

# NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT

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*Framed by Westinghouse*

## *Santa Barbara*

# Community Defends Strikers, Battles Police

by Steve Simmons and Karen Wild, Santa Barbara NAM

SANTA BARBARA -- For working people in the largely unorganized area of Santa Barbara, California, the 14-week old strike of Browning-Ferris Industries garbage workers is a major showdown. BFI, a huge multinational corporation, hopes to crush the strike and break the union organization of its workers here as an example to employees in other BFI operations around the country.

The Santa Barbara chapter of NAM has participated since the beginning of the strike in picketing, organizing fundraising events, and

legal defense, and helping to fight the local government bureaucracy in obtaining food stamps and unemployment benefits for the predominantly Spanish-speaking strikers.

The workers have had an on-going struggle with management since 1973, when they were sold out by a Teamster-signed sweetheart contract. The dispute centers around an oppressive wage system under which workers are paid by the day instead of by the hour, with little overtime pay, and other problems such as the unfair firing of a shop steward in September, one week before negotiations began. The strikers are firmly united: either all go back to work, including their shop steward, or none of them will. Other demands include safety equipment, steel dollies to reduce back injuries (which the company denied the workers but provided for the scabs immediately), a five day work week only, one day sick leave per month, and two paid holidays.

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# Johnny Brown Unites Blacks and Whites Against Racism

by Jane Kahn Alper

BOSTON -- Despite a conclusive showing of his innocence, Johnnie Brown, a 32 year old black father of two young children who used to work at the Westinghouse plant in Hyde Park, Boston, was found guilty in March of cashing a stolen Westinghouse payroll check.

On the evening of July 23, JB was attacked by a ROAR-dominated mob in front of a police station on his way home from work. The crowd yelled racial slurs, smashed the windows of his car, and tried to pull Brown and his passenger out of the car, while 30 policemen stood by and watched. Only after Brown backed his car onto the sidewalk to escape the mob did the police intervene -- they ordered him to "get out of here."

Furious at the police inaction, Brown complained to the police officials, who suggested that black workers take a different route home. He contacted the police commissioner, the FBI, the news media, and the Westinghouse management. No one was interested.

In contrast to the official indifference, Brown discovered enthusiastic support among his fellow employees, black and white. Black workers came forward with stories of similar experiences of racist attacks, and some whites explained that the gangs involved in these incidents often harassed white people in Hyde Park. Many of them signed a petition that Brown and his friends circulated at the plant, protesting the police inaction and demanding protection for black workers.

Jane Kahn Alper is a student member of the National Lawyers Guild and has been working on the trial.

Something very important to race relations in Boston was taking place at the Westinghouse plant. Black and white workers were learning from one another about police abuses and the viciousness of racism, and taking steps to do something about it.

Westinghouse's response was swift. They demanded that Brown stop circulating the petitions, and Brown complied.

Two months later, Brown was arrested and charged with cashing two stolen Westinghouse payroll checks. He was taken to the police station and held for 12 hours before being permitted to make a phone call.

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A planned May Day demonstration turned into a police riot as the power structure in Santa Barbara attempted to drown out the workers' movement in a sea of blood and terror. At 5:30 a.m. May 1st, 400 strikers, leftists, and community supporters gathered at the two entrances of Browning Ferris Industries in an attempt to win a three month old strike.

The strike lines were militant but in general peaceful. Following a brief scuffle between scabs and demonstrators, the police declared an "unlawful" assembly, which was drowned out by the chanting demonstrators and strikers: "The people united will never be defeated!"

Ten minutes later a solid line of 50 club-wielding police marched slowly towards the demonstrators. When the police were within 15 feet of the strike lines, they broke ranks and charged the picketers. There was a short pitched battle as the police beat anything within reach. Strikers and supporters felled by the police clubs were set upon by fellow police officers who

## Demonstrate in Philadelphia July 4th

(see editorial, page 2)

### Inside:

- Forced sterilization
- Senate Bill 1 and labor
- FBI plot against Panthers
- Talley's country music
- People's history: 1934
- Gay Pride Week and more . . .

kicked and clubbed fallen bodies.

After a brief attempt at self-defense, the crowd fell back to a street intersection, only to be met by another "squad of terror" advancing down a side street in an attempt to trap the people and make arrests. This fact was acknowledged by the police in the local news media. Again the sound of clubs meeting heads and the scream of the wounded punctured the oppressive morning air of Santa Barbara. The crowd continued a somewhat orderly retreat, forming periodically only to be set upon by police on foot.

Mounted police on motorcycles made repeated charges on the crowd, cutting off and arresting people in two's and three's. After several cycle charges, the crowd finally scattered, only to be hunted down by roving police squads. Within the space of an hour, 33 demonstrators were arrested and scores injured. Many of the arrests occurred over three-quarters of a mile from Browning Ferris Industries.

letters

We welcome responses to our articles. Letters should be 200 words or less. If they are longer, the Newspaper Collective reserves the right to edit them for reasons of space.

Editors:

Writing to comment on the front-page article Taxes and Welfare in the April issue. The article mentions that business has at least three reasons for wanting to slash government spending and cites as part of the first reason, "Government borrowing competes with business borrowing for the available loan money, and drives up interest rates." Unfortunately, this theme was not developed further.

This seems to me to be a shallow analysis, because it implies that the ruling class is composed exclusively of a business faction and a government faction that are competing with each other for the job of Boss Pig. I've heard it suggested, and it makes sense to me, that this hasn't been the case for over twenty years. While it's true that contradictions and dissension between and within the supernational post-capitalist world monarchy are paving the way for more representative forms of government, anarchy at the highest levels of the ruling class isn't yet a reality. Besides, from whom are the government and business borrowing this "available loan money"? Who is it that's driving up the interest rates? In short, who controls the economy to such an extent as to dominate the business and government sectors?

The article also calls for tax reform and states such reform "...should not be viewed in isolation." This reminds me of Gene McCarthy's statement that a tax cut, while necessary, isn't sufficient to cure the economy, as "a cut in income taxes doesn't help very much when you're too poor to pay income tax in the first place." McCarthy is still campaigning on the platform of a federally-guaranteed adequate income for those unable to work as well as calling for a 35-hour work week and a 48-week work year.

Also, I was wondering why Elayne Rapping's Women and Science Fiction didn't include mention of the talented and leftist Ursula K. LeGuin. Anyway, enclosed is \$4 for a year's sub.

Fraternally,  
Farrel Sveslosky

Dear Newspaper People,

The Berkeley chapter of Science for the People/SESPA has published a booklet on nuclear power that is written from a radical perspective and deserves wide circulation. It is titled "Nuclear Power," and is written in clear language for a wide audience.

The booklet mainly deals with the economic and political questions about nuclear power: do we need more power, and if so, how much? How much does nuclear power cost? Who's behind the push for nuclear power? Does nuclear power mean more jobs? And what are the alternatives to nuclear power?

These issues are important to socialists. The Ford Administration is solidly committed to developing nuclear power as the nation's main energy source by the year 2000. This commitment will involve hundreds of billions of dollars invested by utilities and energy companies. But this money will go into an enterprise that is extremely dangerous, fantastically expensive, of questionable workability, and subject to monopoly control by a few giant corporations.

The booklet written by Science for the People is a good basic education about these issues, and can be used in mass campaigns. Copies can be obtained from Science for the People, Box 4161, Berkeley, CA 94704. Single copies cost 50 cents, or ten for \$3.00.

Sisters and brothers,

The letter from Dora Kaplan (April 1976) criticizing Elayne Rapping's review for stating that China was a "nation which had 'solved the problem of rape'" is a fine example of how not to conduct a discussion. Ms. Kaplan pretty much ignores the issue of rape as well as China's actual approach to women's liberation. Instead she assumes - what is quite aside from the point - that Elayne Rapping considers China "a model for sexual relations" in the U.S., and then "discovers" some quotations that demonstrate that it is not. This method only serves to create a polemical atmosphere that produces more heat than light.

To make matters worse, the quotations are really hack stuff of about the same significance as Birch society quotations from Lenin, or Stalinist quotes from Trotsky.

They tell nothing of the position of the Chinese or Chinese women, but are designed only to demonstrate that women's liberation cannot be achieved by socialist revolution. One excerpt asserts that sexual relations outside of marriage is worth "six months in jail for the overeager young man." Another, that "should a rape be committed, we should arrange a marriage." Most peculiar, these Chinese patriarchy! They punish the male for non-marital relations, and honor sexual assault with marriage. Ms. Kaplan should review her list of quotations in context, as something seems to have been lost in translation.

Few people consider China a model for sexual relations in the U.S. But this is - at least for the present - a secondary matter. What is most important is whether

the revolution advanced the status of women and established a base for further progress. On both these substantive matters, the answer is clearly "yes."

The Chinese may not provide a model, but they are, after all, only one generation away from literally thousands of years of the most vicious sexual oppression known anywhere in the world. They have had to get rid of a real - not figurative - patriarchal family relationship with absolute male domination back to the ancestors, and the direct inner-family dominance of the mother-in-law. They have outlawed concubines and prostitution. They have ended child selling, infanticide, and the deliberate physical deformation of women. They have established property and income rights for women - married or not -

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editorial

See You in Philadelphia

"Look up, America," this is the year of the Bicentennial. "See what you've got" - racial violence, inflation, and unemployment - "is this the sunny side of living" - "look up America, see what you've got" - patriotic TV commercials, dime-store flags and bunting, star-spangled T-shirts - "is this the real thing?"

Apparently not; the original plans of government and the corporations to organize a high-pressure Bicentennial pop seem to have lost their fizz. And no wonder. How could Madison Avenue reconcile the revolutionary ideals of freedom, equality, and justice with our corporate-government reality, convince the American people that overpriced Bicentennial gew-gaws represent anything we're proud of?

Where does that leave us? The collapse of much of the official hoopla leaves a vacuum, waiting to be filled by a commitment to move on from the revolution of 1776 and build a new revolution appropriate to the needs of the 1970's.

In Philadelphia on July 4th, Gerald Ford, Queen Elizabeth II, and Nelson Rockefeller will head the official Independence Day celebration, a hypocritical spectacle where the American Empire will smugly recall an anti-colonial war. But July 4th will also be a day for actions by the people - us. The July 4th Coalition plans to mobilize 60,000 people in a Bicentennial demonstration in Philadelphia, a show of unity among progressive forces.

Initiated by the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, with the active involvement of over 200 organizations nationally, the July 4th Coalition sees a U.S. world empire being overcome by newly emerging nations demanding local control and independence from colonial rule. Domestically, the economic situation and erosion of democratic rights are signs of a ruling class fostering a rightward drift in American consciousness. The Coalition stresses the need for all local struggles to merge, on this day, into one united force for a symbolic show of strength. Floats and banners

first demonstration in many years to have national, multiracial leadership and character. The national Coalition expects 20,000 Puerto Ricans from New York to participate.

For all these reasons, we encourage all our friends to become involved in the Coalition's organizing work. We are arranging buses to Philadelphia from many cities. In every area, there's a great deal of work to be done in the way of outreach and mobilization, media, and fund-raising.

The problems of our country cannot be solved by returning to the past structure, but by changing the entire economic and social structure of the United States. We must go to Philadelphia to show that the "official" celebration is not supported by or representative of the people. We must show how we want the Bicentennial celebrated.

See you in Philadelphia!



Frank Bove, Steve Carlip, Sandy Carter, Chris Casey, Chris Ghibelline, Roger Gottlieb, Carollee Howes, Jenny Lovejoy, Larry Miller, Kathy Moore, Karen Morgan, Elissa Pogue

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The New American Movement (NAM) exists to help organize a movement for democratic socialism in the United States. Our aim is to establish working class control of the enormous productive capacity of American industry, to create a society that will provide material comfort and security for all people, and in which the full and free development of every individual will be the basic goal. Such a society will strive for decentralization of decision-making, an end to bureaucratic rule, and participation of all people in shaping their own lives and the direction of society. We believe the elimination of sexist and racist institutions and the dismantling of American economic and social control abroad are central to the struggle for socialism.

Documents reveal

# FBI Used Burglaries, Forgeries, Assassinations Against Black Movement

by Steve Carlip, Newspaper Collective

Secret FBI documents released last month by a Senate committee have revealed a massive effort by the Bureau to "destroy" the Black Panther Party.

The revelations came only days after Louis Tackwood, a former Los Angeles police agent, told a San Rafael jury that his "last completed assignment" had been "to assassinate [Black Panther leader] George Jackson."

According to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, the FBI used agents and forged messages to try to create splits in the Black Panther Party, provoked "gang warfare" between the Panthers and other groups, and planted stories with newspapers and television stations to try to discredit the Panthers.

The FBI took credit for a series of shoot-outs between the Panthers and US, a rival black nationalist group, which left four Panthers dead. In a message which "pointed with pride" to the violence, the San Diego FBI office informed headquarters that "shootings, beatings, and a high degree of unrest continue to prevail in the ghetto areas of southeast San Diego. Although no specific counterintelligence actions can be credited with contributing to this overall situation, it is felt that a substantial amount of the unrest is directly attributable to this program."

In another incident, the FBI sent a forged letter to Jeff Forte, leader of the Blackstone Rangers in Chicago, warning him that the Black Panthers planned to kill him. A memo said the Bureau hoped the letter "may ... occasion Forte to take retaliatory action."

## Provoking Splits

Under orders from J. Edgar Hoover to "exploit all avenues of creating further dissension" within the Black Panther Party, the FBI sent a "barrage" of false messages between Panther leaders Eldridge Cleaver and Huey Newton to try to create a "chaotic situation." FBI agents told Cleaver that Newton was trying to undercut his influence. A forged letter on Panther stationery called Cleaver "a murderer and a punk," in an effort to provoke a split.

The FBI also circulated forged cartoons, purportedly from other black organizations, which attacked the Panthers. FBI provocateur William O'Neal was recommended for a \$300 a month raise for preventing a coalition between the Panthers and the Blackstone Rangers, "aborting merger talks between the Vice Lords and the Panthers," and causing the "public arrest of [Panther leader] Fred Hampton under circumstances which proved highly embarrassing to the BPP."

A Black Panther spokesman called the Senate report "the tip of an iceberg," and charged that most of the FBI's illegal activities are still unreported. The Senate committee itself reported that the FBI had obstructed its investigation, and suggested a search of 500,000 more FBI files dealing with continuing Bureau activities.

## King Also a Target

In a separate report, the Senate committee disclosed that Dr. Martin Luther King was another target of a "vicious" FBI smear campaign. Former FBI Assistant Director William Sullivan told the committee that "no holds were barred" in the activities directed at Dr. King. Bill Moyers, special assistant to President Johnson, personally approved the circulation of a monograph on Dr. King which included a section on his private life based on bugs in his hotel suites.

Even after King was assassinated, the FBI considered a plan directed against his widow, and arranged a secret briefing of key members of Congress in an effort to block a bill declaring his birthday a national holiday.

