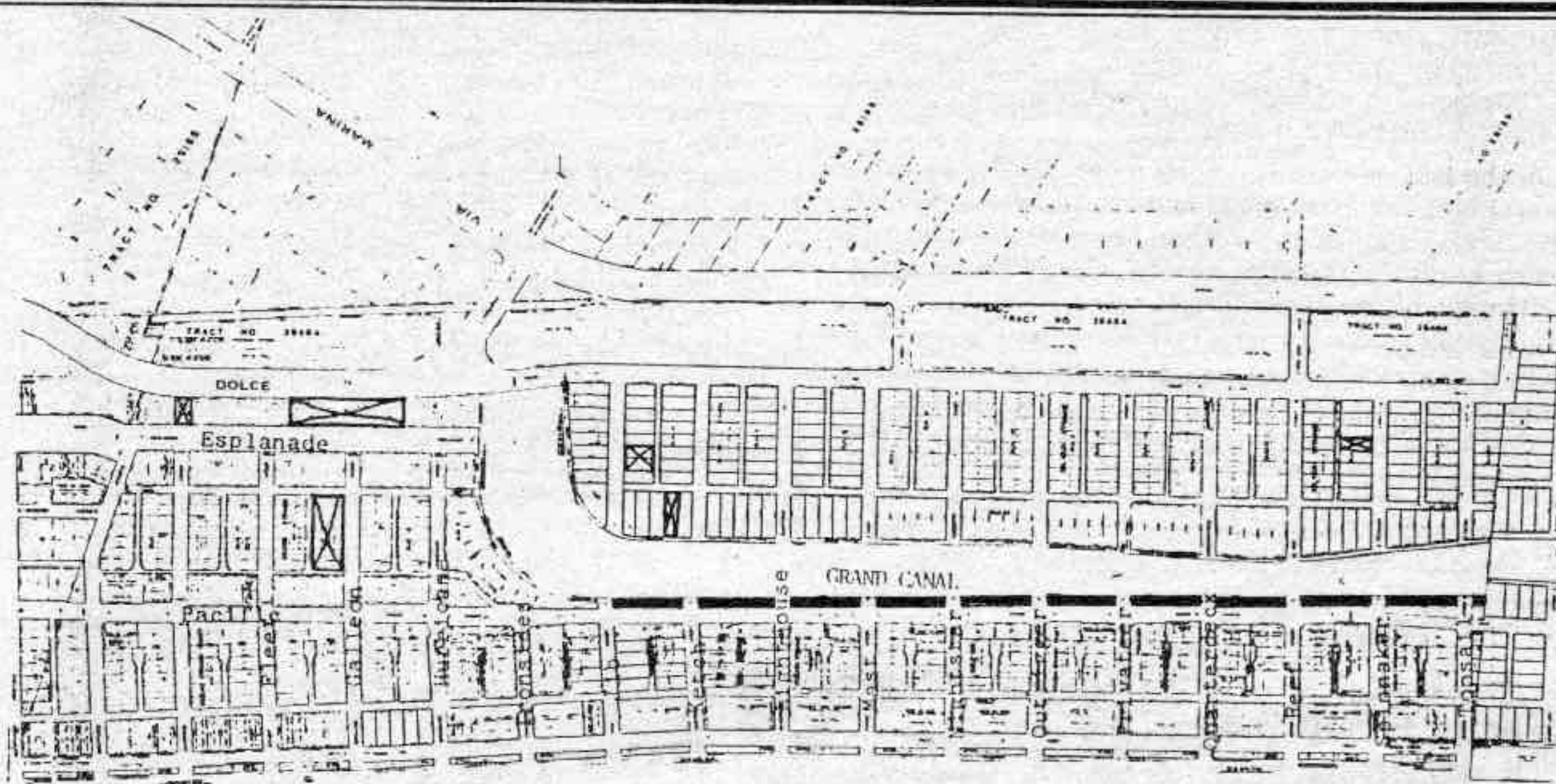
Their appears to be an assumption that Graner & Rome have the right to build on lots that have been naturally eroded away, by filling in the Lagoon. Did you miss that one. Well watch my lips..."pour tons of dirt into the lagoon to recreate the now paper lots." O.K., you got it. Well it happens that the Coastal Act has a provision that forbids such activity in an environmentally sensitive habitat, which you may be surprised to learn, the Ballona Lagoon happens to be. So one can with reasonable safety conclude that the current owners could not build on their land. Too bad guys, a bad investment. Well here comes the City to the rescue. If the trade goes thru it will give Graner & Rome lots that are totally buildable and put the City in the position of having to fill in the lagoon or take a beating in the trade.

The justification for all of the above is to be a report from an "independent appraiser" to meet the following condition "The land exchange should result in an equal or near-equal exchange based upon appraised value of the land." However, this does not mean that the appraiser has to consider the actual size of the land involved. So the point of equity must be the actual size of the lots since those on the west bank may never be entirely buildable.

So the City is heading toward agreeing to become the proud possessor of an underground parking lot paid for by you and me to bail out some developers with a lot to lose (pun very much intended).

Opposition has appeared among people from the Peninsula. "STOP THE SWAP" is the huge banner on their flier. They are, however, using arguments that could be used against any new parking on the Peninsula. Personally, in view of the fact that the Peninsula beach is almost unused compared to the rest of Venice (or L.A. County for that matter), I have long supported more parking on the Peninsula. I think that I would support that parking on the west bank of the lagoon but only on land that already existed! So, I "represented" the Town Council and like every one else, was ignored.

# STOP THE SWAP



MAP OF AREA OF THE PROPOSED LAND SWAP

□ City-owned parcels  
■ Privately-owned parcels

In this map above the City has chosen to use official, rather than commonly used, names for the waterways pictured. Grand Canal is usually called Ballona Lagoon & Esplanade is usually called Grand Canal.

Mike McKelvy, Secretary of the Board of Public Works, told me that a slew of city agencies will have to review the proposal to determine if they can use the city land before its traded away. McKelvy said that process could take up to a year. Currently the land is being appraised to determine the monetary value of both the public and private lots. That appraisal will become part of the "facts" used to justify the swap as stated earlier.

