

WINTER★SOLDIER



A PUBLICATION OF VIETNAM VETERANS



AGAINST THE WAR/WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION

VOLUME 3 ISSUE

★★

1973

25¢

LIVE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



"The American war is over, but this is far from the case with the American Revolution. On the contrary, nothing but the first act of the great drama is closed."
-- Benjamin Rush (1787)

COME TO GAINESVILLE



FIGHT NIXON'S CONSPIRACY!

DEMONSTRATE JULY 17-21

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA



JULY 17-20

MARCHES-LEAFLETING-GUERRILLA THEATER-COURTHOUSE WATCH-PEOPLE'S
ASSEMBLY/CAMPSITES, PARADE PERMITS, MEDICAL & LEGAL SUPPORT PROVIDED!

MASS RALLY JULY 21

MARCH-RALLY-SPEAKERS-MUSIC

THIS WILL BE A LEGAL ACTION! FOR INFORMATION CONTACT LOCAL VIETNAM
VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR/WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION OR: VVAW/WSO NATIONAL
OFFICE, (312) 935-2129 - VVAW/WSO GAINESVILLE DEFENSE COMMITTEE, (904) 378-0774.

FREE THE **GAINESVILLE 8**

AND ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

Watergate vs. VVAW



Caught with it's pants down last June 17 at the Watergate, the Nixon administration moved rapidly to concoct a defense to justify the break-in, not caring how many more lies and illegal acts it took. The defense they finally dreamed up was that the Vietnam Veterans Against the War was a violent organization and was preparing to violently disrupt the Republican Convention in Miami. People on all levels of the Nixon administration and the Committee to Re-Elect the President, including the principals involved with Watergate and other related activities, took part in the plot to attempt to subvert and discredit VVAW/WSO.

Convicted Watergate burglar James McCord testified before the Senate Select Committee on Watergate that he was receiving daily intelligence reports from the Internal Security Division of the Justice Dept. (sic) regarding VVAW and that these reports were the basis for the two break-ins at Watergate. These reports to McCord were authorized by Robert Mardian, asst. Attorney General under John Mitchell, and were compiled by both Mardian and Guy T. Goodwin, the division's special grand-jury prosecutor. These reports were deliberately falsified by Mardian and Goodwin and have been disputed by virtually every law enforcement agency that was involved in security in Miami. Goodwin, by the way, is the same man responsible for the grand-jury witch-hunts held in Chicago, Seattle, Detroit, New Haven, New York, Harrisburg, Camden, all of which ended in complete acquittals, and now the VVAW 8 in Gainesville Florida.

Alfred Baldwin, McCord's chief assistant and un-indicted member of the Watergate team, testified last fall that he "was assigned by McCord to infiltrate the Vietnam Veterans Against the War for the purpose of embarrassing the Democratic Party" if VVAW demonstrated against the Republicans in Miami.

On May 23rd of this year, Pablo Fernandez told reporters in Miami that a year ago he was offered \$700 a week by long-time friend and convicted Watergate burglar, Eugenio Martinez, to infiltrate protest groups in Miami also to embarrass George McGovern and the Democrats. Fernandez said he had to decline the offer tho, as he was already engaged in infiltrating and spying on the Vietnam Veterans Against the War for the FBI and the Miami Police Department. One week after the Watergate break-in, Fernandez offered to sell fifty machineguns to VVAW members. Fernandez' boss, Major Adam Klimkowski of the Miami P.D. Special Investigations Section, said, "We did not want them to actually acquire the weapons.....we wanted to find out what was in the back of their minds. Pablo's involvement with the VVAW was with our knowledge and approval." Klimkowski later admitted that VVAW did not respond to the weapons offer, and that for all his efforts, Fernandez never brought back anything damaging on VVAW. "In fact, I guess that he (Fernandez) might make a good defense witness," he added.

Another friend of both Martinez and Fernandez is Felipe De Diego, self-confessed member of the team which burglarized the office of Daniel

Ellsberg's psychiatrist. De Diego has recently admitted there were numerous other break-ins committed by the "plumbers"(CREEP's security team), but says he won't talk about specifics until he is granted immunity. De Diego being given immunity by the federal government is highly unlikely since it is the federal government that he will be testifying against. His testimony is extremely crucial to the defense of the VVAW Gainesville 8 because on July 8, 1972, the office of attorney Carol Wild Scott was burglarized and the file on VVAW Gainesville 8 defendant Scott Camil was the only item stolen.

