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# FREE VENICE SINCE 1968

# BEACHHEAD



FREE

OCTOBER 1980 ISSUE NO. 130 P.O. BOX 504 VENICE, CALIFORNIA 90291 823-5092



Old newspaper photo of Windward Avenue, 1905

## Wither Windward?

OCTOBER 15 COMMUNITY MEETING PLANNED

by Moe Stavnezer

A decade or more ago people planning the future of Venice, for a very different community than was then in residence, visualized a mall on Windward Av. The street, between Pacific and Ocean Front Walk, would be closed to cars, allowing only pedestrian traffic. Both sides of the street would be rebuilt or rehabed with buildings with colonnades--just as in Abbott Kinney's days. There would, of course, be fancy shops & restaurants for the gentry on this gentrified street. It would be lovely.

The plan failed but it did not die. over the years it has reincarnated in different guises, different bodies but always in the same essential form. Most recently it appeared in the new Venice plan which calls for a study to determine the feasibility of creating a Mall on Windward.

### Lots of Change on Windward

In the past couple years Windward has been very spruced up. Taste determines if you like the new paint jobs and the mural but economics determine if "F. Scott's" is more desirable than the ole "St. Charles Place." Fancy art stores & roller skate businesses have replaced liquor stores and hock shops. The street is busier than I've ever seen it.

### And More Change to Come?

And now, what some people are calling the first real step toward creating the Mall, artist Robert Graham has come forward with a major development project. He is proposing to build two tastefully designed buildings on the north side of Windward which would house his studio, other, much smaller, studios for other artists, another version of the existing savings and loan, and a fairly small amount of retail space. One structure would abut the St. Charles building and completely obscure Terry Shoonhoven's wonderful mural (we have been told that lime in the wall of the St. Charles is already eating away the mural.) The other part of the project would stand where the savings and loan now is and would also add a second floor to the adjoining building. Two vacant lots will remain between the two buildings which both would be as tall as the St. Charles, about 50 feet.

Both buildings would have colonnades at street level, continuing the present design on both sides of Windward. The 75 parking spaces are more than ample for the currently proposed use and will be resched via Zephyr Ct. behind the buildings. Graham plans a considerable amount of open space in the "lobby" of one structure and intends to commission different artists and craftspeople to provide works for both buildings. This ambitious proposal would certainly set the tone for future construction on Windward and therein lies the rub.

The project would surely attract attention, business and traffic. More, similar, buildings would attract even more of the same and blocking the street to cars, to accommodate pedestrians, would become more feasible. The completion of the proposed parking lot on the Venice Bl. median strip would provide the parking lost to a Mall and make the Mall even more feasible. A fancy Windward Mall would change the North Beach area of Venice dramatically and irrevocably.

-continued on page 2-

## "we can live together"

# VENICE COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ON RACISM

What can be done in a day? A conference against racism. Concerned citizens are sponsoring "WE WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER: A VENICE COMMUNITY CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM." This conference is called to actively explore how cooperative community action can effectively impact on the growing problem of racism.

The high crime rate, its related potential for racist influence on neighborhood block groups, exploitation of undocumented workers, spiraling unemployment among Third World peoples, increased activities of racists and displacement of the indigenous community in Venice all indicate the need for such a conference.

Come to the Broadway School (at Lincoln and Broadway) on Saturday morning, October 25, 1980 and you will experience a unique use of the conference format as a problem-solving tool. Action workshops are planned to focus on how individuals and organizations can develop and expand activities in the following areas of community concern: housing, employment, education and crime/police. State Senator Diane Watson will begin the conference with a keynote address at 10:00am.

Also included will be a film entitled, "The Klan Today."

One goal of the conference is to share as widely as possible the thinking of the Venice residents who participate. To this end, copies of summary reports prepared by the participants in the workshops will be distributed to community organizations. Also, the ad hoc committee which was formed to develop the conference has, from the beginning, considered it vital to include as co-sponsors individuals and organizations working toward eliminating discrimination.

There will be no charge for attending the conference. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share for a potluck luncheon. We invite everyone in Venice who is concerned about racism to participate in this action conference. Remember, the Broadway School, October 25, 1980 at 10:00 a.m. For more information call 396-4720 or 396-8160.

This meeting is neither sponsored by nor is in any way connected with the Los Angeles City School Districts.



happy birthday, Venice!  
75! and wheel crazy in 1980!

Dear Beachhead Collective:

I did not know Mike Clare but his death has touched me in a way very well articulated by Rick Davidson in the last Beachhead. Lately I have observed a marked increase in the hostility/alienation level in Venice. The Town Council meetings in particular have been characterized by rudeness, carping, tantrums, selfishness, verbal and even physical abusiveness toward one another. The pressure is on and we all feel it, but have we forgotten what we're fighting for? "Community" is something that takes place within us. Unless each of us makes a personal commitment to deal with each other in love, the battle will have been lost in a way that cannot be measured in demolitions.

Julie Timmons

Dear Ms. Friedberg;

I suggest that if you really want to perpetuate the ultimate "natural" setting that rather than simply move from your previous apartment, you might take up residence in Australia and bury your head in the sand there. (Re: Beachhead article Bums, Winos, and Vigilantes; in Sept. issue). While you "don't have any real solutions," you readily submit us (you moved) to accepting what you see as the lesser of evils; bums and winos being less offensive than reckless skaters and obnoxious radios.

Your humanism is shortsighted when you "believe that the bums and winos of Venice are an (integral) part of what makes Venice a unique community. Such violence and abuse need not be essential here or anywhere. Those persons are, however, representatives of our cultural and societal failures, not reactive individualism.

Your call against vigilance is noble, but it will take more than tunnel-vision or martyrs without "any real solutions" to stop a growing minority who will reclaim their own rights regardlessly!

Shane D. Isaacson

Hello There!

We are four Alaskans, currently incarcerated at the Lompoc Federal Penitentiary. We are interested in subscribing to some decent California papers, yours came highly recommended.

Enclosed you'll find a stamp we're sending in hopes of receiving a complementary issue.

Sincerely, William, Bob,  
E., Jr., Mike.

Windward Ave. (cont.)

In order to give Graham's proposal, and its possible ramifications, a full and thorough discussion by and in the community, The Venice Town Council is sponsoring an open forum.

The meeting is open to every interested resident of Venice who wishes more information and discussion. The planner of the project, Robert Graham, Venice artist is being asked to attend to present his proposal. It is the desire of the Venice Town Council to generate discussion and feedback concerning this important development. THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1980, AT THE ISRAEL LEVIN SENIOR ADULT CENTER, 201 OCEAN FRONT WALK, VENICE-- 7:30 p.m.

This is the size of a one inch ad in the Beachhead. You could have had this space for \$5.00



## Letters

Hello and Happy Birthday, Venice, CA. Rescued your bottle on holiday in Dover...quite a journey! Perhaps, I shall visit Venice someday.

Andria Reznack-Huff  
Ashley Road, Walton-on-the Thames, Surrey, Eng.

(This note (found in the bottle) comes from Venice, California, United States of America - upon the occasion of the 75th birthday of Venice, July 4th, 1980. If you find this note (in a bottle) please write and say hello to the community of Venice. Thank you! and best of joy to you. Send note to The Beachhead, etc.)

## Venice Town Council

Special meeting Wednesday, October 15, 1980 at 7:30 p.m. at the Israel Levin Senior Adult Center, 201 Ocean Front Walk (near Navy).

ALL VENICE COMMUNITY PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

Agenda:

1. Announcements - 7:30 p.m.
2. Robert Graham- developer, will present his Windward project
3. Questions and answers
4. Discussion
5. Vote- 9:30 p.m.

This next regular public V.T.C. meeting is a special one-topic meeting. The issue discussed will be a development project on Windward Ave. between the St. Charles and Pacific including the bank.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Dear Beachhead:

The article by Hope Blacker is not entirely correct regarding the prices she quoted.

I had to install 8 smoke detectors and the cost for the electrical type came to \$730.00. This was for the 8 detectors the electrician to do the work, the permits, and for the inspector.

A property owner must have a permit and the City must inspect the detectors after they are installed. Of course the battery operated type needs no permit or inspection. But they are a waste of money because they must be replaced by the electric type within 3 years and it is a nuisance to have to constantly test the batteries and replace them.

As for a landlord raising the rent \$3 per month for each detector installed on "a permanent basis" - yes, that is a rip-off in my estimation. In fact I have not raised my tenants to recover the expense. Because I can use the cost as a write off on my income taxes.

