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**FREE VENICE**  
SINCE 1968

# BEACHHEAD



**FREE**

NOVEMBER 1980    ISSUE NO: 131    P.O. BOX 504    VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291    823-5092

## VENICE CONFERENCE:

# THE RESURGENCE OF RACISM

By Joan Friedberg

Nearly 200 people turned out Saturday, October 25 for a Venice Community Conference Against Racism held at the Broadway School. The conference was sponsored by an ad-hoc committee representing several Venice community organizations to investigate the problem of racism.

Racism? Today? If you asked most Americans if racism is a problem today, they would most likely wipe the sleep from their eyes and ask, "What racism?" And yet, as the conference brought out, the incidence of cross-burnings, police shootings of blacks, and organized witch-hunting expeditions in search of illegal aliens has increased at an alarming rate. Less dramatic but more pervasive are the continuing problems of unemployment and housing shortages which affect Black Americans more severely than any other group.

State Senator Diane Watson, who addressed the conference, put it this way: "I cannot remember in my lifetime a time of crisis such as this when we could see the pendulum, right in front of our eyes, swinging far to the right."

### RACISM AS A CAREER

Ms. Watson asserted that there is a growing tide of anti-ethnic and anti-poor feeling in this country. The point was brought home rather dramatically later in the afternoon with the showing of a startling film entitled, "The Klan Today."

Ku Klux Klan chief David Duke, who has been making the talk show circuit and garnered 11,000 votes in his losing race for a Senate seat, asserted that, "Blacks don't want to work. Just look in the paper...there are lots of jobs."

The remark shows a blinding lack of insight into the number one problem facing Blacks today--unemployment. With unemployment rising in a recessionary environment such as that which exists now, the unemployment among minorities is double the national rate, according to Rhoda Shapiro, one of the workshop panelists and speaker at the conference.

But the Klan leader's remark only touched the surface of what the KKK is all about. When confronted by a reporter with a "nigger hunting license" printed and distributed by the Klan, Duke grinned and said, "It's just a joke."

No one is laughing up in Chico, California where a deaf, black man was shot and killed by three white youths who had come back from a hunting trip empty-handed and decided they would "get a nigger instead." When the three received light sentences by way of plea-bargaining, the black community in Chico told Diane Watson, "We feel that the threat is so great, we are ready to bear arms."

When Ku Klux Klan members are not busy making racist jokes, they devote their time, as shown in the film, to preserving white power by staging cross-burnings, organizing their own border patrol complete with C.B. radios, and cavorting around in torch-lit ceremonies dressed like the coneheads on Saturday Night Live.

-continued on pg. 9-



Photo by Don Farber

### Alliance Walk

## "Hell No, We Won't GLOW!"

by Christopher Toussaint

Although media coverage was limited almost exclusively to co-sponsor KMET radio, the Alliance for Survival's 12-kilometer Walk For Survival proved an outstanding success attended by over 400 anti-nuclear supporters and racking up over \$20,000 in pledges. Despite competing events like the Conference to End Racism and the Ocean Park rally against toxic waste dumping, the Oct. 25th fund-raising walk drew enough supporters to virtually wipe out a \$20,000 debt suffered by the Alliance incurred as a result of Survival Sunday III and increased overhead.

The weekend crowd of beachgoers witnessed groups of walkers proclaiming, "One-two-three-four, we don't want a nuclear war; five-six-seven-eight, we don't want to radiate!" and "Hell no, we won't glow!" around the 7½ mile route from the Venice Pavillion to Santa Monica and south to Marina del Rey, then back to the Pavillion. Key speakers Winona LaDuke and Dr. Michio Kaku activated the rallies before and after the walk.

Ms. LaDuke focused on the uranium mining operations threatening people in the Southwest, pointing out, "What they're doing to the Earth they are doing to us. They are attacking the Earth and they are dehumanizing us; they are starting from the very center of it, with the Spirit that is in the Earth and (they) are in the process of de-spiritualizing the Earth."

She went on to talk about the proposed "Nuclear Parks", clusters of nuclear power plants to be set up near small towns on Indian reservations "to avoid building new reactors in these urban centers where there are all these people fighting nuclear power." She pledged to the audience not to forget about the Indian nations struggling against the mining concerns in the Black Hills and Big Mountain areas because "sooner or later it will come around to you."

With impassioned cries of "Let's shut it down!" associate professor of physics at the City College of New York, Dr. Michio Kaku brought resounding applause from the Pavillion crowd.

Although once pro-nuclear he has since become one of the most out-spoken anti-nuclear physicists as a result of

what he sees as the core problem of corporate profits superceeding human safety. Using the federal government's own incriminating reports he has been debating pro-nuke advocates since 1975, trying to counteract "25 years of the industry's brainwashing of the American people."

Opening with the hazards of plutonium he suggested one way to solve the problem of nuclear waste disposal was to, "Let the physicists who built the Bomb eat the plutonium themselves!"

He challenged a statement in that day's LA Times which said no one has ever been injured in a nuclear accident involving the transportation of waste. "That's because the NRC never talked to the family of Ed Gleason," a New Jersey truck driver whose hand was contaminated by plutonium in a 1967 spillage accident. When his arm had to be amputated because of cancer he sued the government under the Price-Anderson Act. By the time his case came up in court years later, he died.

Cases of incompetency and negligence are increasing, he noted, as more and more inexperienced people are hired. He read a newspaper clipping about a campus reactor in Gainesville, Florida where the water cooling system for the reactor core was accidentally hooked up to the men's urinal! "Untimely flushes" caused the reactor to be shut down 5 times in three years.

He then cited the recent Nuclear Regulatory Commission's admission of "a failure to scram" (the primary line of defense against a meltdown) at the Brown's Ferry reactor five years ago. In turn this caused the NRC, two weeks ago, to initiate a complete revamping of all General Electric Mark I reactors to test their ability to scram.

"The nuclear industry is like a dinosaur," he added, "unable to keep up with technology, unable to generate investor confidence. There's only one thing left to do and that's to put it out of its misery."

### UNCLEAR NUCLEAR FUTURE

Although Saturday's Walk was a much-needed shot in the arm for the anti-nuclear movement in Southern California, many Alliance members feel that

continued on pg. 7

## 2 Beachhead Staff;

The meeting held at "The Venice Pavilion" by irate citizens who are demanding something be done about crime, focused most of the blame on our "Police Department".

In many instances, some who were complaining are the most liberal group in this district. Do these people realize that our police only enforce our laws to the best of their ability?

You the voters, put in your Liberal Governor and Mayor. Elected your Council Representative and School Board and Supervisor. So our Governor has packed the courts with "Bleeding Heart Liberal Judges" appointed such people as "Tom Hayden" to an office, put "Rose Bird" on our State Supreme Court.

The same type of people have packed all our State and Federal Courts. So that if even a moderate conservative is elected today, by the people - he doesn't have a chance to introduce legislation. It never gets out of the rules committee! As long as "The Speaker of the House" in our State Assembly or our Congress is a "Liberal" and these "politically appointed Judges" will continue to be soft on criminals.

So why do you blame our "police" for the Crime Wave?? When their arrests mean nothing unless the criminals are convicted and given a stiff sentence by our courts? Most of them are dismissed or given parole. To go back out on the streets to repeat their crimes. A case in point - I know a man who has been busted 4 times for manufacturing dangerous drugs. He has never served one day in a prison!! and only a few days in a jail -- He was out on bail soon after the arrests -- When his trials came up - He was given 3 delays - He had money for big lawyers with influence! When he was eventually tried. He was sent to a Psychiatric Sanitarium - which is on the par, of a luxury Hotel! When he should have gone to a prison for at least 20 years. This man's dope has caused many many addicts to commit serious crimes repeatedly to get money, to feed their habit and our Liberal Courts, Keep these criminals in our midst!!

So don't blame our police department for crime - put the blame on those "who make such laws" and the "Voters" who put them into office!

So I say to all you ultra Liberals - your chickens have come home. "To Roost"!!

and if you don't want crime then vote these people out who are making these laws! Lets start thinking about the Victims - instead of the rights of "The Criminals".

E.M. Moore  
Venice, Calif.

P.S. Lets stop protecting "juvenile" who commit crimes. They should be treated the same as any other "criminal"!! As "Barretta" says - Don't commit the crime if you can't do the Time!!

Dear Beachhead;

The following is a copy of a letter that we sent to 60 Minutes:

Dear 60 Minutes:

Regarding the section of your program (Sept. 21, 1980) on Venice, Calif.: Enclosed are 2 copies of a community newspaper which has been here in Venice longer than Sarah Davidson has been roosting in her plush nest above Ocean Front Walk.

What Ms. Davidson failed to do, as consequently did Morley Safer, was to acknowledge that other important parts of Venice exist. Not seen or mentioned were the black and chicano people of the Oakwood ghetto; not seen or mentioned were the murals of the Venice artists; not seen or mentioned were the activist elderly of the Israel Levin Center who, with the people of Venice, take part in the Venice Town Council, a body of citizens which came about from the conflict between those of us who rent our homes and land speculators who want to Marinaize every piece of beach property they can lay their hands on.

I feel that as news disseminators you have done me and my community an injustice. Not all of us skate around with "our bottoms hanging out". You did not even ascertain that any of the skaters shown were from this community.

A responsible newsperson, it seems to me, is one who seeks information about a subject from as many sources as possible. Should you ever come to this community again, if you have a few extra minutes -- drop on in. There is still a Venice story you haven't heard.

Sincerely,  
S.E. Mendelson  
Emily Winters



# Letters

## FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Collective staff: Elizabeth Elder, Emily Winters, Olga Palo, Chuck Bloomquist, Phil Gillette, Arnold Springer, John Sprung, Hope Blacker, Chris Toussaint, Joan Friedberg.