The conspiracy by the Nixon administration against the Vietnam Veterans Against the War is so deep, so wide-spread, and so desperate that even John Mitchell has had to put his head on the chopping block. Mitchell, former Attorney General and Campaign Director for CREEP, perjured himself in testimony he gave at a pre-trial hearing for the VVAW Gainesville 8 in Pensacola Florida in April. He stated that James McCord was not part of any intelligence-gathering group at CREEP. McCord's testimony before the Senate completely contradicts this statement. Mitchell also stated that he knew of no electronic surveillance against VVAW and the Defendants. But Guy Goodwin, himself, told the presiding judge, Winslow Arno, that indeed there was information gathered thru electronic surveillance but that it would not be presented as evidence by the government. Mitchell's lying is not surprising since he is already under indictment for perjury in the Vesco fraud case in New York.

One thing has become perfectly clear. The Nixon administration desperately needs a conviction of the VVAW Gainesville 8 to give some credibility to their reasons for breaking into Watergate, and will go to any lengths to achieve this.

But one other thing is perfectly clear. The Nixon Empire is rapidly crumbling into dust. Like his early Roman predecessor, Nixon will continue to play his fiddle as he too sinks into oblivion, all the while muttering, "My game plan.....my game plan.....my game plan....."

Feiffer
I PLEDGE
A MILLION-

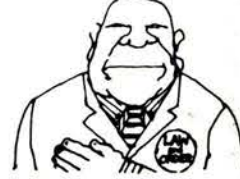
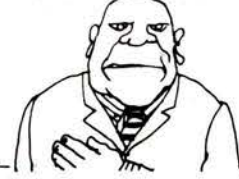
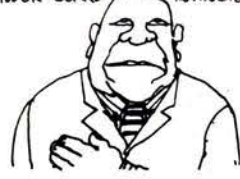
TO THE INDICTED STATES
OF AMERICA-

AND TO THE CORRUPTION
FOR WHICH
IT STANDS-

ONE NIXON
UNDER GUARD-
INVINCIBLE-

WITH LIBERTY INOPERATIVE-

FOR ALL-



THE WAR CONTINUES

LAOS



Laos is nestled in the heart of Indochina, landlocked between Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia and China. The country is inhabited by approximately three million people, made up by over sixty different nationalities. By their lifestyles and their ethnic origin, the people can be classified into three main groupings. The Lao Loum (Thai-Lao) are settled in the plains, the Lao Theung (Indonesian) are settled on the mountain slopes and the Lao Soung (Chinese) are settled on the mountain tops. Although their origins are so diverse, the people are drawn together by centuries of common life, work and struggle for the building and defense of their nation.

Laos is essentially an agricultural country with approximately 95% of the people living on the cultivation of rice. Cotton, Tobacco, Coffee, Quinine, Vegetables and Fruits are also grown. The country is rich in natural mineral resources: tin, gold, iron, copper, manganese and coal. Although most of these resources are untapped, the imperialist powers of France, Japan and the United States have recognized the importance of dominating this small nation and have for the past 100 years done much to unify the country against their foreign exploitation.

Starting in 1866, when the French sent two explorers to find a route to Southern China by way of Laos, the nation has not been without foreign influence or presence. Resistance to the French began immediately, as was the case in Cambodia. Using armed troops, gunboats, artillery, and planes the French continued to suppress these patriotic liberation forces by terrorizing the countryside, burning crops, destroying villages, massacring resistance leaders and harrasing the general population.

This domination by the French lasted until 1940 when France fell to Nazi Germany, resulting in Japan seizing control of Laos. When the Japanese surrendered in 1945, the Laotians declared their independence but this was short-lived as the French re-invaded the country in 1946 and recolonized it. The Laotian resistance intensified with the formation of the Lao People's Liberation Army and the political organization, the Pathet Lao. This united struggle successfully forced the French, along with the defeat at Dien Bien Phu, to sign the Geneva Accords in 1954. These same accords allowed for the independence of Vietnam and Cambodia.

The United States did not sign, nor recognize the Accords and was therefore in the position to pick up after the French. The US began giving aid to the French in 1950 and now became the dominant force in undermining the accords. With the formation of SEATO, at US insistence, the Eisenhower administration became the first to violate the accords. Since that time the US government has intervened in the internal affairs of the Laotian people by supporting and planning a series of coup d'etats; introducing thousands of military personnel in various operations, including Operations Dewey Canyon I and II; and by conducting the most massive bombing, per capita, over a period of years of any country in the world.