However, some landlords do have large mortgages to meet because they bought recently at inflated prices. I believe the best way to stop these exorbitant rents is to put a freeze on these constant sales of income property. Every time a building is sold the price is raised to include the cost of selling-sales commission, pay off penalties, escrow fees, etc. Of course the seller wants a profit on his investment! Otherwise he would have taken that money and bought T notes or gold or silver.

The only way to stop this real estate spiral is to see that any owner must keep his building at least 5 years before it is sold.

Don't blame your 'new landlord' for your high rents and trying to collect all he can. He has also been taken, and has to meet his big payments, and needs every dollar he can squeeze out of his tenants. I'd suggest that if your rent is raised \$3 for each smoke detector that you ask to see the bill for installation. Then when you've paid that amount refuse to pay it any longer. Then take it up with the rent control.

A Venice Landlord

## FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

Collective staff: Joan Friedberg, Elizabeth Elder, Emily Winters, Olga Palo, Chuck Bloomquist, Phil Gillette, Arnold Springer, John Sprung, Chris Toussaint. Thanks - Sue Baker

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.

To the Beachhead

I was very angry about the article "Board-Walk Bums" that appeared in the last Beachhead, including that the Beachhead would publish it. It makes several dangerous arguments. The author urges people to get rid of the "weeds" and the "violently anti-social sociopaths" -- euphemisms for Black and Chicano-Mexican people in the community -- by calling on the police to "clean up" the neighborhood.

The author Raphael argues that police are "not busting heads" and that we "shouldn't worry about creating a monster" -- we can rein them in through community political action." Well, Raphael, the monster already exists. The Los Angeles police are an occupying force in Third World communities that harass, brutalize and murder Black and Latin people like Eula Love and Reyes Martinez. The police are the enemy of Black and Latino people.

A few months ago the LA Reader reported on the large numbers of Third World people who had been gunned down by the police in the last year. This is the same LAPD that worked with the FBI to eliminate and jail Black revolutionaries like Geronimo Pratt -- who is still serving a life sentence on a total frame up. So to call on readers of the Beachhead to support the LAPD is a call to unite with and help carry out genocide against Third World people.

Further, Raphael urges us to form community watch to be on the look-out for suspicious characters. Community watch is an arm of the police plan for Third World people. The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration began organizing white citizens in 1971, in response to Black rebellions and Black and Latino liberation movements, to protect white neighborhoods and property. Neighborhood watch serves as a 24-hour-a-day support system for police efforts to jail and repress Black and Latino people. So the crime-watchers facilitate police terror against the Black and Brown communities.

I would like to see your paper publish articles about Geronimo Pratt, about Mexicano struggle against the Migra and the Klan at the border -- to inform people of steps being taken by Black and Third World people to control their own destiny and fight for liberation against genocide. Articles like Raphael's only help to build the tide of white supremacy which is growing fast in California and the nation.

Phoebe Hirsch

The Spirit of Venice

A VIEWPOINT  
By Robt. Wells

The idea for a conference against racism originated in August in the Venice Town Council, out of concern over what was seen as an increase in open white supremacist sentiment in the Anglo neighborhoods of our community. The normal summertime resentment against tourists at the beach was taking on a distinctly racist tone, and there were several interracial clashes along the oceanfront early in the season that had the potential of becoming much more serious, followed by some spraypainting of racist, KKK and Nazi slogans. The upsurge of police-sponsored Neighborhood Watch anti-crime committees, and the agitation to "improve the community" pushed by new commercial interests along the oceanfront, were generating an "Us Against Them" mentality on the part of whites against the minorities and Oakwood.

The original Town Council motivation for a conference was to confront this tendency and call it into question. In the series of discussion and planning meetings that followed, which eventually resulted in the conference working committee, another focus was put forward, which was to use the conference to open or renew communication and interaction between progressive Anglo forces and the Black and Latino communities, and to work together with them on such practical problems as housing and employment.

These two focuses are complementary, of course, and not contradictory, but only one can be the primary focus of the conference and the on-going work, while the other must be secondary. The desire of most of the people and groups in the conference working committee has been to concentrate mainly on practical, goal-oriented intercommunity-type work.

Without abandoning work toward the conference, other groups and individuals have been moving independently to confront racist government repression and to more directly challenge white supremacy in the Anglo community.

"Anyone can teach and anyone can learn," is the philosophy of the free university movement. Unencumbered by grades, tests or pressures a free university exists to fill an important gap between the formal institutions of higher learning and the adult education programs that have proliferated recently with little community involvement.

This need is even greater within the Spanish speaking community of Venice. The number of learning opportunities available to them is limited to English as a Second Language. No thought has been given to their needs and interests in other areas.

A small group in Venice is making plans for setting up a Workers University--the target population being this Hispanic community. Therefore, it will be called the Universidad Obrera.

There exists a rich tradition in Latin America of workers universities. During the 1920's and '30's, workers university movements were effective in mobilizing the urban proletariat in Peru and Chile and providing them with educational resources not available to them through government channels.

"Our intention is to provide Spanish language courses for that group which has the

de Venice

least opportunity for achieving educational goals, and whose spirit is effectively blocked by the lack of training in their own tongue," states Phil Gillette, who is spearheading the establishment of the Universidad Obrera.

"We plan to meet in the near future to review proposals from persons who wish to offer a course," he said.

Universidad Obrera is beginning a campaign to determine the educational needs and desires of the local Hispanic population and at the same time is searching for qualified Spanish-speaking individuals willing to volunteer their time, energy and skills.

"We are hoping to begin classes as soon as possible. The format is flexible, and we are not bound by traditional semester-quarter time periods nor lengthy admission and registration procedures. Bureaucracy and paperwork will be at an absolute minimum," Gillette said.

A one dollar registration fee is being considered, which will be the only cost except where a materials fee might be necessary in a specific course.

Anyone interested in submitting proposals is requested to contact Phil Gillette at 823-8551 or Leonardo Ibanez at 821-0547.



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# Neighborhood Watch Meetings Continue

by John Sprung

The folks in the Wavecrest-Breeze-Clubhouse area of North Beach have had four rapes and six meetings since August 26th.

The first meeting was held after the last victims found out that there had been three similar crimes on their block within a week. People were angry that the police hadn't informed them all after the second or third time.

The rape-robbery gang used some fairly professional methods. To get into homes, they used bogus phone calls from the police, or a woman knocking on the door to tell the answerer that his car was being vandalized. The instant he opened the door, a gunman jumped him. They had the people lie on the floor and covered them with blankets. They raped the women, ransacked the house, but took only cash, leaving such valuables as cameras and stereos. The victims were told that they would be killed if they made any movement at all. These crimes were clearly primarily recreational rather than economic, the objectives being to rape and terrorize.

The host-organizer of this meeting cautioned against drawing any racist conclusions from the ethnic origins of the two people the victims were able to see, not only for the all too obvious moral reasons, but also on practical grounds: He caught a white college student trying to break into his place just for laughs. Recreational criminals come from all economic strata and ethnic groups.

Breeze and Wavecrest held simultaneous clean-ups and pot luck block parties. People got to know each other by working together and having a good time, which really took the edge off the whole depressing situation. Phone trees have been established to alert neighbors to potential trouble, and to call for immediate help in a crisis. Nightly walks are being planned by local residents, more as a stroll than a patrol, a social activity to keep neighbors in touch and porch lights on. How far private citizens should go in confronting criminals has been much debated.

There is no need to recount all the standard advice about locks, lights, and the like, but some novel ideas did come from the meetings: If you get a phone call from the police, ask for a name, badge number, and phone number. Then hang up and call the real police to verify the information. Chemical mace dissipates quickly in our prevailing

Venice winds. It may only anger an attacker, and it can even blow back and mace you worse than it maces him. One woman suggests having a plastic lemon filled with ammonia instead. It's cheaper, easier to get, and more directional. Some local folks are accustomed to taking short cuts across private property between houses. It has been suggested that that not be done any more so that the presence of people in the hidden places between

buildings will be a suspicious activity.

The meeting cycle reached its climax at the pavillion on September 25th, with a massive media event in the grand old Venice style: passionate speeches, shouting matches, even a counter-demonstration and some incoherent loon babbling about the Alamo. A resounding success, though, in that it got the jist of what local people have been saying for a month on 288 TV stations coast to coast....

## HOW TO DEAL WITH...

### Those "Dodge City Blues"

by Observer

Like the curse says, we live in interesting times, what with five murders and six rapes in less than a month. I ran into a couple old friends at La Fayette's the beginning of September. "D'ya hear about Brown?" "Yeah, and that guy they blew away up at the Biltmore." Suddenly La Fayette's feels more like the Long Branch in Dodge City.