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 contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics, or other material of interest to the Venice community. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The Beachhead Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. The printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name and phone number. Anonymous material will not be printed, 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. The Beachhead subscribes to Liberation News Service (LNS) and is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate.

THANKS FROM THE BEACHHEAD COLLECTIVE TO THE BENEFIT PERFORMERS

Well, the Benefit, while not a huge success in terms of the money, was an incredibly wonderful event and a helluva party according to all who attended. It would not have been either of those without the great performers, the poets and musicians who made the day the high it was and gave so generously.

The Collective gives special thanks to: Bob Alexander of the Temple of Man, who organized five fine poets to give us an extraordinary poetry reading; the poets themselves, Tony Scibella, Frank T. Rios, William J. Margolis, Liza Jane Braude and Alexander himself; Mike Turner, who, together with 4 other excellent jazz musicians, gave us an hour and a half of latin-jazz fusion that couldn't be beat; the rest of the quintet (Mike is the percussionist): Tom Hill on bass, Phil Aaron on piano, Ken Goldberg on saxophone and David Cohen on drums; and Eric Ahlberg and the Midnight Specials, with Eric on lead vocals and rhythm guitar, Michael Hill on bass, Joel Hauser on lead guitar and Paul Roberts on drums, whose funky rhythms and country/rock classics had us bopping into the sunset; and last, but not least, to Marge Buckley, who may be a whiz of an attorney, but who also cooks a mean pot of chili.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
Words alone can't say it, but you people are what make Venice a beautiful place to be!

Dear Rick Mayock,

I'd like, for now, to comment on only one facet of your nonresponse to my criticism of Tom Hayden.

It would have been far more honest to me and those who read the Beachhead if you had stated that you are a member of CED. Omitting that "little" detail lends an objectivity to your statements that is misleading and unfair. If you want to defend Tom and/or CED and are a member of that organization, why are you unwilling to say so in that defense?

I'll have a far fuller response to your article in a future Beachhead.

Sincerely,  
Moe Stavnezer

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Dear Beachhead --

While it is neither possible nor necessary to defend Raphael's mood, much less his jokes, it's too bad that Phoebe Hirsch is so unfamiliar with Ocean Front Walk. The disproportionate majority of the bums are white, and the blacks are mostly segregated at the Westminster Av. pagoda. Within the month, blacks have heard such sentiments as "Go back to Watts where you belong!" and "Fuck black people!" from some of the white derelicts. They're the real mother lode of racism in Venice. But to assume that they're all racists would be wrong, as wrong as racism itself.

John Sprung

## Venice Town Council

Wednesday, November 19th at 7:30 p.m.  
Venice City Hall, 681 North Venice Bl.  
ALL VENICE COMMUNITY RESIDENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.

### AGENDA:

1. Announcements
  2. Dorothy Weisser - memorial for a dedicated community activist.
  3. Venice Town Council Inc. ?
  4. Community Conference Against Racism - a follow-up.
  5. Special Nov. 2, V.T.C. Windward meeting - follow-up.
  6. Committee Reports -
    - a. Coastal
    - b. Treasurers
  7. Emergency issues as they arise.
- The V.T.C. Coordinating Committee which sets the agenda, also open to all, will meet on November 26th, also at 7:30 p.m. City Hall.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

# VENETIANS REMEMBERED



DOROTHY WEISSER

Dorothy died on Wednesday, Oct. 22, after a long fight with cancer. During the last few weeks, she knew she was dying and wanted to spend her last days at home. Her husband, Max, despite the harrowing ordeal, made this possible through his loving care.

I met Dorothy Weisser when I first moved to Venice, and was beginning to get involved with the Venice Town Council. She was immediately warm to me as a newcomer. She seemed a mild, easy-going woman, always eager to conciliate people of different views within the Venice Town Council. I was mistaken. Her soft voice belied an independent mind, an astute judgement and a courage to speak her mind on any issue she considered vital to the wellbeing of working people, particularly those of Venice.

I came to know Dorothy better over the last couple of months, through conversations with her, with Max, and with long time friends. I realized the extent of her modesty. She had never boasted of her life long political activity. She had a long association with the trades union movement. She was a member of the Office, Professional Employees International Union, and worked for many years in the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, managing their health plan. Ethel Bertolini says, "I met Dorothy about 30 years ago, both of us working in Local 26 of the ILWU. Among a large staff of working women there, is was Dorothy who stood out as one on whom people leaned and depended. She befriended us in a very intimate way. It was her deep sense of concern for the problems of other women and myself that has led me to a lifetime friendship with Dorothy. I am very thankful for having had the opportunity to be her friend all these years."

Her friend Lucia Buchanan spoke of Dorothy's support of the Rosenbergs

during the time of their trial, and her outspoken attempts to inform people of the reactionary, fascist aims of the McCarthy hoodlums.

After her move to Venice, Dorothy became involved with the Venice Town Council. She organized and led the battle to try and prevent increases in County Property Taxes in the mid-70's. She spoke before the L.A. City Council, and on T.V. Short on dogma. long on factual background Dorothy consistently fought for the rights of working people with articulation and reasonableness.

Throughout these fighting years, Dorothy's family was equally important to her. She brought up her two children David and Marissa, and was the cornerstone of her extended family. Her importance to her children, to Max, to her sisters Pauline and Selma, is borne out by the crushing loss and emptiness they now feel.

The last time I spoke with Dorothy she told me of her acceptance of her imminent death. Her main regrets centered around politics, "I wanted to see the passage of the ERA, the establishment of world peace and democratic socialism." In her family life she felt content and satisfied. In her political life she felt cheated she was leaving life with future projects and ideas unexplored. I, too, feel cheated that Venice has lost a clear, warm, voice of energy and concern before she, or we, were ready.

Kate Keeling

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be a gathering to honor Dorothy's memory on Sunday, November 23, at 2p.m. It will be held at the Senior Citizens Center on California (opposite the Library) There will be a pot-luck meal. For further information call Ethyl at 396-8160 or Sadie at 396-4720.



DAVID ROSEN

By Richard Conant

David Rosen was murdered on August 20, 1980. He was killed by someone who shot him once in the heart with a .22 calibre handgun, just as he was opening his Venice apartment door to his killer. It appears that David was unconscious and dead quite quickly.

David was a friend of mine, and of many people in Venice. He was 33 years old when he died. He lived in my apartment building on Ocean Front Walk. You may remember him hanging out with us on the front steps of our building, passing the weekend time watching and interacting with the flow of Boardwalk traffic that passed in front of us. He was, no doubt, the dark, full-bearded guy in the cutoff jean shorts and the tight-fit Army green sleeveless T-shirt.

David was about 5' 10", with photogenic body builder proportions, a rock of a guy to look at. But such bold looks can deceive, for he was actually the nicest, quietest, and most unphysical of people. Never did he use his brawn to intimidate; rather, his muscular appearance was just that, an appearance for the modeling work that he did and for the women he loved to attract. His was a gentle, "California" temperament.

How, then, did David draw someone's cowardly wrath? The small newspaper article that appeared after his death indicated that, "the slaying may have been related to narcotics dealing." Could be. He was minorly involved in some of the illegal activities pursued by a few of the people who do not want a piece of mainstream life: he dealt some drugs and would proudly show you some of the many magazines that featured his modeling work. I understand that a suitcase where he kept his drugs was missing, maybe some money, too. That may all be true. The police investigation continues. If you can help, do. Contact Lieutenant Zorn at Venice Division, 478-0731.

No matter how or why David died, he should be remembered not so much or so simply for how he died, but for who he was as he lived among us.


I think of him as a simple, uncomplicated, unassuming guy who wanted to and did enjoy as much as possible of each day and of each contact with someone. I knew David fairly well for more than a year, and never saw him angry or even visibly disturbed. In fact, I'll always see him, newly awake, with a smile on his face (more of a smirk), coming out of our building weekend afternoons around one o'clock, yawning and stretching dramatically to announce his late arrival to the doorstep hangersout, saying, "Hey, what's happening?"

David was friendly, trusting, and non-judgemental -- and hoped that other people would be that way toward him. He was a low-key fellow who, mostly, hoped that the rest of the world would not much bother him, while he would not much bother the rest of the world.

Somewhere, that way of living got screwed up badly. Someone in the rest of the world bothered with David and murdered him. In the end, he was too uncaring, too trusting, too vulnerable, too friendly. But, that's just what David was: a nice, vulnerable, trusting, non-judgemental, friendly guy. I and many others will miss him.

Good-bye, David.