The report also stated that Dr. King was placed on a special list of people "to be rounded up and detained in the event of a national emergency." The list, called "Section A of the Reserve Index," also included such people as author Norman

Mailer.

The Senate investigation revealed 1300 break-ins by the FBI between 1942 and 1970. More than 200 of these were "black bag-jobs," illegal break-ins performed without search warrants for such purposes as "physical search and photographing or seizing documents." An internal FBI memo admitted that these break-ins were "clearly illegal."

The Senate unit also reported that wiretaps had been used by every President since the 1930's "to serve the interests of Presidents in almost every political arena." One early victim was longshore union president Harry Bridges.

Other targets included civil rights groups such

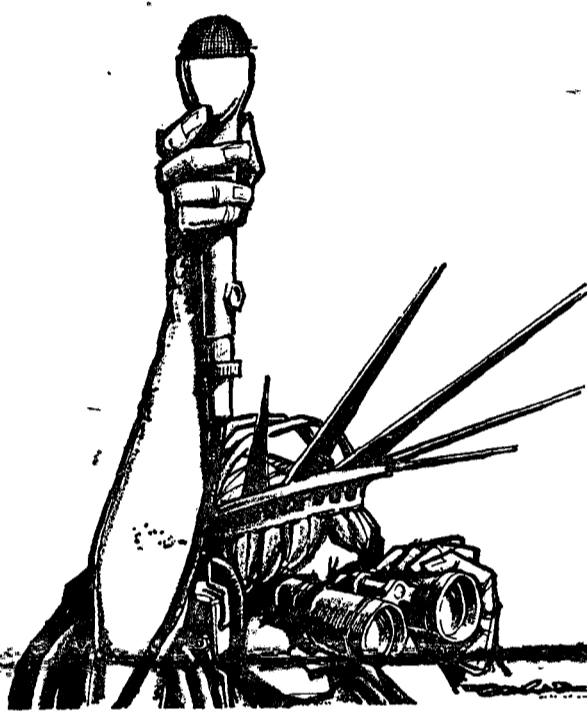
as the NAACP, socialist organizations, and anti-war activists. The Boston FBI tried to persuade a cartoonist for a northeastern newspaper to depict a group of antiwar activists as "traitors." The Bureau contacted a number of law schools in an effort to keep one professor from being hired, and spread rumors in an attempt to get others fired.

FBI agents broke into the New York offices of the Socialist Workers Party at least 92 times, and stole a briefcase belonging to the party's presidential candidate. The SWP is suing the government for \$27 million in connection with the break-ins.

The Senate committee revealed that the FBI spends twice as much money on "domestic intelligence" informers as it spends on organized crime informers.

## Continuing Activity

Responding to the charges against the agency, FBI Director Clarence Kelly said that "some of these activities were clearly wrong," but added that others were done "in good faith." The "Cointelpro" program under which the FBI activities took place was officially disbanded for "security reasons" in 1971, after files stolen from the Bureau's Media, Pennsylvania office disclosed its existence. But the Senate investigators reported that FBI break-ins and the use of provocateurs is continuing.



cpf

## Police Agent Reveals Plot to Kill George Jackson

reprinted from Workers World

A major breakthrough occurred in the trial of the San Quentin Six when Louis E. Tackwood, a police agent, testified on April 15 that one of his assignments as an undercover agent had been to assassinate black revolutionary George Jackson.

The San Quentin 6, on trial for over a year, are accused in the killings of three guards and three prisoners during the August 21, 1971 "escape attempt" in which George Jackson was shot to death. They have long maintained that they are being framed up as part of the state's attempt to cover up its assassination of Jackson.

For a decade, Tackwood was an informant and agent provocateur for both the Criminal Conspiracy Section (CCS) of the Los Angeles police and the California State Bureau of Identification and Investigation (SBII). He claims that the CCS had planned to murder Jackson on August 23, but the SBII, fearing incompetence, killed him two days ahead of schedule.

"As far back as October of 1970 we knew there was a plot to break him out ... by various people," Tackwood told the press during a court recess. "I went in with the specific orders to help the plot along, and find out the dates, the approximate dates, that they would try to break him out, and then we'd step in and kill him. ... I can name names, dates and places, people and the guns used."

## Police Rivalry

Prosecutor Jerry Herman objected to Tackwood's testimony, and a hearing took place outside the presence of the jury. During that hearing, Tackwood disclosed that the CCS had infiltrated the Black Panther Party, both in Los Angeles and in the San Francisco area. He also

testified that the CCS assassination plot called for Melvin "Cotton" Smith, like Tackwood an informant provocateur, to kill Jackson on the 23rd, when the prisoner was scheduled to be transported from San Quentin to San Francisco to appear in a trial there.

But the SBII, in a case of inter-police rivalry, jumped the gun. Tackwood said that, as part of the plot, on August 1 he and two other Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) officers gave an inoperative .38 calibre snub nosed revolver to a San Quentin guard to be planted outside the Adjustment Center. When news of the slaying reached Los Angeles, Tackwood continued, Lt. Robert Field, CCS officer in charge, responded, "Now we're going to have to get that gun out of San Quentin. But it's a good thing they killed that black bastard anyway."

Shortly afterward, Tackwood, who is black, left the LAPD. He later disclosed his role as a provocateur.

Returning to court Friday, Tackwood was warned by Judge Henry Broderick that his testimony could leave him open to a charge of first degree murder. Tackwood later told reporters that at least 25 other agents and California state officials, including State Attorney General Evelle Younger, would be implicated by his testimony. He said, "If I am to be indicted, will my employers be indicted ... And if that becomes the case, then I'm going to tell you I don't mind standing trial."

Judge Broderick ruled to limit Tackwood's testimony to his own personal knowledge of or involvement in Jackson's death, specifically allegations about the planting of the .38. However, the judge had to admit, "This might be the most important story in California law enforcement in thirty years, but tell it to a grand jury. We'll end up trying the L.A. Police Department."

# What We Did

Many of us feel sleepy as soon as someone uses the word "history." It's not that the past was boring, but we somehow never hear the stories about our parents and grandparents, what their lives were like, how they made the world the way it is. "History is taught to us as a series of stories about famous men -- few women, almost no black people, and scarcely ever a working person.

made the world the way it is. "History" is taught to us as a series of stories about famous men - few women, almost no black people, and scarcely ever a working person.

Our history is intriguing - the stories of how we got fired for doing something she had every right to do).

This is the first of a series of articles about our past -- the history of workers, farmers, slaves, housewives, and rebels who fought for and won the rights we have today. We hope that our history will give us confidence in our future -- our ability to go on fighting for an America owned and run by all the people.

## 1934

The Twenties and early Depression years were a disaster for the Labor Movement. Union membership declined. Strikes were few and rarely successful. Hundreds of thousands of industrial workers remained unorganized, while organized labor was dominated by the conservative craft unionists of the AFL. Despair and an overriding concern for day to day survival were common among working people in the early years of the Depression.

During 1934, 1.47 million workers went on strike -- the largest number in a dozen years. Workers flooded into unions, many of them in previously unorganized auto, steel, electrical, and rubber industries. By 1934 workers had learned from experience that the New Deal would not give them dignity and the better life that they desired. Nor was the AFL leadership any help. It became clear that rank and file workers would have to fight for what they wanted.

In April, workers at the Electric Auto-Lite

plant in Toledo went on strike for union recognition and a wage increase. Their picket lines were joined by Unemployed League members organized by the American Workers Party, a radical group led by A.J. Muste. Workers and unemployed defied an injunction against mass picketing and battled police and National Guardsmen who attempted to keep the plant open. On May 24, thousands drove the Guard back three times, at which point the guard opened fire, killing two and wounding fifteen. The strikers remained defiant. More troops arrived. The plant was closed and finally, on June 4, the company gave in.

recognized and firmly established, but with their other demands only partially met.

Also in May, Minneapolis truck drivers, led by the Dunne brothers, struck for recognition and higher wages. Their strike was carried out with military precision. "Flying Squadrons," groups of mobile pickets, were dispatched from strike headquarters to wherever employers attempted to move goods by truck. Armed with clubs and lead pipe, strikers and their supporters routed police and special deputies in a confrontation known as the "Battle of Deputies Run." During July, police attempting to move a truck opened fire, killing two and wounding 65 workers. Over



Young, unprivileged workers, like these sit-down strikers in Detroit, led the labor upsurge of 1930s.

In May longshoremen in San Francisco and throughout the West Coast, led by Harry Bridges, went on strike for a union hiring hall, recognition, and higher wages. They were soon joined by maritime workers and teamsters who struck in sympathy despite the opposition of their leaders. Despite the efforts of International Longshoremen's Association leaders and government mediators, the workers held out, with the rank and file firmly in control of the strike. On July 3, thousands of strikers and sympathizers battled the police who attempted to open the port for the employers. In response to the arrival of the National Guard, and in solidarity with the longshoremen, 130,000 workers participated in a three day General Strike which rank and file workers forced on reluctant AFL leaders. On July 31 the longshoremen returned to work with their union

50,000 workers turned out for the funeral of the two killed on "Bloody Friday." The strikers remained firm and, despite the presence of the National Guard and the arrest of their leaders, triumphed on August 22.

The militant spirit and solidarity of 1934 continued for several years, culminating in the sit-down strikes and the CIO's successful organization of several million previously unorganized workers.



## letters...

on the farms; have brought women into the labor force and into the schools. They now have women scientists, doctors, technicians, administrators, party and civic leaders, etc. As a by-product of this, they have ended venereal disease, are fast resolving the population problem, and, as Ms. Kaplan's own quotations indicate, have ended rape as a social problem.

Moreover, the basis for future progress has been established, and Chinese women can honestly say, "We have gone far, and we shall go farther!" ...

American women begin from a different historical level of social relations, and on a technological level in which the concept of either economic subservience within the family or economic necessity for the bourgeois family no longer applies. The socialist revolution here will open possibilities for the relationship between human beings never before dreamed of. Not as a task for the future, but as an immediate practical task for all of society. ...

Comradely,  
Frank Krasnowsky

Collective members,

In the April issue you published a letter dealing with feminism and "sexual liberation" in China. Dora Kaplan stated categorically that "China maintains the same patriarchal authoritarian structures from the male dominated ruling democracy at the top of Chinese society down to the sexually repressive families at the town and village level seen in every other country in the world." I disagree with this statement and would like to break it down into two parts for analysis as well as to show my reasons for disagreeing.

First, the part "China ... down to," presumes several things about China. The assumption is that in China social, political, and sexual relations are

- static, unchanging
- male dominated
- bureaucratically controlled
- and that women have little or no control.

From everything I have heard, one thing in China is certain: social relations are not static. The revolution in China is continuous (witness the Cultural Revolution and, recently, widespread struggle of the peasant and

working class against elite groups in the Party and the government). This continuous struggle is the result of continuing contradictions between classes of people, between individual people, and within individuals.

To say that China is male dominated is like saying that a mouthful of raw carrot pieces, being chewed, is still a carrot. The pieces (remnants of male dominated pre-Liberation society) are still recognizable as carrot though they will never be a carrot again. As the chewing continues they will cease to be recognizable as such. That the higher offices of the Communist Party and the People's Government are male dominated is true. This is a direct result of the nature of Chinese society before Liberation. Until 1949, women had no legal status, very few educational opportunities, and most had few contacts outside the home and village. In addition to their exploitation as members of the peasant and working class, they were subject to exploitation as women.

The Communist Party called for complete equality of the sexes and an end to the exploitation of women, but it was some time (not until the period 1940-1945) before women joined the struggle in large numbers. Since 1949 women have moved very rapidly in taking their rightful place in all facets of life (see **Women Hold Up Half The Sky** -- \$1.00, available through Yen-an Books, Berkeley). Certainly overt sex-typed discrimination has all but ended, though many remnants and prejudices of Old China remain.

To say "ruling bureaucracy" is to imply that China is very different, structurally, than it is. The implication that I get from this phrase is that the Communist Party and the central ministries in Peking make decisions for all the people on all, or most, issues. This implication flies in the face of all that has happened since 1949 and, especially, since the revolution of 1966. The Cultural Revolution and succeeding movements distinctly point out the decentralized nature of Chinese decision making and power.

Women do control their lives in China to a great extent. This again is not a static position, but rather a dynamic one. They are advancing on all fronts (social, political, economic, ...). This is encouraged by the male dominated Communist Party and is seen as an absolute necessity for the ultimate victory by the working class in the class struggle.

Second, the part of Kaplan's statement "the sexually ... country in the world" makes what I see as an unfair value

judgement. I think it is very difficult to be objective when viewing a culture which is so different from our own. ...

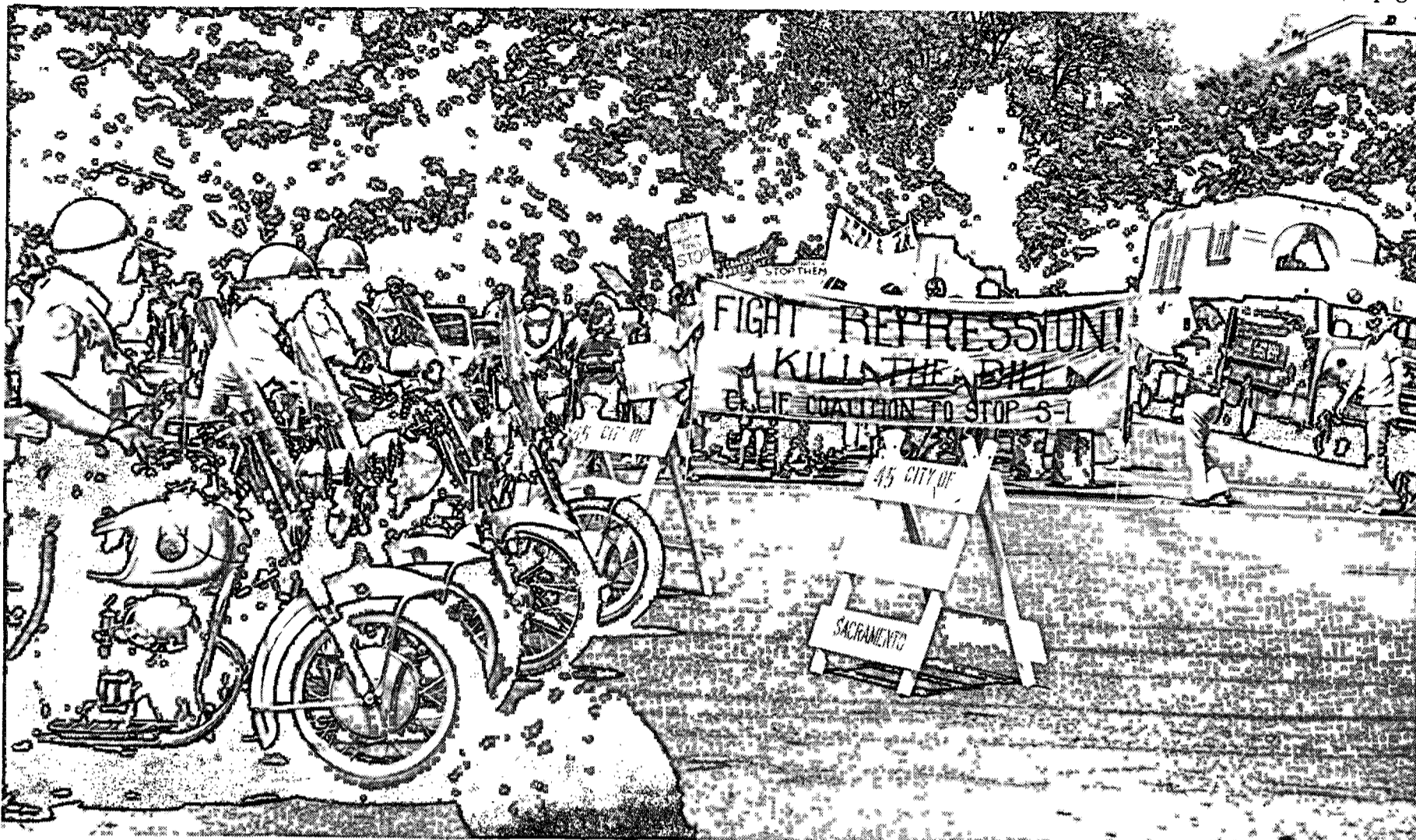
China has what some would call a puritanical attitude toward sex. It really is not puritanical, but is narrow according to the standards of many people in the U.S. A sexual life is encouraged only for married partners. Sex outside of marriage is discouraged. It seems that public discussion of sex is relatively rare although not unheard of. Sexual liberation, that is, having the opportunity and liberty of engaging in whatever sexual relationships an individual may desire, does not exist in China today.