Under the Johnson Administration the average amount of daily sorties by US aircraft went from 200 in 1966 to 500 in 1968. The Nixon Administration exceeded this average. In 1969 there was an average of 900 sorties a day and in 1970-1 the average was 1,200. The tonnage of President Johnson's peak year (1968) was

500,000 tons and Nixon during his first three years in office dropped approximately 3,000,000 tons of bombs, which averages out to 2,600 tons a day or equivalent to 150 Hiroshimas. Thus, each square kilometer of the Lao liberated areas had to suffer nearly 8 tons of bombs; each person nearly 2 tons. This bombing cost the American taxpayers over 10 billion dollars.

With all of this bombing and with 23 years of American government intervention in Laos and nine years of intensified bombing in Laos, the people of that country have successfully forced the signing of an agreement in February of 1973 between the Pathet Lao and the US supported regime of Prince Souvanna Phouma. This victory of the forces for an independent, neutral and sovereign Laos are even now being undermined by the Nixon Administration. Within 3 months of the signing of the agreement the US has continued to:

- support nearly 20,000 Thai mercenary troops, recruited and financed by the CIA,
- maintain military pressure against the Pathet Lao zone,
- carry out periodic bombings of the Pathet Lao zone,
- provide logistical support for puppet para-military forces,
- support the CIA run Air America,
- provide logistical support for Vientiane's armies against the Pathet Lao zone.

The determination of the Lao people to overcome these US violations of the agreement is best summed up by Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front, "The prospect of our struggle is very bright. Justice is on our side. We have a correct line, an iron will, an everstronger force, and the traditions of heroic struggle; we also draw strength from the solidarity between the three peoples - Lao, Vietnamese and Khmer - and from the assistance of the socialist countries and the whole progressive mankind. We will win!

"Long live peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified and prosperous Laos."

LAO PEN LAO !!
LAOS FOR LAOTIANS !!



Free Brother Stubbs

The racist hierarchy at Lowry AFB, and particularly the commanders of the 3320th Retraining Group, have tried to railroad yet another black airman. This time the subject of the attack is Frederick Stubbs, a 20-year-old man from Newark, N.J. His trial on multiple charges of assault came as a result of his trying to defend the rights of one of his brothers. Right now he is in a 4x6 cell at Lowry. He is facing a general court-martial on charges of assault, yet he is severely bruised and bound in a plaster body cast from neck to hip that he will be in for 6 weeks.

Stubbs was confined when he tried to come to the aid of a fellow airman who was being hassled by

the SPs for possessing a bottle of liquor. Stubbs volunteered to be a witness for Paden, the target of the SPs. The SPs told Stubbs that the arrest was none of his business but Stubbs persisted and followed the SPs and Paden to the truck which was to take Paden away. Moments later, a police van pulled up with well-armed riot police. A "disturbance" resulted, in which Stubbs got into an argument with the SPs about his right to be there, despite the fact he was not interfering with the arrest but simply defending Paden. Stubbs was then beaten and placed under arrest.

On June 4th, Stubbs faced a general court-martial on 2 counts of assault; 1 of escaping from law-

ful confinement; 1 of resisting lawful apprehension; 1 of trying to grab an SP's gun; and 1 of using reproachful words. During his trial he was found guilty of 1 count of breaking an SP's nose and 1 count of resisting lawful apprehension. He was sentenced to 7 months confinement at hard labor, forfeiture of \$200 for 7 months, and a BCD. He could have gotten 5 years and a DD. Stubbs' lawyers are now in the process of filing an appeal.

Brother Stubbs will probably do his time at Ft. Leavenworth. Letters of support, inquiries about the trial, and requests for more information about the GI movement at Lowry should be sent to: Blue Screw, PO Box 841, Aurora, Colo.

G.I.s FIGHT BACK



It is not difficult to see the correlation between G.I. projects and an end to repression within the military. VVAW/WSO has several chapters located on military bases throughout Japan. An example of one of the most active (and hassled) G.I. projects is that being run at the Marine Air Station at Iwakuni.

The Iwakuni project is centered around the Hobbit Coffeehouse. This is the center for the G.I. movement and its newspaper, Semper Fi. The Hobbit was established in late February, 1972, and has since become the gathering place for anti-imperialist and progressive people from the base, as well as for the Japanese from the Iwakuni area.

The work being done by the

Hobbit people has been very successful. Recently, mass educational work has been done among G.I.'s on base. Copies of Semper Fi have been distributed widely, including copies sent to NamPhong, Thailand. Also, the Hobbit is the center for the bookstore which carries alternative literature to people on base. The bookstore has been recently mobilized so that it can be taken to concerts, rallies, and meetings. The Hobbit has also been sponsoring study groups which enable G.I.'s to educate themselves as to the realities of imperialism. The Semper Fi people are also trying to set up a legal counseling project for G.I.'s.