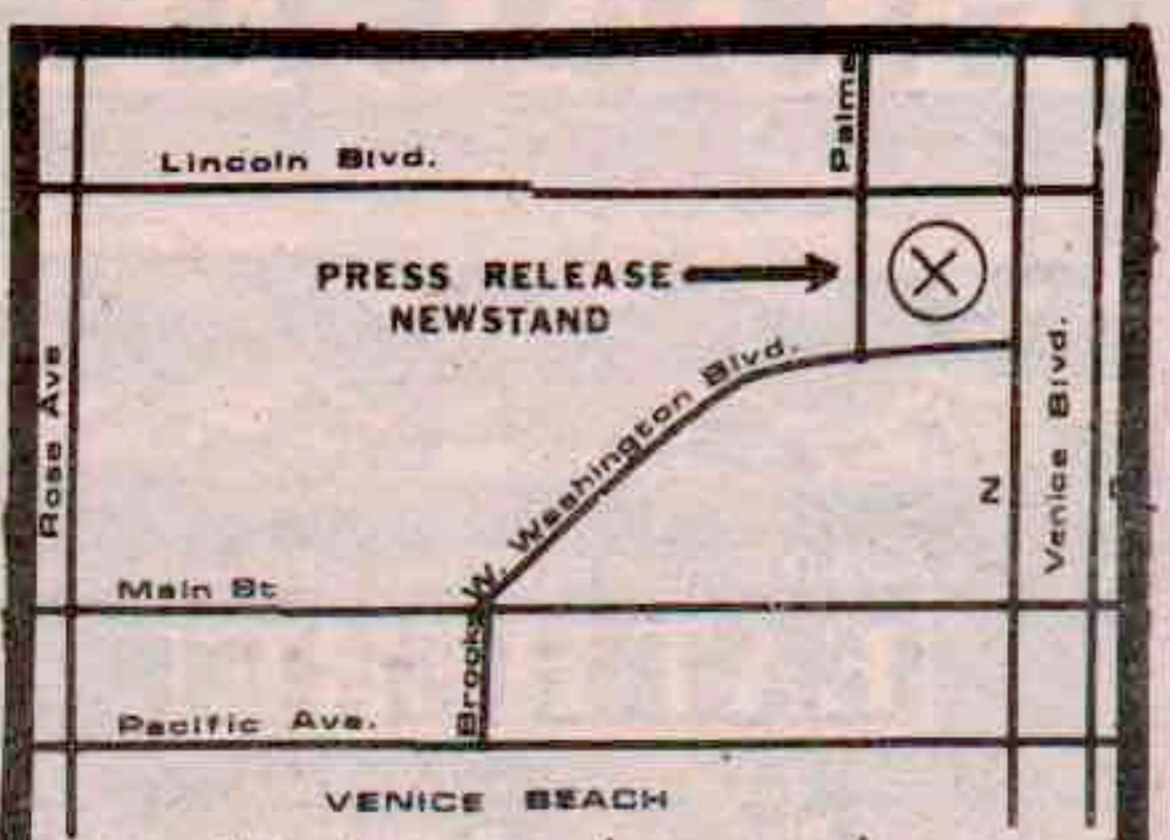




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# MIME TROUPE TO "SQUASH" VENICE



By Elizabeth Elder

If you've never seen the San Francisco Mime Troupe, now's your chance. And if you have seen them, you'll be glad to know they're bringing their new production, "SQUASH", to Venice November 13th - 16th.

Set amid the "ruins" of Anaheim, California, the grotesquely comic plot of SQUASH revolves around the misadventures of a small, multi-racial, neighborhood group as it tries to establish a "community" garden in the face of gas, food and water shortages, and feelings of mutual distrust. Events are complicated by the presence of 3 slightly addled gods, who, in their attempt to help create a "paradise garden" on earth, inadvertently create mayhem with their gift of an "eternal gas pump" to one of the group. In a slap dash escalation of events, paradise turns into neighborhood armed camps.

The OBIE award-winning Mime Troupe manages to combine artistic excellence with uncompromised politics, a rarity in times like these of disco/slick and "art as a p.r. pop-tart". The company has been in existence for 20 years now, and even the establishment theatre critics have had to sit up and take, very favorable, notice.

Welton Jones of the San Diego Tribune says they should be "declared California's official state theater." And other critics have echoed: "In movements, words, music, dance and invention, this company of 12 is an admirable, highly professional troupe." - Richard Coe, The Washington Post; "Explosive political incitement and bold, entertaining theatre." - Mel Gussow, The New York Times; "... winning the audience with quality..." - Chicago Times. But Sylvia Drake of our own resident imperialist rag, the Los Angeles Times, perhaps sums it up best. She says only that the Mime Troupe are "Blatant, broad, and bee - oo - ti - ful."

But how do the Mime Troupe describe themselves? What is their philosophy of "theatre"?

Mime as they perform it is not silent; on the contrary it is extremely vocal, a kind of drama in which scenes in everyday life are represented in an exaggerated, often ridiculous manner. They employ music, song and dance in their energetic productions.

"The style of employ is designed to give focus; where exaggeration is employed as a means of illuminating situations and ideas. Our subjects are those of present, general concern: race, the economy, injustice, the cities, sexual politics, the future. Our play forms are often derived from familiar, popular forms: the mystery, the sci-fi thriller, the melodrama, the western, the tv sit-com. Our style is also very conducive to laughter and most productions contain very liberal doses

of comedy. Comedy pierces people's defenses, opening up new possibilities for hope and change. An art of despair offers no options."

"While it is said to us that the continued popularity of our theatre is a major historical achievement in American theatre, we feel that our strength lies in our commitment to the present. In this regard, the Mime Troupe is constantly undergoing changes: both artistically and collectively."

In the late 60's they became a collective after realizing that the traditional theatre role models did not reflect their concern for social cooperation. The shows are now developed cooperatively from conception to performance with people assuming various interchangeable roles of actor, musician, director, grip or writer as needed. This approach creates a strong collective commitment to their productions, strengthening them, while helping to develop the individual skills of Troupe members through role sharing.

Their commitment to the present is emphasized by their willingness to change their shows after they have "opened" for public viewing. During the life of a show it constantly undergoes revision based on community response and input. The openness and ability to focus on the present, they feel, strengthens their productions and their relationship to their audience/community.

An all-white group for many years, the Mime Troupe became multi-racial in order to better mirror life in the United States, and their shows are well on their way to becoming multi-cultural, expressing their belief that a multi-racial country needs a multi-racial culture.

They see their primary work as a theatre to be performing free in the parks of the San Francisco Bay Area each summer, passing the hat after shows. The rest of the year they tour, booking various engagements. They are very proud that 90% of their income comes directly from their audience, and they hope to continue to survive for at least another 20 years by concentrating on the present, real world, as well as on their professionalism. Their travels have taken them cross-country and around the world. They hope that their theatre is a vital part of a new people's culture emerging in all parts of the world; a culture filled with energy and optimism for change.

SQUASH is playing Thursday, November 13th, through Sunday, November 16th, at the Venice United Methodist Church, Lincoln Blvd. & Victoria (2 blks. North of Venice Blvd.) Shows are at 8 P.M., with a 10 P.M. show on Fri. and Sat. nights and a Sunday matinee at 2 P.M. Tickets are \$5 & are available for Sunday the 16th at the Midnight Special

--continued on Page 5.

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# MEATLESS STEWS, COUNCIL SUES

The Venice Town Council has gone to court in an attempt to force the Meatless Messhall and Coney Island Hotdog, and its proprietor Mr. Andrew Kuchrawy, to apply for and obtain at least two coastal permits, one from the City and one from the State. The suit was filed on October 16 after almost one year of what the Council eventually concluded were fruitless efforts to get Los Angeles authorities to compel the defendants to apply for the permits.

The Meatless and Mr. Kuchrawy have steadfastly denied that what they did at 1701 Ocean Front Walk required any kind of coastal permit.

What was done was to construe a patio dining area at the rear of the already existing restaurant which removed some of its customer parking and which appears to have significantly increased the size and service area of the restaurant. All parties, according to the Outlook, agree on what happened, but the defendants argue that the law does not clearly state that what they did needs a permit.

Since November of last year the Town Council has argued that a permit was

legally necessary and pressed L.A. officials to pursue the matter of violations of the Coastal Act by the Meatless. It has also pressed the City to reopen 17th Ave because that closure also required a coastal permit which, although issued to the City by the City, was not properly issued. The Ocean Front Weekly has recently inferred that the Council had dropped that matter, but that is incorrect. The Council continues to pursue the matter.

In January the City agreed that a permit for the patio addition was necessary and issued the owners and proprietors a notice to comply. They were given 30 days. Several months later, receiving no response, city officials sent out a second order to comply, and than waited.

Frustrated, the Council appealed to the Coastal Commission in April, five months after it had filed the initial complaint. At that time the Commission's Executive Director refused to interfere saying that pursuit of violators was the City's responsibility.

After pressing the violation for 11 months the Town Council realized that the statute of limitations for suing on the violation was about to expire and also that the City was not yet ready to act definitively and thereupon concluded that it had no choice but to go into court. On October 16, the day it filed suit, the Coastal Commission finally noticed Mr. Kuchrawy that he was required to obtain a permit from the Commission for the patio.

## MIME TROUPE CONT.

Bookstore on W. Washington Blvd. in Venice & at the Bookshop in Ocean Park at 212 Pier Ave. Or from members of the Beachhead Collective. For ticket reservations for other times or for information, call 391-2314.

(Writer's note: This is the 1st use for the Venice community of the Venice United Methodist Church under its new minister, Michael Cowan. It joins the Church in Ocean Park in exhibiting a commitment to its community.)



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## Winos organize

By Huntley Bromberg

The Society for the Organization of Transients held its first official meeting September 30th somewhere on the beach in Venice, and after ratifying its charter, went on to elect its first president.

A. T. Lambrusco, known to the local denizens as "The Wizard" because of his reputation of materializing loose change out of his friends ears, seems to be the guiding force and main contributor behind S.O.T. Running unopposed, Lambrusco was the unanimous choice of the fifty or so indigents who gathered in the growing darkness near the walled-in Mobil oil well at the foot of Market Street.


S.O.T. recently organized by Lambrusco to defend against those individuals who would harrass the winos who inhabit this somewhat seedy but picturesque beachfront community, appears to be based on the same principles that other groups of local residents have propounded in recent meetings organized against the growing crime wave: Fear. Self-defense is their primary concern.

We'd like to make it perfectly clear," Lambrusco stated, slurring his words slightly, "that there's nothing we support more than the great people who come to the beach and like to have a good time and don't bother nobody." He went on to say their main complaint was aimed at the vigilante types who have taken it upon themselves to "clean up the ocean front."

The S.O.T. president was referring to a recent move by A. Dripsy, owner of the Venice Meat House. Dripsy is the man behind the Venice Detachment, a small group of local merchants and concerned citizens who have begun a clean up campaign along the boardwalk. Witnesses have reported the self-appointed bum patrol using electric cattle prods on sleeping persons, and the confiscation of bedrolls and blankets. When queried in an interview about these tactics, Dripsy denied charges of violence. "We just prod them along," he laughingly told one reporter.