But Mister Dillon won't be in today. This is the real world, where the cops are spread thin. They don't often get to know the area and the people. Everybody knows how long it can take to get them on the phone, how long it takes them to show up. Worse yet, in a major crime, the victim can't even call until it's all over. One real value of the neighborhood watch organizing that's going on is that the cops can get called a little earlier in the game, sometimes. But neighbors aren't always at home and awake, and even if they are, they're not trained or equipped to tackle dangerous situations. Such intervention can really be more harm than good.

There is good news: There's one person who can always be counted on to be there when you're in deep shit. The bad news: It's you. Since only you can save yourself, the thing to do is to figure out how. The advice "Don't Panic!" is an old joke, but it's sound advice. The joke is that people believe it's impossible not to panic. Not true. Fear is a counterproductive emotional reaction that you can learn to handle, like the paramedics and emergency room surgeons handle their reaction to blood and gore. I'm not telling you not to have emotions, which really is impossible, but rather to keep them out of the way of the best approach to a problem.

Anticipation is the key. An excess of the unexpected is necessary to freak-

ing out. Make a list of the possible crimes that can be committed against you, a real written list. Go through all the places you go and the things you do, go through the M.O.'s of recent crimes and see how they would work in your home or on your street. Now, while you have calm and time on your side, consider your possible courses of action. Or, if you don't have calm on your side, go ahead and freak out now while it's safe to do so. Then get past that place and do your thinking.

There are two things you should get from the process of making your list: First, the list is finite no matter how carefully you do it. The problem may be large, but it's not impossible. You can improve your chances substantially. Second, the problem can never be completely solved. There is no absolute safety. Wrap your head around that one without freaking, accept calmly that you can still lose, and you will have mastered panic. It ain't easy.

Following an existing plan is very helpful in keeping a clear head, especially if the plan allows for lots of contingencies and has some extremely reliable elements. For instance, have other places you can go if someone follows you home, or if you find that your place has been broken into. If you have friends nearby who you really trust, exchange duplicate keys with them so there'll be a safe place that you're sure you can get into.

Finally, I wonder if our street cops read the Beachhead and what they think of the whole situation. I'd like to invite them to write in and let the community know. The only positive thing in the Dodge City myth was that the lawmen were members of the community they served.

## PREGNANCY . . .

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## ANOTHER RAINY AFTERNOON IN PARADISE

By Brenda Harney

-Dateline GOLFITO, Costa Rica

Two weeks after leaving Venice and Coastal Commission politics, I drop anchor in Golfito, a Chiquita banana town 8° above the Equator. I haven't bought Chiquita bananas in months, in support of the strike (see Beachhead issue no. ), and here I am in a major deep water Chiquita port! The strike ended a few days before we sailed into town, but not before 5 people were killed in the strife. Huelga graffiti are in evidence everywhere, and the political consciousness is high. In my limited Espanol I have spoken with several locals who say the trabajadores have benefitted from the long seige, and conditions are improved for the workers.

Workers are back on the job, with money to spend, and Golfito has apparently returned to normal. It is a company town with standardized housing, a hospital and company store near the dock, located 3 kilometers from the more eclectic end of town, where pool halls and hole-in-the-wall bars are cheek by jow with produce stalls and an occasional mercado generale. Golfito is small, with a tacky charm reminiscent of Steinbeck's Cannery Row. The people are beautiful and healthy in appearance, and they are friendly to us. The only anti-Yanqui sentiment visible here is expressed in the graffiti which say "Yanqui, hands off Nicaragua."

The dock has been busy during the week we've been here. Already three tanker-sized banana boats have steamed in to take on tons of Chiquitas from 4 endlessly turning conveyor cranes. The boats load around the clock, then steam out of this remote harbor for their home ports: from Japan, the California Maru; from Panama, the United Reefer (!); and from Puerto Cortez, the Oman, bearing an

enormous Chiquita label painted on the side. These ships are striking contrast to the dugout boats which provide locals with transportation and fishing in the bay.

My strike consciousness has been thoroughly stimulated by this milieu, when I happen upon a copy of Time magazine one rainy evening (yes, right here in this jungle paradise!) The cover story is on the workers' strike in Poland, and as I sit sipping warm coke under a thatched roof in the shadow of Chiquita and straight out of a Bogart movie, I am excited by the image of 16,000 shipyard workers on strike in Poland.

I voice my enthusiasm and am soon involved in an intense political discussion with two young Americans I just met (one of whom is the cousin of a high school friend of mine - the world really is a small one). These two are strongly anti-strike, and as our conversation develops and expands, I realize that I am a long way from Venice, and that it is a long way from the 60's. I am struck with the incongruity of discussing capitalism and the U.S. consumer economy as I sip Coca Cola while watching boats fill up with Chiquita. The world is small in ways I hadn't known before, and here I am in paradise expounding on the evils of the almighty dollar as motivation and rationalization for an entire lifestyle and culture.

My conversational companions are articulate, insightful, intelligent and open, but their lack of social consciousness amazes and frightens me. I had not expected to encounter likeable rednecks at sea.

Nor had I expected, on the following day, to fill a garbage bag with plastic bottles washed up on the beach of a deserted island.

Politics, pollution -- perhaps I am not so very far from Venice after all. •

## EL SALVADOR: the coming revolution

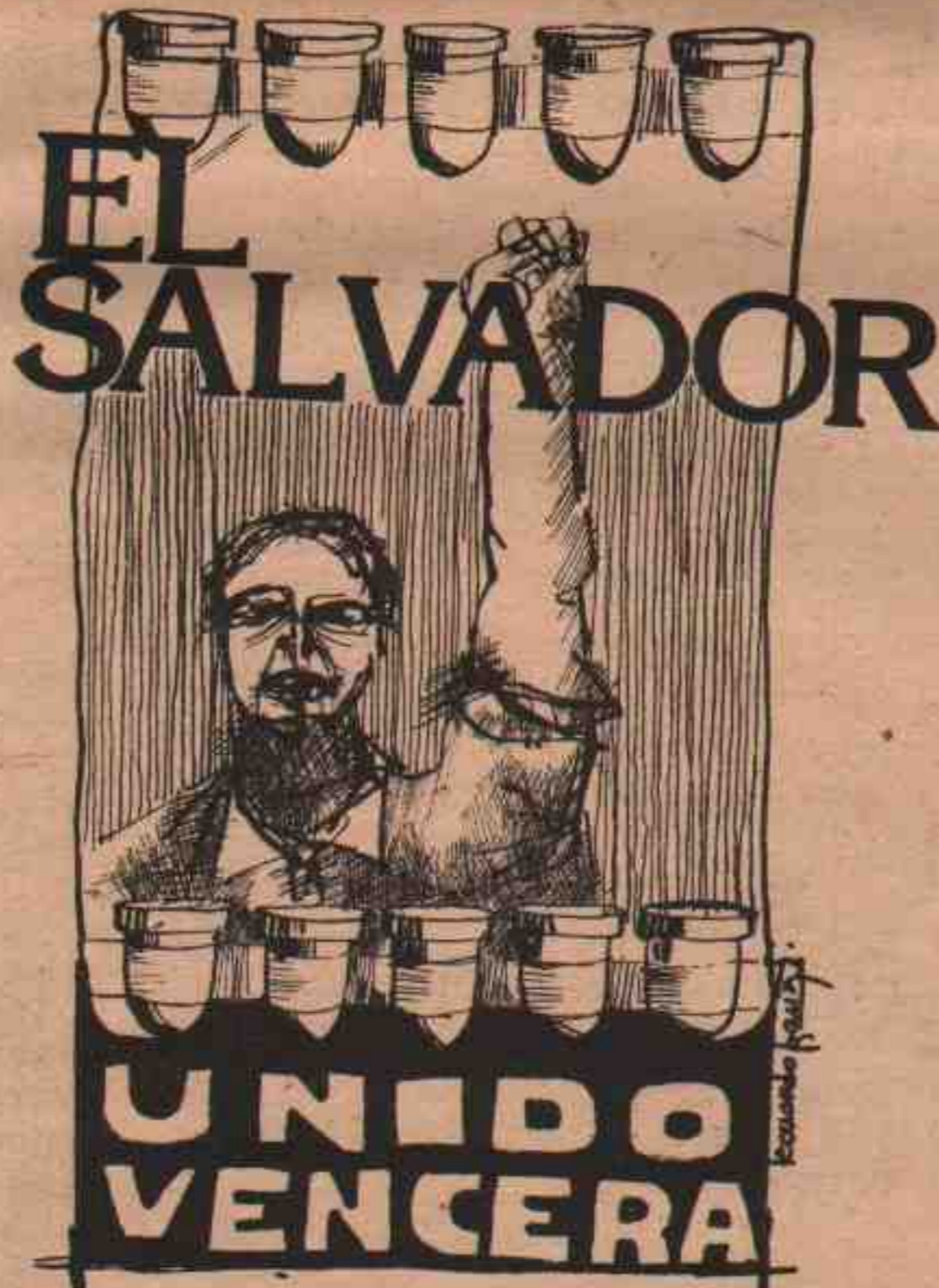
by Nora Hamilton, Mar Vista

(The Sept. issue of the BeachHead had part 1 of this article. It gave a general history, social divisions, and attempted to set a framework for understanding of the tremendous class struggle now happening.)