Because of the success of the Hobbit, the coffeehouse was ordered off limits in June, 1972.

The order banning the Hobbit expired March 31, and thus, the Hobbit went on limits. The Fi carried an ad for the Hobbit, and two days later the Hobbit was off limits again. As in June, there was no hearing, no notification to the Hobbit, and no explanation of why. In the 17 days of being on limits, nothing happened at the Hobbit to justify any sort of putting it off limits.

G.I.'s are still going to the Hobbit, but none have been arrested. If any people are busted, the G.I.'s at Iwakuni will have a good test case for exposing the repression within the military. However, the command may be too smart to risk a test case. Thus, the people at Iwakuni need your support to get the Hobbit placed on limits again. Letters condemning such repressive acts should be sent to the commanding General Lang, as well as to Congress.

Such acts of military repression must be stopped. The Hobbit is just one example of the type of military maneuvering that is happening on bases everywhere. Support the Hobbit and help G.I.'s fight for their rights.

VVAW Iwakuni
P.O. Box 49
Iwakuni-shi
Yamaguchi - Ken
Japan 740

WOMEN

Spirit of Equality



Throughout history, women have played a vital role in struggles for freedom around the world. One of the best examples of this is the work done by the Vietnamese women. The women of Vietnam have organized and fought alongside men in a spirit of equality since the beginning of their fight for independence. The success of the Vietnamese would not have been possible without the participation of women within the liberation forces. The time has come for the women of America to begin identifying with the example set by the Vietnamese. Our role as women in the struggle for freedom here at home will be of great importance. The fight against the sexism which is present in our society must come from the initiative of women who are aware of the special nature of our oppression.

Women are so strongly conditioned into their role of the "inferior" that much work needs to be done to educate the women of America that they are, in fact, being oppressed and their value exploited. Women must be made to understand that the problem does not lie directly within the men of our society, but rather within the society itself.

Along with the heightened consciousness which must grow in all women, the level of understanding must also be raised among men. Though men are considered to be responsible for keeping a woman in the setting of the home, men must be made aware that they were conditioned by society to dehumanize woman

and place her in a sterile, stereotyped role. Because of this, the liberation of women from their oppression will be a two-way struggle. Both men and women must realize where their roles are founded in order to escape them and grow together to reach a level of understanding and respect.

Men and women must also come together to help one another grow on a political level. Because the problems confronting America are huge and varied, the work involved in the struggle facing us must be done in unity. Women have played an active role in building VVAW/WSO since the beginning of the organization. Few of the women in VVAW/WSO are veterans, yet they have dedicated themselves to the strengthening of the organization on a level of equality.

There are many reasons why women have become members of VVAW/WSO. Often, women may be involved in a relationship with a veteran who is also a member of the organization. The relationship may be more easily maintained if both the man and the woman are involved in the same situation of political growth. Also, the woman may feel that by joining the organization, she may come to a deeper insight regarding the experiences suffered by Vietnam veterans. This will help her to more thoroughly understand the true nature of the war and the role of the U. S. in Indochina. Another reason behind women becoming members of VVAW/WSO is that many women realized that the organization is viable, credible, and based within the working class. Both the men and the women of VVAW/WSO have come to an understanding that a mass organization is vital to the building of a movement which will have an impact on correcting the destruction of basic human rights within our society.

One of the most important functions of women within VVAW/WSO is that they have helped the male membership reach an understanding of the causes and effects of sexism. Because the military is probably the most sexist institution within this

country, veterans were naturally influenced by these attitudes. The women of VVAW/WSO have helped the men struggle with these attitudes so that both brothers and sisters have progressed in understanding and acceptance.

The women of VVAW/WSO have increasingly been gaining recognition for their work within the organization. In fact, the high level of energy and activity among the women was one of the reasons for the addition of the Winter Soldier name. Technically, the name addition ensures that the membership of VVAW/WSO is open and this will result in the broadening of our base as we increase in number. But in fact, the name change is the recognition of an existing situation. The Winter Soldier Organization accepts women to be on an equal level of membership with veterans. VVAW/WSO has finally realized the importance of having women in leadership positions for purposes of building a stronger and more effective organization.

It is important for all of VVAW/WSO's membership to follow the example of the Vietnamese. We must unite and work together in a spirit of equality. Our struggle will be a long and difficult one, and the victory won only when unity between brothers and sisters everywhere is accomplished.