Sexual activity is confined (by social pressure and custom, not police-state tactics) to a monogamous, heterosexual, marital status. However, within that status there is considerable freedom. No one has to marry anyone unless he/she wants to. This is a radical change from the planned marriages of Old China. All birth control methods are available to both men and women in every neighborhood, village, and commune. Available -- not forced, as in many countries. Men and women have jobs with self-sufficient incomes, cheap or free day care, and medical insurance. This allows the marital relationship to develop without the economic dependency of one partner on the other.

As China is a poor country with an immense and growing population there is less leisure time and far less opportunity for sexual relationships to develop. The people live very close to one another, and this certainly inhibits casual sexual relationships. The conditions of life in China have a definite causal effect in limiting sexual relationships to the monogamous marital variety. Whether this will be so in the future remains to be seen. What I can say is that sexual, and all other, relations between men and women have advanced immeasurably from those of Old China 27 years ago.

I think we can learn a lot from the example of the continuing revolution and class struggle in China. We cannot do this by idolizing the Chinese nor by ignoring them. The Chinese people have made many mistakes both in internal and external policies. Sound analysis and criticism of their failures and successes is very important for both ourselves and them. This can be applied to struggles here in the U.S. as well. We need unity based on criticism and analysis in the struggle for common goals, not condemnation of those who do things differently than we do.

Kurt Brouwer



About 1000 people marched in a spirited demonstration against Senate Bill One in Sacramento on May 1st. The demonstration was organized by the California Coalition Against S-1. Endorsers included NAM, the Black Panther Party, the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), the National Lawyers Guild, the Gay Students Alliance of San Francisco City College, and the ACLU. Local Stop S-1 committees in California are planning more activities in the struggle against the bill.

## S-1 -- A Tighter Rope for Labor

reprinted from Dollars and Sense

"If Senate Bill #1 had been law, our strike at Worthington Compressor could have been declared illegal on several grounds. Since Worthington makes compressors for the Navy, our strike could have been defined as 'curtailing the national defense.' If we had obstructed the company's efforts to keep the plant running, we could have been charged with 'sabotage of a facility used in national defense.'

"And our picket lines could have been defined as a 'riot' which would have meant, according to S-1, 'a gathering of 10 or more participants which creates a grave danger of imminently causing damage to property.' The U.E. leaders who crossed state lines to support us could have been charged with 'crossing state lines to incite a riot.' And sympathetic news coverage could be punished as 'aiding and abetting a criminal act.'"

This run-down of the horrors which could be legalized by Senate Bill #1 (S-1) comes from Chris Horton, secretary of United Electrical Workers Local 259, Holyoke, Massachusetts. Horton's local had just concluded a successful strike at Worthington Compressor, subsidiary of Studebaker Corporation. If S-1 were law today, the strike probably would have failed.

### Attack on Labor

In addition to its long list of onslaughts against political liberties, S-1 includes a thorough attack on the labor movement. Abe Feinglass, Vice-President of the Amalgamated Meatcutters, explained, "What the Ford crowd fears more than anything else is a broad movement of blacks and whites building up against the economic crisis as you had during the Vietnam War ... the S-1 bill could cut the ground out from organizing such a movement."

S-1's attack on labor goes well beyond its general restrictions on political dissent and interference with "national defense." One important part of the bill would seriously undermine labor's most effective weapon -- the right to strike. S-1 broadens the 1937 Hobbs Act, passed ostensibly

as an attack against "labor racketeers." The Hobbs Act forbids "extortion" or "blackmail," defined as "wrongful" use of force to shake down an employer or make an employer pay for unwanted, unnecessary services.

In 1971, the Nixon Administration tried to use the Hobbs Act against several officials of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in Louisiana, charging that they had sought to use violence to obtain higher wages in the course of a lawful strike. The government claimed that the term "wrongful" applied to the use of violence and not the goal of the violence, thus implying that any threat of violence in a strike amounted to extortion.

Conviction under the Hobbs Act could have meant 20 years in jail and a \$10,000 fine per person. In a 5 to 4 decision, however, the Supreme Court ruled that the term "wrongful" referred to the goal, and therefore the Hobbs Act did not apply to a lawful strike.

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**The authors of S-1 expanded the definition of blackmail to include any threat to subject an employer to economic injury.**

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For the authors of S-1, it was easy enough to correct the Supreme Court's error. First, they simply wrote S-1 to eliminate the word "wrongful" from the definition of "extortion" and "blackmail." Then, they went on to expand "blackmail" to include any threat to subject an employer to economic injury.

Thus, under S-1, every union official engaged in a strike would be subject to prosecution if violence occurred during the strike, if violence were threatened, or even if the employer were made to feel economic loss.

Other parts of S-1 would effectively outlaw militant picketing, that is, picketing where scabs are not allowed to cross the line. Under the bill, militant pickets would face 3 to 7 years in jail for "rioting," defined as 10 or more persons creating "a grave danger of imminently causing damage to

property." No actual violence need occur.

Another special provision covers government employees. They would be subject to a year in prison for obstructing any governmental function by "physical interference or obstacle."

These various attacks on the right to strike would be all the more effective when combined with S-1's general limitations on political dissent. In an editorial in the August 1975 edition of *Steel World*, the United Steel Workers declared that S-1 "is a bill which is unamendable. ... The insidious dangers inherent in the S-1 are of even greater threat to institutions in a free society, and especially to a labor movement which cannot be truly free if other sectors of society suffer official repression."

### Status of S-1

S-1 continues to have considerable support in the Senate, and has now been voted out of subcommittee for debate and possible amendment in the entire Judiciary Committee. Rising protest against the bill, however, has at least begun to create some discomfort for the Senators.

Some liberals have been forced to defend their support of the bill, claiming it contains progressive features, such as compensation for victims of violent crimes. A block of five Senators in the Judiciary Committee -- including Birch Bayh, one of the bill's original sponsors -- has committed itself to opposing S-1.

The latest strategy of the Senate leadership seems to be an attempt to diffuse the opposition by making a handful of changes and resubmitting the bill under a different name. In a memo to the Judiciary Committee, Mike Mansfield, majority leader and a sponsor of the bill, suggested that the number be changed because it "has become a source of pain and controversy."

So far, only a handful of unions have opposed the bill, including the United Steel Workers, the United Electrical Workers, the United Farm Workers, the Amalgamated Meatcutters, and the American Newspaper Guild. But a growing number of ad hoc committees against S-1 have been developing throughout the country.

Readers interested in more information about the bill and the fight against it should contact the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation at 510 C St., Washington, DC 20002, or at 1250 Wilshire Blvd. #501, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

● ● Hi folks. The enclosed is one of many things of interest I see crossing my desk. I am working for the controller of a company which is a subsidiary of Hublein, Intl. (Kentucky Fried Chickén, Smirnoff vodka, and Pewter Pot, to name a few of the other divisions). So I get to see neat things pertaining to "the industry."  
Janet D., San Francisco NAM

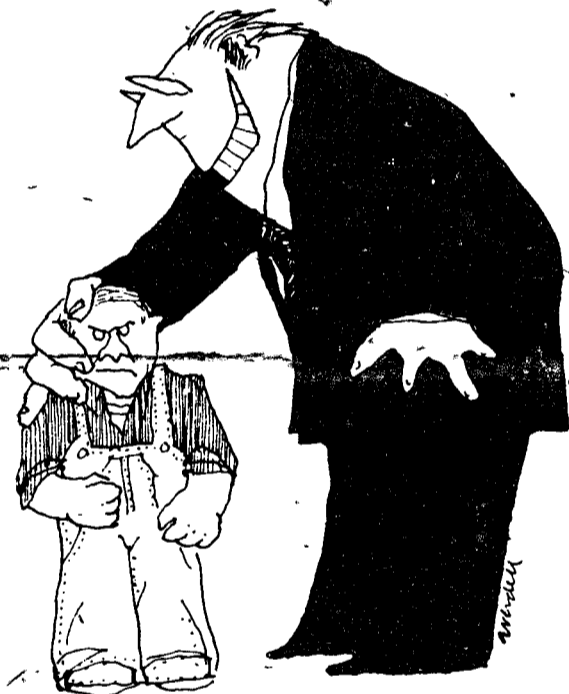
# \$95 Union Busting Kit

Dear Executive:

Did you know that labor costs in a union company run from 25% to 35% higher than in a non-union company? The reason is not higher salaries. It's the burdensome expense of restrictive work rules, unneeded and unproductive employees, obstructive union stewards, costly work stoppages, strikes, and slowdowns!

Obviously, it pays to do everything possible to maintain the nonunion status of your workforce. Indeed, your company's very financial health could depend on it. Union organizing drives present highly sensitive, critical and complex decisions far beyond the experience of most employers.

Good intentions aren't enough. Actions based on "common sense" could actually lead you fatally astray. You should be aware of current developments in the labor law field, through specific up-to-date reports written in understandable language.



The New American Movement will hold its fifth annual convention August 19-22 at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Major decisions about anti-racist and socialist feminist program will be made. In addition, proposals on the structure of the organization and its national leadership will be debated and decided.

This year we are asking people to make their plans early and fill out the coupon below and send it to the NAM National Office, 1643 North Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60647 if you plan to attend.

The cost of the convention, which covers room, board, registration fee, and travel pool, will be:

For period August 19-22	\$45.00
For period August 20-22	\$35.00
For period August 21-22	\$25.00

There will be reduced food rates and sleeping space for children. Vegetarian meals are available. There will be a reduced rate for unemployed people with no means of support other than welfare or unemployment compensation (a \$7.00 reduction).

Name(s) .....

Address .....

Number of children ..... Chapter .....

Dates attending:

August 19-22

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return to NAM, 1643 North Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60647.

This is why AMR is pleased to announce a major new publication in the area of labor relations: the definitive monthly AMR REPORTER: TRENDS AND STRATEGIES IN MAINTAINING NON-UNION STATUS. It is the only newsletter of its kind devoted primarily to the subject of maintaining non-union status both company wide or within unorganized segments of your workforce.

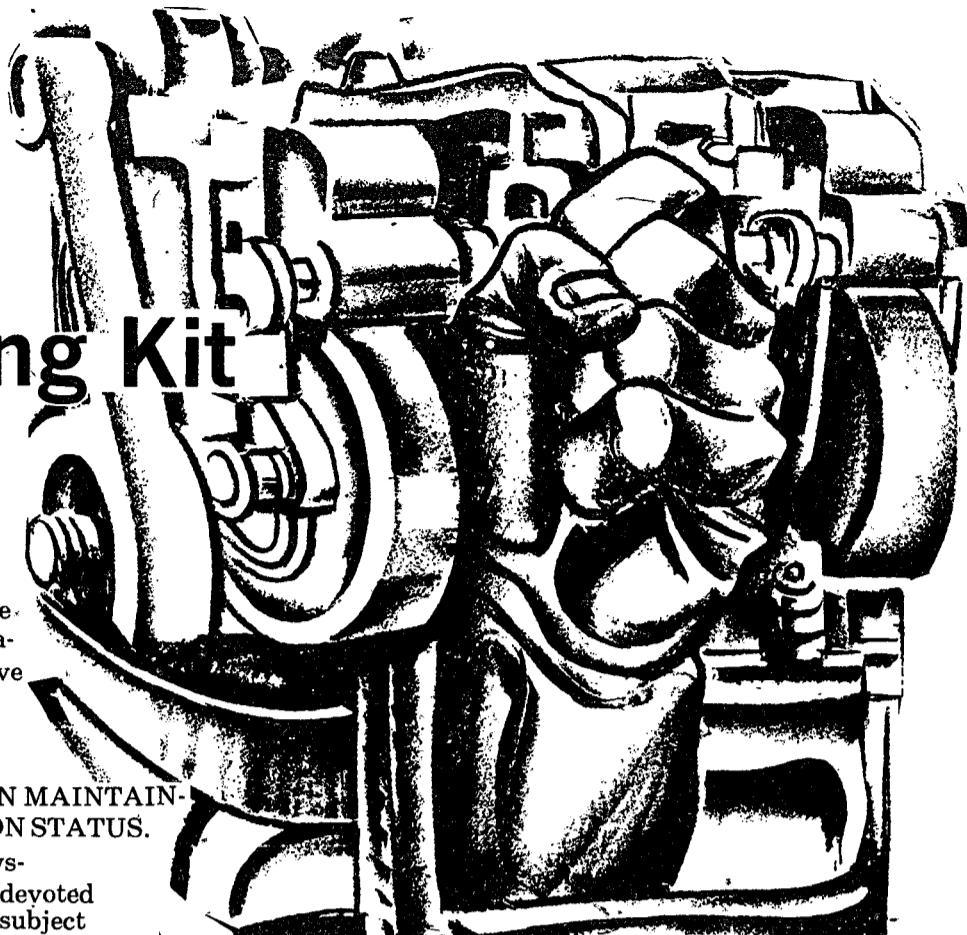
Each monthly issue will be packed with in-depth articles and up-to-the-minute reports, ranging from the impact of recent court decisions ...to case histories of successful preventative maintenance programs currently being implemented by employers...to insights into union tactics and the current management counter-strategies.

Just one typical issue, for example, may contain such timely and highly pertinent reportage as...