By the end of the 1960's peasants, farmworkers, and urban workers had begun to organize to resist economic repression. Strikes, demonstrations and other forms of protest were frequent. Beginning in 1970, sectors of the Communist Party and the Christian Democratic Party left these organizations to form political-military forces, convinced that only through armed struggle could the Salvadorean people eliminate the violence--both institutionalized and direct--which they experienced under the existing political and economic system. Subsequently these groups formed mass organizations, composed of workers, peasants and farmworkers, and some students. The Popular Revolutionary Bloc (Bloque Popular Revolucionario, BPR) is linked with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (Frente de Liberación Nacional Farabundo Marti) named for a leader of the earlier struggles of the 1920's and 1930's who had fought with Sandino in Nicaragua and was subsequently killed in the 1932 uprising. The Popular Revolutionary Army (Ejército Revolucionario Popular, ERP) is the military front of the People's Leagues - 28 (Ligas Populares - 28 - or LP 28) which commemorates those killed in the demonstration of February 28, 1977 following the "election" of Gen. Romero. A third mass organization, the Unified Popular Action Front (Frente de Acción Popular Unificada, FAPU) is linked to the Armed Forces of National Resistance (Fuerzas Armadas de Resistencia Nacional).

The growth of the mass organizations and their military fronts has taken place in an atmosphere of increased violence and confrontation. The massacre of demonstrators following the fraudulent elections which brought Romero to power in 1977 was followed by others as Romero and the military escalated their violence against the popular forces. Romero stated that to pacify the country, a quarter million Salvadoreans would have to be eliminated. The work of the military was supplemented by that of right-wing terrorist organizations - ORDEN, the White Warriors, the Falange, and the Organization for Liberation from Communism - often composed of members of the various military. Their victims, peasants or workers suspected of collaborating with the mass organiza-

tions, or even innocents selected to "provide an example," are tortured, killed, and often mutilated.



The growing resistance of the mass organizations and their military forces made it apparent that control of the population by brute force was no longer working. In a vain attempt to find a "middle position" between right-wing terrorists and the popular organizations, the U.S. State Department supported a coup led by junior officers which brought a civilian-military junta to power in Oct. 1979. But while certain members of the new government genuinely believed that reforms were desirable and possible, they were unable to control the military, which continued its indiscriminate slaughter of the population, as evidenced in a massacre of many demonstrators commemorating the anniversary of the 1932 uprising on Jan. 22, 1980. Several civilian members of the government resigned, citing repression by the military as well as government tolerance of atrocities perpetrated by right-wing terrorist organizations. Salvador Samayoa, former Minister of Education, joined the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front on resigning from the government, convinced that "the so-called peaceful road to solving the problems of our people is permanently closed."

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A second junta took over power in January, again with U.S. assistance, but the repression continued. A much-publicized land reform became the occasion for attacks by members of the National Guard and ORDEN against peasants identified as members of organized peasant group

Aside from peasants, workers, and members and leaders of the opposition organizations, victims of military repression include members of the clergy. In the early '70s progressive sectors within the church, which has traditionally supported the status quo in El Salvador, began to speak out against military and economic repression. Members of the church hierarchy, among them the widely respected Archbishop of San Salvador, Msgr. Oscar Romero (no relative to the former president), became increasingly vocal critics of government repression under the military regimes, including the civilian-military juntas. In his sermon of Sunday, March 23, 1980, Archbishop Romero called upon soldiers, members of the National Guard and police forces to cease to obey orders to kill their peasant brothers: "No one has to obey a man-made immoral law." On the following day, Archbishop Romero himself became a victim of such an immoral law, shot down by right-wing forces as he was finishing mass. His funeral became the occasion for another manifestation of government violence, as troops from the National Palace threw bombs and shot into the funeral procession, killing over 100 people and wounding hundreds of others. This massacre was documented and condemned in a manifesto issued by church dignitaries attending the funeral from all over the world. •

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How many of your poets have to die, oh Venice!  
Before you gather your spirit and rise!  
And those that love you know, oh Venice  
That no machine of steel can really take your life.

Somebody ran down one of our poets  
A black steel machine he was riding in  
He lost his nerve and couldn't face the man in person  
And He'll need more than nerve to face the Lord  
When his white horse comes a-riding in.  
Oh, what the shame! And what the sorrow!  
That a car driven by a human hand  
Should be guided head-on with a purpose  
Of taking the life of another man.

Now there sits a man in jail who could have been any of us  
Because his mind couldn't stand humiliation and disgrace  
And instead of using natural means for coming together,  
He used a steel machine, like a bullet in its place.  
And instead of using the ocean for washing his spirit,  
He shed human blood, on pavement, in sacrifice  
to the landlords of hell.

Now, I've been in the street, and I've been in the city,  
And I can't really tell which is worse:  
To have the freedom to beg and to hear the music clearly  
Or to earn my bread and loose my voice speaking to the  
dead.

No man could crush a strong boxers body  
But cars and bullets can bury all human society deep  
in the sands of this earth.

And some of us travelling on the crest of the wave of death  
Sometimes have to go, to help other give birth  
But, thus we die with our switch blades open -- for our women  
Forcing them to parade openly on wheels with bikinis  
Freely exposing our lack of truth.

But, the best fruits are not to be tasted  
When they leave you with a poisonous hunger for more  
Involved sexual love, truth's road twisted  
When one man is ready to die for his neighboring man,  
Then society's flower bears fruit.  
Is there much difference between the open-legged freedom of  
our Venice

And the selling of slaves, chained in the street markets  
of Babylon?  
Death walks on the ocean front in the open,  
And inside it, I see the reflections of a society with  
Hidden horrors behind steel walls and prisons.

Pestilence grows in the heart of my city  
My heart is humming like never before  
These are the words that aren't so pretty  
I must speak now -- not fear the score  
Everything under heaven has a purpose and reason  
And when we don't see the full picture,  
Then we don't understand.  
So, for the ears that can hear the music, and  
the eyes that can see the vision I write  
this story.  
View from the ocean front -- view from the sky  
As the foghorns blow for the ships a-sailing  
And the ships are now countries, and the whole  
Earth is the tide  
Power and greed takes its toll on the spirit  
And it's money and land that this poem is about.

When Holmes humiliated on national television for  
\$250,000, the fight was called to a decision on the seventh  
round. At sunset time, on July 7, the wind over the hills  
in Malibu had been whipping three large billowy clouds all  
afternoon. At the end of the seventh round, a golden halo  
burst through the clouds, and filled the western sky,  
Beginning -- the first scene of a play of colors and  
patterns that lasted an hour. The three clouds joined at  
a neck, forming a dragon-like creature with three gigantic  
heads pointing downward from Santa Monica to Point Dume.  
The heads appeared to grow six horns as linear formations  
of vertical clouds formed above them.

On the left, laminar westerly winds formed the largest two  
winged creature -- in white, dovelike -- right wing  
extending from Palos Verdes to Catalina. In scene two,  
all was orange and blue -- the dragon and dove were facing  
each other as if prepared for battle. In scene three, all  
was red and green -- and from the dove-like creature  
emerged an arrow-like straight form with a large eye  
pointing directly toward the dragon. In scene four, all  
turned indigo and white -- the dragon melted, the dove  
spread wings, and flashed gray and white plumage in the  
nighttime sky.

"Many pages to comb through, few by saints, much  
by satans  
At the end of the road, from within the reply.  
And in every turn of the dial the wheels  
Of the body drive for the one passion:  
MANY LEVELS IS THE SKY!"  
Elections 1980, USA, in the open  
Three contenders for the heavyweight title:



photo by J

# VIEW FROM THE OCEAN FRONT

Larry Abr  
Jamil Soo  
Cheryl Gr

Should the actor not be able to undo  
His mask after the performance, and turn  
It inside out, the play becomes his wrinkles  
And the day, turns into night.

Self proclaimed reborn holy man still  
Polarized, unable to behold the deeds  
Of the devil, in his refusal to relinquish  
His holy crown, he dons the devil's  
Well appearing mask

The third shining star having received  
Light from the second and first, and  
Having spent time understandably in the  
Worst penitentiary  
Encompassing the full distance between heaven  
And hell, has a clearly marked path  
For redemption.