In a highly charged acceptance speech, Lambrusco said his main goal was to enlist as many of his fellows as he could in S.O.T. He pushed strongly for wino solidarity, and many toasts were drunk as the night wore on. He warned, however, that not all winos were members of S.O.T., and not all were interested in merely defending their rights. He said he personally knew of winos who had armed themselves and said the vigilantes should be wary of approaching a seemingly drunk individual with a brown paper bag. "Some of these guys are crazy and you might be looking down the wrong end of a warm magnum concealed in those bags." There was a smattering of applause

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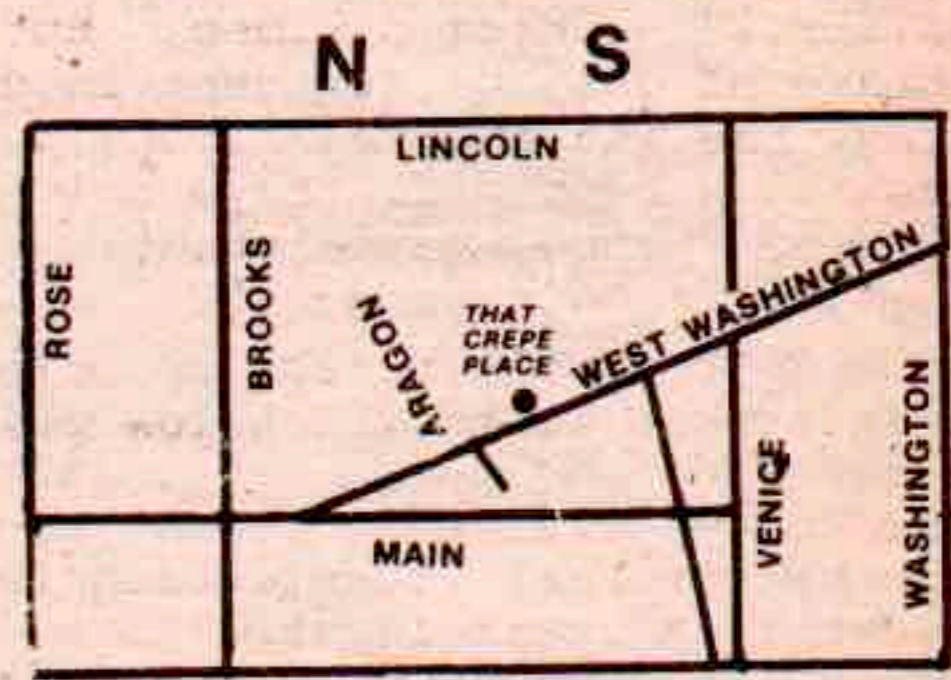
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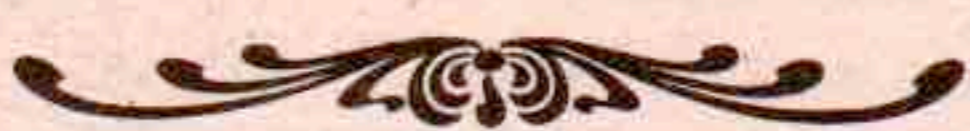
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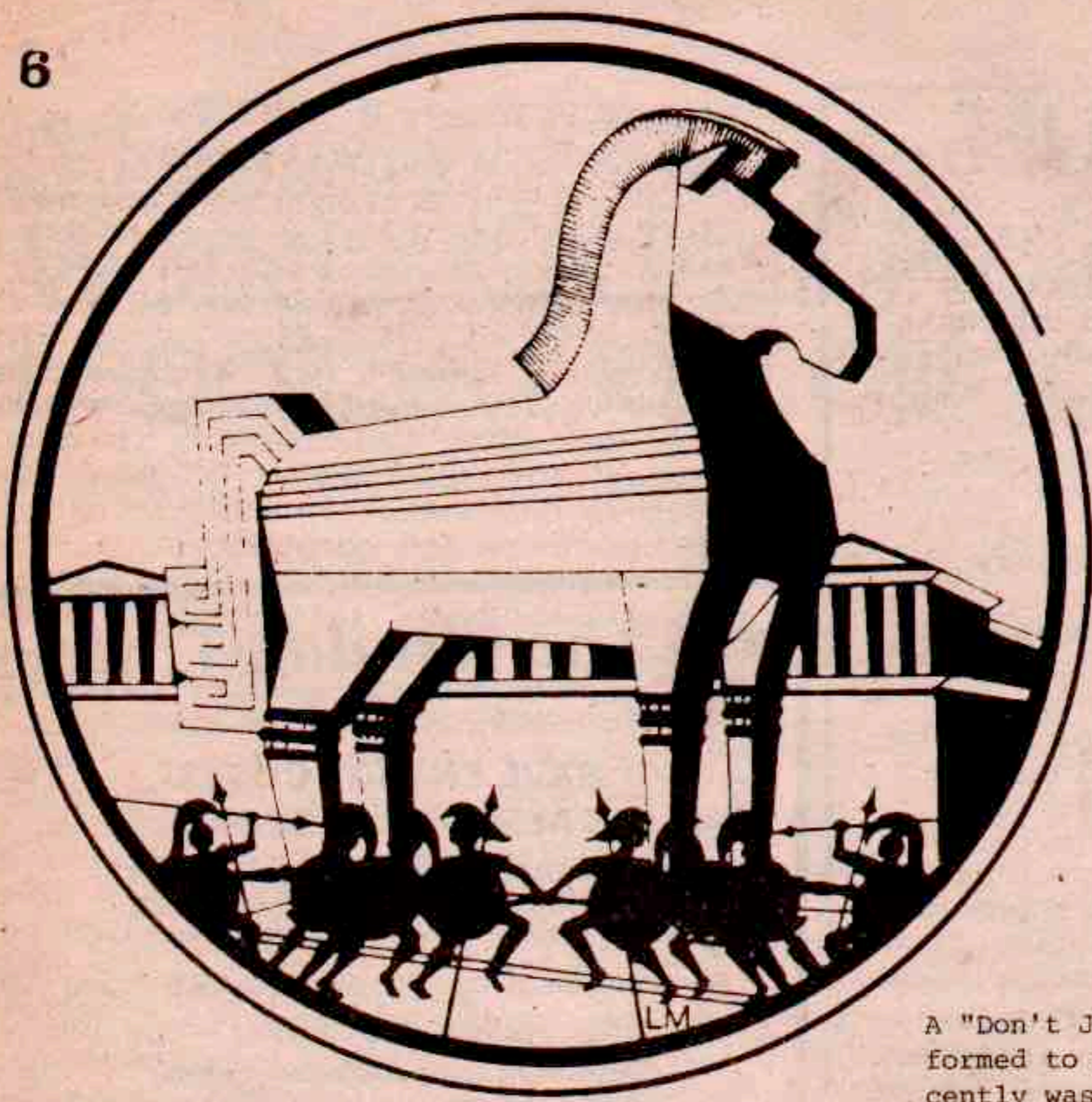


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## NUCLEAR TROJAN HORSE

By John Sprung

Electric cars may be the transportation of the future if the corporations have their way. They say they've solved the big problem - making light weight batteries.

It's an attractive image: clean, silent machines with no air intake and no exhaust. But that picture is incomplete. Batteries only store energy, like a gas tank. Where will the juice come from to charge those batteries?

It'll take an awful lot of electric power to provide any significant portion of our transportation. Consider the old forty horsepower Volkswagen. One horsepower is equal to 746 Watts, so the VW works out to about 30,000 Watts. A person would have to be fairly lavish with the juice at home to burn up eight kilowatt hours in a day, but that much electricity would only keep our VW equivalent going on the freeway for sixteen minutes. At lower speeds, of course, it would last longer, which is what makes golf carts possible. In any case, it should be clear that we're talking about at least doubling or tripling our present production of electricity. An awful lot of electricity, and the folks who invented the new batteries have ready and waiting an awful way to make it: They also make nuclear power plants, or parts for them.

What about solar cells? Well, at the moment they cost about six dollars per Watt, or \$180,000 for enough to run our VW. It is hoped that mass production of this ultra high technology item might bring the price down to 20¢ a Watt, or a mere six grand per VW equivalent on the road. The efficiency of an array of round cells is barely over 9%, so it would take more than 280 square yards of the brightest sunlight to push a Bug around in the style to which it has become accustomed. Worse yet, we have to at least double all our solar cell figures if we want to store up enough oomph to be able to drive at night.

The nukemakers could get electric cars established using the silicon cell bait, and then pull the switch to their thing because the truth of it is that only they can make enough electricity quick enough and cheap enough.

After all this bad-mouthing, it's about time to demand that I come up with a better alternative. I have one: vapor phase carburetion of biomass ethanol in existing internal combustion automotive engines. It's simple, solar, almost smogless, and a fun way to spend Saturday afternoons.

A "Don't Jail Jerry Support Committee" has been formed to gather support for Jerry Rubin who recently was convicted of battery and sentenced to do 20 days in L.A. County Jail for pushing a piece of whipped cream cake into the face of nuclear physicist Dr. Edward Teller as Teller (who is often called the "father of the hydrogen bomb") was lecturing at U.C.L.A. last February 6.

The committee believes, after everything has been taken into consideration, that 20 days in L.A. County Jail is a severe punishment and would center its various support in trying to help keep Jerry out of jail; ranging from asking for volunteer community service work as an alternative sentence, to asking Gov. Jerry Brown for a full gubernatorial pardon.