**LOOKING AT UNION AUTHORIZATION CARDS -- A SURE WAY TO RECOGNIZE THE UNION, SAYS THE LABOR BOARD.** Cases decided by the National Labor Relations Board show how easily an employer may be trapped into recognizing a union...simply by exercising what appears to be common sense.

**EMPLOYERS BEWARE: FIRING EMPLOYEE BECAUSE OF SUSPECTED INTEREST IN A UNION IS UNLAWFUL, SAYS COURT OF APPEALS.** A new employee's request for detailed financial information about the company because "she was concerned that there was no union at the plant" is protected "concerted activity" making discharge improper says a court.

**SUPREME COURT CLAMPS DOWN ON UNION BRIBES TO GAIN EMPLOYEE SUPPORT.** The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that a union may not waive initiation fees, as inducement for employees to sign authorization cards. As an employer, you should be aware of your right



to protest this kind of flagrant "vote-buying" during an organizing campaign.

**UNION ORGANIZING TACTICS: PAID UNION "PLANTS" CAN BE BONA FIDE EMPLOYEES, SAYS LABOR BOARD.** Union organizing by the use of a "cover" and by a paid "plant" is not a myth. Recently, the Labor Board extended the same protection to a union plant afforded to regular, bona fide employees. Thus, employers should be aware that contemplated disciplinary action against a union plant is subject to full Board review, as in the case of regular employees.

**WHAT IF YOUR EMPLOYEE TRIES TO ORGANIZE YOUR CUSTOMER?** At least under the views of some labor arbitrators, such an employee may not be discharged, even if your valued customer threatens to stop doing business with you unless you do so!

**IN ADDITION,** there are reports on the dangers involved in changing an established practice or making policy innovations during a union organizing campaign; the possibility that in buying a new plant you may also be buying a union; and the recent court ruling which probably will result in the public disclosure of contributors to the National Right To Work Committee.

**ACT NOW FOR YOUR SPECIAL CHARTER SUBSCRIBER SAVINGS!** The annual subscription rate for the AMR REPORTER: TRENDS AND STRATEGIES IN MAINTAINING NON-UNION STATUS -- 12 monthly issues is \$95.

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## Santa Barbara Strike...

continued from page 1

If it was not obvious before, it is now quite clear to everyone concerned that Teamster Local 186, instead of fighting for the rights of its members, has had to be literally pushed every step of the way. To combat union apathy, workers have made demands on the union, contacted higher union officials including Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons, and most importantly, have strengthened their own solidarity and support network.

The morale and unity of the strikers remains high, despite police repression (BFI has closed circuit cameras constantly surveilling the area, hooked up to the police station where they are monitored) and the unwillingness of city officials (with whom BFI has its contract) to step in. The strikers know that it is they and their supporters who will win this strike, not the union and certainly not the city government.

Community support for the strike has been good. Every morning at 6:00 anywhere from 20 to 100 supporters join the picket line. They are students and employed and unemployed workers

who are fed up with job scarcity, the lowest wages on the West Coast, and a management that has so far successfully defeated most attempts at union organizing in the area.

During the past month, scuffles between strikers and their supporters and scabs have been frequent, sometimes developing into general melees. Santa Barbara police have responded largely by arresting picketers and ignoring the violence of the strikebreakers. A rock and bottle-throwing mini-riot on April 10, started by scabs, resulted in an injunction allowing only two picketers at a gate. It has been cordially ignored.

As we go to press, BFI has begun negotiations again after two months of no action whatsoever at the bargaining table. The strikers know that they will win, and other workers in the Santa Barbara area know that it will be a victory for them also. As one of the picket-signs says, "Our struggle is your struggle."

A defense fund has been set up but its funds are low due to the mass arrests and casualties. Money is desperately needed. Please send money in care of Steve Davis, 6527 El Greco, Goleta, CA 93017. Make checks payable to Santa Barbara NAM. The terror tactics of BFI and the police must not go unchallenged.

# Rubber Thorn in the Side of Economic Recovery

by Bob Magnuson

Corporate managers and federal officials barely had time to breathe a sigh of relief in the wake of the speedily settled Teamster strike, when another jolt threatened to disrupt the economy's shaky recovery: the April 21 walkout of 70,000 rubber workers at 47 tire plants across the country.

In spite of concern over possible disruptions to the American economy as a result of the strike, the action itself comes as little surprise to most economic analysts. It was generally acknowledged that the outcome of the Teamster strike in early April would set an example for other union recontracting scheduled to take place this year.

Under the threat of a prolonged and debilitating truckers' strike, fueled by organized rank and file dissatisfaction with union leadership, a quick and decidedly pro-labor settlement was reached. Although many rank and file Teamsters were not satisfied with the new contract, actual work stoppage lasted only three days. Worker discontent was bought off with large wage hikes. Inflationary pressure was chosen over the more explicit economic disruption of a prolonged strike.

Now in its fourth week, the Rubber Workers' strike could, if continued, knock the wind out of the nation's economy at a time when many feel it is finally building momentum.

## Rubber Workers and the Economy

How can striking rubber workers foul up the whole economic picture? The "big Four" rubber companies being struck -- Firestone, Goodyear, Goodrich, and Uniroyal -- supply nearly all the tires for American automobiles. Detroit's ability to dupe the consumer may be highly sophisticated, but it is pretty difficult to sell a tire-less car, even with all the chrome.

The major U.S. auto makers -- GM, Ford, and Chrysler, each with 30-day tire stockpiles -- feel confident they can weather the rubber industry work stoppage. But if the strike wears on, major assembly line shutdowns would be forthcoming. The American economy, wedded to the auto industry, could hardly afford such a development.

For industries related to car production, effects of the strike will be more quickly felt. The Bendix Corporation, for example, an auto parts supplier, foresees car manufacturers reducing purchases of its products before actual auto output is curtailed. And the effects of sagging car sales will eventually reach oil, steel, and chemical producers, leaving no area of the economy untouched.

Despite the lack of a national rank and file movement in the United Rubber Workers (URW), workers are clearly angry. Their wages now lag \$1.65 an hour behind auto workers, with whom they have traditionally maintained parity. This gap was the work of Nixon's wage control policies, which left rubber workers with wages a full 10% behind the inflation rate. For this reason, rubber workers are demanding an open-ended cost of



**Detroit's ability to dupe the consumer may be highly sophisticated, but it's pretty difficult to sell a tire-less car.**

living clause. In addition, workers are seeking higher pension, health, and early retirement benefits, plus a beefed-up unemployment benefit fund.

Rank and file rubber workers have begun to dissociate themselves from the union leadership, as evidenced by URW President Peter Bommarito's inability to be elected a convention delegate from his home local in Detroit. And six of the fifteen local union presidents who headed up the last negotiations with management have been voted out of office -- clearly a show of no-confidence.

## Run-Away Shops

As with many other industries in the American economy, rubber companies have shifted operations over the past two decades to areas with

cheaper labor: away from the Midwest to the South and Southwest, and abroad, mostly to Europe and Asia. With wage rates varying from region to region and from country to country, not only are corporate profits enhanced, but worker solidarity and bargaining strength are demoralized.

In defiance of this "divide and conquer" strategy, workers have already begun to display international support. The International Federation of Chemical and General Workers Union in Geneva, claiming six million members in 70 countries, has pledged its "solidarity and support" for strikers in the U.S. In the first international action against American rubber companies, workers abroad have placed a ban on overtime work in foreign subsidiaries of the "big Four."

The Rubber Workers' strike and its effect on the domestic economy raise the question of just whose recovery it is that economists and government officials are always talking about. If working people struggling for a living wage jeopardize the "recovery," then what kind of recovery is it? A recovery of profits, not a recovery of living standards.

In fact, high wages and high profits are mutually exclusive. By and large, one's recovery is the other's slump. Workers and corporations can only both do well at the expense of a third party: for rubber workers in Akron, Ohio, it's cheap Chicano, black and poor white labor in the South and Southwest, migrant labor in Europe, and half a bowl of rice per day labor in Asia.

When these workers recognize their collective interests and strength, the task of profit recovery becomes, for corporate capitalism, an all-out struggle to maintain power.

## Farm Workers Seek Referendum, Launch Raisin Boycott

The United Farm Workers Union has collected 720,000 signatures on petitions to allow Californians to vote on the right of farmworkers to choose their own union. The petitions ensure that the state's Agricultural Labor Relations Act will be on the ballot in November as an amendment to the state's constitution.

There is already a farm labor law on the books in California, but it has been inoperative since February because agribusiness interests have blocked funding for the farm board which is supposed to administer the law (see *NAM Newspaper*, March 1976). In the first few months that the law was enforced, the UFW won 60% of the union elections conducted by the board. To try to prevent further UFW victories, growers and the Teamsters Union blocked funding to try to force changes in the law -- for instance, removing a provision which allows migrants to vote by scheduling elections for peak harvest season.

If the law becomes a constitutional amendment, growers will be able to change its provisions only by means of another vote of the people. UFW leader Cesar Chavez said, "The future of farmworkers and their children should never again be left to the fancy of weak-kneed legislators in Sacramento."

Meanwhile, the UFW has launched a boycott of Sun-Maid (raisins) and Sunsweet and Diamond (walnuts, prunes, prune juice), companies which played a key role in blocking funding of the farm board in February. The boycott of non-UFW grapes and lettuce is also continuing.

## labor notes

•The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA), under attack by President Ford for being "too tough on business," has postponed the adoption of new safety regulations until after the November elections. The regulations, which include limits on exposure to ammonia, lead, asbestos, and excess noise, affect the health of over 10 million workers. The Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union is already suing the Ford Administration over red tape regulations on OSHA which have been used to delay the adoption of safety regulations.

•According to columnist Jack Anderson, the Labor Department recently inspected an eleven story office building in downtown Washington, and found more than 300 safety violations. The building was the office of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

•Karen Cantwell, who worked at Information Services in Wellesley, Massachusetts, for two and a half years, has been fired for not getting her department managers sandwiches. A letter released by the company after her dismissal called her work excellent, but explained that she had been removed because she refused to run personal errands for her bosses.

# STERILIZATION

*U.S. funds sterilization*

*Sterilization o*

## Less People, Less Anger

by Laura Foner and Evelyn Machtinger, Boston Committee to End Sterilization Abuse

Within the last twenty years, there has been a dramatic rise in programs aimed at sterilizing women, both inside and outside the U.S. Sterilization is a surgical procedure which permanently renders a person incapable of having children.

In Puerto Rico, 35% of all women of child-bearing age have been sterilized.

In the U.S., 20% of all married black women and one out of seven Native American women have been sterilized.

Between 1972 and 1973 there was a 180% rise in the number of sterilizations performed in New York City municipal hospitals, serving primarily Puerto Rican neighborhoods.

Since 1970 there has been a three-fold increase in female sterilizations in the U.S.

### Who Is Responsible?

Today there is a massive drive by the Rockefellers, the Fords, and other corporate giants to convince people that poverty, overcrowding, increased crime, poor education, and poor health care are all due to "overpopulation." The companies, government agencies, and policymakers who create these problems try to divert attention away from the fact that the imperialist system which they run creates poverty by using precious land for cash crops, taking resources out of third world countries, and working to maximize their own profits at the expense of human needs. They have spent millions of dollars pushing birth control, particularly sterilization of women, on the poor, with the intent of controlling the number of poor and working class people in the world.

The U.S. government, through the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW), is a major source of money for funding sterilizations of poor women. While in recent years money for HEW-financed child care centers, Headstart programs, and community health programs has been cut, from 1969 to 1975 the budget for family planning increased from \$51 million to over \$250 million.

### In Puerto Rico, 35% of all women of child-bearing age have been sterilized.

What is sterilization abuse? Here are a few examples:

In Los Angeles in 1975, ten Chicana women sued L.A. County Hospital and state officials. One of the women had refused to give her consent to a sterilization. She was punched in the stomach by a doctor and then sterilized. Some of the women signed consent forms after being in labor for many hours and under heavy medication immediately prior to undergoing childbirth by caesarian sections. Two were led to believe that the consent forms they signed were for temporary sterilizations. One of the women was not aware that a sterilization had been performed and wore an intrauterine device for two years.

In 1973, two black sisters, Minnie Lee and Mary Alice Rélf, ages 12 and 14, were sterilized in a federally funded family planning program in Alabama. Their mother was persuaded to make an X on a form she could not read. She was not told she was signing a sterilization consent form.

Sterilization abuse occurs on many levels. When a woman does not know she has been sterilized or is knocked out and sterilized against her will, this is forced sterilization in its most blatant form. It is also forced sterilization for

women who know that unless they agree to sterilization welfare services and payments will be taken away. Misinformation and manipulation by medical people are other tools of abuse. Sometimes women are not told that the operation is permanent and irreversible. Often women are not counseled about other methods of birth control. Sterilization is described to sound appealing and hassle-free. Often it is referred to as a band-aid surgery without explaining the possible serious complications. Many hysterectomies are performed solely for the training of a doctor.

But in a broader sense, sterilization is forced upon women by the conditions of life in a society that deprives people of such basic rights as a decent job, an adequate income, good health care, childcare, and education.



In the last few years, committees have formed all over the country to fight sterilization abuse and oppose U.S. population policies at home and abroad. Work has gone on in Berkeley, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, New Haven, New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Oakland, and San Francisco. These groups have been organizing and educating their communities to fight policies and practices of sterilization in local hospitals and clinics.

### HEW Guidelines

In 1974, a federal judge ordered HEW to make public guidelines for sterilizations that are paid for by federal funds. These minimal guidelines require that the patient be told that sterilization is irreversible, and that welfare payments would not be threatened if she chooses not to be sterilized. The guidelines also require a 72 hour waiting period between the signing of a form and the actual operation, to ensure the patient a sufficient time period to make her decision and prevent an important decision from being made under stressful conditions.

Two recent nationwide studies showed that even these minimal protections are not being implemented. They found that of the fifty largest teaching hospitals surveyed, 64% were in gross violation of the federal guidelines. Women in several cities are demanding the implementation of the guidelines and, in some cases, fighting for better and more comprehensive guidelines.

### At the end of the course, each doctor is flown home with the gift of a \$5000 laparoscope ... to perform tubal litigations.

In New York City, after a nine month battle, a group fighting sterilization abuse was successful in getting guidelines adopted by municipal hospitals. The major improvements over the federal guidelines include a 30 day waiting period, a detailed consent form, and counseling

in the woman's language

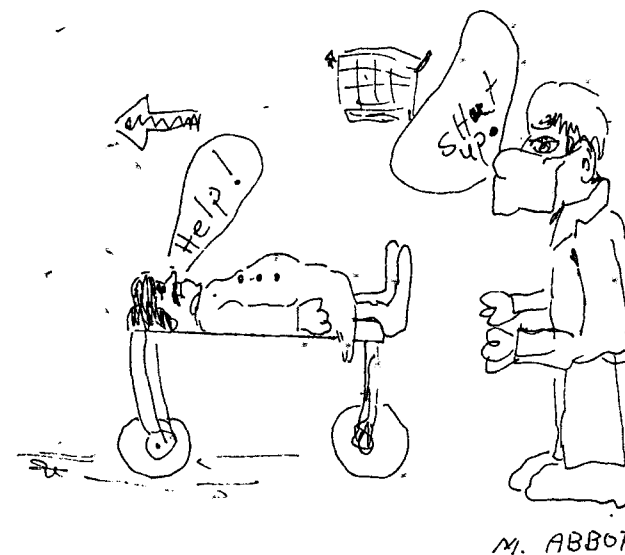
Implementation is always a key problem, and enormous resistance has come from the medical and population control establishments. Six doctors in New York's major teaching hospitals have filed a suit against the city, state, and federal sterilization regulations. They claim the rights of doctors are violated by the New York City guidelines, particularly the doctor's freedom of speech since the regulations state that a doctor cannot be the first one to suggest sterilization.