Venus, third brightest heavenly body,  
Dimple of the sky in the winter twilight  
Birthmark of the sky in the summer dawn  
Jupiter, star of midnight, in January,  
High noon in June  
Early dawn in October.

When the full moon joined Jupiter  
Saturday, 1 a.m., saw nightmares in the  
jails  
Of New Mexico, where the sand boiled in  
sixties  
And the sky has refused to rain.  
The best way to achieve release of the  
Prisoners outside our country is to release  
The wrongly imprisoned ones inside our country.  
All the imprisoned faces of the self at night  
Become the inadequate mistreated self  
in the day.  
And steel prisons reflect the tangled  
Prisons of our mind.

"As the day turns into night  
And the self turns inside out  
The stars come out speaking  
And future winds hear the sands of  
the past."

Europe's imperialization of the rest of the world  
In the 19th century, rebounded Karmicly  
Into the two most catastrophic wars  
Inside its own boundaries in the 20th century.

If the black man originally taken as slave  
From Africa, is to be truly freed, he must  
Be given equal rights to the land in America.  
The American Indian's spirit gradually subdued  
Over 500 years, holds the seeds for the  
Rebirth of a new millenium America.

Man over-populates earth by the 1930's  
Develops in the 1940's the means to curb his own  
Growth -- MASSIVELY.  
We pride ourselves in having the most  
Appropriate population growth rate  
But we also ride steel chariots, breathing 250 horses.

"And the steel rail just heard the news"

Drafted men for a war that can never  
Be won when fought between men will  
Turn their swords to plowshares and  
Salvage the chemical ravaged land and  
Sewage ravaged shores

In the dream, the mind puts the personality  
Within a seal -- in the nightmare, the seal  
Is broken.  
Nuclear splitting -- earth is broken  
Spiritual union -- earth and family intact.

"A man without a woman is like a knife  
Without a case  
There is no man who would go to war  
If he has love's open embrace

A woman without a man is like a lion  
Inside a cage  
It brings heaven down  
In Almighty's rage"

The second highest tower in Washington swiftly changes face  
Mount Saint Helen's EXPLOSIVE expression of the  
Earth up to Heaven, is the calling of the Earth  
For help from Heaven.  
Earth changes the course of rotation  
Heaven replies within one cycle, early Fall,  
between months

Two men, near a drive-in diner, by Pico and La Cienega  
Shoot down four people they never met or hardly spoken to  
The most malignant tumors are the most undifferentiated  
The name -- Anaplastic

These questions come:

What prison was their mind in, that it explosively  
released such horror?  
What furnace did their soul burn in that  
it molded such random fire?  
What oven did their heart boil in that  
they disconnected from everything?

Einstein was able to derive the relationship  
Between energy and matter in their most rudimentary  
Exchange by accepting the lack of simultaneity  
Of the objective state

And it was the simultaneous unity of earth and  
Heaven that Christ and Moses took part in  
And spanned the connection between heaven and earth  
In the subjective sense, internal reflections,  
The methods of life and birth

Cities turn thin as man concentrates his  
Energy on repairing the damage done, counting the  
Blessings of the wilderness, where peace in the  
Whole prevails through the free-flowing  
Harmony and equity of parts.

All attempts of big brother lending hand  
Not requested, will give way to the freedom  
And uniqueness of the individual.  
Every individual part, every grain of sand, every  
Human being, contains a universe inside him --  
each a unique reflection of the universe  
as a whole.  
And when each part fits appropriately  
In its rightful place, then life and birth comes  
forth.

True democracy is when a minority does not dictate  
What basically affects the majority; and when a  
Majority does not dictate what specifically affects  
The locals and minorities.

It's just as wrong to force a man to work the  
Way the communists do, as it is to give a man  
Welfare and keep him quiet, the way the capitalists do.  
Every man will work, if in his work  
He can see the result.  
And for his children,  
He can see the future.

But if the direction of the general society bears  
no relevance to the man in the ghetto,  
If the direction of the society is to keep destroying  
rivers and streams and ocean shorelines,  
If the direction of the society is to keep buying and  
selling land and making money off of it,  
If the direction of society is to keep building  
bigger and better ways to kill men,  
In order to deal with its own over-crowdedness  
Then any man, in his right sense, would oppose it.

In that sense, the man in the ghetto is not the  
Disease, but is the wisest man  
In that sense the man in the ghetto is an  
Internal reflection of society's present disharmony  
With its surrounding universe -- Earth's trees,  
birds, sky, and seas.

The mockingbirds in Ocean Park stop singing  
And start shrieking when they give birth to their  
Young ones in the spring only to see them eaten  
By over-crowded pussycats in the summer.

In that sense, if the man in the ghetto is a focus  
Of disease, then his is only a reaction to  
A much larger disease of society -- a sign that the  
Cities with their tar, steel, and concrete  
Arteries, have become unacceptable to Nature.  
Police power and jails are proportionate to the  
Gradients between rich and poor, between  
Politician and worker.

"How many times must a man look up  
before he can see the sky?  
How many ears must politicians have  
before they can hear their people's cries?  
How much death will it take 'til you know  
that your soul has something new to try?

The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind  
The answer is written in the sky."



Many roads are given to try  
Most will lead to nowhere  
The best are often not taken  
For through the bushes, must behold the  
clear-sighted eye.

As the straight road is glanced over  
By the crooked eye  
And from the Tower of Babel's dead end road idolators  
slide.

Let me vow that I belong to the society of men  
By never preparing to kill another man  
Either by weapon or by training.  
And I shall turn my sword into a plow  
And teach my children how to use it and  
Organize the clean-up.  
The Pentagon should turn their ears  
To the five corners of the earth and  
Make their job truly defensive -- to listen  
It is just as negligent to misinform the ones  
who can understand  
As it is to inform the ones  
who will misunderstand.

Honest speech is the gateway to love  
Reflective silence is the gateway to wisdom.  
When a man has to make a stand  
Then he's already lost ground

Clear communication of space between inner parts  
is nature's method of defense  
From uniqueness flows a fountain and clearly  
Visualized space safeguards against times  
intrusions.

A nation strong in spirit can never be broken  
But a nation strong in armor, must explode  
Before it can express itself.

A nation powerful in weapons today, in their  
Uselessness when used among men,  
Will wither as fast as matter in explosion.  
Pure, clean water is our blood -- the true  
Standard of real money -- our only weapon is the  
Plow. Water will flow clean through our lives  
Like good blood -- No lie can stand in the face  
Of clean water!

Continued on pg. 11

# c.e.d. story

## The Hayden Account

by Rick Mayock

In response to Moe Stavnezer's article "There's No Accounting for Hayden", the crux of the argument seems to be over local control. It is certainly a central theme of Tom Hayden's philosophy of economic democracy that the citizens should have power over their local community and in the decisions that effect their lives. The Campaign for Economic Democracy (CED) has played a responsible role in bringing rent control into Los Angeles and Santa Monica. Because of its belief in the electoral process and lobbying techniques, CED has come under the suspicion of some prominent members of the left. CED has achieved, through the electoral process, California's most progressive rent control law in the city of Santa Monica. Through an alliance with local tenant groups, CED was able to put a halt to rampant escalation of rents, establish a 6.5% ceiling and set up a local rent control board to hear grievances and

settle disputes, protect against evictions and condominium conversions. The rent control ordinance in the city of Los Angeles, providing a 7% ceiling per year was passed by city council due to successful lobbying by the CED. Hayden's group has also led the effort to close the vacancy decontrol loophole in L.A.

But local rent control was threatened in June of 1980 by Proposition 10, which would have made rent control illegal in California. By then the CED as a grass roots movement had reached 8,000 statewide members, and, mobilizing against the landlord-speculator backed campaign of \$8 million, defeated the measure 2 to 1. The tenant movement showed its strength to the entire nation.

It is not without realization of this power and a sense of timing that Hayden has called for a coalition of builders and tenants. The time is right to open up a dialogue between these two natural political allies to solve the housing crisis in California. Housing construction is falling behind demand by 100,000 units a year or more. The time is right for the tenant movement to have a say in the construction of adequate low to moderate income housing for the citizenry.

The CED has taken a leadership role in the transition from nuclear to solar energy, sponsoring and passing eight bills and establishing Solar Cal, the governor's advisory agency for developing solar resources. Most important, is a provision which limits utility company's involvement and monopolization of the solar energy industry, allowing small, independent companies to compete.