UNITY

STRUGGLE

VICTORY



AMNESTY CAMPAIGN BEGINS



On May 26, 27 and 28, an international conference on amnesty was held in Toronto, Canada for the purpose of developing strategic and tactical plans to implement a campaign calling for total, unconditional amnesty. The conference was sponsored by AMEX-Canada and was attended by groups from Germany, Sweden, England, Canada, and the United States. VVAW/WSO had the largest delegation with approximately thirty members from California, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Maryland, New York and Massachusetts.

The conference was held in Canada so that representatives of exile groups, barred from entering the United States, could attend. Representatives of those categories of people needing amnesty were present. There were GIs, veterans, families of resisters, draft and military resisters and the family of a GI killed in Vietnam.

The purpose of the conference was to begin to develop plans to bring the question of amnesty to the American people. It was felt that the 'amnesty constituency', representatives of those to be amnestied, were a crucial group in being able to raise the issue in a way that millions of Americans would see as im-

portant to their own lives. These millions of Americans include families, friends and neighbors of those in need of amnesty and the many millions more who throughout the past decade worked in opposition to the war in Southeast Asia and see that the issue of amnesty continues to raise the question of who was responsible for the war and who was not.

The fact that the war in Indochina is not over was a main topic of discussion and it was felt that to work on the issue of amnesty and not continually point out this fact would be to ignore the reasons which caused people to oppose the war. For it was the war in Indochina that caused 500,000 veterans to receive less than honorable discharges; that caused thousands to resist the war by seeking refuge in other countries; that created the climate in which many people correctly expressed their outrage by committing acts of violent protest that led them underground; that caused thousands to be sent to jail by virtue of their protest to the war. It was the United States government that illegally forced the war on the people of America and Indochina. This illegality demanded resistance and then defined that resistance as also 'illegal'.

The Toronto conference felt that the best way to raise these issues with the American people was to engage in grass-roots organizing around the issue of amnesty. The importance of grass-roots organizing can be easily understood by looking at the history of the anti-war movement. An incredible amount of emphasis was placed on mounting mass demonstrations in Washington, D.C. in order to pressure the Congress and Executive branch to put an end to the war. These demonstrations created much public interest but fell upon the deaf ears of our elected officials. The most effective anti-war organizing took place in the cities and towns. It was the thoughts and actions of the Indo-Chinese and American people, and not the Congress, that forced Nixon to sign the January 27th Peace Agreement. And it will be the thoughts and actions of the American people that will bring about universal, unconditional amnesty.

Because the Toronto conference placed such stress on grass-roots organizing by the amnesty constituency, the role of VVAW/WSO was seen as crucial. In this light, the representatives of VVAW/WSO who attended the conference committed themselves to working towards organizing and educating the people of their chapters and communities to the issue of amnesty.

First we must educate ourselves about the politics of amnesty, who is affected by it, and how it is of major concern to America. Next we must develop plans for both national and local organizing in order to share this information. This entails community meetings, rallies, marches, door-to-door leafletting, distributing pamphlets and making ourselves visible at community functions and events. In doing this we would expose the interests of the government, the corporations, and the military. In talking with the American people we would focus on the criminality of the ruling class in creating the war, and the justified resistance of the people to it.

AMNESTY FOR ALL RESISTERS!

UNITY-STRUGGLE-VICTORY!!



The BLOODY MASSACRE perpetrated in King-

VVAW/WSO submits that the evidence in this case before the American government evidences that the Watergate Affair has shown in a clear manner in which elections are manipulated and how corrupt the government has become. VVAW/WSO believes it is the greater tradition of America, of Johncock, Jefferson, Paine, to resist and change a government that no longer serves the interests of its people. The people give the government the power and sometimes government abuse that power. When that happens, it is the right of the people and the duty of the people to change that government.

AN REVOLUTION

Street 1748792, London 5-1770 by a party of the 29th REG^t

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal rights to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self evident, that all people are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among people, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the PEOPLE to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient reasons; and accordingly all experience has shown that people are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right those evils by abolishing the form of government they are accustomed to. But when a long train of abuses and criminal acts, pursuing the same end—time after time, evinces a design to reduce the people under absolute corruption, it is the PEOPLE's right, it is their duty to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.