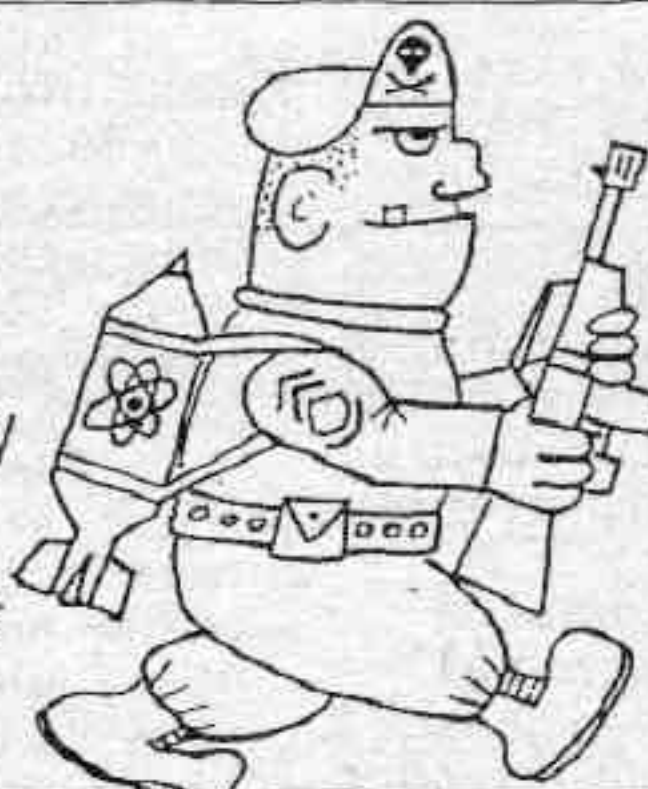
So, now that the Planning Commission has put its stamp of approval on the swap what's next? Good question. After talking to a few bureaucrats and Councilwoman Russell's office--she supports the trade by the way--the only obvious answer is that the next stop, as far as the public is concerned, is a hearing before the Board of Public Works. From there the proposal will go to a City Council committee and then to the Council.

As soon as there is more news, the Beachhead will bring it to you. It will be interesting to see how the City's strategy of pitting parking needs against an environmental imperative unfolds.



## PROLIFERATION UPDATE BY Pete Savino

JUST WHEN THE U.S. SEEMED INTERESTED IN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITATIONS, EUROPE WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN OF AMERICAN TROOPS TRAIPING THROUGH THEIR BACK-YARDS WITH PORTABLE "BACK-PACK" NUKES



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"MIRV" BULLET

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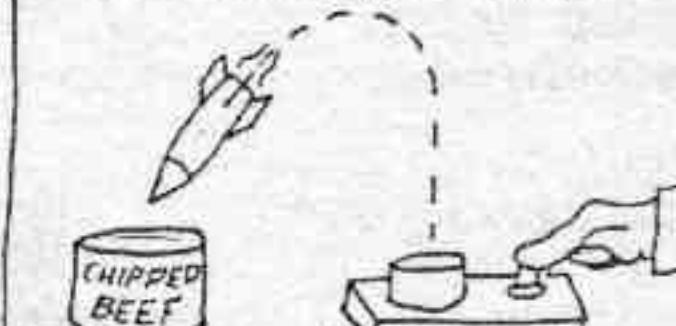
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# KRASSNER IN VENICE

BY LANCE DISKAN

Paul Krassner has been a thorn in the side of pomposity and propriety for more than twenty-five years. Between 1958 and 1974 he was publisher of a legendary, scandalous periodical called The Realist that broke through established boundaries in the discussion of civil rights, foreign policy, abortion, freedom of speech, drug use, sex education and the American Presidency. A citizen would have been fully informed during the 1960's if he or she had read only two slim journals: The I.F. Stone Weekly and Krassner's Realist.

Many adjectives could be used to describe Krassner and The Realist, but the least appropriate one would be 'tame'. I know he takes pride in the fact that CBS superstar newsman Harry Reasoner refuses to shake hands with him and once denounced him in print saying: "Krassner not only attacks establishment values; he attacks decency in general." And who knows which outrageous article in The Realist caused the FBI to forge a letter to LIFE magazine calling him a "cuckoo editor of an unimportant, smutty little rag." These kinds of endorsements money can't buy.

Some of the "smut" printed in The Realist includes the work of Kurt Vonnegut, Lenny Bruce, Theodore Sturgeon and Ken Kesey; as well as interviews with Norman Mailer, Alan Watts, Joseph Heller, Woody Allen and many, many others. Of course there were also such articles as "Batman and Robin Were Lovers", "The World's Fair Poverty Pavilion", "The Bad Taste Coloring Book", "I Dreamed I Shot a Nixxon in my Maidenform Bra" and an unspeakable piece in which Lyndon Johnson was committing sexual acts with the wounds in John F. Kennedy's body.

Years and years of life on the edge has taken its toll of Krassner's sense of proportion, and the line between fantasy and so-called reality can often get rather blurry. Not to worry; Krassner has developed a kind of mental field-sobriety-test. When things get too weird to integrate, he tucks his hands into his armpits and flaps his arms like a chicken. If he flies away then he knows he's dreaming; but if he just stands there looking like a fool then he's forced to conclude that he is still awake and that what he has just experienced is -unfortunately- actually happening.

All of us could utilize this system in our own lives when things get just a bit too incongruous. How about when planners from Prudential Life Insurance Company urge construction of four fifteen-story office buildings because the shadows they create will help stimulate the growth of exotic plants? Or maybe when we read that the Pentagon calls peace a situation of "permanent pre-hostility"? We could use the Krassner Test when we read John DeLorean's full-page ad in the Los Angeles Times asking for money the night after he appears on Entertainment Tonight skiing in Aspen. And I'll bet most of us would have flapped 'till we were blue in the face the first time we saw photographs of Nancy Reagan sitting on Mr. T's lap. I mean were those things real, or did we all just have the same very bad dream?

Until March 23rd Krassner is busy doing satirical social commentary every Friday and Saturday evening at The Wallenboyd Theater (corner of Wall and Boyd Streets) in the downtown artists quarter. He has recently edited The Best of The Realist published by Running Press and available in Venice at Small World Books. In both these media he continues his tradition of liberating communication, and those willing to have their assumptions challenged (or just looking for a good time) should pay him a visit in print or in person. We spoke one afternoon in his Venice apartment.

Q: You're new to Venice, at least as a resident. Can you describe what it's like?

A: I love it. All my friends from Berkeley say 'It's Telegraph Avenue on the beach'. People from New York say 'It's the Lower East Side with an ocean'. There's a nice feeling about being on the edge of the country. I really am looking forward to this new rhythm in my life: writing during the day and taking breaks to walk on the boardwalk or run along the beach. Then I do my show on Friday and Saturday nights. It's an ideal situation for me.



Q: Is there anything startling or different you sense here vs. New York or San Francisco?

A: Yes, the level of magic seems higher.

Q: What's magical? What do you mean by magic?

A: Magic is what goes beyond your ordinary comprehension of the way things work. Of course it's all magic, really. I don't know why the TV set goes on or why the refrigerator gets cold or why bees keep making honeycombs instead of avocado salad. The thing that I enjoy most is just enjoying the mystery and everything that's subordinate to that.

Q: The Native Americans sometimes use a phrase in their prayers about the Great Mystery or Great Spirit or Spirit of Mystery.

A: Oh, I like that! The mystery is so inconceivable; I mean you can rip off layers and layers of scientific research and find out about the DNA code, but that doesn't mean you understand it. It's still a mystery underneath it all. Whether it's atoms circling around; or the Id, the Ego and the Superego; or Black Holes in space - nobody knows what they're talking about. They just want to keep their jobs.