The CED's work in the area of environmental waste has helped to clean up the Stringfellow dump in Glen Avon, and closer to home, the TCE problem in Santa Monica's drinking water. The carcinogenic substance has been found at a level of 4.7 ppb in the drinking water in Santa Monica. The Environmental Protection Agency has determined that 5.0 is a dangerous, toxic level. This, combined with the five lifeguards who got cancer from the Pico tube, which dumps toxic chemicals from over 730 companies into the bathing area, has prompted CED to petition the city council to pass a disclosure law, which would require companies to register toxic chemicals and hold them responsible for polluting our water and our beaches.

As a leader in these areas, the CED has demonstrated its faithfulness to local control and its grass roots emphasis on participatory democracy. Since its birth in 1976 CED has grown to 10 thousand members who believe in its achievements and goals of adequate housing and rent control, solar and renewable sources of energy, and a safe, toxic free environment. It is a group with concrete results and a vision for the future/ Membership is open to all. Contact CED, 409 Santa Monica Bl., #214. Santa Monica, 90401.\*

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## SEEING through

THE MEDIA

by MIKE WELLS

Being aware of my citizenship and at the same time alert to the fact that I live in what I believe to be an imperialist country and an imperialist society poses some very interesting challenges. I say it's challenging and it is, but it's also a bit frightening. I find myself being very cautious and sensitive toward any media attention regarding U.S. imperialism past or present, whether it be under the guise of growth, progress, the cold war, foreign aid, you name it.

Due to the fact that I've grown up in this society and have absorbed my share of imperialist propaganda through school books, television, newspapers, etc., and at the same time have grown up in a progressive, liberal, and often radical environment I have developed a very cynical outlook on the whole world situation.

At times I feel so dismayed that all I want to do is isolate myself on some mountaintop and not even think about all the corruption and oppression that breeds in this society. And other times it makes me so angry that I can't help but try and do something about it. One thing I try to do at least for myself is recognize and single out all facets of imperialism from outright acts of aggression such as the U.S. invasion of the island of Vieques in Puerto Rico, to the U.S.-supported fascist coup of Chile, to common everyday imperialist propaganda in the media, as subtle and between the lines as it is.

What I want to talk about right now is propaganda in today's mass media, because that's one of the main tools the imperial-super powers have to mold the masses with, and not only preserve this imperialist government but preserve this imperialist society. This shaping can occur on many levels, some completely obvious such as the distortion of facts in the newspapers, to less obvious misinformation on television shows. What I'm getting at is the subtle little lies and the twisting of

of the facts in the media and the veritable damage they can and do cause. It's the seemingly innocent cowboy and Indian flick that stereotypes the American Indian as a savage and the U.S. cavalry as the hero and all-around good guy in the minds of this society's youth and not so youthful. Between the lies they learn in school, the books they read and movies they watch with so much excitement and emotion, how can anyone possibly conceive of the complete terror the U.S. government caused the American Indian, and the outright genocide and destruction of their society? It's just as shocking as the genocide of the Jews during the Second World War, and yet it has been covered up with perverse falsehoods and virtually erased from history. The more I learn about the crimes committed against the American Indian by the U.S. government the more I'm appalled.

What originally prompted me to write this article was a television show I saw a few months back called Centennial which was written by James A. Michener. This show was all about the great Western expansion of the U.S. during the nineteenth century, and naturally the American Indian played a major role. As far as I'm concerned, when a story deals with any subject such as the annihilation of the Indian nation it either deals with it honestly and completely or it becomes imperialist propaganda. There's absolutely no way around it. Think about it.

--(continued on page 10)--



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bulk herbs; a large  
selection of quality  
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by Letta Tayler  
(reprinted from Guardian, Sept. 3, 1980.)

Antiabortion forces around the country are stepping up their drive for passage of a so-called Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The proposed amendment would define the fetus as a human being with full legal rights from the moment of conception. It would ban abortion entirely.

There are two ways to propose a constitutional amendment: through Congress where the amendment must be voted in by two thirds of the House and two-thirds of the Senate and ratified by two-thirds of the states, or through a constitutional convention (con-con) called for by 34 state legislatures. The con-con has been widely condemned as a mechanism which could begin a string of right-wing efforts to change the constitution. In either case, the amendment becomes law if ratified by 38 states.

So-called "pro-life" groups have opted for both methods, hoping to use the con-con as a lever to pressure Congress into voting for the amendment on its own.

HALFWAY THERE

Nineteen states have already called for a con-con, three of these since February. Sandra Faucher, director of the National Right to Life political action committee, has estimated that 66 of the 100 Senators and one-third of House members are antiabortion. Some estimate that enough votes will be gained to have a con-con within two or three years. The last con-con was held in 1787 to ratify the Constitution.

In addition to the NYRL, other anti-abortion organizations include the National Right to Life, reputed to be the fastest growing political movement in the U.S. today, the National Right to Life Committee, which has 10 million members, the Washington D.C. based March for Life and Ad Hoc Committee in Defense of Life, the National Youth Pro-Life Coalition and several others.

Both the NYRL and the national party put unremitting pressure on politicians to pledge down-the-line support for "right to life" goals such as the Human Life Amendment, and siphon off the votes of candidates who don't. The New York party has its own "hit list" on the state level. The national party has recently targeted another half dozen pro-choice congressional leaders to unseat this year.

"Unfortunately, you have to go to people you've had a good relationship with in the past, and you have to say we're very sorry but if we continue to support you and the others we'll have this issue to contend with forever," said Fran Watson, state director for NYRL.

3 YEAR PLAN

In June, the NRLC announced a 3 year plan for passage of the amendment. Top priority will be given to helping the election of "pro-life" candidates to the Senate - a strategy already used with success in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Missouri. Campaign workers will be provided to favored politicians. In an effort to gain third world support, the group Pro-Life Minorities of Calif. has announced plans to open up centers for minorities in Spanish Harlem, Florida, and California.

CONSENSUS IGNORED

Most abortion opponents consider irrelevant a national survey conducted last fall by Dresner and Tortorello Research of New York, which reported that over 88% of those interviewed supported abortion in all or some circumstances.

"It doesn't matter what the majority of people think on a poll," said Paul Weyrich, director of the right-winged, antiabortion Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, at the First Annual Respect Life Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. "What matters is the perception members of Congress have about your issue and their future." •

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WHO'S ON 1ST?

(Continued from last month)  
by Rick Davidson

As we last saw Pauline on the floor of the sinking party, the convention was locked in a life and death struggle between the Hall and McReynolds caucuses. A major misunderstanding occurred as we went into the sixth rollcall vote.

Just prior to the sixth ballot the Hall Caucus proposed that a unity candidate be put up since there was such a strong division within the convention. This unity candidate would not be dropped, but remain till the last vote, so that, if people didn't like either of the front runners they could vote for a unity slate.

The Hall Caucus went on to state that although their candidate was ahead and had a good chance of winning they didn't want the win if it was by a small majority. They hadn't decided what a 'small majority' was, but clearly a 55/45 split was too small. Therefore, if it came to that they would support the unity slate rather than split the Party.

Next the Hall and McReynolds people got together and nominated Maureen Smith and Elizabeth Barron as a unity slate. Then came the sixth vote: Hall 67, Smith/Barron 38, Griswold 19, unpledged 13, McReynolds 8, not voting 12. So McReynolds would be eliminated.

Then it hit the fan; all hell broke out with cries of how the Hall Caucus, i.e., the CP had manipulated the convention, so everyone would vote for Smith/Barron, thereby dropping McReynolds. Anyone who knows the background of the Peace & Freedom Party can imagine what the convention turned into...anything but dull.

I went to the convention with some concerns over the rumor of a "take-over" by "outside parties." This wasn't a concern with the Workers World Party, i.e., the Griswold Caucus, because the caucus consisted of long time P&F activists; only one member of WWP was a voting delegate at the convention. Yet, I knew that there were many new members (new to P&F) active in the other caucuses. But I strongly disagree with those members who saw the Smith/Barron move as manipulation by the Hall Caucus. The Hall Caucus never once said that they were planning to vote that way - it was presented as a viable option for those who wanted it. Only after the final vote and if there wasn't a clear majority, and only then, would they support a unity candidate.

Most of the Griswold people held firm; some delegates moved to the unpledged. Although I was still voting for Griswold I began to argue for a no candidate position. This would mean that we wouldn't have a presidential name on the ballot. I felt that such a position would accurately describe what was taking place within the party. I don't think any delegate seriously felt that their candidate would move into the White House next year, although the Commoner Caucus had some allusions in that direction. What difference would it make? We have always been talking about using Peace & Freedom and the election process as a way of getting issues before the people. Why couldn't we explain it to the voters? We could certainly explain it to all those non-voters who are turning away from electoral party politics. Also, we could concentrate on Dave Wald's campaign and spread the word about the process we were involved with in Peace & Freedom.

No, that's not the way it went. A motion was

made for a re-vote. Many were surprised that when the question was called it passed by a unanimous vote.