The committee has taken the following into consideration:

1. Has no prior record.
2. Received an excellent probation report that recommended no jail time whatsoever.
3. Has openly apologized for any suffering he might have caused Dr. Teller.
4. Has spent one night in jail already.
5. Has already suffered physical abuse during the immediate aftermath of the incident and needed X-rays at U.C.L.A. Hospital.
6. Has an epileptic condition that might be aggravated in a stressful prison environment.
7. Did not intend to hurt Dr. Teller in any way (and in fact did not).
8. His action was meant as a symbolic protest against nuclear power and weapons.
9. Was unaware of Dr. Teller's heart condition and would not have done the action had he known.
10. Has stated willingness and has himself been actively seeking support to help get an appropriate volunteer community service as an alternative to 20 days in jail.
11. Dr. Teller himself did not press charges, the city attorney's office choosing to press them anyway.

The committee has already received support from the Washington, D.C. based National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, in its quest to get Rubin an appropriate community service alternative sentence, and is now asking for any individual and group letters of support to be

*When I was in the Army,  
they gave me a medal for killing a man,  
and a dishonorable discharge for loving one.*

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# nuclear

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Although realizing that it is a remote possibility the committee feels that appealing to Governor Brown for a pardon is not all that unrealistic, considering that he does support the anti-nuclear movement and that he was involved in a pie-throwing incident himself not too long ago...taking the pie in stride and in good humor.

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

We are asking for anyone who would like to show their support or get more information to please call the committee at 399-1000.

Thank you very much,

The Don't Jail Jerry Support Committee  
Kathy Davies - Committee Co-Chair

P.S. Have a happy "half life."

## Out of the Mouths of Scientists

DR. J. R. OPPENHEIMER'S SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE OF A SCROLL PRESENTED TO THE LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY BY MAJOR GENERAL GROVES, OCTOBER 16, 1945:

"It is with appreciation and gratitude that I accept from you this scroll for the Los Alamos Laboratory, for the men and women whose work and whose hearts have made it.

"It is our hope that in years to come we may look at this scroll and all that it signifies with pride.

"Today, that pride must be tempered by profound concern. If atomic bombs are to be added as new weapons to the arsenals of a warring world, or to the arsenals of nations preparing for war, then the time will come when mankind will curse the names of Los Alamos and Hiroshima.

"The peoples of this world must unite or they will perish. This war, that has ravaged so much of the earth, has written these words. The atom bomb has spelled them out for all men to understand. Other men have spoken them, in other times, of other wars, of other weapons. They have not prevailed. There are some, misled by a false sense of human history, who hold that they will not prevail today. It is not for us to believe that. By our words we are committed, committed to a world united, before this common peril, in law, and in humanity."

# non-sense

## BEHIND THE TITAN EXPLOSION: a hidden agenda

By Geoffrey Brown

The explosion of the Tital II missile in Arkansas recently has produced rather predictable reactions from both sides of the nuclear weapons issue. Proponents of greater defense spending, of course, called for replacing the Titans with newer missiles. Equally as predictably, anti-nuclear critics suddenly were empathizing with the worried residents of Damascus, Arkansas. Both issues are important, of course, but they overlook the truly critical issue in nuclear weaponry today.

That key question is: should the United States be preparing to start a nuclear war? Granted, it sounds preposterous at first glance. But a growing number of Pentagon watchers--among them former missile designer Robert Aldridge--are pointing to ominous signs that U.S. strategy is now aimed at attacking the Russians before they attack us. Consider these recent developments:

--President Carter recently ordered that many of our nuclear missiles be re-targeted at Russia's missiles, instead of their cities. Sound like a ho-hum decision? Think about it: if Russia attacked us first, why would we want to shoot at their missile silos? They'd be empty. The only reason for aiming at their missiles is if we wanted to be able to attack them first, in an attempt to knock out all their missiles.

--Much has been made of Carter's recent revelations about the "stealth bomber." But that's old news, strategy-wise. For years we've been developing the cruise missile--a tiny nuclear weapon which flies at tree-top level under enemy radar, traveling up to 3,000 miles to explode within 200 yards of its target. It sounds admirably clever at first. But consider the implications. If it can't be detected by enemy radar, couldn't it attack Russian missiles before they knew what hit them? And isn't that pinpoint accuracy much better for seeking out missiles than for hitting large targets like cities?

The cruise missile is not especially useful for retaliation after we've been attacked; it's meant for attacking them first. The same goes for the MX missile, whose awesome accuracy and high explosive power make it equally useful for destroying missiles rather

than cities.

But one might well argue: why not attack them first? Why not put our cards on the table and knock out Russia for good? The answer is simple: it can't be done. They have too many missiles. If only one hundred Russian missiles (out of their 5,000) can escape our attack, they can retaliate and kill 37 million Americans and destroy two-thirds of our industrial capacity. A first-strike just won't work.

But perhaps appearances are deceiving. Maybe we're not really preparing to attack first. But what must the Russians be thinking? Probably what any prudent country would think--that they'd better be ready to strike back fast. This means less time to deliberate over whether an attack is real or not. Remember our recent false alarms in our defense warning system--the ones caused by the breakdown of that 49-cent computer part? By making the Russians more nervous, we are giving them less time to make sure their computers aren't messing up too. It takes only thirty minutes for a missile to travel from the U.S. to Russia. By playing the tough guy, we may be pushing them toward a fatal showdown. And unlike the ones in the TV westerns, this nuclear showdown will have no winners.

So what can be done? At a minimum, the United States should state unequivocally that we will never be the first to use nuclear weapons. To make this simple declaration--which, by the way, we have never done--would go a long way toward reassuring the Russians about our intentions. Secondly, the Senate should approve the stranded SALT II treaty which Russia has already agreed to. The treaty, of course, merely limits the increases in weaponry--rather than making cutbacks--but at least it's

a start. Lastly, we should clearly indicate our willingness to move gradually toward step-by-step mutual disarmament, without compromising our national security.

Given the momentousness of these questions, it is outrageous that they are not at the forefront of the presidential candidates' discussions. Perhaps the reason is that they, like the rest of us, would just as soon leave nuclear weaponry to the people who are paid to build and promote it. All of us are as reluctant to contemplate nuclear holocaust as we are to consider our own deaths. But if we want our children to survive us, we had better make the effort to start thinking about it--now.

the disinterest by large segments of the American people as well as the mass media is still a large problem. Not only was the event not covered by the local TV stations but it was ignored by the major newspapers as well.

This media "blackout" may be attributed to several reasons. First, most people find it difficult to digest the enormously complex nature of the nuclear situation. Second, it is a topic which can scare the average person to the point of pessimism and not wanting to hear anymore about it. Third, the nuclear industry has spent millions of dollars over the last 25 years to insure us that nuclear power is safe, clean, and cheap, and any problem can be solved because of their superior knowledge. Fourth, it should be no surprise that the powers-to-be in control of the mass media are dependent on and sympathetic to the powers that control the energy cycle. Tape & film are petroleum-based products and who do you think mines the ferric oxide and silver that records the image and sound?

Fifth, the Alliance and other anti-nuke proponents in general tend to come off as late-'60s war protestors, students, and agitators--an image which to the American establishment and the LA chic set appears out-of-date, revolutionary, and repulsive. Fortunately, at least the media is covering accidents that, indirectly due to the efforts of the Alliance and the Union of Concerned Scientists, now aren't so easily covered up by the NRC and utility companies.

The Maine Referendum which, several months ago, failed to stop the Maine Yankee plant by a vote of 3-2 was a major setback to the anti-nuclear forces. As of this printing the outcome of Measure F in Laguna Beach to prevent expansion of San Onofre facilities is unknown. Too many defeats on the local levels may cause the federal government to lift its moratorium on plant construction which is due to expire January 1, 1980. Even still, the economic liabilities, which have made early claims by the industry that energy would become "too cheap to measure" obsolete, would prohibit expansion in most areas.

The success of last Saturday's Walk proved at least one thing--that a major accident didn't have to happen in order to get Southern Californians to respond. As for the future of nuclear power in America, though, it almost seems that a major accident or act of terrorism in which many people are affected will have to occur before the majority of citizens react against it. Three Mile Island wasn't disastrous or treacherous enough. So we are all still waiting. Let's just hope we don't wait til the last mutant.

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# 8 Midwifery: World's Oldest Profession Legalized in California

By Hope Blacker

One of the important legal issues for the holistic health movement as well as for the women's movement has been the fact that midwifery has been defined by the California Supreme Court as the illegal practice of medicine and consequently has been illegal in the state of California. In 1981 midwifery will become legalized under a new bill which expands the Experimental Health Professions Pilot Project Act, usually just called "1503" after the number of the bill which created the act.

You see, there was a sort of a "Catch 22" with regard to licensure in this state. On the one hand, a lot of people had ideas about changes in licensure laws but did not have very good data that their ideas were safe or useful, since there was no way to try them out, bring them into reality, and obtain data and political support. 1503 created a gray area outside the existing law in which new professions could be developed, enabling the legislature to look at them and make decisions about licensure.

1503 was written in 1973 by Gordon Duffy, a progressive Republican. He's written quite a few liberal bills in this area, including one authorizing a study on retraining Nurses to be Doctors. Many states have copied the 1503 approach. Under 1503, a number of interesting professions have developed, such as Nurse Acupressurist and Genetic Counselor. The most familiar is the Women's Health Care Specialist who provides general "well-woman" care in family planning and VD clinics. Incidentally, it is now legal for these Specialists to perform abortions, a long-standing fantasy of the feminist community. Specialists can also work as midwives, "Obstetrical Physician's Assistants", if they have obtained their Physician's Assistant license.

Another interesting 1503 project was done at Mt. Zion Hospital in connection with U.C. Berkeley, where Doctors of Mental Health are trained. These practitioners have two years of Medical School and then do a standard Psychiatric Residency. They were designed to provide care in community mental health centers and know more medicine and pharmacology than a Psychologist as well as having much more experience with psychosis. Like the Specialists, the program serves to replace the stereotypic white male physician with people who are racially and culturally closer to the patients whom they will serve.