Everybody has to have a metaphor for The Mystery, whether it's belonging to a cult or a corporation. And one channel is no better than another even if one gets more attention. I knew a woman who was a champion at clam shucking. Her husband would always say with pride: "I think she was born to shuck clams." She knew all the nuances of clams. That's no less spiritual than being a monk in a monastery.

I like the quest. It's the quest for perfection that fascinates me, not perfection itself. In fact what I really like is the resilience people have when they fuck up on the road to perfection. They just learn from the mistake and take it as an educational opportunity. The perfect philosophy is to enjoy fucking up; then you can't lose.

Q: Did 1984 have any special overtones for you?

A: The great myth of 1984 is that it wasn't as bad as people thought it might be. But that's only because it's been done with such a veneer of public relations. Can you imagine this combination of newspeak and senility that Reagan spouts about the U.S. covertly aiding the Nicaraguan "Freedom Fighters" (as he calls them) because it would be against the law to do it overtly? It's Ronnie in Wonderland!

Q: At a recent seminar at the Claremont Colleges in Pomona, '60's personalities David Harris and Gene McCarthy called that era "exciting but remote". Are the '80's remote from the '60's?

A: No. The '60's slogan 'Today is the first day of the rest of your life' is now being used to sell breakfast cereal. And if Elvis Presley knew that "Love Me Tender" was being used to sell dog food, he'd turn over in his syringe.

Q: I recently asked Ken Kesey for his feelings about words vs. images. As a writer do you have anything to say about these powerful cultural forces?

A: I think the most effective words are those that can conjure up an image. There may be a preponderance of visual images because this generation of kids is becoming illiterate. At a recent convention of humorists I spoke with Mike Thaler who used to be a cartoonist for The Realist. He was so sad; and said that it was tragic because kids have a pre-kindergarten level of reading. These people are casualties of war.

Q: A 1983 survey by the American Publisher's Association reveals that 44% of Americans have never read a book, not a single book.

A: That's frightening.

Q: Do you have any thoughts on the effect of technology on politics?

A: They now have computer technology that can predict who's going to be elected. The news used to be what happened - now it's what will happen. I guess technology is always a tool. Computers can be used for constructive or destructive purposes. And in Vietnam television technology may have helped, in the sense that it showed people how awful war really is, that it wasn't a movie it was real casualties.

Q: Who do you see as world leaders?

A: Ralph Nader would be one. Ed Asner is another. And there's alot of subtle leadership by people leading by example. Mother Theresa certainly does that. Of course she knows that altruism is the highest form of selfishness, so she's just a junkie who needs to get her social service fix. She goes around saying, 'Get me a victim. I need to get high'.

Q: What are some of the tragic and comedic aspects of the world situation, and do they make you feel optimistic or pessimistic?

A: Well it's easy for me to sit in a comfortable chair and say I'm feeling optimistic, but there's alot of sad stuff happening. On my wall there's a poster about Guatemala. On the left side it has a list of 30 Indian villages that have been raided by U.S. financed Guatemalan troops. On the right side it shows an ancient Indian fighter holding an M-16. I'm non-violent, but I just had to put it up because I can't forget there are people so much against the wall that they have to use M-16's.

Q: There's no doubt that if we were one of 'Los Desaparecidos' in Chile we wouldn't feel nearly as optimistic.

A: No, they may actually feel more optimistic. A friend of mine is a paramedic and is not despairing because she can at least do something about some problems. She doesn't just sit watching TV and say, 'Woe is us'.

When I was editing The Best of The Realist I found my original 1968 call to come to Chicago for the Yippie Convention. The last sentences were something like: "The dialogue is over. It's now time to disrupt an insane society". If I were writing that today I might change the word "disrupt" to "transform". As an individual I know I have changed, and alot of people I know have changed. If we were the only ones then there would be no hope, but I know we're not the only ones.

Thank you, Paul Krassner.



# Gardens Plotted

By Maryjane Kwan

Among my many wishes for improving the daily quality of life for myself, my family, my friends, my community, my culture, I have, as millions have, worked for some closer integrated harmony of ecological balance in our urban setting. One idea I've had over the years has been to turn vacant lots into community gardens with edible vegetation and urban landscaping. The concept is not new or original. Venice itself has had wonderful experiments with gardens and food co-ops, most notably the Venice Canal Community House, Gardens, and Food Co-op of the late 60's and early 70's. This helped to inspire the Metro Gardens on Centinela and the local Santa Monica Community Gardens.

Recently, I drew up a citywide garden ordinance proposal which could be used for any locality. I presented it to our Mayor and city council members including Pat Russell whose district includes Venice. Councilman Joel Wachs forwarded the proposal to the council's Planning and Environment Committee. From here it was sent to the Planning and Code Development Committee where it is now lies.

As an adjunct to this, I have proposed a specific Summer Youth Employment Program for the project. These SYEP programs, sponsored by the city of Los Angeles, offer work to disadvantaged teenagers. Basically, 12 teenagers (ages 14-19), and three supervisors would work approved vacant lots. Last year I made a similar proposal. Although it was enthusiastically passed through each department (including Water and Power who would install water taps on the lots) she did nothing and the proposal wasted away. This year, I have amended the proposal to use public or private vacant lots. After much research and time, I located addresses of vacant lot owners in the Venice Canal Area. Phil Busse, canal resident, has been supportive of the project and wrote up and mailed our letter to the homeowners seeking their approval. The letters went out about Feb. 4th. of 1985 and we have received several positive responses by now (Feb 9th.) including more offers by property owners who are willing to donate water from their adjacent property for the vacant lot garden projects.

Any youths who wish to apply for a summer job with this garden program or SYEP programs should apply as early as March 18th. The deadline is May 1st. You may call 485-4675 for information and application forms. Pay for the six hour daily job training program is minimum wage for nine weeks of summer work.

#### What we need:

- Funding for 3 supervisors for SYEP.
- Donations of minimal fencing materials, a few shovels, trowels, rakes, gardening gloves, seedlings, young plants, seeds for summer planting (very different than spring planting).
- Support for the projects so we can continue and expand into other communities.