Then once again just before the vote, the Hall and McReynolds caucuses took to the platform. A joint motion was made for the convention to support the Unity Slate of Smith/Barron. And so it went with only a few of us holding out for a no-candidate position.

This gets me to the second reason of my statement in the beginning of the article (Sept. issue) "...that the Peace & Freedom Primary and its State Convention...were part of a significant development for left forces in California."

Although the Hall Caucus had a win in their pocket, they knew that it could seriously weaken the Party. Therefore, they withdrew in support of unity. Evidently they didn't want Peace & Freedom to become just another front group. This move is important for us to think about. My guess for the rationale behind the move is a desire be the CP to obtain some real unity among "left" organizations...unity as a means of protection from the obvious move to the "right" by those in power in this country.

Sectarianism has characterized the Left for the past fifteen years that I've been politically involved. There is a class privilege that allows us the space and time to be sectarian. The crises of US Imperialism grows greater every year. With each new crises (usually a people's victory somewhere in the world) there's a growing danger

to liberty and justice here at home. Whether I'm right or not about the reason behind the Hall Caucus doesn't matter. What is important is that as progressive activists we continue to experiment with structures that allow our differences to come out, be debated, and hopefully modified so we can forge enough unity to create a united front, small u, small f.

Such unity will only emerge out of common struggle. We can not afford to hide our political differences in order to achieve some false "togetherness." Nor can we continue to be so pure in our principles and practice as to put us above struggle. And for those of us that have experienced sectarianism first hand, we must keep our minds open to possible moves, shifts, changes within the ranks of those "other parties."

I hope that with the close of this century we'll also close the book on US Imperialism.

As a closing note on the convention, there was other business we had to take care of besides nominating our president and vice-president. The adoption of a platform and election of statewide officers still had to be done. Due to lack of time it was decided to continue the discussion on the various platform planks via mail, so that, we wouldn't pass something just because we needed to adjourn the convention on time.

The state officers elected were: State Chairperson - Mike Noonan, LA Co.; North Chairperson - Toni Novak, Sonoma Co.; South Chairperson - Floyd Walls, LA Co.; Treasurer - Milton Takei, Santa Barbara Co.; Secretary - Peggy Briggs, Sacramento Co.; and At-Large - Emma Mar, Alameda Co.

For further information on the convention or Peace & Freedom in general call: 387-2213. •

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**10 MEDIA (CONTINUED)**

This movie did not treat the American Indian fairly at all. The reason I'm telling you about this movie is because the way Michener dealt with the Indians was very tricky, and also because it was undoubtedly viewed by a multitude of people. What Michener managed to do was place the cavalry in his story under the command of a lunatic whose family was killed by Indians, thus blaming him for the insane slaughtering of the Indians and not the U.S. government. To make it even worse, when the government finally learned of this atrocity they immediately kicked him out of the Army, thus once again coming out as the good guys.

*Centennial* was a major television production and was also shown on pay TV. Not only that but the book was a bestseller. This gives you a pretty good idea of how many people read and watched it. It is seemingly innocent entertainment like this that buries the truth deeper and deeper into the graves of obscurity, and it's happening in your living room right now.

Since I saw *Centennial* I've been very skeptical of any TV programs that have anything to do with imperialism, under whichever guise they choose to adopt.

What finally put the pencil in my hand and the article in the mail was an episode of *Lou Grant* I recently saw on television. This particular show was all about the IRA and their underground gun-running operation between the U.S. and Ireland. Using the reportive style of this show the writers managed to cover most of the bases, but the moment everything was set up for the big climax a completely uninvolved young boy was mistakenly blown up by a bomb that was set for an agent of the IRA who wanted out. The moral of the story was that nothing will ever be accomplished by violence.

But in the process of coming to this conclusion the IRA was labeled as a bunch of bloodthirsty terrorists who will even kill their own people if they don't conform to their strict discipline. Now, I know *Lou Grant* is watched by millions of people and undoubtedly a good portion of those people now have a negative impression of the IRA, and all due to false pretenses.

It's propaganda like this that molds this society into an imperialist war machine which will undoubtedly be blindly led into another Vietnam War unless drastic changes are made, including the complete destruction of the super powers who contribute to and breed on the ignorance of the masses. Whether this drastic change comes about through revolution or as a sudden mass realization that we are living in the darkest of dark ages and must lay down our arms and Gucci handkerchiefs I do not know. But one thing for sure, until we get down to the root of the problem and destroy it the problem will never be solved. It may be hindered on occasion, but it will never be solved.

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**OF MICE & MEDICINE**

Sometime around the end of the school term last June, I happened to be out by the fence where I met up with one of the little boys from the Chicano family next door. He had a cute white rat in a cardboard box.

"Is that from your science class?", I wondered.

"No," said the boy, "he belongs to my aunt. My cousin has a sore on his chin and the rat licks it."

"What for?"

"Then the infection gets better and it heals up."

"Oh," I said, but I admit I went away thinking some fairly typical Anglo thoughts about the quaint customs and superstitions of rural Mexico, etc.

Now I see in the newspaper that research scientists at the Shriners Burn Institute and the University of Florida have been working with a discovery known as "nerve growth factor." It stimulates the growth of skin and blood vessel cells and promotes the rapid closure of wounds. They are very excited about this seemingly miraculous hormone-like substance which is obtained from -- guess where? -- the salivary glands of mice.

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photo by A. Springer

When a small community's sewage treatment plant  
Burst from Nature's attempt to cleanse the  
Dry sunken sand of Malibu Creek, several hundred  
Miles of the Los Angeles basin shoreline runs  
Contaminated with feces for months, and the waters  
are still not the same to many of us who know what  
Clean ocean water waves feel like in our eyes and  
ears

Every organism has to relinquish life when there is  
No clear distinction between food and waste.  
When there is no continuous production of food  
And continuous disposal of waste into other parts  
Of the life cycle, in a way acceptable to the Earth,  
THE HIGHER ORGANISM

Diverted water from mountain streams by-passing  
Lakes where seagulls breed, destroys delicate  
balance

Of land, water, and life.  
And the gulls are the keepers of the shoreline

"Clear water flowing  
-- Earth's blood vessel and stream  
A million dollars in a bank won't buy a drop  
Of water from a newborn spring."

Clean, fresh flowing water  
Is the life giving power of the earth  
And this is the true standard of real money --  
Not gold and silver.  
And no hand can hold it.  
And no bank can horde it.  
From the salty ocean tide, rise the ideas --  
Evaporating all useless thoughts to  
Form sweet water clouds  
That speak the cosmic order prevailing westerly  
As the earth glides through space  
Flying gulls that paint the sky and give the  
Color to the artists' eyes.  
As the seagulls, cleaners of the shoreline fly  
To Mono Lake to cleanse and replenish their souls  
And give birth to their young ones

Here in Venice, we laugh and get high,  
we fight and we cry  
And we go into long spans of eternal peacefulness  
On waters of Babylon  
As more condominiums go up in Ocean Park, city land  
bought for a million, sold for a billion, while  
The watch dogs get paid  
And the foresaken go wild  
Our clouds get high and dissipate into the sky  
And seemingly, don't come down to Earth.  
But, our visions come in color -- and  
Visions give birth.

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Ours is a stellar olympic  
Ours is Venice, California  
Where the sky speaks and people come and go like  
feathers  
Where the flower children come to trade in their  
colorful petals.

Our silver is the crest of windward waves  
Our gold is the summer moon in the twilight rising

We cry our city's purple rain.  
And soften steel with spoken sunshine

There are those who mistake lawlessness for freedom  
And in freeing themselves from their own misery  
They take someone else's life  
They break the laws of heaven to get out of their  
Own prison  
And in the worst way, take their own life.

Those who break the commandments  
Are not protected by them  
When one link comes loose, the whole  
chain of life is broken.

Life is like a chain of links, with man and woman  
Holding one end of each link  
When one pole is forsaken, then goes the  
rest of the line  
When one man dies, the whole society  
of man cries.

Go tell the police not to hold on too close to the killer  
For here in Venice, we know where he's been  
Go tell the police in the downtown Los Angeles prison  
That here in Venice, we understand why.  
Go tell them that if they choose to punish the one man only  
Then, they should open the prison walls  
and let the sun in, clear from the sky.  
For here in Venice, one of our peacemen, in sacrifice, has  
died

Tell them that clear, fresh water is the  
standard of our money  
And that prison walls keep the sickness of the  
Fools' gold society from the jail keeper's own eyes.  
And the wheels of society are being driven by men on  
A head-on collision course with other men on the track.  
Septembers death toll for our brother comes late, after  
Heaven's early April Mount Saint Helen's wind bell chimes  
calling those hard to hear of the direction of time the  
present course of man

Telephone poles not fit for sailing  
Trees that hold electrical words  
Union of Earth -- people hear the wind --  
wailing  
Lining the trees on the nuclear shores



CORRECTION

We goofed. The Beachhead erred pasting-up an  
article!  
Specifically, on p. 11 of the last issue, the  
theater review was printed out of sequence. The  
last 4 paragraphs as printed should have appear-  
ed between paragraphs three and four of the  
printed article. Apologies to Lance Diskan.