Such has been the patient sufferance of the American people; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to change their former systems of government. The history of the past and present Executive Administrations is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over the people. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

That they have violated laws, the most wholesome to the public good;
That they have obstructed the administration of justice, by covering up their own criminal acts and lying to the people;

They have erected a multitude of new offices, and sent around swarms of officers to harass the people, and eat out their substance;

He has kept among us, in times of peace, large standing armies without the consent of the people;

They have affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power;

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us;

For turning our own militia against us, to slay us;

For protecting them, by mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the common people;

For imposing taxes on us without our consent, and giving large tax loopholes to the rich;

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of trial by jury and our peers;

That they have been transporting large numbers of U. S. troops and foreign mercenaries to our shores, and are already begun with cruelty and horror to oppress and oppress the people, and totally unworthy for a head of a civilized nation;

For helping foreign corporations make profits, while the people are unable to buy food at reasonable cost;

For allowing the decay of cities and suppressing minority people in their struggle for better living conditions;

For subjecting working people to unsafe work conditions and forcing upon them the brunt of taxation;

For carrying the electoral process by criminal acts and the influences of the rich.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

EDITORIAL

This issue of Winter Soldier is dedicated to the men and women of the American Revolution, those people who gave their lives in the fight against tyranny and for self-determination. They are great symbols to America, a fighting symbol, whose fight 197 years ago still lives in our hearts today. The name of this paper comes from one such great patriot, Tom Paine. He wrote of the winter of 1776 at Valley Forge, when food was scarce and men were freezing with no shelter. Many of the men's enlistments were up, and the Revolutionary Army was faced with defeat. Paine wrote of those that stayed, the winter soldiers:

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will in this crisis shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

We believe that Americans are again faced with a great crisis. The war in Indochina continues with US planes, materials, and dollars. The economy of this country is in chaos, the dollar sinking lower and lower in value. Racism is all pervasive, and women are treated like meat. The government is falling apart because of its own corruption and crimes, and the rich are blatantly pulling the strings in Washington.

Now is not the time for the American people to hide from its heritage. Now is the time for today's "winter soldiers" to come forward to face the real crisis in our lives. VVAW/WSO thinks the time is long past when America can hide from the corruption, the intimidation, the gross indifference of our elected officials, small and large, and the injustices faced by poor and working people every day.

Freedom was not handed to the 13 colonies in 1776, blood and flesh was the price that was paid. VVAW/WSO does not think that change will come by prayer or wishful thinking, but by the determined struggle of the people.

Don't you think it's time you came forward to fight against tyranny and injustice? We think so.



Larrie
Gardiner

Nehemiah
Jackson

Gary
Lawton

FRAME-UP IN THE DESERT GARY LAWTON

In February of this year the trial of Gary Lawton, Larrie Gardiner and Nehemiah Jackson ended in a hung jury. The government, in its attempt to frame the three on murder charges, had spent \$2,000,000 and ended with a 9-3 decision for innocent. Despite the overwhelming verdict for acquittal the government has started a new trial. It is approaching this trial a little differently in that it has separated Nehemiah Jackson from the three and is zeroing in on Lawton, (an all too effective community organizer), and Gardiner. It has moved the case from Indio back to Riverside, California and dropped the conspiracy to murder charge to murder alone. It has not changed its repressive and racist tactics against the defense committee and the community.

The same police who are charging the brothers with murder shot and killed a 23 year old Chicano this month. Even though the Chicano was unarmed, up against the fence and had his arm in a cast, he was shot dead. One of the defense

committee members, a country fire captain, was arrested outside his home and charged with being drunk. A week after this arrest he was again arrested for intoxication, this time while driving a motorcycle. He was handcuffed and driven around for three hours before being taken to the police station. Another member of the committee, a black steelworker, had his home broken into by the police, who found a 22 and charged him with possession of a stolen weapon, despite a bill of sale for this gun. He was placed under \$20,000 bail.

At the present time the Lawton jury has been selected with the trial to begin soon. During the first trial the Riverside Defense Committee only spent \$25,000, but they are still close to \$3,000 in debt. They desperately need funds for the new trial. VVAW/WSO has declared this trial a national priority. The brothers must be defended. A booklet has been published which gives further information about this trial: "Frame-up In the Desert" - for 35¢. Send the desperately needed donations to:

Riverside Defense Committee
PO Box 5154
San Bernardino, CA 92412

WINTER SOLDIER

827 W. Newport Chicago, Ill 60657

\$6/YEARLY

\$9/FOREIGN

FREE TO GIs & PRISONERS

\$15/INSTITUTIONS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

IMPORTANT! Make checks payable to: Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc.

WINTER SOLDIER



Vietnam Veterans Against the War

Winter Soldier Organization

Objectives



1. To demand an immediate cessation of fighting and the withdrawal of all American troops, planes, and military and economic aid from Southeast Asia. We cannot allow one more human being to be killed in Southeast Asia. We support as a basis for the cessation of these hostilities the various peace proposals of the People of Southeast Asia or such future plans as they develop based upon their right of self-determination and actual control of their own destinies.