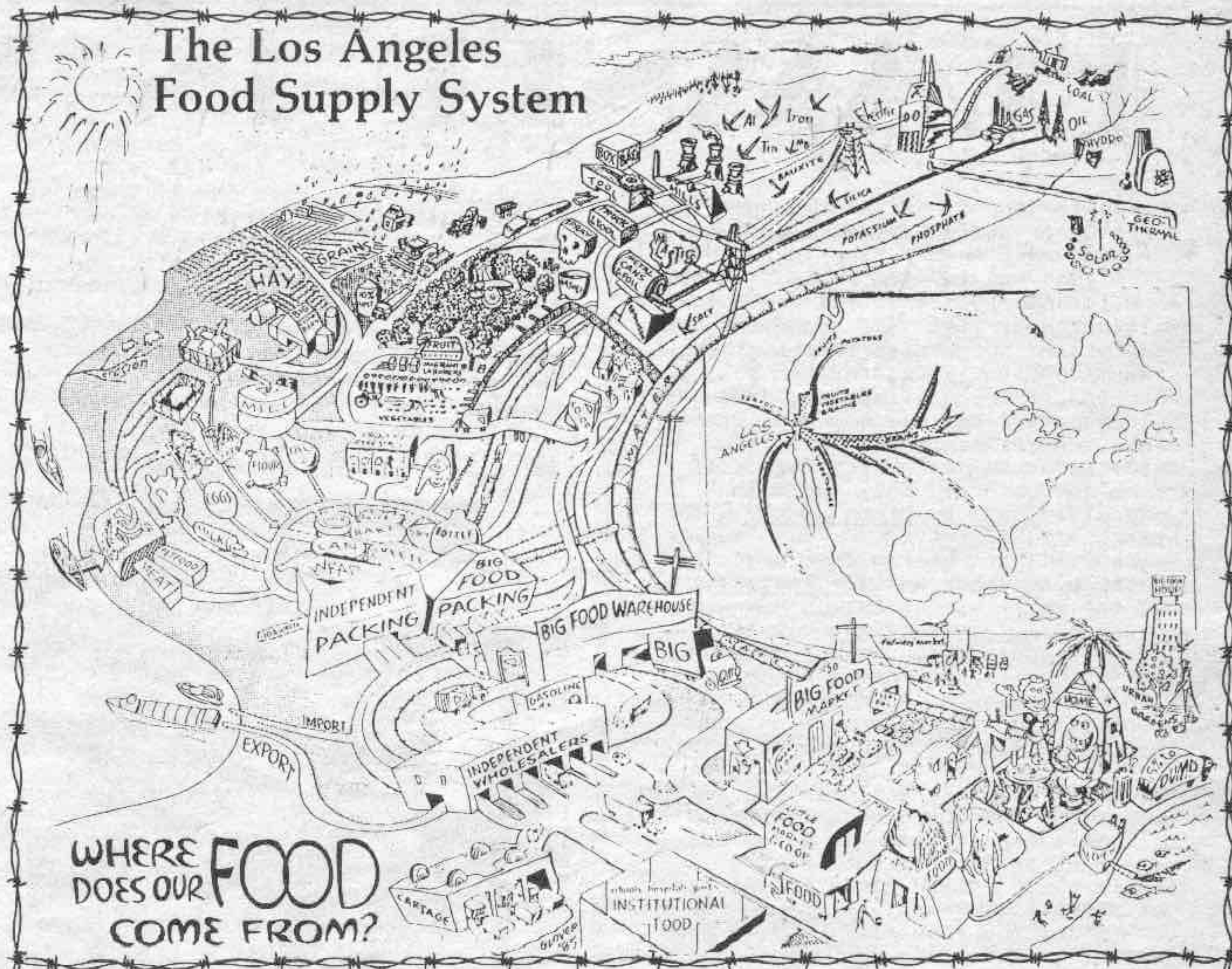
I have been working with Citizen Planners to do these and other projects around town. This is a non-profit community organization dedicated to urban/ecological balance and creative use of technology and our environment. Paul Glover is our local founder. The phone number is 392-1294. Please contact them if you'd like a copy of the citywide garden ordinance proposal.

Please feel free to call me with any feedback or support suggestions; Maryjane 823-6559 or call Phil Busse 822-4766.

I must add that Duane Pederson of the Venice Christian Community Church has been very supportive of the garden programs. The church serves a large community and they have a number of youths will apply for some of the summer job positions. Duane's church is also a surplus food outlet and would be one of the recipients of food produced from the gardens, along with our local senior citizen's center on Westminster. Duane has offered his church premises as the meeting and lunching ground for any Summer Youth Employment Project garden group.

Any encouragement for approval of the garden ordinance or the SYEP program to our Los Angeles City Councilperson and the Department of Water and Power is greatly appreciated. THANKYOU! ●

## The Los Angeles Food Supply System



# Cosmic Gardens

by Paul Glover

Everything we hope to achieve, have and enjoy would be shaken from our grasp, without the miracle of seeds unfolding into food, far from where we live. Are you on the road to success? Take food with you. Whether we eat from silver plates or garbage cans, three-times daily or three times weekly, we will eat or die. Fortunately, enough food is brought to Los Angeles to fill City Hall every night. While we sleep nearly one thousand trucks deliver 40 million pounds to dozens of wholesale and supermarket warehouses. Fruits and vegetables reach us from California's Imperial and San Joaquin Valleys, from south coast counties, Florida, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Mexico and Central and South America. Milk and eggs from San Bernardino County refrigerate here with slaughtered western steer. Fish from the coasts of California and South America flop ashore at San Pedro.

Although Los Angeles was once the greatest garden in the world, producing more food between 1910 and 1940 than any county in the United States, we now import most food from hundreds and thousands of miles away. Gigantic local orchards, farmlands and grasslands lost ground to the region's latest crop: people. As the cartoon shows, our food is generated by metals and fuels which assemble and propel agricultural tools through fields. The food we buy has survived bugs, birds, weeds, diseases, erosion, drought, flood, poison, harvest, storage, crushing, mixing, cooking, packaging, spoilage, more storage, and transport to wholesalers and then markets, to be swallowed by us.

The system never rests, delivering the greatest variety of eats for the least paycheck, any place on earth. From high above, our machines and trucks and toilers would look like blood cells racing through an athlete. We are fed so well we can live preoccupied with careers, romance, God, homes, families and thrills.

But there are problems in heaven. Los Angeles has become an army camped far from its sources of supply, using distant natural resources faster than these renew. Every day two hundred additional Angelenos arrive, each wanting as much food as you, yet each day eight square miles of agricultural land is destroyed for suburbs, shopping centers and stripmines. Costlier fertilizers and deadlier pesticides are needed to pump more food from overworked dirt. Twenty-six square miles of topsoil fly or flow away daily. At the same time, America sells grains abroad, trying to feed nations which have preceded us toward agricultural ruin. More hunger is served by less land every day.

Relax though, don't eat faster. We are not riding a spoon to the mouth of doom. You're doing your part to help the world by one or more of these changes: You're eating less-meat, so that grains are fed to humans, and animals do not suffer. You're shopping for California labels, rather than eating food hauled cross-country. You're growing some of your own food. You recycle kitchen scraps into your garden. You're buying bulk when you can, looking for food value rather than packaging. You ask your grocer to stock organic fruits and vegetables. You support small farms by spending at farmers' markets. You plant fruit trees rather than ornamentals. You take control of retail sales by joining or starting a buying club or co-op. You're having a good time without wasting metals, plastic, oil, paper and electricity. You have one or fewer children, and adopt the rest.