This program (1503) could be applied to any new profession, such as reviving Naturopaths or Homeopaths. All that must be done is to demonstrate in writing that the persons being trained, who will be working with people, 1) will not harm their patients, and 2) will fill out a survey questionnaire annually. Additionally, there must be a physician on your faculty. Any non-profit group can apply. It's a liberal law, administered by an outstandingly responsible liberal, Dale Houghland.

The new law makes it easier for individual physicians to apply and train someone. That is, it provides for an apprentice system as well as formal schooling. Also, it creates a uniform reporting system so that data can be easily collected under the Department of Consumer Affairs.

This may sound like just adding red tape, but it actually isn't. There is a political rumor around that midwives were not licensed because of opposition from doctors and nurses. In fact, both the CMA (California Medical Association, California's branch of the AMA) and the California Nurses Association lobbied very strongly in favor of the bill. But they, as well as a number of other groups, took a "Support If Amended" position, that is, they were in favor of midwifery, but they didn't like the bill itself. The bill provided for an 18

month training program and they felt it should be longer, 3 years. Others felt that 3 years would just allow midwives to learn unnecessary technology and become more medicalized.

There were a lot of other points and no one could agree, so it was decided to shelve licensure and go to a "1503 period" in order to explore a lot of different patterns and base decisions on actual data rather than opinions which had just degenerated into political infighting among midwifery supporters.

The "1503 period" may be a good idea, but it's not licensure. There are drawbacks to the 1503 approach. The most serious problem has been reimbursement. The legislature has never provided that participants in a 1503 program be reimbursable under MediCal, which is silly, since many of the programs were designed to give low cost, culturally supportive care to low income communities. But the legislature just doesn't like the idea of funding people who don't have licenses, and I don't expect that they will change. Of course, there is a lot of illegal billing going on and they've been told that.

Another problem is the use of medications. Medications legally are a problem because state governments can give any privileges to treat (called scope of practice acts), but only the federal government, in its power to regulate interstate trade (in this case, what are called pharmaceuticals and regulated through the FDA), can allow people to use drugs. And not having a license is a pretty big contra-indication for safe use of drugs.

At the same time it's obvious that some drugs may be needed by the midwife. Nils Eddinghouser, a widely respected home birth practitioner, is a Drugless Practitioner, a form of naturopathy license which was discontinued in the late 30's. He got caught having administered methergine (used to control hemorrhages) and got hauled up before the Board of Medical Quality Assurance. If he hadn't used the methergine, the woman might have died.... Fortunately, owing to the savvy political footwork of Mr. Houghland, midwives will be allowed to use limited medications under 1503.

This is just personal, but I think there are a lot of drawbacks to the apprentice system. It used to be that Nurse Practitioners were apprentices. The doctor could teach "the girl" anything he wanted her to know and some of them who had learned more were called "Nurse Practitioners" without any definition of what "more" was or what was safe except the personal judgment of the

individual physician. Additionally, a lot of docshad very sexist prejudices which came into play when they chose "the girl" whom they would teach. I've already seen this happen in midwifery --women chosen according to male physician concepts of who would make a good midwife, or who he'd just personally enjoy having around his practice--Nurses bought out of this system in favor of a more standardized training programs with more objective criteria, as have midwifery programs in other states where there are established schools.

It is now legal for midwives to practice in California if they, or their preceptor (who can be any doc, not necessarily an OB-GYN), or their school administrators have filed the proper papers and have been approved by the Office of Health Professions Development. I think there will still be a problem of legality because some people will either not know about the regulations or will not bother or be able to find a sympathetic physician. Midwifery attracts some very anarchistic individuals, but at least it's now possible to practice legally.

Interested people should write for applications to: Office of Health Professions Development, 744 "P" Street, Sacramento, CA. You can get the midwifery regulations as well as general 1503 applications. Also, some socialist women have started a midwifery school which has been accredited in Seattle, the Seattle Midwifery School, 1429 Thirty Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA, if you'd like their catalogue.

There's licensure for midwives in the State of Washington. Let's face it, no matter how much railing against licensure as a form of monopoly capital there is, many people want licenses. They want the independence and legitimacy. We can only hope the current 1503 program creates a base for licensure in California.

## What America Thinks

In 1979, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America conducted a nationwide survey to determine what Americans really think about abortion and sex education.

After analysis of 1,500 twenty-two minute interviews, the independent research firm reported some interesting findings:

--90% of those surveyed favored abortion under some circumstance (only 8% limited this to threat to the woman's life).

--75% said government should not interfere in choice.

--Catholics and Protestants showed no significant differences in their attitudes toward abortion.

--80% favored sex education in the schools (39% said by 10 years; 59% said by 12 years.)

--63% said persons under 18 should be allowed to purchase contraceptives.

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## RESURGENCE OF RACISM...

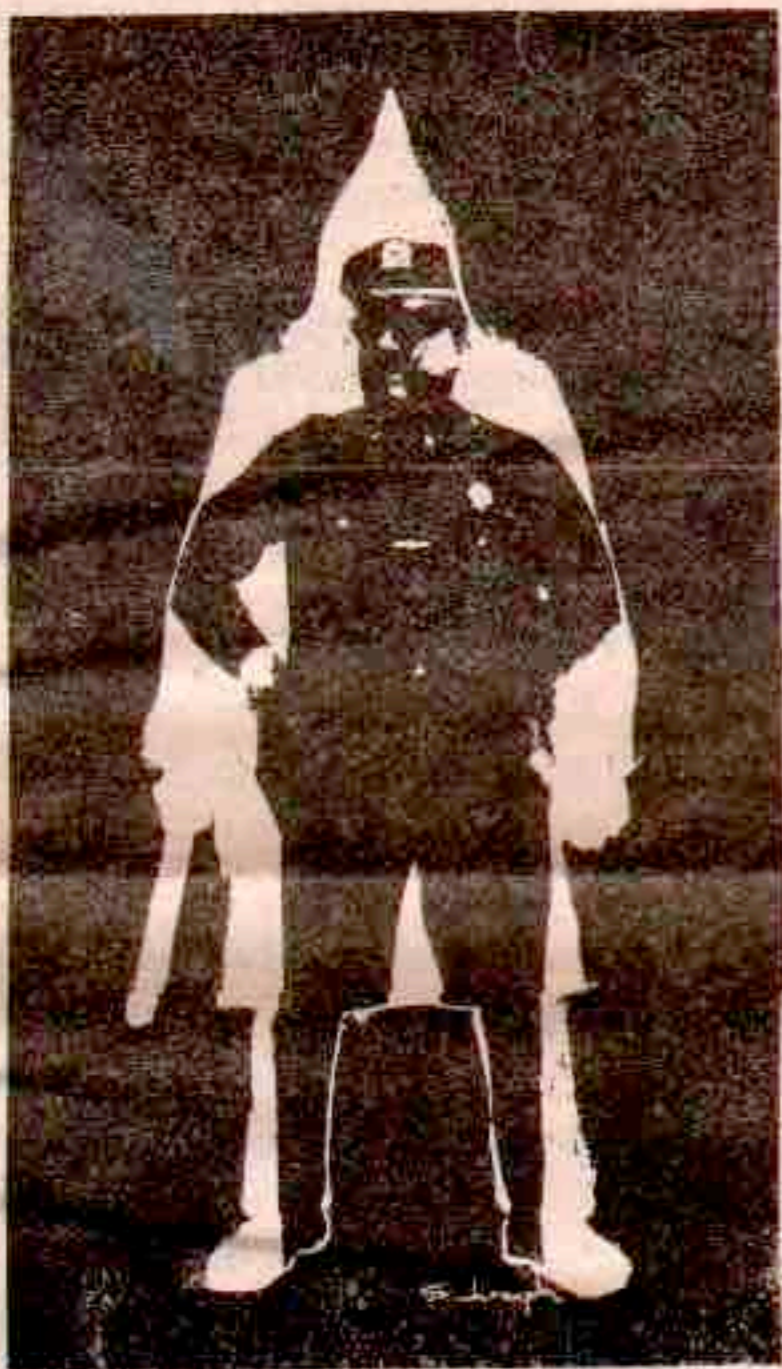
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The antics of the Klan might seem too absurd to be taken seriously, but when the expressed purpose of an organization is to deprive others of their civil rights, it's not very funny.

Blacks are not the only target of the Klan. According to information gathered by the National Anti-Racist Organizing Committee (NAROC), the Klan advocates "the violent deprivation of democratic rights to the vast majority of people in this country. Minorities, Jews, trade unionists, immigrants, Catholics, communists, and women have no rights that a Klansman is bound to respect."

Politicians were recently forced to confront the problem head-on when the KKK's California State Organizer, Tom Metzger, was elected to the Imperial County Chair of the Democratic Party. Metzger, who advocates sending all of the Jews back to Israel, has a background which includes past affiliations with organizations as diverse as The John Birch Society and as unlikely as The Peace & Freedom Party.

"We started to investigate all kinds of ways of depriving this man of his civil rights," says Senator Watson. Eventually, he was deemed not worthy of being on the Democratic Party Committee and, by a unanimous vote, was virtually blackballed out of his seat.



The Klan has pockets of strong support in parts of California and continues to work toward its goal of "fighting for the white man" while it struggles for respectability through its media work and electoral campaigns.

### NOT ALL RACISTS ARE KOOKS

While this type of blatant racism appears to be growing stronger, the conference focused on the more widespread problems of discrimination in employment, housing, education and crime.

Discrimination in these areas does not always stem from racism, at least not openly, but the effect is still the same. And, contrary to popular belief, it may be growing worse instead of better. Senator Watson pointed out that a majority of Black people surveyed today feel they are being discriminated against at a higher level than ever before in the United States, "yet often it has been stated that discrimination has significantly declined because of the large drop in the proportion of whites perceiving it."