In January, women from some of these groups came together at the National Hard Times Conference in Chicago. A national network was established to coordinate the work of local committees, to share information and strategies, and to develop a campaign to attack the issue nationally. They can be contacted through Chicago CESA, 2150 West North St., Chicago, IL 60647.

by Rick Kunnes, Detroit NAM

All of the items below were contained in reports from major research and medical centers or government agencies, released in the last 60 days.

•Each year, 200,000 people die unnecessarily due to inadequate emergency service.





# IZATION

on of Third World women

## Paid by U.S., Trained on Rabbits

by Bobbi Fox, St. Louis NAM

ST. LOUIS -- Approximately forty students, staff, and members of the Washington University community today attended a meeting with the governing board of the W.U. Medical School, demanding an end to the A.I.D.-sponsored Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics (PIEGO).

Under the program, doctors from Third World countries spend about four weeks studying the area of Reproductive Medicine at Johns Hopkins, Washington University, or the University of Pittsburgh. At the end of the course, each doctor is flown home, with the gift of a \$5000 laparoscope. The major use of a laparoscope is to perform laparoscopic tubal ligations, an outpatient sterilization technique for women. The course includes two lectures on the political importance of population control.

### Rabbits

While the Ad Hoc Committee to end the A.I.D. Sterilization Program adamantly supports the right of women to choose to have a sterilization, it has several objections to PIEGO. Since the foreign doctors do not have a license to practice in this country, they are only allowed to observe the sterilization procedure performed on humans, and to practice using the laparoscope on rabbits. Dr. Czapo, director of the program at Washington University, defends this as "adequate" training, since the reproductive organs of rabbits are smaller, and therefore, he reasons, if the doctor can successfully perform a sterilization on a rabbit, he can perform it on a human being. But Jamie Robbins, a soon-to-be graduated medical student, points out that rabbits very seldom have pelvic inflammatory diseases such as gonorrhea. Such diseases cause scarring, and in performing a laparoscopic sterilization, an inexperienced physician can pierce the bowel, leading to peritonitis and death.

Although defenders of the program insist that U.S. doctors are sent on follow-up visits to observe the foreign doctors' performance, there is

evidence that some foreign doctors do not wait for their U.S. counterparts to arrive. In addition, some Latin American countries will no longer allow the U.S. doctors into the country, charging interference with their internal affairs.

Many of the participants in this program perform sterilizations without making it clear to the women involved that the operation is irreversible. A Mexican foreign exchange student here has quoted a doctor from Bolivia as saying he performs up to 80 sterilizations a week without the knowledge or consent of the women involved. This doctor is a participant in the PIEGO course here.

### Deterrent to Nationalization

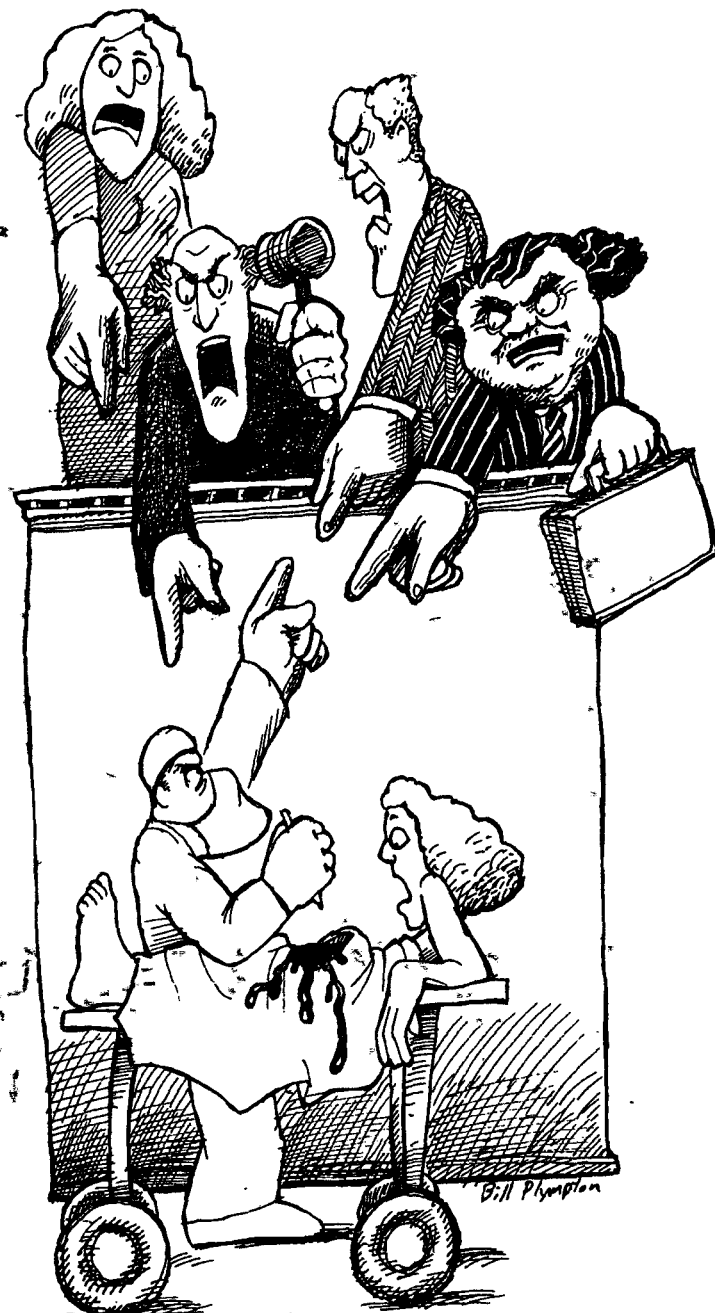
The political objections to this program are clear: while cutting health, educational, and agricultural funds to the bone, the Agency for International Development has increased its budget for population control programs from zero in 1962 to \$125 million in 1971. Such programs include offering rice, money, and radios as inducements for poor people to be sterilized. Officials from A.I.D. have indicated that the

**The reproductive organs of a rabbit are smaller and therefore, he reasons, if the doctor can successfully perform a sterilization on a rabbit, he can perform it on a human being.**

agency has an interest in population control as a deterrent to nationalization, of U.S. corporate interests in Third World countries (see the May issue of *American Scientist*).

The Ad Hoc Committee is focusing on publicizing PIEGO and throwing out the program here, in the hope that concerned people in Pittsburgh and Baltimore will work to end the program in those cities. To that end, the committee has written an 18 page, footnoted paper, outlining and documenting A.I.D.'s involvement in population control and in this program.

Although the school term is over until September, the committee plans to keep working over the summer, linking up with local groups organizing around sterilization abuse in St. Louis. As one committee member put it, "The only way to end this program is to come back next week, the week after that, week after week, until PIEGO is thrown out. And that's what we're going to do."



## health notes

●An all-white Alabama jury has awarded damages of only \$20 in a \$50,000 suit filed on behalf of a black youth. His doctor stitched up a cut in his arm, but then removed the sutures when the youth's bill could not be paid immediately.

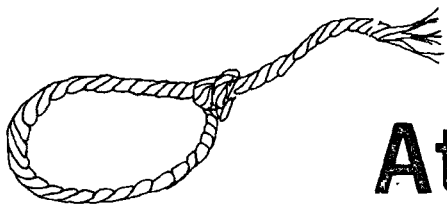
●Despite the fact that 90% of all cancers are caused by industrially produced environmental contaminants, 90% of the federal anti-cancer budget went to research on cancers caused by viruses. The fact that it has never been proved that viruses even cause cancer in humans suggests that these research priorities are politically motivated rather than scientifically based. Not a single person on the President's Cancer Panel or the National Cancer Advisory Board is an authority on industrially produced environmental causes of cancer, though many members are employed by major industrial contaminators.

●Eye makeup should not be kept for more than one month. It becomes easily contaminated with blindness-producing bacteria.

●The yolks of many eggs and the skins of many chickens are artificially colored to make them appear more yellow. The food additive industry brings in a lot of money, and not just for the food companies that profit from substituting chemicals for such incidentals as nutrients, flavor, and freshness. The sale of food additives alone for 1975 are expected to reach \$1 billion in just the United States.

●T.R.I.S. is a flame retardant used in the pajamas of tens of millions of children. It is now believed to cause cancer, genetic damage, and allergic reactions. This chemical was never tested to determine its hazardous potential. In fact, no law exists now to require pre-market testing of risky chemicals. Big business has successfully blocked such legislation. The major corporations, in an attempt to make even higher profits by saving on health and safety precautions, have created a game of chemical roulette. The chief of the Environmental Protection Agency says these industries have created a situation where people legitimately believe that "... every time they take a breath or eat or drink or touch, they are taking their lives into their hands."





# Attempt Lynching

by aki keith sundiata

One Alabama police officer has been fired and seven others have been suspended for attempting to lynch a black activist. But the activist, Casmarah Mani, is still in jail accused of robbery, despite the fact that two of the three witnesses to the robbery say he is innocent.

"It was like a nightmare. The thought kept going through my mind, 'What if someone comes by and wants to help me? Who do they call? The police are here already taking part in a lynching.'" -- Casmarah Mani (s.n. Glenn Diamond)

On the night of March 28, 1976, Mobile City police officer Patrolman "First Class" Roy L. Adams, Jr., jumped out of his squad car, pistol drawn, and unprovokedly attacked two of the leading organizers of the Mobile, Alabama People's Community Hall, Casmarah (s.n. Glenn Diamond) and Sekou Matas Lumpen (s.n. James Jones), both of whom were walking down the street minding their own business. Soon eight police were on the scene savagely beating Casmarah and Sekou.

Officer Michael K. Patrick soon grew tired of this, relatively speaking, mild form of brutality, however, and shouted to the others, "Let's get a rope and hang this nigger."

Patrick got a rope, tied one end around Casmarah's neck, flung the other end over a tree, and pulled. The limb snapped. Patrick picked the rope end up again, flung it over another limb, and pulled again.

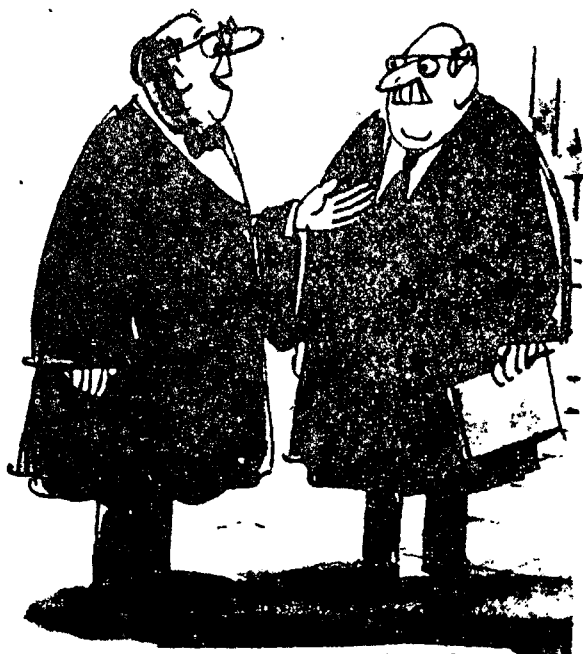
Brother Casmarah was on his tiptoes, choking from the tightening of the rope, when a detective pulled up and ordered the men, "We ain't hanging no niggers tonight. Let him down."

Next the squad of police took the two to the Mobile City Jail and put them in a line-up. A new and totally different robbery was introduced then.

**Officer Michael K, Patrick soon grew tired of this and shouted out to the others, "let's get a rope and hang this nigger."**

Instead of McDonalds (which they were originally "suspected" of robbing), it was Hart's Fried Chicken. Casmarah was picked out by one of Hart's employees as one of the men who robbed the store a couple of nights before. No one fingered Sekou.

There were three witnesses to the Hart's Fried Chicken robbery. Two of them swear that Casmarah was not the robber. One swears he was. The police booked Casmarah for the robbery and placed him under a \$100,000 bail.



*"I never worry too much about being fair-minded, because I know that in the end justice always triumphs."*

Pressure from the black working class, black community leaders, and the left in Mobile has forced a police investigation. The officer who slipped the noose around Casmarah's neck was fired and the seven other officers were suspended. A subsequent grand jury investigation indicted the Mobile City Police Department command personnel for not only accepting but encouraging such behavior.

The investigation exposed a highly organized squad of police officers whose recognized duty was to harass and terrorize the black community as part of a burglary and robbery detail.

Meanwhile, Casmarah Mani is now in prison in Mobile. He had five months more on a three year parole, and his arrest as a robbery suspect led to a revoke of this parole.

Casmarah is a member of the Inmates for Action prison organization (see NAM Newspaper, May 1976). Several IFA members have recently been killed within the Alabama prison system.

Casmarah, now at Mt. Meigs Prison, can be written to at Box 125, Route 5, Montgomery, Alabama 36109. Letters should be addressed to Glenn Diamond. Contributions, made out to the Glenn Diamond Defense Fund, may be sent to Clint Brown, 1407 Davis Ave., Mobile, Alabama 36603.

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## Johnny Brown

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continued from page 1

On the two paydays preceding his arrest, an extra paycheck made out to another employee for a much larger amount than his own was "mysteriously" attached to Brown's own check. On each occasion, he immediately returned the extra check.

The evidence on which the case against JB rested was based on a supposed correlation between the times stamped by the bank tellers on the two stolen checks and the times superimposed on the videotaped photos taken by the bank's surveillance cameras which showed Brown at the teller windows one minute before each of the stolen checks was stamped.

At the trial, the defense was able to show:

(1) that the prosecution's case dissolved once it became clear due to the times stamped on the checks and on the videotape pictures that Brown had had nothing to do with the cashing of one of the stolen checks;

(2) that, since there was accurate synchronization between the times on the videotaped pictures and the times stamped on the checks in the crucial teller line, Brown could not have cashed the stolen check, while the evidence clearly pointed to another man as the culprit;

(3) that despite the prosecution's knowledge and use of the evidence from the beginning, no steps had been taken to investigate this other man's possible involvement;

(4) that, unlike any of the people known to have cashed stolen Westinghouse checks at the bank that night, Brown had been in the bank for the legitimate purpose of cashing his own pay check;

(5) that the man who had confessed to cashing one of the stolen checks the day before the trial had not been charged, and had been allowed to resign from Westinghouse instead of being fired (as Brown had been) in return for testifying against Brown.