Large factory farms are beginning to learn the benefits of non-toxic pest control, drip irrigation, green manure, mulching, intercropping, rotation and genetic diversity.

Cities are starting to plant edible parks, to link building codes and development options to urban agriculture, fund food preservation centers, turn sludge into fertilizer, establish agricultural zones, and give tax breaks to greenhouses.

There are many organizations working to grow healthy food systems. Among those in Los Angeles, Citizen Planners has started an Eco-Home Network, to provide information and approval for all who want to heal the earth (662-5207). As our name implies, we encourage city planning by everyone who lives here. Our newsletter Sensual Cities (691-5198) describes our latest projects. Research and Action Groups study the nuts-and-bolts of urban agriculture, regional resources, transit (481-2731), and appropriate technology. Our Garden Orchard Project (823-6559) intends to employ kids to plant food on city land.

Membership is \$15/year and contributions are tax-deductible (checks to Urban Ecology, Inc.). We're looking for expanded office space and for donations of housing and land for construction of urban eco-villages. Our book and poster Los Angeles: A History of the Future (\$3.00 or free with membership) detail more of what we foresee. Ask to see our slide show, The Edible City (392-1294). We're at 737 Sunset Ave, Venice, CA. 90291. And we make ideals real. ●

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JERRY RUBIN



# Puerto Rican Hero

1908-1985

By Bob Wells



Juan Antonio Corretjer, national poet of Puerto Rico and senior statesman of the Puerto Rican revolutionary national liberation movement, died on Saturday, January 19, in San Juan at the age of 77. Don Juan had been hospitalized for a week with a series of heart attacks. His funeral on Tuesday, the 22nd, was attended by 8,000 - 10,000 people, including representatives from all over Latin America.

A prolific poet, Don Juan described his work as "lyrical and political." His words were an inspiration to Roy Brown and other singers of the Nueva Canción movement, who set many of his poems to some of their most beautiful music. Don Juan's theme was love: the love between men and women, love for oneself and one's people, love for the Puerto Rican nation, which he was determined to see liberated and independent from Yankee imperialism.

He was born in 1908 in Ciales, in the central highlands which are the heartland of the Puerto Rican independence movement. A lifelong fighter for Puerto Rican freedom, Juan Antonio was a personal comrade in the 1920's of Augusto Cesar Sandino of Nicaragua and Agustin Farabundo Marti of El Salvador. In the 30's he joined the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party of Don Pedro Albizu Campos, and subsequently became the Party's national secretary. In 1936 he refused to turn over the Party's records to a U.S. grand jury, and as a result was jailed in La Princesa prison in San Juan. The principle he established of *retramiento*, refusal to participate in the invader's oppression, has been honored in the years since by many Puerto Rican patriots, including a number who are in prison now.

It was during this period that he met and married Consuelo Lee Tapia, a prominent poet in her own right and a leader of the independence movement. Juan Antonio was jailed again in 1937, with Don Pedro Albizu Campos, at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, again in the 1940's, and still again in the 1950's, as a result of the U.S. government's campaign to crush the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party. Altogether he spent more than 10 years in prison because of his revolutionary principles.

He was also jailed for a time by the Batista government in Cuba because of his involvement with Fidel Castro and the 26th of July liberation movement in that country.

In 1969 he was one of the founding members of the Liga Socialista Puertorriquena, an organization formed to advocate armed struggle as the principal means of Puerto Rican liberation from the U.S. As Secretary-General of the L.S.P., he spoke numerous times at the United Nations, presenting Puerto Rico's case before world opinion.

Juan Antonio Corretjer could easily have retired to spend his later years enjoying his family and his poetry, but his ramrod-straight figure was at the front of the liberation struggle to the end, exemplifying the defiant words of Don Pedro Albizu Campos: "Para quitarnos la patria, primero tienen que quitarnos la vida. - In order to take our country, they will first have to take our lives."\*

ABORTION (Cont. from Page 1)

did not get maternity leave, and if I may remind you, at this time maternity leaves and benefits are being cut from some of the fringe benefits in some jobs, including the local, state, county and federal agencies which in the past have been the main employers of most of the few jobs where women could get seniority.

And heeere's Ronnie co-opting again --this time from Mao, praising the born-again new feudalists as 70,000 of them assembled in Washington, D.C. on the 13th anniversary of the ROE v. WADE decision--praising them "on their long march for the right to life". Well, of course Ronnie would praise the new feudalists, Ronnie needs a constant supply of vulnerable expendable welfare wombs to ensure a steady supply of scab and unskilled labor and cannon fodder to protect his "Shining City on the Hill". That is why there is more concern about the contents of the womb than for the destiny of the fully formed, already existing sentient female-type human being who if she so chooses will be living with it for nearly a year, at least.

Because of the pill and legalized abortion, there has been a decline in Anglo-Saxon babies for adoption by the less vulgarly fertile upper classes.

This same administration which is supporting the new feudalists is also re-promulgating the old myths that 1) women don't hold "real jobs"; 2) if a woman has a job, she doesn't need it as much as a man. Now do you see why I call these people new feudalists? They're gonna take us right back to pre-Magna Carta days.

Several years ago, I took part in an abortion speak-out sponsored by a pro-choice group. I was disappointed that other women and I were preaching to the already converted. No high school girls or college women heard the other women's or my histories about coat hangers, green soap, knitting needles piercing uterine walls, being raped by failed doctors on the table, of the men in jail, out of town, dead, or married to someone else, of not having the few thousand dollars to have it neatly and cleanly done in a nice little villa on Doheny Drive by an abortionist-to-the-stars.

Because, believe me younger sisters, if anti-abortion legislation is enacted, it will only affect the middle and low income people as have the inroads on federal funding for abortion for the poor. Well, surely you didn't think that Reagan would force his cronies wives, daughters, mistresses to have unwanted children, would you? That's different.

Its too bad that no one has told you younger sisters about being driven by a panic-stricken lover to County General where, bleeding and in pain, you were questioned by homicide detectives; of being called stupid by a young intern because you nearly killed yourself. No doctor, just poor. Spending three weeks flat on your back talking to other women who were also pariahs. The shady ladies of obstetrics. A 13-year-old who didn't know she was pregnant until she was five months along and couldn't remember who did it, much less how; a 45-year-old mother of six who winked at the other women as she said, "I just slipped and fell, doctor". All of the women were suffering from effects of illegal abortion, not the abortions themselves. The

doctor or midwife or neighbor who helped the woman abort was also guilty of murder.