2. To demand the immediate termination of all other operations by the United States Government, its agencies, and American business interests that are designed to suppress the rightful struggles for liberation and self-determination of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America. This includes the maintenance of dictatorial governments, economic domination, and the theft of the natural resources of other countries. The United States should make reparations in a program acceptable to the Indo-chinese for all of the damage done by the United States.

3. To demand that all active-duty servicemen and women, reservists and national guardsmen be afforded the same rights that are guaranteed by the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights that are presently denied by the Uniform Code of Military Justice. We are appalled that our active-duty GIs are treated as less than first class citizens. We endorse the efforts of our active-duty sisters and brothers in their struggle to democratize the military.

4. To support all military personnel refusing to serve against their consciences in wars at home and abroad. We demand that Congress enact legislation for the immediate repatriation of those brothers and sisters who are in prison or in self-exile by reason of their refusal to serve in the military. It must also involve an end to all repression and a freeing of all political prisoners.

5. To demand there be no distinctions as to types of discharges and that a single type of discharge be issued, and that this be retroactive. We also demand all veterans receive all rights and benefits under the VA; and that compensation for disabilities be based solely upon the degree of disability for veterans and their families, without regard to sex, race, rank or length of service.

6. To make clear that the United States has never undertaken an extensive, open investigation of American war crimes in Indochina. In its war in Indochina, the principles of Nuremberg have been violated. As active-duty and former GIs, we recognize

the responsibility and guilt of the individual soldier to refrain from committing war crimes. We also recognize that the responsibility and guilt of war crimes committed in the name of America lies with our policy makers at all levels.

7. Resolved to fight racism, to show Americans that our society is permeated by racism, which manipulates whites into viewing non-whites as inferior or less than human. This racism pushes Third World People through inferior schools to inferior jobs and into combat arms. Thus Third World People are sent off to die in disproportionately high numbers as we kill Asians indiscriminately. We also demand the US military recognize its complicity in America's domestic and international racism.

8. Resolved to fight sexism, to show that sexism plays a major part in promoting war. We must show Americans our society is permeated by sexism, which forces an inferior status upon women, reducing them to subservient sexual objects, and which robs both men and women of their natural growth. This institutionalized sexism channels women into unfulfilling, lower paying jobs which are servile in nature and purpose; it exploits their bodies for sex and profit; and it degrades and dehumanizes them by a double standard of morality wholly dependent on the myth of male supremacy. This sexism is exploited by the military, officially defining service-women as subordinate and thoroughly subjugating them to servile work and the role of a sexual object. We resolve to fight sexism within our society, within our own organization and within ourselves.

9. To support the democratic right of Americans to unionize and strike to protect their income and safeguard their employment. We consider all legislation designed to suppress these rights, including mandatory arbitration, to be illegal and not in the interests of the American working people. We also demand full employment for all Americans, including free educational and vocational training for all who need or want it. We refuse to participate in the efforts being made to separate us from other working people, making veterans enemies by giving us the charade of employment priority. We condemn this as a method of encouraging enlistment by the false promise of employment after service. We also condemn the use of active-duty GIs, Reservists and National Guardsmen as strikebreakers.

10. To dedicate ourselves to these principles and objectives which directly relate to the imperialist suppression of the People of the World by the United States government. We understand this war is imperialist in origin and affirm that the membership of VVAW/WSO is not only concerned with ending this war, but with changing the domestic, social, political and economic institutions that have caused and perpetuated its continuance.

Vietnam Veterans Against The War/ Winter Soldier Organization
827 W Newport, Chicago, Illinois 60657, tel.(312)935-2129

☐ I would like to Join VVAW/WSO

☐ I am an active-duty GI

☐ I am currently in prison

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POW'S ON TRIAL



"THEN, AFTER THE 'GO TO BED WITHOUT YOUR SUPPER TORTURE', THEY MADE US WATCH HOURS AND HOURS OF OLD JANE FONDA MOVIES!"

The masquerade of POW solidarity concerning support for Nixon's war policies has been smashed. Colonel Guy, a former POW, has charged 8 other former POW's with aiding the 'enemy,' i. e. making anti-war statements, disrespect toward a 'superior,' (Colonel Guy) and asking for political asylum in a socialist country.

The man making the charges is an Air Force career officer with 23 years active service. He was shot down in 1968 while on a bombing raid over Laos and taken to a camp known as the Plantation. A clue as to the why of the charges comes from this and the fact that he was senior POW at the camp and thus, the man in charge. He was responsible for the conduct of the men under him; any lack of discipline would reflect on him. Therefore, anti-war statements made by other detained military personnel would

reflect on his military record.