In short, the defense made a persuasive showing, based on hard evidence, of Brown's innocence; indicated who was probably guilty of the crime; and clearly demonstrated the unscrupulousness of those responsible for investigating and prosecuting the case. The prosecution offered nothing to counter this except for



(1) Brown's supposedly incriminating remark reported by a man guilty of the same crime with which he was charged, who was under a great deal of pressure to testify against Brown; and (2) the "suspicious" fact that Brown had gone through two teller lines on the night the stolen checks were cashed. (Brown was understandably unable to remember exactly why he had gone into the second teller line eight months before, but explained at trial that he often went back into line after cashing a check in order to buy Bicentennial coins for his children or to change a larger bill.)

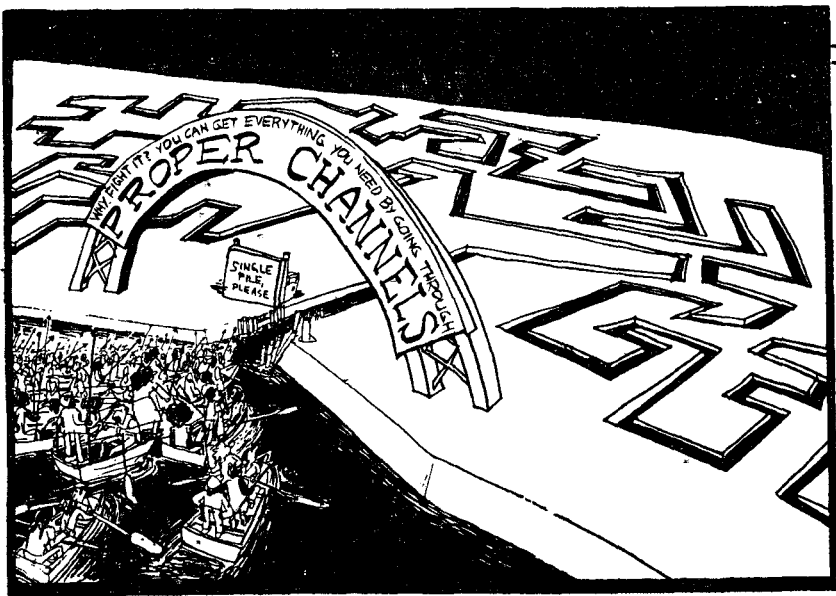
JB was found guilty of three counts of receiving, uttering, and stealing the proceeds of the stolen check, given three six-month suspended sentences, placed on probation for a year, and assigned costs of \$100 on each count. He is appealing for a new trial in the Superior Court, but no date has yet been set.

He was suspended from Westinghouse after his arrest last October and has been unable to find work since then or to get unemployment compensation. He and his family subsist on welfare. His lawyer has worked without pay, and the money raised so far for the defense has barely covered the out-of-pocket expenses of the trial.

### Where Do We Go From Here?

Thus far, JB's case has been an eloquent demonstration of the futility of bucking the system that will not be lost on Westinghouse workers and others who want to take action against racist violence and police abuses, or on poor people charged with crimes they have not committed who want to stand trial to establish their innocence. This is the only explanation that accounts for the way in which the police and Westinghouse pursued the case long after JB's innocence must have become apparent to them.

Thus, the case has a significance that far outweighs the suffering so far inflicted on JB and his family. We believe that it is crucial to the future of race relations in Boston and to the future of the criminal justice system to vindicate JB and expose the racism and dishonesty of the forces that have persecuted him.



# UMass Students Unionize

by Ellen Gavin

Susan Saxe

## Not Just a Bank Robbery

Susan Saxe is accused of participating in a 1970 bank robbery in which a policeman was killed. The robbery was an anti-Vietnam War action. Susan Saxe was the subject of an intensive five year hunt. The government, through the FBI and the grand jury process, used the Susan Saxe case to harass, intimidate, threaten, and imprison women who refused to discuss their personal and political activities with the FBI and the Justice Department. Susan is now on trial in Boston, Massachusetts. The following is a statement by Howard Zinn about her case.

statement by Howard Zinn, Professor of Government, Boston University

In September, 1970, a murder took place in the course of a bank robbery in Boston. I have no sympathy with that act of violence. But I do have sympathy and want to give support for Susan Saxe, who even the state agrees did not commit that murder, but who is nevertheless charged with it under an archaic, unjust law in an atmosphere which makes it impossible for her to get a fair trial.

Did she participate in the bank robbery that led to that death? I don't know. But if she did, the impulse for it clearly did not come out of a desire to do violence to anyone or to enrich herself, but rather out of a desperation that many people felt in 1970, watching the mass murder in Indochina, and wanting to stop it, any way they could. Some of the means used by activists in that period seem to me clearly right, others clearly wrong. The idea of robbing a bank to gain money to fight against the war seems irrational and misguided. But all these actions of the Vietnam years were motivated by a desire to save life, not to destroy it.

In any case, that was six years ago. Susan Saxe has lived as a fugitive, and has been kept in prison without bail. She has already been punished far more than those who engaged in deliberate mass murder, whether the planners like Richard Nixon, or the killers like William Calley. As a feminist, a revolutionary, a lesbian, she faces triple prejudice. She is unlikely to get a fair trial by a jury of average Americans nurtured from childhood in a system where bank robbers are punished relentlessly, but where heads of government may plunder and kill and yet retire from office unpunished.

Susan Saxe is a woman of strong will and humane ideas, whose notions of revolutionary tactics seem to have changed since 1970. Her poems, her writings, show a person who cares about injustice, who has a concern for human life. She should be free to make a positive contribution, with her talent and her passion, to American society.

For the past two years, students at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst have been organizing that campus of 20,000 into a Union of Students to confront both the administration of the university and the state government with demands for an adequate educational system which the students themselves control. Organizers have borrowed from elements of the radical educational reform movement of the late '60's which emphasized a reexamination of the content of the educational experience and the hierarchical, authoritarian "social relations" within the institution as well as a labor model of collective action around the conditions and costs of higher education. Students, because of their unique and multifaceted status, as consumers, workers, participant/learners, tenants, apprentices, taxpayers, and citizens, must create their own models for empowerment.

The backbone of the union structure is simple: individual "councils" in dorms, departments, and among areas of special interest (health, athletics,

the environment, etc.) and among different segments of the community (Third World students, women, handicapped students, for example) will organize and fight around local issues of concern. For example, this year individual department councils have engaged in battles around such issues as faculty hiring and firing, course offerings, requirements, and racism and sexism in the department. When faced with a 50% cutback in programs, nursing students organized a council to protest the cuts. Two demonstrations, a march, and an all-night vigil later, after intensive negotiations with the administration, the nursing students won their demands. Other departments had students demanding a say in course selections, in faculty tenure decisions, and in the number of Third World students in the program.

Other union councils have formed around specific issues of a more explicitly political nature: the refusal of tenure to Marxist art professor Gary Tartakov, the complicity of campus police in the alleged frame-up of two black students, Earl Brown and Craemen Gethers, on a robbery charge; and the arrest of two students for "disturbing the peace" at a highly charged closed meeting of the Board of Trustees. A women's council was formed to investigate and act around the specific needs of women students in terms of health care, protection from rape, admission to departments, and a variety of other issues.

The fact that the faculty will be conducting elections for the establishment of a union is a crucial factor in student plans. The solidarity and mutual support of the faculty, as well as the Graduate Student Employee Union and the Campus Center student workers' union, which are both attempting to gain recognition in the fall, could be the key to success.

All in all it appears that the University of Massachusetts at Amherst is heading for a shaking up in the fall.



"The point of philosophy is not to understand the world, but to change it." -- Karl Marx

- about
- workplace organizing
- socialist feminism
- electoral politics
- the revolutionary party
- socialist culture

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## campus notes

•Five to six hundred University of Massachusetts students protested a closed meeting of the UMass Board of Trustees April 7. While students demonstrated outside, the trustees voted behind locked doors to illegally transfer money out of student trust fund accounts to avoid defaulting on university debts which came due April 14. Although state law requires trustee meetings to be open to the public, the trustees barred students from attending, and two students were arrested as they tried to enter the meeting at the UMass Amherst campus.

The student trust fund had been earmarked for a much needed renovation of student dorms, but is instead being used to pay off bonds issued to purchase land for new dormitories, even though the new dorms were never constructed. Students point to the announced \$140 increase in rents for university housing as the likely alternative source for money for renovation.

Eight days after the first demonstration, 1000 students rallied to make demands which included no rent increase, repeal of the illegal transfer of funds, and dismissal of charges against the two students arrested at the previous rally.

•Students at the City College of New York conducted a three-day strike May 5 to 7 to protest plans to end open admissions and free tuition. More than 2000 students attended a militant rally on the first day of the strike, marching through Harlem and stopping at Sydenham Hospital which is scheduled to be closed as a result of budget cuts. Fewer than 15% of the CCNY students attended liberal arts classes during the strike, while about 50% attended science and engineering classes. Workshops discussing education and cutbacks typically drew several hundred people.

On the first day of the strike, New York Governor Carey called for the imposition of tuition throughout the City University of New York (of which CCNY is a part), which until now has charged no tuition. Under the governor's proposal, students would pay \$750 a year during the first two years and \$900 during the second two. At the same time, the state's Tuition Assistance Program has been cut 10%. According to one CCNY student, "People have been waiting in line for more than a day to apply for financial aid." CCNY's entering class next fall will be 40% smaller than this year's as a result of an end to the past policy of open admissions, and will be even smaller if tuition is imposed.



# International News Highlights

There is an intimate link between international and domestic events, as we hope to demonstrate in this new regular column. We encourage readers to submit items, ideas or suggestions for inclusion in this column, sending them to Sandy Carter at the newspaper office. Contributors will be both from inside and outside NAM. Contributors this month: Sandy Carter, Larry Miller, Kathy Moore and Shepherd Bliss

## THE DEVELOPED WORLD

**SPAIN: HOW MUCH DEMOCRACY?** -- Five months after the death of General Francisco Franco, the Spanish government is deeply split over how much democracy Spain should have and how soon it should come. On April 28, the conservatives in the cabinet won a victory when Prime Minister Carlos Arias Navarro announced that a national referendum on political reform would not be held until October, with general elections set for 1977. Reformers had hoped to hold a referendum as early as June, with elections coming by the end of the year.

The opposition Democratic Coordination, which includes groups from the center to the left, denounced Arias's plan stressing that it preserves the corporate structure of the Franco era. The plan calls for a two house congress, with only the lower house elected directly. The upper house would be appointed and have veto power over the decisions of the lower house. Democratic Coordination wants a general election to choose a national assembly which would write a completely new constitution for Spain. They insist on a complete rupture with the institutions and political thinking left over from the years of Franco's dictatorship.

Meanwhile, numerous strikes which have occurred since the government announced a wage freeze have met with police violence and the "militarization" of more than 80,000 workers, placing railroad and other workers under direct military supervision and making these workers subject to military law. In Vitoria, police opened fire on 5000 workers fleeing the church of San Francisco de Asis after police threw smoke bombs through the windows to disperse an assembly. Four workers were killed and official reports admit 70 wounded. Over 500,000 Spanish workers walked off their jobs in response to the shootings -- possibly the largest strike in Spanish history. In the town of Basuri, an 18 year old worker was killed when police opened fire on 7000 strikers.

In February, police attacked a peaceful demonstration of teachers, parents, and students protesting the state of schools in the town of Sabadell and asking for the resignation of the mayor. Those injured included a 4 year old boy who received multiple wounds to the diaphragm, a 16 year old boy who lost an eye and suffered brain damage, a 14 year old boy who received damage to the liver, and a 12 year old who received a broken leg and multiple wounds. The people of the industrial town, one of the largest in Barcelona, responded with a general strike which closed shops and schools.

**PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS** -- Portuguese voters went to the polls April 25 to elect a legislature for the first time since the overthrow of Portuguese facism two years ago. The results were inconclusive, with no one party receiving a clear majority. The right wing failed to win the votes they would need to begin revising the Portuguese constitution, which states that its aim is to assure the transition to socialism and to increase the democratic power of the Portuguese working class, endorsing the nationalization of the last two years and calling for further appropriation of the principal means of production.

The Socialist Party received the largest vote, 35%, 5% less than they received a year ago at the elections for the Constituent Assembly which drafted Portugal's new constitution. The centrist Popular Democrats lost ground, dropping from 26% last year to 20%. The right wing Center Social Democrats received 16% of the vote, twice their vote last year but less than they had expected. The Communists increased their share of the vote to 15% and smaller leftist parties received about 5% of the vote.

Their failure to win a majority will force the Socialist Party leaders to ally with parties to their right or their left. They have rejected repeated Communist offers for a "left majority" coalition. A coalition with the Popular Democrats might lead to a severe split in the party, whose constituents did not vote socialist in order to put a capitalist party in power. Socialist Party leader Mario Soares will probably try to govern alone as a minority Prime Minister, an arrangement which probably requires some sort of tacit agreement with the Portuguese Communist Party.

Meanwhile, Socialist and Communist parties are major contenders for power in the elections coming up in France and Italy.

**FRENCH WORKERS REOCCUPY LIP FACTORY** -- In 1973 workers occupied the Lip watch factory in France and took over the production and distribution of the watches. They ran the machines, democratically elected leaders, discussed issues in general assemblies, and did educational work all over Europe. Three years later, Lip stockholders have filed for bankruptcy. Following a court decision affirming the bankruptcy claim, Lip workers have reoccupied the factory. The action openly defies the French government's policy of sustained unemployment and the attempts of Swiss watch manufacturers to destroy the French watchmaking industry in order to expand their markets into France. Factory delegates of the CGT, CSGT, and the CGC, France's largest trade unions, have voted to support the occupation of the factory. Workers are calling for international solidarity messages to be sent to the Lip factory at: Lip-Palente, Besancon, France 25000.



## THE THIRD WORLD

This section seeks to expose forms of U.S. control - military, economic, political, social and cultural - in Latin America, Asia and Africa. Though the forms of this control vary by region and country, the result is the same - underdevelopment there and increased profit in the U.S. We will also describe Third World liberation struggles and their effects upon the U.S. people.

**PANAMA** -- Panama has become the top international issue in the Republican presidential campaign. Ronald Reagan has threatened war against Panama if necessary to retain U.S. colonial control of the Panama Canal Zone, where the U.S. maintains 14 military bases. Beneath Reagan's thunder in primaries from Florida to Indiana, is a conspiracy to overthrow the current Panamanian government. On November 3, 1975 Reagan met with former Panamanian president Arnulfo Arias outside Miami. Inspired by Reagan's support, Arias tried to return to Panama in January. Arias' coup attempt was unsuccessful and ten of his cohorts were exiled. Another coup attempt, scheduled for May 1, was blocked when the progressive anti-imperialist government of General Omar Torrijos arrested a Panamanian exile normally residing in Miami and a Brazilian. More than a mere election issue, the controversy over Panama is a response to this colonized people's attempts to unite its national territory and remove one of the crucial legs supporting U.S. imperialism.