A film has been showing around the country called "The Silent Scream". I saw parts of it on television and frankly, it reminded me of those SUNN movie productions, popular in the late '70's. You know, the ones that try to prove there were space ships in King Tut's time, and Jesus and Buddha were all aliens--abominable snowmen, well, this is an abominable snowjob. An ultrasound picture of a three-month fetus is magnified about 1,000 times it's real life size, which is about the size of a little finger. It then shows what is purported to be a suction abortion, which works on the same principal as a vacuum cleaner. You are then told by the doctor who is, he says, an atheist and former abortionist, that what he shows you in this blurry ultrasound-wave blow-up is the mouth of a baby. Note: not fetus, baby. What I saw was a series of vaguely connected horizontal lines that, when it was pointed out to me, yes, it did look like a fetus, pardon--baby. Much like those bloppy things in the sky over the Mojave desert looked like flying saucers. Oh yeah, this one's kind of cigar-shaped, though. Anyway, this doctor tells us that the baby's mouth is open in a silent scream of pain, and its squirming "...in a pitiful attempt to get away", in the words of the doctor. Well, fine, but its still the faintest of faint outlines of a human being, not a fully developed baby. It isn't all filled in with brain cells, nerve endings, etc. It cannot breathe or take nutrition outside of the womb.

And, with our president's blessing, that same president who wants to keep the government out of fixing children's teeth or regulating pollution, wants the Government to stick its snotty pointed nose up women's vaginas.

Maybe that's why Reagan doesn't want sex education in public schools.

Oh, but he loves those bombers and torchers of clinics where abortions are performed. They're from the Army of God, they say. God told them to do it. They say they are protecting the civil rights of the "unborn babies", in the same way that civil rights activists of 25 years ago broke the laws to protect the civil rights of Black people.

Civil rights activists never bombed churches or killed unarmed people.

The Ku Klux Klan did that.

The Klanners also claimed that they had a direct line from God.

I hope, my younger sisters, that you remember my past, because if you don't, my past might be your future. •



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## "URBAN TERRORIST" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

The details of the shootings do not appear to support any claims of self-defense. As best as they can be pieced together, Goetz was asked for five dollars by a black teenager. (Goetz claims that four teenagers surrounded him; the teenagers claim that only one approached him, while the rest remained seated.) In any case, Goetz replied, "I have five dollars for each of you," and reached into his coat pocket and pulled out a gun. The teenager who approached Goetz stepped back and began to turn around. The other three tried to run. The first boy was shot before he could turn around, two more were shot in the back as they tried to escape, and the fourth was shot as he lay on the ground, having fallen in his hasty attempt to run for safety. Goetz did not stop shooting until he ran out of bullets. (Had Goetz been in any danger he might have saved a bullet in case any of the teenagers attacked him; since he was in no danger, he was free to empty his gun.

One of the teenagers Goetz shot in the back is paralyzed for life, has sustained considerable brain damage, and remains in critical condition. It is still possible that he will die. Goetz has expressed some remorse. He regrets that, in addition to shooting them in the back, he did not take out his car keys and gouge out their eyes. By the way, the screwdrivers were not sharpened after all. They were normal screwdrivers and they remained in the youths' pockets for the entire incident.

In one of the more bizarre aspects of the incident, Goetz drove to New Hampshire after the shooting to confer with the owner of a right-wing bookstore on the outskirts of a small town there. The bookstore's owner belongs to a rightist group called Freedom Through Strength. The politics of this group are not entirely clear, except that, according to the *New York Daily News*, it advocates that Americans arm themselves. (It is interesting that the right-wing ideas of mass murderers are seldom examined. The Macdonald's murderer in San Ysidro, for example, was a vocal racist who was known in his neighborhood for frequent denunciations of Spanish-speaking immigrants. He was an avid reader of neo-Nazi literature, as well, but this was mentioned only in passing in newspaper accounts.)

In many ways, the actual details of the shooting are not the most disturbing aspect of the case. After all, violent attacks occur daily in our (and other) cities. What is disturbing is the response to the incident from the general population, the political right, and liberal Democratic politicians. The support from the general population is shaped in part by ignorance. Few know that Goetz shot the kids in the back as they were running away, that he was a virulent racist and a known arsonist, or that the screwdrivers were not sharpened and were never touched by the kids. But even when made aware of the facts, they often continue to support Goetz. This is partly due to racism: a sign in the subway stop in Goetz' neighborhood reads "Goetz rules niggers." More fundamentally, though, the public supports Goetz not only because they fear crime, but also because they have, in large measure, accepted the right-wing program for fighting crime.

To conservative politicians and columnists, the case has been a godsend. One could say that if Berhard Goetz did not exist, the political right would have invented him. In fact, in a sense, they did invent Goetz. That is, the political right transformed a racially motivated, vindictive shooting of unarmed, fleeing black teenagers into a valiant act of self-defense. They have done this, of course, to push their own anti-crime program: stop making policemen obey the law and work within the Constitution, start executing people, give longer jail sentences, and let all lawabiding middle-class white people carry guns.

As an anti-crime program, these measures are a cynical joke. The number of criminal defendants who go free because of unconstitutional searches and seizures is statistically insignificant. There is no evidence that the death penalty acts as a deterrent to murder and no measureable difference in the homicide rates in those states which have the death penalty compared to those which do not. Since jail is generally conceded to be little more than graduate school for criminals, longer jail sentences would simply make the graduates angrier and more prepared to commit crimes again. Moreover, the notion that very few criminals go to jail needs to be balanced against the far more sobering fact that only two nations in the entire world have a higher percentage of their population in prison: the Soviet Union and South Africa. Finally, giving guns to frightened, paranoid middle-class whites would make New York subways far more dangerous than they are now. One would still face the dangers of being mugged, and would also risk being shot by a stray bullet. (After Goetz sprayed the subway car with bullets, he turned to the woman next to him and apologized for shooting her. Fortunately for her, he missed.)

The political right does not propose these measures as a way to fight crime -- they have bigger fish to fry. What they are really interested in is fostering a mean-spirited climate conducive to right-wing notions about the folly of spending money on social programs and the need to destroy the permissiveness which they feel is corrupting American society. Crime is caused, the right-wing argues, by giving rights to women (which undercuts the family), by making policemen obey the law (which allows criminals to escape), and by feeding starving children whose mothers are unemployed (which destroys individual initiative). What the political right (and the neo-liberals as well) want is a society in which the rich are once again proclaimed as morally superior and the poor as morally unfit. They want a society in which the crimes of the poor are punished with severity and without concern for their rights, and they want a society in which government funds can be spent on truly worthwhile and humanitarian projects like the MX missile.

This brings us to the right's nominal exponents -- liberal Democratic politicians. Democrats are falling all over themselves in their effort to embrace this stale right-wing program. District Attorney Ira Reiner recently told a convention of California Democrats that the Democrats "are paying the price for ignoring the most intensely felt concerns of the American public -- crime and violence, taxes and spending." Significantly, Reiner did not go on to say that Democrats should work out an anti-crime program distinct from the vicious and mean-spirited program of the Republican right. Instead, he borrowed from the Republicans by claiming that the California Supreme Court was biased in favor of criminals.