Keep up with what's on around town.  
Each week ... every week read  
The Argonaut, the newsy weekly.



in newsstands ...  
at the Venice Post Office  
and other Venice locations

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## COMMUNITY

### HUMAN RIGHTS DEMONSTRATION

Oct. 2, Thursday, in front of the FBI Office at the Federal Building, 11100 Wilshire Blvd. at 4p.m. The demonstrators are demanding freedom for Geronimo Pratt, Dhoruba Moore, and all black prisoners of war; also, to protest the FBI's COINTELPRO operation designed to destroy the struggle of black people for their human rights and self-determination. Sponsored by Prairie Fire Organizing Committee. For info call 384-1710.

### FUND RAISING PARTY

Oct. 4, Saturday. Film - "Direct Action" about the 1978 occupation at Diablo Canyon nuclear reactor site. Continuous screenings from 5-9p.m. with live music at the Los Angeles Alliance for Survival office, 712 S. Grandview, LA. \$3 Donation For info call 738-1041.

### WALK FOR SURVIVAL

Oct. 25, Saturday. 12-kilometer Walk for Survival starting at the Venice Pavillion Registration from 10a.m.-Noon. Sponsored by the Alliance for Survival.

### SINGLETARIANS

Oct. 5, Sunday. Lecture - "Shared Living Group: ASSolution for Singles." Forbes Hall, Unitarian Church, 1260 18th St. 7:30p.m. Refreshments, \$2 Donation.

### SOCIALIST COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Classes begin Oct. 6. Introduction to Marxism and Socialist Feminism. \$10 for first course, \$3 for each additional course. Call 828-9675 or write 2936 W. 8th St., Los Angeles 90005 for brochure.

### AFRO- AEROBICS

Mon., Oct. 6, 7 pm. Free demo. by Karina, exercise for mind and body. Slow rhythmic stretches followed by dynamic dancing based on tribal ceremonies. at Hot Tub Fever on Olympic. 829-1737

### Whale Watchers Wanted

American Cetacean Society needs volunteers for the 1981 whalewatch program. You will be trained as naturalist guides on whalewatch boats and to give lectures to schools and community groups. Whalewatch boats operate from Redondo, San Pedro and Long Beach during the Gray whale migration, January thru March. Training classes at Cabrillo Museum in San Pedro, beginning Oct 7 at 7:30 and continue until mid December. Info. 548-7546.

### D.B.D. TRAINING

Oct. 9, 8 pm. Rachel Rosenthal. A creative workshop using theatre ritual as a method. Enhances awareness through a gradual development of body and voice exercises, guided imagery, and theatrical pieces performed spontaneously. Free 2847 S. Robertson, L.A. Info 839-0661.

### COMMUNITY FORUM

Oct.10, Friday. Lecture - "Inside Iran" by Leonard Weinglass at the Marine Park Auditorium, 1406 E. Marine St., Santa Monica. Presented by the Santa Monica/Venice Alliance for Survival, 7:30p.m. Refreshments, Donation. For info, call 829-1667 or 473-9732.

Oct.12, Sunday. Lecture - "The Politics of Dilemma." Forbes Hall 7:30p.m. Refreshments, \$2 Donation.

Oct.19, Sunday. Lecture - "How to Keep Long-Term Relationships Interesting." Forbes Hall, 7:30p.m. Refreshments, \$2 Donation.

### NAM BENEFIT FOR THE CITIZENS PARTY!

The West L.A. pre-chapter of the New American Movement will present a musical tour-de-force Sunday, October 19, 7 PM at the Church in Ocean Park, 220 Hill St. Musicians lined up, so far, for the dance-concert include Bernie Pearl, Eric Ahlberg and the Midnight Specials, and jazz flutist Cookie Harris. Many others are expected to show support for the progressive ticket of Barry Commoner and La Donna Harris. Dance till midnight. Food

### DEMONSTRATION MOTHERS OF THE PLAZA DE MAYO

Sun., Oct. 19, 11-3 pm. Westwood, Glendale Fed Bldg. at Broxton. Demonstration in support of people who have disappeared without a trace and are thought to be victims of Argentine security forces. Amnesty International. 388-1237

Oct.26, Sunday. Lecture - "Dreams as Metaphors of Your Life." Forbes Hall, Refreshments, \$2 Donation.

## ART

### MASK MAKING WORKSHOP AT SPARC

The ancient art of mask making will be taught in a series of four classes at the Social & Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) 685 Venice Bl., 822-9560, beginning Saturday, October 4th, from 1 PM to 4 PM.

The four session series for children in grades 3 to 9 will look at masks in many cultures through gallery visits, films and slides. Artist Arlene Hendler will lead students in making masks from a variety of materials including papier-mache, plaster of paris, cellulay, feathers and found objects. The class will participate in the "Festival of Masks" parade (L.A. Craft & Folk Art Museum) taking place Sunday, Oct. 26th. The four session fee is \$25

## DANCE

Oct. 4 Rodeo ex Machina Dance Company 8:30 p.m. in benefit performance for the California Dance Educators Assn., Morgan Theatre. Call 396-1080 for information. \$7.50

## FILM

Oct. 11 An evening of films featuring 8 p.m. Robert Flaxman's "The Labor of Love," and animated shorts by Jeff Gothard. Beyond Baroque, Old Venice City Hall.822-30065 Free

## MUSIC

Oct. 8 Duo recital. Gloria Ramsey, 8:15 p.m. clarinetist and Michael Cave pianist in works by Brahms, Poulenc, and music for recorders, bass krummhorn and rankett. Call 649-3057. St. Roberts Auditorium, Loyola Marymount University. \$5 donation

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## POETRY

### GEORGE SAND POETRY

Oct. 5 Painter-poet Michael Lawrence will read play Modigliani in Flourescent, a romantic satire.  
Oct. 12. Poetry of Fred Nettlebeck  
Oct. 19. Poetry of Tim Joyce  
Poetry of Rosalind Neroni  
Oct. 26. Timothy Ferris discusses his book Galaxies. Discussion follows.  
Nov. 2. Roberta Smoodin reads from Ursus Major.  
Nov. 9. Poetry of Mary McGrath and Wendy Cohen.

### BEYOND BAROQUE

Oct. 5 8 pm. Open Poetry Reading  
Oct. 10 Evening of poetry featuring 8 p.m. Judy Grahn and Steve Abbott Free

Oct. 17, 8 pm. Arthur Rimbaud Birthday Cele. Readings, brief history of his life, and showing of the film Blood of a Poet. FREE  
Oct. 18, 8 pm. Native American Poets Barney Bush, Orié Sherman, Kathy Apodaca, Trinidad Krystall, Carole Marie.

## THEATER

Sept. 25- "Othello," starring Stan Haze  
Oct. 24 at the 5th Street Theatre, in 8 p.m. L.A. Call 246-2641 for res.

### HAYFEVER BY NOEL COWARD

Opens Oct 9, Thurs-Sat 8 pm, Sunday at 2pm. Guzartz Players, sponsored by Guzartz Gallery and SPARC. Comedy. For ticket info: 396-2579

### CAMILLE ENSEMBLE

Starts Oct 9 thru Nov. 16, Thrus-Sun, 8 pm. A musical play - "A History of the American Film" original presented at Mark Taper in 1977. At Pilot I Theatre. 6600 Santa Monica Blvd. Holly. info 473-4031.

## Small World Books PRESENTS



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### NEW SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Progressive Foundation, a non-profit educational foundation in Madison, WI announces a new speakers bureau of author's, filmmakers, and political activists. Topics include nuclear power, civil liberties, militarism and disarmament, labor, the economy, feminist ecology, and current events. For a free catalog and info write, the Progressive Foundation, 315 W. Gorham St., Madison Wisconsin 53703.

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You and Your Aging Parent Group, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Women in Transition Group, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.  
Women and Money, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
Senior Rap Group 10:30 a.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Couple Communication Group, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Intermarriage Group, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Re-Educate Appétite Weight Group, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

#### THURSDAYS

Single Parent Survival Group, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
Mens Support Group, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
1424 4th St. Santa Monica: Info: 393-0732

### DIAL AN ATHEIST

New service, updated recorded message. 277-6770.