The conference brought out some specific examples. Probably the most frightening evidence is in the area of law enforcement and crime. Panelist Midge Purcell pointed out that in 80 percent of police shootings, the victims are black or brown. "Police can kill blacks at will and get away with it," said conference speaker Rhoda Shapiro. "People of color live under a different set of rules than the rest of the population. Non-whites get arrested and convicted more often than whites and serve longer prison terms."

### A NEW GENERATION OF HATRED

The most angry group at the conference seemed to be those involved in the Youth Workshop, in which the problems were

clearly outlined with a warning: "If the white community doesn't do something about institutionalized racism in this country, armed warfare between the races may result. Ironically enough, school busing was not seen as a solution by the Black youth represented at the conference. The students' sentiment indicated that busing seems to incite more racism than it eliminates. Busing often stirs up greater racist problems due to the loss of identity and pride a black student feels in a strange new school, where he is often outnumbered by whites and subject to racial slurs."

### THE PROBLEM RUNS DEEP

If busing is not the answer to integration, then the question comes back to the origin of the problem: why are neighborhoods segregated in the first place?

Panelist Jim Kirschner, author of *Apartheid in America*, offered an explanation. A historical basis for housing segregation can be traced back to the 1950s when Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Federal Housing Authority (FHA) placed restrictions on mortgages preventing the sale of properties to blacks so that white areas could be "protected."

Today that type of restriction isn't even necessary to further racial discrimination. In the 80s, discrimination is the byproduct of a housing market that automatically prices minorities out.

Although the percentage of blacks in Venice has remained stable over the last decade, the recent influx of dollars targeted for improvement and rejuvenation in Venice may have the effect of displacing low income housing.

"Today saving a neighborhood means redeveloping, (which results in) displacement and the contraction of available housing," says Kirschner. The stability of blacks in Venice may become very short-lived in the next decade unless solutions are found.

Kirschner offered two remedies to the problem: rehabilitation of existing housing and the somewhat controversial inclusionary zoning for low-cost housing, which forces developers to allocate a portion of new housing projects to low-income residents.

While the solutions to these complex problems cannot possibly be devised in a single day, Diane Watson commended the Venice community on its initiative in sponsoring the conference. Although the establishment in Sacramento may not be guilty of outright racism of the KKK variety, Watson asserted there is a kind of "benign neglect" on the part of the politicians. "They have insulated themselves from urban realities," she stated. "There is a mentality existing today that is not willing to help those who cannot help themselves."

In order to head off tensions such as those that have erupted in other parts of the country, Watson said, "The community must come together and discuss those problems that they confront every day."

Sponsors of the conference urged participants to reconvene in the future to seek solutions to the problems in all areas of racial discrimination. If possible solutions are found, there is at least one voice in Sacramento willing to listen to any suggestions. Says Watson, "We need to hear from you."

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# RACISM AND CRIME

9

The following statement was read to the assembly at the Community Conference Against Racism in Venice by Rhoda Shapiro, who moderated the Police/Crime Workshop. The statement represents the overview of the Police/Crime Workshop Committee.

In order to address the question of how racism affects the role of the police and the problem of crime here in Venice, we should put the question in some perspective.

What is the cause of the increase in crimes such as burglary, robbery and assault in Venice, and everywhere in the United States? The answer to that question is one we all know: the higher the rate of unemployment, the higher the street crime rate. The general US unemployment rate is high - between 6 and 7%, but among blacks and other people of color the rate is double that, and among youth who are black and other minorities the unemployment rate runs from 50 to 75%! That is institutionalized racism in practice. In a society where money is everything, many youth have no other option but street crime because it is a form of self-employment that fills the vacuum created by lack of jobs - and we all suffer from this state of affairs. But mostly it is the poor who suffer. Street crime is only seen as a problem in this country when it spills out of the ghettos. And then it usually only hits other working class people. The rich are rarely if ever touched by this.

And what is the solution that is put forth? We all know that one: more police! In every city in this country, because of the basic economic problems that cause unemployment, crime, drug addiction, sub-standard housing a breakdown in health services, chaos in the educational system - all municipal services get cut - including police service. But we run into a very tricky situation here. The police themselves say they cannot stop crime. At the same time police forces all over the country are being cut. In the case of California, the police who supported prop 13 are now screaming to get their jobs back. Between 1963 and 1967 there was an increase of 50% in police officers nationwide as a response to the Civil Rights and Anti-War movements. Did we ever need so many police? We are now caught in a situation of the police using job cuts for their own political ends. Police Chief Gates, backed by rich businessmen, is planning to run for Mayor of LA and he is using the fear of crime to build his political base. Law enforcement agencies have a vested interest in a high crime rate. And we are being manipulated by fear.

The rich people who run this country have always known how to manipulate working class people against each other. In 1886, Jay Gould, one of the early robber-baron capitalists said, "I can hire one half of the working class to kill the other half." He was talking about a bloody strike that involved workers of many ethnic and racial groups, and he knew that it was in his own interest to be able to turn one group of workers against another.

The roots of racism are anchored in the ability of the people in power to turn workers against each other in order to keep us from becoming a united powerful force. In the beginning racism was the justification of the economic system of slavery - where some human beings were set apart from others because of the color of their skin, for the profit of the plantation owners. At the end of slavery the concept of white supremacy continued to develop to justify the need for a cheap labor force and one that could be unemployed for long periods of time. So in the South and spreading everywhere, the idea of whiteness, no matter what circumstances most whites lived under, became a basis for unification. Poor whites could have the consolation of identifying with the rich white man and in some cases did not have to do the filthiest work and could even make it up a little in the pecking order. In addition to the concept of white supremacy all the ills of the society are blamed on the members of the set apart groups in an effort to detract from the true nature of society. Hitler used this concept with great success in justifying the slaughter of the Jews. In the same way now in this country, people of color are used as scapegoats for all the ills that structural unemployment forces on this society, and keeps working class people of all colors fighting with each other for jobs, a place to live, schooling, and all the other things we need.

But as scapegoats people of color live under a different set of rules than the rest of us. They cannot walk the streets of any city in this country without running the risk of being stopped by the police - undocumented

-continued on pg. 11-

# Iran Runaround

by ROBT. WELLS

The Venice Town Council has gotten some replies from various levels of government to resolutions around Iran that the Council passed at its July meeting.

Most of the replies were noncommittal. One was defensive. One was rather amusing.

Following a Council-sponsored address at the Israel Levin Senior Adult Center, where attorney Leonard Weinglass discussed his fact-finding trip to Iran with the Ramsey Clark delegation to the International Conference on U.S. Intervention in Iran, the Town Council passed the following resolution:

## RESOLVED

The Venice Town Council calls on the U.S. government to secure the release of the American hostages in Iran by:

1. Keeping its hands off Iran -- no more military or other U.S. intervention in that country.
2. By ending economic sanctions against Iran; by returning to Iran the Shah's assets; and by releasing the Iranian government assets which it has frozen.
3. By ending harassment of Iranian nationals in the U.S.
4. By acknowledging and apologizing for past and present intervention, interference, and misconduct in Iran by the U.S. government and corporations, and by promising that there will be no more in the future.

The Council also passed a resolution calling on President Carter and the Justice Department to drop their plans and threats to prosecute the Ramsey Clark delegation for going to Iran.

Copies of the resolutions were sent by telegram to the White House, the State Department, the Justice Department, and the Iranian Mission to the United Nations.

Shortly afterward, Municipal Court Judge Charles Boags dismissed all charges against 105 Iranians arrested at a Beverly Hills demonstration in November, saying they never should have been arrested or charged. (The Iranians were taken into custody "for their own protection" when they were assaulted by a mob of super-patriotic Americans; the District Attorney then filed criminal charges against them.) The Council sent a letter of congratulation to Judge Boags; in the letter the Council cited the D.A.'s filing of charges as an act of racism; a copy was sent to the D.A.

The White House simply sent a receipt. The Justice Department sent a copy of an old press release saying the Ramsey Clark delegation was being inquired into, that the results of that inquiry would be reviewed, and any decisions would follow regular procedure. In other words for now they were doing and saying nothing.

District Attorney John Van De Kamp answered with a personal letter. He said that his office filed charges against the Iranians under a Beverly Hills law that a judge later ruled was unconstitutional. How were we to know? protested Van De Kamp. He could only have foreseen that the judge would throw out the law, he said, "had we had powers of clairvoyance."

One must say that his office exercises the "powers of clairvoyance" every time they refuse to file charges against killer cops because "no jury would convict."

Apparently Larry W. Roeder, Jr., of the "Iran Working Group" at the State Department is saving the taxpayers' time by proceeding directly to answering his mail without taking time to read it first.

Roeder thanked the Venice Town Council for its resolution and said that "Nations and people from around the world have voiced their condemnation of Iran and have

joined us in calling for the release of the hostages. We hold the government of Iran responsible for the well-being and the safe return of every single hostage."

Meanwhile any condemnation in the Venice resolution was of the United States government, and the Council specifically held the U.S., and not Iran, responsible for the hostages' well-being and return.

Roeder hoped that the return of the hostages "can be achieved through the peaceful exercise of diplomacy and international law, which is preferable to the other remedies available to the United States" -- exactly the kind of throw-your-weight-around bully talk the Town Council called for the government to stop.

Roeder quoted President Carter as saying "The Government of Iran must recognize the gravity of the situation which it has, itself, created." If Roeder had read the resolution he would have seen that the Town Council was saying it was the U.S. government which had, itself, created the situation.



"The Administration welcomes and appreciates the restraint that has been shown by the American people," continued Roeder. "We must continue to exhibit such restraint despite the intensity of our emotions. The lives of our people in Iran are at stake."