Those of us who are anti-racists and on the left need to think seriously about the causes of crime and how it could be eliminated. While this is a subject for another article, let me suggest two points for readers to consider. First, capitalist societies are bound to breed crime. How could there not be a crime rate in a society in which there is sharp and profound economic inequality and in which the acquisition of wealth is seen as the highest value? Second, the rulers of the USA are directly responsible for those muggings and robberies (the vast majority) which are drug-related, since the rulers are responsible both for the criminalization of drug use (which leads to astronomical profits) and, more important, the distribution of drugs. However vehement the anti-drug rhetoric of government officials may be, in practice U.S. law enforcement has been a willing partner of the drug trade from the late 1940s to the present.

During the Second World War, the United States ceased to have a drug problem. The various naval blockades and other wartime pressures destroyed the drug traffic. U.S. intelligence agents cut a deal in the years following the war with Italian and French gangsters. The Italian and French thugs helped break-up Communist-led labor unions in return for being allowed to re-establish the heroin trade, as pointed out in Alfred McCoy's book *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia*. In her recent book on banking, Penny Lernoux has documented ties between powerful North American banks and South American drug suppliers. The Knapp Commission in New York reported a high involvement of New York cops in the drug trade, so much so that during the New York police strike drug use (and crime in general) declined, because the police were not organizing drug distribution and protecting dealers.

If this analysis is correct, it would take a socialist revolution to eliminate or even substantially reduce the crime rate. However, smaller reductions in the crime rate could be created by reducing unemployment, providing decent education for all young people, and other measures that would reduce rather than enlarge glaring economic inequality. As an anti-crime program these measures make far more sense than long jail sentences, repealing the Fourth Amendment, or applauding white bigots for shooting black teenagers in the back.

## Political How To

by Shannon Wood

The following was sent by Marilyn Bornhorst of the Honolulu City Council and its former chair from 1980-82. The 'rules' below grew out of her efforts at community organizing.

### YES, YOU CAN BEAT CITY HALL

Talk to your elected representatives. It may be possible they are already on your side.

Know and define what you want. Get the facts.

Learn what the rules are. If it's a zoning matter, learn the planning language. If it's taxes, learn the tax language. You can ask someone from the City to come and teach you.

If this is your first time at this type of community action, get started with the first step, which might be: write the letter, make the phone call, testify, petition, do a press release. Once you have started, you have done the hardest part.

Involve the press. Get yourself or your cause on call-in shows and write letters.

Once you've won (or lost), don't get bored and go away. Stick around to see if you've won, to see if your law gets enforced, or, if you've lost, to try again.

Follow the ripples. See how the law works and what are the secondary effects. If the secondary effects aren't what you want, go back and change or improve the law.

Get good citizens elected. Follow what they do. In this way you get yourself and others to know how things work and become more literate in the ways of democracy.

Don't let your guard get old or too young. Try to keep a balance by bringing in new people and keeping older, experienced people. Keep trying to get more people trained in democracy. Bring them into your group, lobby for a proposed new law.

Stay organized. Meet once in awhile, if only for a party. Keep a good list of who helped and what their talents are.

AT ALL TIMES, TALK TO YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

## "VICTIM" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

shot by the police when he fought against them during a "routine investigation." Found on the dead man's body were freebasing equipment and an icepick. The detective told me the three men usually worked together, one stalking the victim while the others lurked nearby. They'd been responsible for about 60 robberies in Venice in the month of December.

"I could have been history," I thought. I hadn't thought of it much during the holidays. I told some friends, wasn't able to tell others. Some people still don't know because I've lost their phone numbers. There are some who don't know because there's no discreet way to tell certain people "By the way, I was mugged the other day." Eventually, after the holidays were over, I began to feel the emotional loss. Already I was more cautious--and more paranoid--than ever before. I changed my route walking from the bus stop to work. Any man approaching me on the street made me nervous. I ran a block from the sight of a man putting his hand in his coat pocket because I feared he was going to draw a gun. I chased a boy selling magazines away from my front door--and hated myself for doing it--but I couldn't stop telling myself "I can't trust strangers." I had a few nightmares about men knocking me down on the street. Watching movies that contained rape or attack scenes, I felt

the chill of recognition--I thought: "Now I know what that feels like." I had not actually been raped but my sense of power and autonomy over my body was greatly diminished.

Some victims of violence cannot bear to touch or be touched. At least I felt more than grateful I could still enjoy--and needed--the touch of human beings who are dear to me. To my friends who may read this: if I hug you very hard, please understand why.

"The fear goes away slowly," I was told by a friend who'd survived two muggings. "But it does go away." Still, I am more cautious. People tell me: Don't ever fight the attacker. You could get killed. Don't carry a dangling purse (I carry mine close to my body). Don't dress "provocatively." Don't go out alone at night. Carry lots of money--you're less likely to get hurt if the mugger gets a big haul. Keep two address books. Wear your keys on your body. "Be careful," said the Venice Police.

Lots of advice. Different kinds of advice: I don't know the solution. I only know I am still afraid, though the fear is indeed slowly receding. I remind myself that it is important to retain a sense of adventure, regain my autonomy. I have two whistles in my new purse. I walk briskly everywhere I go. I speak to strangers carefully. I wrote this article under a pseudonym.

I wish I didn't have to. I wish this could be a world where I could walk down a street at any moment, care-free, humming a song, and not pay such a price for it.



# community events

## women

ALCOHOLISM CENTER FOR WOMEN 1147 S. Alvarado St., Los Angeles, 90036. Info: (213) 381-7805.  
 "BEHIND MY OWN DISGUISE" 6 weeks workshop on self-acceptance and self-esteem. Begins March 21 from 7:30PM to 9:30PM every Thursday. Cost-\$30  
 "COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING" 1 day workshop on communication skills. Sat., March 23rd from 10 AM to 3 PM. Cost \$10.  
 "GAMES WOMEN PLAY" An alcohol-free coffee house evening on Friday, March 29th from 8 PM to midnite. 1305 Alvarado St. Cost-\$3.  
 "USING CREATIVITY AS POWER" 1 day workshop. Sat., March 30th from 10 AM to 4 PM. Cost-\$12.  
 "WOMEN AND ALCOHOL" Presented by Sharon Eve, M.A. at the Santa Monica YWCA 2019 14th St. Thursday, March 14th from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. FREE. Info: (213) 452-3881.

## Art

"GROUNDINGS A GO-GO" opens at the Groundlings Theatre on March 8th. 7307 Melrose Ave. Friday and Saturday nights at 8:30 PM and Late Show at 10:30 PM.

THE "MISSING" PROJECT #1 Central America Forget Me Not and Missing-A Collaboration between Allen and Lopez. SPARC GALLERY 685 Venice Blvd. Info: 822-9560 Till March 23rd.

CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH University Art Museum-CENTRIC 12 by Stephanie Weber: March 12-April 12. CENTRIC 13 by Susan Rothenberg: March 12th-April 12th. Info: (213) 498-5761.