**ARGENTINA'S COUP** -- On March 24 the government of Isabela Peron was overthrown by a military junta led by General Jorge Videla. Although the international press advertised the event as a "bloodless coup," in recent weeks hundreds of dead bodies have turned up in the streets of Buenos Aires and throughout the country. These deaths are the results of a general effort by the junta to eliminate forms of political expression that might be obstacles to attracting foreign investment. Congress is closed, political party and union activities suspended, strikes banned, and an unknown number of political and union leaders have been arrested. One day after the coup the International Monetary Fund approved a previously denied \$127 million loan for Argentina. Loans and credits from the U.S. dominated World Bank and Inter-American Bank are expected to follow.

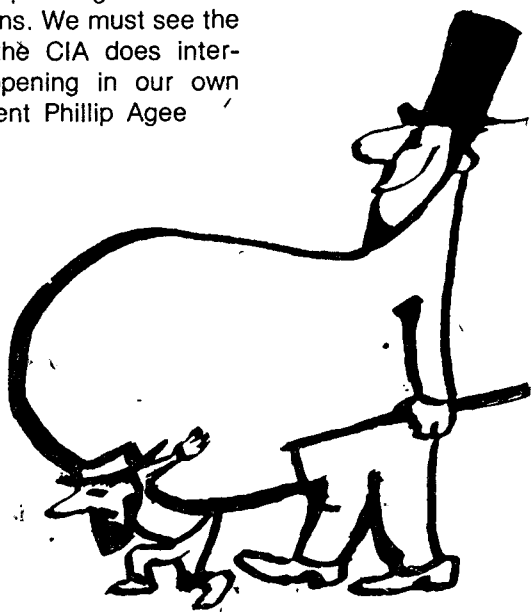
**VIETNAM'S ELECTIONS** -- Electoral councils in North and South Vietnam declared the nationwide elections held April 25 an outstanding success. According to the official councils, 95% of those eligible in the south voted, including 200,000 former soldiers and officials of the old Saigon regime. North Vietnam reported that 99% of Hanoi's population went to the polls.

Those elected will form a national assembly for a reunified Vietnam. The assembly is scheduled to meet within two months to write a new constitution and decide on the name of the reunified country, as well as the flag and the capital, which is expected to be Hanoi.

In South Vietnam, Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh, who represented the Provisional Revolutionary Government at the Paris peace talks, won the highest percentage of votes. A number of well known figures of the former Third Force, or neutralists, also won seats, including Buddhist nun Huyen Lien and student leader Huynh Tan Mam, who was imprisoned and tortured under the Thieu regime.

## Quote of the Month

"The CIA is a secret police operating abroad for the benefit of U.S. corporations. We must see the relationship between what the CIA does internationally and what is happening in our own country." -- former CIA agent Phillip Agee





by Roger Gottlieb, Newspaper Collective

"Are you tired, depressed, anxious, upset? Have you lost your job, your savings, your home, your wife or your husband? Do your kids go to rotten schools? Is your boring job driving you crazy? Do you barely have enough money to feed your children?

"Don't worry! We've got the answer!

"Step right up, folks, and have some spiritual snake oil. Guaranteed to relieve nagging depression, aching boredom, and crushing anxiety. Guaranteed (but no money back) to make a new man, woman, or child of you.

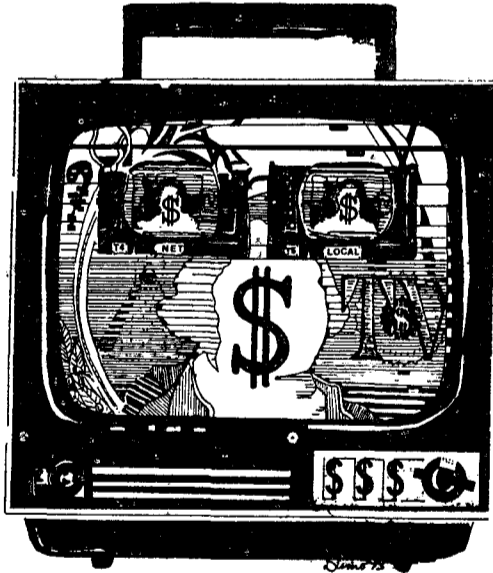
## Shortcuts

### ONE WAY TO SAVE MONEY

Gerald Ford got a tax refund of more than \$11,000 for 1975. His biggest deduction was \$23,000 for Christmas cards, a business expense. (Wall Street Journal)

### TV BIAS

"The real bias on TV news is not a political bias, it's a class bias. For example, when I found out that the government was about to raise the cost of Medicare premiums, I couldn't get the story on the air. The Cronkite crowd couldn't have cared less. Twenty million people were affected, and the Westport crowd didn't care." -- Daniel Schorr, journalist suspended by CBS for releasing the secret House report on the CIA (Portland Scribe)



### CALIFORNIA COUPLE FIRED FOR REFUSING TO DISCRIMINATE

Two Palo Alto, California apartment managers have been fired for refusing to discriminate against black tenants and apartment applicants. Pamela and Jerry Donnelly are suing the Youritan Construction Company, which controls about 1000 apartments in Palo Alto. In an affidavit regarding her and her husband's employment as managers of the Tan Village complex, Pamela Donnelly stated: "On numerous occasions we were expected to tell minorities there were not vacancies that really existed, direct them to certain sections of apartments, apply different standards of income evaluation, treat them different from whites when rent payments were late, delay needed apartment repairs and improvements when minority tenants requested them."

When the Donnellys called Youritan vice president S.H. Zee about applications and

"In this corner, we have Transcendental Meditation, brought to you with the blessings of the Beatles by that funny little bearded man with the cute accent. For only twenty minutes in the morning and evening (and \$125, \$150, or \$200 -- got to keep up with inflation -- this is modern spiritual snake oil) you'll be relaxed, happy, content, and your metabolism will work better. Best of all for you (and for the people who own the supermarket), you'll be more efficient: a more efficient General (better at killing), a more efficient corporate executive (better at ripping off the public), a more efficient worker (more products in less time), a more efficient wife (?!?!).

"If TM snake oil won't make your hair grow back, how about some EST (Erhard Seminar Training)? This little product made over nine million dollars last year, so we must be doing something right. With a little EST, you'll learn that -- in the words of its founder -- "Everything that happens to you is your responsibility. Every feeling, every situation, every problem comes from you." With this great spiritual knowledge, if you're not crushed by guilt, you'll go back to the world ready to face unemployment, poverty, war and pollution, brightened by the simple truth that all these things come from you.

"If EST and TM don't work, we've got plenty more products on our shelves. How about some Hare Krishna lotion? You can shave your head, wear yellow robes, cut down on your sex life, and realize 'God consciousness' by chanting a two line prayer. Or how 'bout some Guru Maharaj-ji? That greasy little kid isn't just a greasy little kid, he's God! Follow him and your troubles are over. He'll even take your money off your hands so you don't have to worry about it.

### The Method

"Other methods don't work. Only spiritual snake oil will make your psychic hair grow back. We know that life in this society is a drag. We know that you feel helpless because you have no power over your life; that you don't have enough money to make ends meet; that most jobs in this society are boring, unfulfilling, or downright dangerous; that walking down the major streets of a big city is like stumbling into a smoke-filled room; that if you're female or black you don't get a fair deal.

problems, "Mr. Zee would always ask, first thing, whether the people were black or white." They were fired after refusing to prevent a black couple from moving into an otherwise all-white duplex. The Donnellys are suing Youritan to get their jobs back, and asking for \$75,000 in damages and the establishment of an affirmative action committee at Tan Village. (Grapevine)

### RIGHTS IGNORED

The U.S. Civil Rights Commission recently announced that of the nearly 1000 recommendations to insure equal rights for minorities it has issued in the last four years, only 17% have been adopted. (Hard Times)

### IF YOU HAVE TO GET FIRED ...

Bob Dorsey, chairman of Gulf Oil, was ousted earlier this year after revelations that the company had paid out \$12.3 million in bribes in the past few years. But Dorsey won't have to worry about collecting unemployment. He gets a lump-sum retirement benefit of \$1.6 million, and \$16,330 under a stock-bonus plan. Plus \$54,000 vacation pay. Plus \$48,158 a year as a pension. Plus the right to purchase 200,000 shares of Gulf stock at 20% below its current market value.

### MILLIONAIRES REPRESENTED

There are now at least 44 millionaires in the U.S. Congress, and probably many more, according to government records. They are fairly evenly distributed between the Democratic and Republican Parties. (Hard Times)

"But all you have to do is GET YOU HEAD TOGETHER BY RUBBING SPIRITUAL SNAKE OIL ON IT and you'll be O.K. Material possessions are really unimportant. Strikes, demonstrations, and socialism are noisy, aggressive, and unpleasant. Just learn to relax, to find God, to meditate on the space between your eyebrows, to chant Sanscrit syllables, to find the truth within.

"Get yourself to the point where you don't care any more and your troubles will go away. Of course you'll still have to earn money. But where you work doesn't matter -- so take a job, any job (and keep the profits rolling in for the owners of the supermarket). We'll still need someone to run things 'on the material plane,' so leave social life to the people who run it already.

"Why make a fuss when bliss is within?"

### Don't Listen

"Don't listen to those people who tell you that real happiness comes from working together to make a new kind of society. They just want you to be uptight like they are. And besides, isn't it nicer to sit in your own little room with your legs folded under you?"

"And don't listen to those people who say that while most spiritual snake oil is worthless, some has good, but limited, effects. Meditation is more than just a form of temporary relaxation. The spiritual disciplines give you more than some increased personal self-knowledge. This isn't just better health, increased relaxation, and psychotherapy. This is the answer to the world's ills.

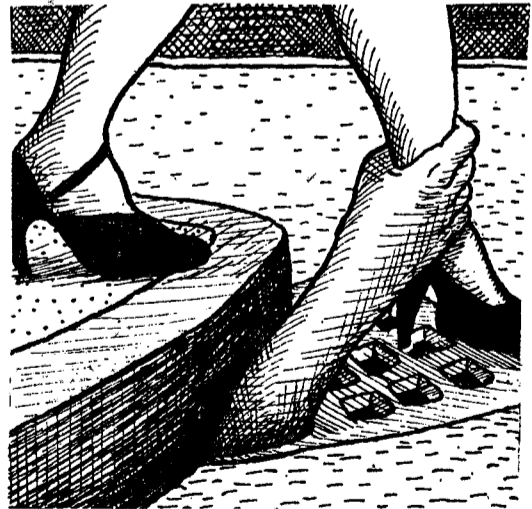
"Most of all, don't listen to those fakers who say that if we really understand the powerful ancient potions on which modern spiritual snake oil is based, we'd see that our spiritual lives must include the struggle for social and political change. That really trying to get your head together means working to get everybody's head together. And that really getting everybody's head together means fundamentally changing this society to end capitalism, sexism, and racism.

"These people are wrong. The formula for our famous spiritual snake oil is based on leaving society as it is; on talking about changing the world but never, ever, really doing anything serious to change it.

"Still can't sell you? Well, don't despair. Just down the road there's movie and TV fantasyland Amusement Park, the drug and alcohol bar, and the back-to-the-country escape hatch. I don't mind where you go, 'cause all these little outfits are run by the same company.

"Just make sure you don't go to the Socialist Community and Workers' Center. Those folks are dangerous. If you go to them, we might have to send you to the Prison and Mental Hospital Repair Shop for Broken Consumers and Wage-Slaves.

"So step right up, folks, step right up ..."



10,000 MARCH FOR ERA

About 10,000 people demonstrated in Springfield, Illinois on May 16 to support the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The demonstration, sponsored by the National Organization for Women (NOW), drew a crowd of women of all races and ages from 30 states to hear speakers demanding equal rights for women. Illinois has not yet ratified the ERA, and its vote will be crucial for the adoption of the amendment. NAM chapters in Chicago, St. Louis, and Springfield took part in the rally.

record review

# James Talley's 1970 Blue Collar Blues

James Talley, *Tryin' Like The Devil*  
(Capitol St-11494)

by Sa dy Carter, Newspaper Collective

Country music has long been considered the blues music of America's white working class. From the late 1880's up through the 1940's, country songs related the local and national news of the day, commenting on everything from farm prices, union drives, presidential elections, crop conditions, the state of the economy to a local bank robbery. "Love songs" composed a good portion of every singer's repertoire, but the content of the music represented the general experience of everyday working class life.

Since the 1920's and 1930's, this cultural expression has been gradually eroded as country music has become a commodity in the capitalist market. Today the subject matter of the "Nashville sound" has been whittled down to a few simple categories -- cheating songs, drinking songs, truck driving songs, songs about divorce and personal loneliness. Seldom do these songs about "personal life" convey a more general message describing the political, economic, and social circumstances that define personal life. A notable and remarkable exception to this tendency is a new album by James Talley called *Tryin' Like The Devil*.

## Shattering Boundaries

In *Tryin' Like The Devil* James Talley has created a collection of songs that shatter the boundaries of country "pop" music. Depicting the hardship, anger, pride, and desperation of working people, Talley has produced a historical document that starkly portrays working class life in the 1970's.

Yeah, the blues is fine for singin'  
But it's mighty hard to eat,  
And them engines won't keep rollin',  
If they ain't got that gas-i-leen

James Talley was born 33 years ago in Mehan, Oklahoma, and grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His father held various jobs ranging from factory work in a plant manufacturing plutonium to a job selling refrigerators door to door. His mother was a school teacher. During the post World War II construction boom, Talley's parents joined thousands of other American families in the migration west looking for work. After living and working for several years in Washington, the Talley family finally settled in Albuquerque.

Unlike many other country music performers, Talley has an academic background. He worked his way through the University of New Mexico and after receiving a degree in fine arts, entered graduate school where he specialized in art forms of the 1930's. Frustrated by his "ivory tower" life, Talley dropped out of graduate school.

"I was studying all about the Depression and all of a sudden I realized, 'Hey there's something out in the streets that's really happening.' I mean I was driving along the street and I noticed this shack in the barrio and I said to myself, 'Here I am stuck in an academic cloister studying what happened 30 years ago and it's happening right here, right now!'"

After working two years as a welfare case worker, he decided to move to Nashville and attempt to sell some of the songs that he'd been writing in his spare time. For the next seven years he worked at various construction jobs and managed to save enough money to hire some musicians, record an album, and pay to have 1000 copies pressed. Since that time Capitol Records has signed him to a recording contract, agreeing to gamble on the new "Talley product."