Typical of the "restraint" being shown by the American people was the conduct of the mob in Beverly Hills which punched, kicked, spat upon, and threw pipe fittings at a group of peacefully demonstrating Iranians. This sort of pious bullshit from the State Department tells Americans like that, "Please, we wish you wouldn't do these things -- but you're perfectly justified in wanting to." Jingoistic lynch violence has been subtly encouraged by all levels of government from the President of the United States down through county prosecutors and local police, for reasons of electoral politics and to whip up a phony war fever -- an inflammatory and extremely dangerous practice which the Venice Town Council resolutions called for an end to.



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## EL SALVADOR: the coming revolution

(The BeachHead has been covering the struggle in El Salvador. We now update the struggle and local solidarity.)

On October 4 & 5, over 200 people - representatives of some 40 Salvadorean organizations and support groups throughout the western U.S. - came together at C.S.U. L.A. The occasion was to join with a similar conference in the East to establish a nation-wide solidarity coalition. This joining reflects the critical stage of the struggle.

The opening theme, by Farid Handel of the Frente Democratico Revolucionario, emphasized the need for unity among both the revolutionary forces in El Salvador and solidarity groups in the United States. Other speakers discussed U.S. intervention, the role of the Church and particularly Socorro Juridico, the human rights organization working out of El Salvador which documents crimes of the Salvadorean military (the head of this group was assassinated in October), and the importance of solidarity work. Some of the points made were the following:

- a clarification of the U.S. role in the October, 1979 coup. When young Salvadorean officers sought U.S. support for the coup, they were told it was contingent on the inclusion of Colonels Jaime Gutierrez and Jose Garcia representing the most reactionary sectors within the army. These two recently ousted the "moderate" sector from the junta.

- The U.S. congress has not been kept informed of events in El Salvador (as they were of Nicaragua) and the press is more tightly controlled. Americans are unaware of the nature and extent of U.S. military aid, both formal and covert, to the reactionary junta.

- The refugee situation is desperate. In the four Cost Rican centers, refugees are crowded into church halls and

recieve 25¢ per day for their total needs. They are not allowed to work.

- The formal and informal involvement of reactionary forces from other Central American countries is widely recognized. Currently, for example, 175 Guatemalans are learning "interrogation" methods in Chile & Argentina

Workshops included sessions on the Church, universities, the media, the labor movement, the anti-draft movement and finance. Ongoing program will include:  
..... Working with church groups and organizations  
..... Establishing contacts between U.S. & Salvadorean unions and labor leaders,  
..... Establishing local info centers which would attempt affect the local media,  
..... maintaining and broadening contacts with politicians sympathetic to the revolution,  
..... promotion of solidarity bonds,  
..... publishing a monthly newsletter

The conference also included music from throughout Latin America and a showing of "Revolution or Death", a new film portraying the Struggle in El Salvador. Perhaps the most important accomplishment was the interaction among many different groups and support works. A tentative structure for a national solidarity org. was formulated, laying the groundwork for a strong and unified movement.

- by Ed Pearl

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

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Nov. 13 thru 16th 8:00pm  
Fri. & Sat. 8:00 & 10:00pm  
Sun. 2:00 & 8:00pm  
Venice United Methodist Church, Lincoln Blvd. & Victoria (2 Blks N. of Venice Bl Venice for info call 391-2314  
\$5 Tickets may be purchased in advance from the Midnight Special Bookstore or The Bookshop in Ocean Park.

NIGHT FLIGHT THEATRE

**SYLVIA PLATH: A DRAMATIC PORTRAIT and GETTING INTO DEATH**

NIGHT FLIGHT THEATRE

**SYLVIA PLATH: A DRAMATIC PORTRAIT and "GETTING INTO DEATH"**  
Nov. 7 thru 16 Fri. & Sat. 7:30pm and Sundays 5:00pm  
1707 N. Kenmore Ave., Hollywood, Ca.  
For info call 656-2915 or 463-9265

ODYSSEY THEATRE ENSEMBLE

**"FULL CONFESSIONS OF A SOCIALIST"**  
Thru Nov. 30 Mon. & Tues. 8:30pm  
Fri. & Sat. 11:00pm  
Sun. 5:00pm  
**"THE GREAT AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT SHOW"**  
Thru Dec. 21 Wed. - Sun. 8:00pm  
12111 Ohio Av., L.A., Ca. 826-1626 or 879-5221 for info.

## POETRY

BEYOND BAROQUE

Nov. 7 Robert Peters  
Nov. 14 Barrett Watten, Carla Harryman  
Nov. 21 Ron Padgett, reception 8:00pm  
Nov. 22 3:00-10:30 potluck reception 7pm  
9 German writers read and discuss their work. Part of the Berlin/L.A. Cultural Exchange.  
Nov. 28 John Giorno, reception  
Dec. 5 Maurice Kenny, Robert Burdett Sweet  
First Sunday of each month 8pm  
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CORRECTION

We goofed. In the October issue we ran a foto on page 6 for the article "View From the Ocean Front" and erroneously credited the photo to John DeCindes. The foto was in fact the work of Rich Mann. Sorryxxx

## MUSIC

**ELIJAH** an opera by Felix Mendelssohn  
CHARLES ROE, Baritone  
Marina-Westchester Symphony, Frank Fetta Conductor, Sunday, Nov. 9, 1980 8:00pm  
5831 W. Centinela, L.A.

BEYOND BAROQUE

**FRANK MORGAN**, saxophonist with Milcho Leviev  
Thru November every Sunday, 3-6pm  
681 Venice Blvd., Venice 822-3006

McCABE'S

Nov. 7, STEFAN GROSSMAN & DUCK BAKER  
Nov. 8, KEVIN BURKE, MICHEAL O'DOMHNAILL/  
MALCOLM DALGLISH, GREY LARSEN  
7:30 & 10:00pm  
Nov. 9, JESSE WINCHESTER & HELEN HUDSON  
7:30 & 10:00pm  
Pico at 31st St., Santa Monica 828-4497

## ART

S.P.A.R.C.

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Nov. 7, 7 - 9pm Opening - thru Dec. 5  
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**MARY WESCHER** Surrealist Nov. 8 - 26th  
Leopold/Gold Gallery, 134 Broadway  
Santa Monica 393-4324

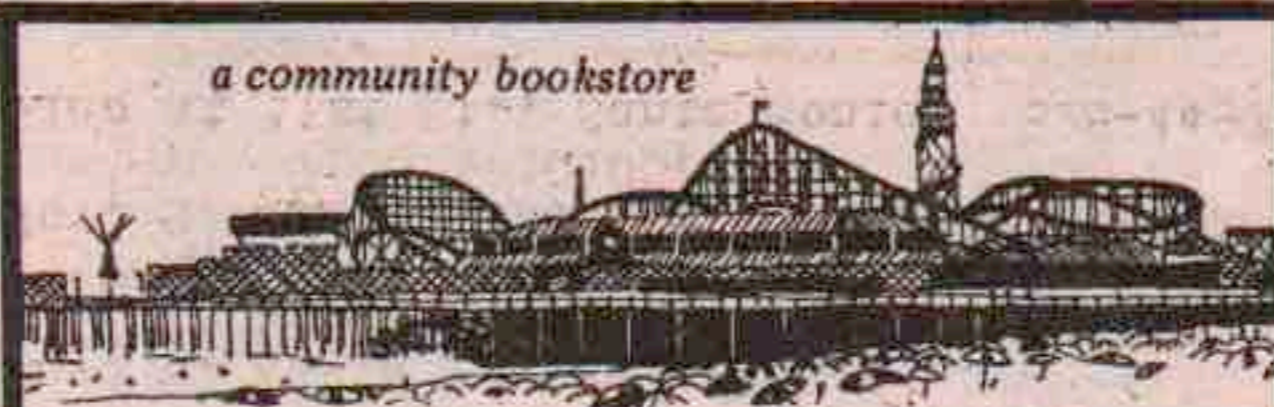
## WOMEN

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SINGLETARIANS

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Nov. 16 YOU AND YOUR AGING PARENT 7:30pm  
Nov. 23 EVALUATING THE SUCCESS OF YOUR DIVORCE 7:30pm  
Nov. 30 THE MIND OF THE MID-EAST 7:30pm  
1260 18th St., Santa Monica 394-4318  
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Nov. 16 MEN AND ANGER  
Dec. 5 MALE SEXUALITY 8-10pm  
POTLUCK 7-8pm Donation \$2 RAP GROUPS  
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**HOLDING OFF THE NUKES: THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DIABLO** presented by the Santa Monica/Venice Alliance for Survival  
Nov. 12, Wed. 7:30pm Marine Park Building  
1406 E. Marine (near 16th) Santa Monica  
for info 829-7251 FREE

**FORUM on WOMEN AGAINST IMPERIALISM**  
Nov. 8th, Sat. 10:30 to 4:00 Potluck & Childcare Women's Building, 1727 N. Spring St., L.A. for info call 798-5448

**OCEAN PARK COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION NEIGHBORHOOD CONGRESS** Nov. 15th 12 noon to 4:30pm Santa Monica Civic Auditorium

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## FILM

**PAUL JACOBS AND THE NUCLEAR GANG** Nov. 7th  
7:30pm Marine Park Auditorium, 1406 E. Marine St. (near 16th), Santa Monica  
A benefit for the Santa Monica/Venice Alliance for Survival Donation  
Discussion and Refreshments. 829-1667

BEYOND BAROQUE

Oct. 25, Science Fiction Night  
Nov. 8, Bruce Schwartz, Michael Gross  
Nov. 29, An evening of shorts Steve Mae Cambridge, Jack Adams, Bill O'Hanesian  
Dec. 6, Rex Miller, Chris Young, Jeffrey Thai, Becky Spence  
8:00pm 681 Venice Blvd., Venice 822-3006

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