LIP/cpf

## Politics

COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL For Info: 938-6241.  
 PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY MEETINGS The 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 7:30 pm at 1354 West Washington Blvd Call 396-3555 or 392-5049  
 SANTA MONICA DEMOCRATIC CLUB-Senior Citizens Recreation Center, 1430 Ocean Ave., S&M. Info: 453-5322. The Democratic Club meets the 4th Thursday of each month except on holidays. 7:30PM. Everyone welcome!  
 LOS ANGELES ARTISTS CALL AGAINST INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AMERICA. For Info call 255-9923.

STRATEGY FOR ACTIVISTS. Send \$4.95 (includes handling) for PLOTTING DIRECTIONS TO RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, Pa. 19134.

Mar Vista-Venice Democratic Club, Tues. March 5, 8 PM. 2744 S. Barrington, LA In the Unitarian Church

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE APRIL 9TH L.A. MUNICIPAL ELECTION IS MARCH 11th

GUNTER'S-1009 W. Washington Blvd. 399-9503 Cheesecake and Politics. Gunter's Coffee House Salon on Sunday evenings is the place for social, artistic and political discussions. Death to sugar addicts!

## POETRY

"GETTING YOUR POETRY AND FICTION PUBLISHED" Open workshop on Sunday, March 3rd at 3 PM at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd. Free for National Writers Union members, \$5 regular and \$2.50 for students and unemployed.

BEYOND BAROQUE LITERARY PARTS CENTER 681 Venice Blvd. LYDIA DAVIS and RAE ARMANTROUT-Readings from their work, Friday nite, March 1st at 8PM. Admission \$5. Info: (213) 822-3006.

## LECTURES

"HYPNOSIS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE" Monday, March 18th at 7:00PM. VENICE PUBLIC LIBRARY 610 California Ave. Info: 821-1769

## RELIGION

THE 1ST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES, 2936 West 8th St., LA. 90005 (213) 389-1356.

"WHO KILLED PROFESSOR ED COOPERMAN AND WHY?" Sunday, March 3rd at 11 AM. Music by the 1st Unitarian Choir. PAUL SAWYER, Bay-area poet, reads from his book, GALACTIC EPOCH I. Sunday, March 3rd at 1:30 PM. FREE.  
 "KILL THE BUDDHA: THE ANTI-SAVIOUR SYNDROME" Sunday, March 10th at 11 AM. Music by Jim Schmeltzer, bass, singing spirituals.

"WHAT MAKES A NATION GREAT?" Sunday, March 17th at 11AM Rev. Anthony Perrino-Music by THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHOIR  
 "RITUALS OF REPRESSION: ANTI-COMMUNISM AND THE LIBERAL CHURCH" Rev. Phillip Zwerling Friday, March 15th, 7:30PM and FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd, 7:30PM. FREE  
 "THE THREE CIRCULAR STEPS OF LIBERATION THEOLOGY" Sunday, March 24th at 11AM. REV. HYUN HWAN KIM. Music by JORGE GALDAMEZ  
 "WILL OUR CITIES SURVIVE REAGANISM?" Rev. Kenneth Brown, Sunday, March 31st at 11 AM music by WOON HA-KIM

ORDINARY DHARMA: Buddhist Meditation Center in Venice (213) 396-5054. Daily and Weekly Meditation Periods, Instruction, Study Groups.

SINGLETARIANS Unitarian Community Church Programs at Forbes Hall, 1721 Arizona near 18th, behind the Church. Santa Monica Info: 394-4318

SUNDAY, MARCH 3rd-MEN&MASCULINITY Dr. Carl Shubbs, Ph.D. Donation \$3. 8 PM  
 SUNDAY, MARCH 10th-MUST TOUCHING BE SEXUAL? Bobbie Japka, Ph.D. 8PM Donation \$3  
 SUNDAY, MARCH 17th-TRANSWORK-EXPERIENCES IN INNER VS. OUTER COMMUNICATIONS. Kean Mantius (Kea), M.A. 8PM Donation \$3  
 SUNDAY, MARCH 24th-OPEN PANEL ON SUPER POWER RELATIONS AS REFLECTS IN OUR PRESS. Mark Adler, Narrator. 8PM Donation \$3  
 SUNDAY, MARCH 31st-APRIL'S FOOL PARTY 8PM Donation \$3

SUNDAY MORNING EXPERIENCE - 10 a.m. CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK-235 HILL ST., OCEAN PARK

March 3 THE REAL NARCISSISM: So Caught Up Examining Ourselves We Can't See ... with JIM CONN; Bread by EVE MORGAN

March 10 HUMILITY OR HUMILIATION: How We Learned To Be So Careful ... with JIM CONN; Bread by LAUREL PARMELEE

March 17 FIXATED ON FEAR: So Afraid We Don't Know What We're Doing ... with JIM CONN; Music by STEPHEN FISKE; Bread by SUSAN HYATT

Concluding a Series of Reflections on the Human Condition for Lent

March 24 NANCY MINTIE, Director of the Inner City Law Center and spokesperson for the homeless in downtown L.A.; Bread by GAILE PRICE

March 31 (PALM SUNDAY / APRIL FOOLS DAY) A zany morning with comedian and satyrist DARRYL HENRIQUES

9 a.m. EUCHARIST and MEDITATION CHILD CARE provided by Julie Yannatta MUSIC by Elinor Graham and Friends



continued from page 7

If everyone is stopped for a landslide; figure that one out for yourself. Imagine, as you are stopped; probably moving for hours; if you should happen to get caught in a major catastrophic landslide and as you finally approach the red Stop Light you then view an ugly orange sign you helped pay for which reads "PREPARE TO STOP"

Yes, prepare to stop when you're already stopped with a stop light ahead. Isn't it too bad that PCH is a little too cluttered with un-picked up litter and dirt that is now getting some offensive eyesore to go with it.

Doesn't LA County cry broke all the time yet they managed to get this one through?

And maybe more on the way!

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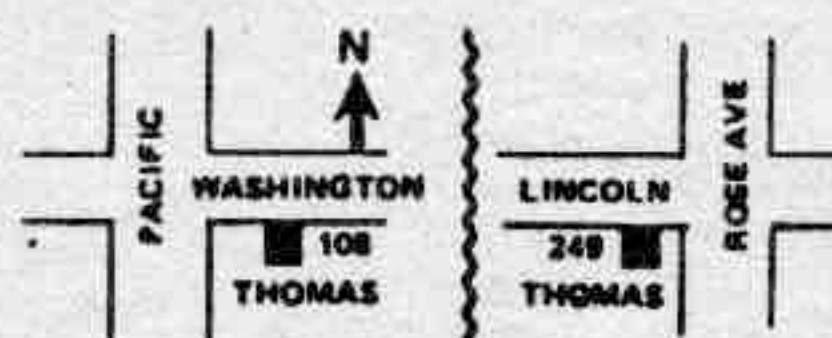
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