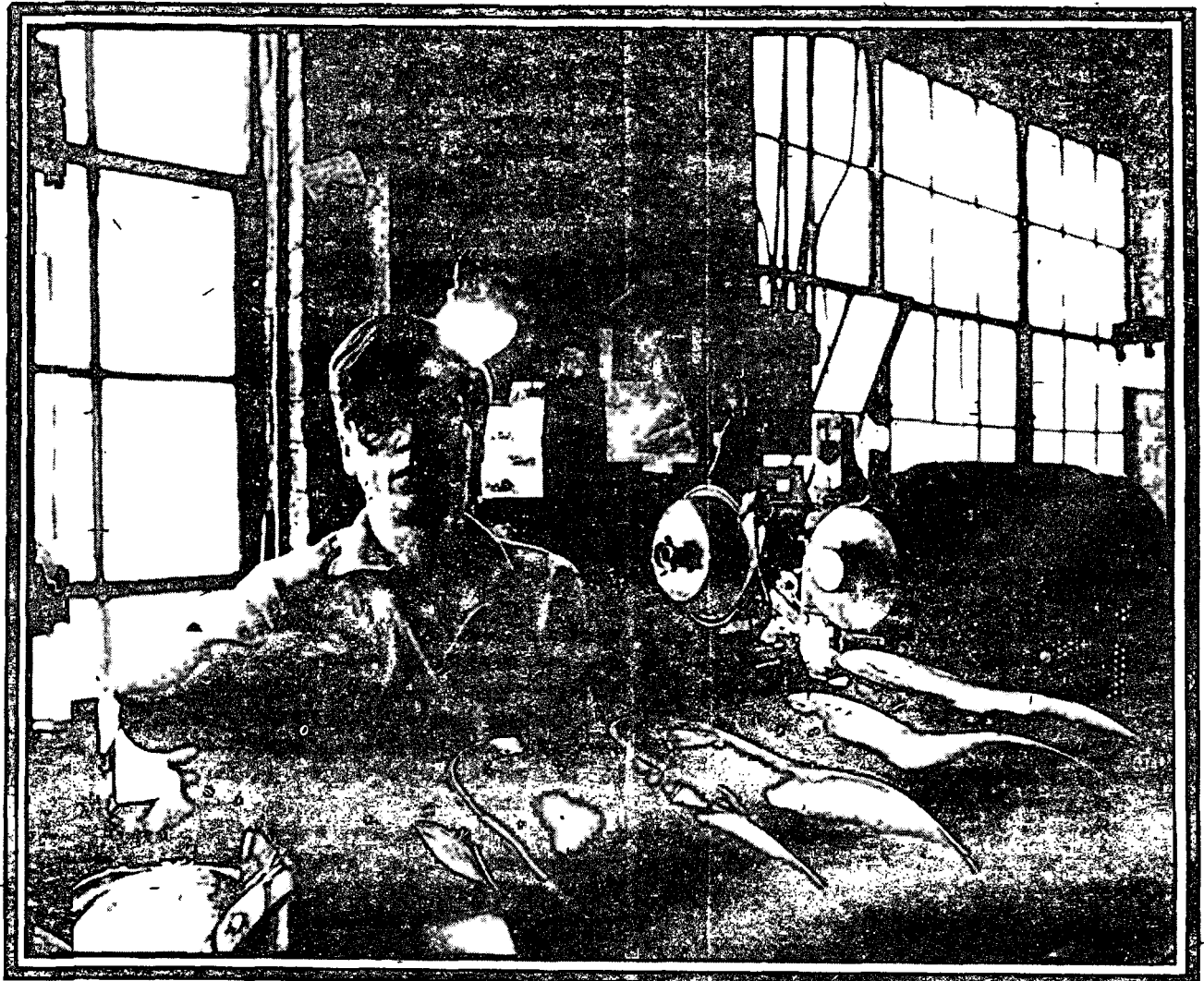


Photo by Ken Light

Working in the musical and lyrical traditions established by Bob Wills, Woody Guthrie, Jimmie Rodgers, and Hank Williams, Talley's *Devil* puts forward an uncompromising personal and political statement. Like the best writers in the country-blues idiom, Talley's lyrics are simple and direct. The musical forms drawn on are early blues, folk, western swing, and rock'n'roll. The musicianship, highlighted by Johnny Gimble's brilliant fiddle playing, is excellent throughout.

But what makes this record so exceptional is the content. Talley's subject matter is the modern blue collar experience -- the lives of factory workers, migrants, waitresses, miners, people he refers to as "the soul and savior of this land." These are not simply songs about working class people, these are songs that encompass society as a whole -- a society wracked by inflation, unemployment, unsafe working conditions, poverty and meaningless work, a society founded on and preserved by social inequality. As Talley says, "Make no mistake about it, poverty in this country is by design."

The effects of that design are tragically painted in Talley's "Give My Love To Marie." This methodically paced ballad recounts the story of a Tennessee miner who has raised his family on "coal dust beans," and is now dying of the coal miners' disease, black lung. "Deep Country Blues" offers another painful portrait. The song describes the life of a prematurely aged sharecropper woman from Mississippi. Talley recalls his friendship with the woman and comments,

...bright sunflowers  
They die quickly  
And fade away on the withered vine.  
Our simple dreams,  
They held them cheap,  
Now torn and broken  
Lay at our feet --

## Not Pessimistic

Yet despite the desperate economic conditions that surround the men and women in Talley's songs, the album is not pessimistic. The moments of despair often give way to outrage and a growing sense of rebellion, as expressed in "Are They Gonna Make Us Outlaws Again?"

Now there's always been a bottom  
And there's always been a top  
And someone took the orders  
And someone called the shots  
And someone took the beatin', Lord  
And someone took the prize  
Well that may be the way it's been  
But that don't make it right

Like Woody Guthrie, Talley disdains the song that preaches defeat. If many of his songs are tragic, the album also contains some upbeat and joyous country-rock'n'roll. The album's rowdy opening number "Forty Hours" and the final tune "You Can't Ever Tell" are rollicking Saturday night dance tunes that move above the day to day drudgery of the work week -- the work week of people who have no other means of survival, but the wage they can draw from the labor of their own two hands. And it is with these people that Talley casts his allegiance. In the album's title song "Tryin' Like The Devil," Talley's feelings of class solidarity are clearly stated:

I'm like that pot-bellied trucker drinkin'  
coffee  
I'm like that red headed waitress named  
Louise

Allowing no separation between himself and his audience, Talley's hopes and fears are intertwined with the lives he sings about.

Just reachin' for the stars  
In this honky tonkin bar  
With a lot of lonely people just like me  
Tryin' to forget all the things that I regret  
Just tryin' like the devil to be free

While Talley, like the people in his songs, seems unsure of how best to attain a more free and decent society, he is unmistakably explicit in his condemnation. In *Tryin' Like The Devil*, he forcefully calls our attention to the human misery and waste so casually accepted by the capitalist order. Still, Talley's work is more than a contemporary chronicle of injustice. It is an album that vividly sketches the stubborn strength, intelligence, and dignity of working people. It is an album that details a mounting discontent in working class life -- a discontent ever more demanding of expression.

Use This Film

# Women Recall CIO Beginnings

*Telling the boss to go to hell*

by Kathy Moore, Newspaper Collective

"Any union is better than no union. If there's a union, then join it. If there isn't, then organize one."

That's Sylvia Woods, one of the three women who tell her story in *Union Maids*. *Union Maids* is a film and an inspiration. It is an exciting look at our past, not the history of which law FDR gave us in which year or his conflicts with the rest of the boring men in government, but our past, the history of people determined to improve their lives.

"So he told me to turn on the mangle and I said, 'Uh-uh. Not this time. Not until you talk with us.'" *Union Maids* lets us relive the first sit-down strikes, the CIO's organizing drive in the Chicago stockyards, and mass confrontations with police. We see these events through the eyes of three remarkable women who began as rank and file workers and became union organizers and socialists and communists during the 1930's. Their words are brought to life with photographs and film footage from the period and with the labor music of the 1930's and 1940's. In the hall where I saw the film, people sang along with the music, and most were smiling when the lights came on.

When Sylvia Woods describes her role in a spontaneous sit-down strike among black women in the laundry where she worked, we see black women fighting -- hard -- against white policemen. "If it were today," says Sylvia, "someone would have been shot." Kate Hyndeman describes tenants and their supporters marching past armed police to reoccupy an apartment after an eviction -- and finally collecting the needed rent from the police themselves.

We cheer the victories on the screen, but also the individual women. With enormous warmth and humor, they recount the various times they told their bosses to go to hell -- and how they gave the people they worked with the courage to fight together. Their strength and their successes cast an aura of hopefulness on the past and on the future.



"It's real. It makes you laugh, it makes you cry. It's going to be shown, through the years, to millions. Also ... I wish every high school and college kid in the United States could see this film."

-- Pete Seeger

These women are the sort of heroines we rarely find in commercial movies. Each seems pleased with her own life, confident that she fought the right battles and made things better in her world.

"Now that I'm old and not in good health," says Kate, "some members of my family say, 'Humph! You had to go and open your big mouth. With your brains you could have been something. But what are you? You're nothing. You're just nothing.' But I say to them, 'That may be your way of looking at it, but it isn't my way.' I've seen some difficult times. But I'm proud to say, I survived them."

*Union Maids* gives us something we need: heroines, a sense of struggle and strength, hope (not to say faith). And it raises questions about the past and the future.

I know that I can get very involved in the lessons and struggles of the 1930's. But it isn't

clear to me at what point this becomes a retreat from the present, from looking at the American people today and figuring out what the most important forms of struggle are in the 1970's.

(I love those old union hymns. But the last time I tried to sing some at a NAM meeting, a younger NAM woman (I'm not even 30!) asked, "Don't you know any Crosby Stills and Nash?" Maybe if she saw the movie ... )

All through the show I thought of people I wished were watching it with me. The pessimistic woman I was talking with last week, people I work with. I'd like them to hear Stella, one of the three women in the film, say, "There's a tremendous strength in people, in labor people, in working people. They're very democratic. And there's a tremendous militancy that sometimes lies below the surface, and it will rise. I don't think that the American working people are going to let down this country. And I don't think any fascist bastards are going to take over, either."

Three people in NAM made this film as an organizing tool, hoping to bring the history in Staughton Lynd's book, *Rank and File*, to people who aren't likely to read the book.

*Union Maids* is available from New Day Films, P.O. Box 315, Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417 (tel. 201-891-8240). It runs 45 minutes on 16 mm. black and white film. A request or purchase order should be sent at least four weeks in advance. Give alternate date if possible. Cost is \$50 rental, \$400 purchase. New Day Films feels that political people have to support political films financially, since most rich people certainly won't, so it strongly encourages groups to try hard to raise the \$50 rental. In cases where there is an important political use and the cost would cause severe hardship, they will consider discounts.



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# Why Support Gay Liberation?

by Elayne Rapping, Pittsburgh NAM

"To imagine that only members of the well-off sections of society are in the throes of [sexual] problems would be a grave mistake. The waves of the sexual crisis are sweeping over the thresholds of workers' homes, and creating situations of conflict that are as acute and heartfelt as the psychological sufferings of the 'refined bourgeois world.'" The problems of sex concern the largest section of society -- they concern the working class in its daily life. It is therefore hard to understand why this vital and urgent subject is treated with such indifference. This indifference is unforgivable." -- Alexandra Kollontai, 1919

In June, 1969, the Stonewall, a gay bar on Christopher Street in New York City, was raided. Nothing unusual there. But on this particular night something unusual did happen. The customers resisted; the police were forced to call in reinforcements; and in the aftermath of what came to be called the Stonewall Riot the Gay Liberation Movement was formed.

Since that time, during the week of June 14 people all over the country have been holding demonstrations and educational and cultural events in celebration of Gay Pride Week. This year we in the New American Movement will be joining this national celebration.

Why do we, as socialists and feminists, support Gay Liberation? First, and most obviously, we are concerned with the widespread oppression of gay people in every area of American life. Gays are denied jobs, housing, and the most basic legal rights. They cannot marry, are often denied custody of their children, and in most states cannot even engage in sexual activity without breaking a law. In addition, like women and racial minorities, they suffer constant psychological abuse and live in terror of the physical violence perpetrated and often condoned by the dominant

male heterosexual culture.

These injustices would be enough to justify our support of and participation in gay struggles. But there is another, more basic reason for NAM's commitment to Gay Liberation. We in NAM have a very special vision of both the revolutionary struggle and the revolutionary society we hope to build. As socialist-feminists, we start from the assumption that capitalist institutions twist and warp every aspect of human life -- sexual and cultural as well as economic. All of us, gay and straight, function on many political levels. We are not simply workers, or consumers, or sexual beings. And we cannot separate the suffering we experience in any of these areas from the total social system which produces them all.

## Gay Oppression and Capitalism

With this in mind, we cannot help but see that the roots of gay oppression are in many ways the same as the roots of women's oppression. Gay liberation is a revolutionary demand because it strikes at the culturally and sexually repressive aspects of capitalism which support the class structure. Gay oppression is a form of sexism which, in capitalist society, begins in the structure of the nuclear family, with its assumption of male dominance and its rigidly enforced sex roles and stereotypes. Capitalism did not create this system, but it certainly benefits from it in countless ways. And if we rock the sexual boat the captains will try to throw us overboard.

That's why the simple demand for gay civil rights is an important, but limited, aspect of gay struggles. Capitalism can and will allow liberal reforms. But real sexual liberation depends on ending the top-down and violent class and sex relations of capitalism and patriarchy. Seen in this light, the struggle for gay liberation is part of the larger struggle for human liberation.

Like all new political movements, the gay movement suffers from problems. Most notably, mixed gay organizations often tend to be male-dominated, and gay men sometimes express extremely sexist attitudes. Therefore, it's important to talk about the special problems which Lesbians face, problems which are in some ways different and more severe than those of gay men.

We live in a sexist society. This means -- bluntly -- that men are valued more than women. And gay males, unless they are feminists, may see their



political problem as the fact that they are treated "like women." If so, then they will want nothing more than to be accepted as "real men" by straight society.

## Not So Easy

But for Lesbians it's not that easy. They are oppressed by the way this society sees women as inferior and unimportant, except in the familiar role as wife, mother, or servant. The decision of any gay person not to marry and have children goes against the norm: everyone is supposed to be part of the magic trio of husband, wife, and kids. But since women are defined, first and foremost, as the center of family life, Lesbians are penalized for rebelling against traditional family roles much more than gay men are.

Since Lesbian oppression is in many ways more extreme than that of gay men, their response is also more extreme. Lesbian separatists are struggling to create a radical new culture. They continue to make important contributions to our understanding of female (and male) psychology and of women's history. They are making music and literature which is by women and for women. In this way their movement is far in advance of that of gay men and has much to teach us about new forms of life: from medical self-help to ways of raising children.

## An Active Part

For all these reasons, it is very important that socialists and feminists take an active part in the gay struggle and support the independent gay movement. That's why NAM set Gay Pride Week as one of the four national events which all chapters would be urged to participate in this year.

The goal of real sexual liberation is under increasing attack from both the reactionary right and portions of the misguided left. We in NAM reaffirm our unqualified support for the struggle against sexual oppression. For us, this struggle is vitally important to the creation of a truly socialist society.



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