So what is the difference between those eight charged and the many other POW's who made statements against U.S. involvement in Indochina?

First, all 8 charged were either in the Army or Marines. They were the ground troops; the infantrymen who fought a dirty war, who saw who they killed, whose homes they burned, who slept on the ground and who ate out of cans. They were the men who saw the war face up. Colonel Guy and the others were in the Navy and Air Force. They were the pilots; airmen who ran milk-runs, who killed from thousands of feet up, who destroyed with their bombs but never got their hands dirty. At night they went back to their bases to eat steak and sleep between sheets. This difference was pointed up by Staff Sergeant Young who said, "The fliers don't experience it. They can't know. They are up there and they don't hear anything. All they see is a little flash. They don't see the destruction of hear the screams."

Second, all those who were charged were enlisted men. This produces a contradiction in itself for Colonel Guy, in that enlisted personnel were totally separated from the officers. As a matter of fact, the Colonel didn't meet the eight until after the signing of the agreement and just a few weeks before they were released. The fact that there were no charges brought against any officer, even though many officers made statements against U.S. involvement points to the protection, again, of higher ups. This does not come from believing

that officers can make anti-war statements, but from the position of not causing conflicts in the officer class.

It is easier to place the blame on lower ranks, the ones who carry out the dirty work, whether it is ground fighting in Indochina or car-polishing and grass-cutting here in the U.S. It is interesting that the charges come at this time. They come when the government is having charges brought against itself at Watergate. They come at a time when there is a growing movement for amnesty for all war resisters. They come at a time when people are questioning who are the real persons responsible for prolonging the Indochinese conflict.

It is important that people begin to move in support of these brothers; that letters are written to them personally offering encouragement and support; that letters are sent to Congressmen and the military questioning the charges. That articles are sent to local papers, raising the real issues. That actual outreach through pamphleting, petitioning and speaking engagements be started to build real support in the community.

Nixon first used the POW's to tell of horror stories about the communists and condemn the anti-war/anti-Nixon movement as those responsible. They are now being used to silence the growing call for amnesty. They are also being used to divert attention away from the real criminals, the ones who instituted and prolong the genocide in Indochina to the ones who called for an end.

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Operation County Fair has been voted in by the National Steering Committee as an ongoing program to provide medical care for the people of Bogue Chitto, Alabama; to strengthen our bonds with 3rd world peoples; and to create new unity, energy and direction within VVAW. This program is directly related to our 8th and 10th objectives. The medical program was initiated last summer by community people, who had previously worked on the Poor Peoples' Campaign of 1968, on a donated 10 acre farm. Most of the people who will be served are poor, rural blacks who survive on similar subsistence farms.

VVAW was asked to participate shortly after the Miami Republican Convention. VVAW's role will be to provide assistance aimed at allowing the people of this area to control and provide their own medical services. The California region is responsible for immediate administrative affairs and the Alabama region is to assist in incorporation, setting up local staffing and control and create a means of continued fundings. All other regions should muster all the staff, funding and supplies they can.

Operation County Fair has four major aims. The emphasis is being placed upon the proposed clinic which will have 3 examination rooms, 2 consultation rooms, 4 bathrooms, a lab, a pharmacy, a records and reception room and a waiting and child care room. All services will be free. A screening team will be trained to uncover diseases which normally go untreated locally, among these are anemia, T. B., ricketts, parasites and dental problems. A van-type vehicle will serve as rural medical transportation to bring help to patient who can't travel, for emergencies and as the Screening teams' transportation. Also, under the Health Advocates Program, the advocate would accompany the patient to make sure treatment was prompt and proper and that all the patients rights were respected.

NEEDS

Funds are desperately needed for operating expenses, construction of the Clinic proper, purchase of a vehicle, and medical supplies. Donations of medical supplies are welcome and needed. We also need staff who will be willing to work for subsistence pay and satisfaction (doctors, nurses,

paramedics, dentists, medical and dental students, etc.) We would also welcome any helpful advice or information.

ROLE OF VVAW MEMBERS

VVAW often uses military type code names to signify actions with opposite goals. Operation County Fair was derived from military terminology for limited medical aid programs created in Vietnam and combined with political indoctrination. We all know the horrors of forced relocation which was the next tactic after this "pacification" plans failure. This action gives Vietnam Veterans, especially those with paramedical training, a chance to use their military training to help and serve instead of maim and kill.

For information or donations contact: Operation County Fair
4317 14th Ave.
Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401
or contact the VVAW/WSO regional office in California or the VVAW/WSO National Office.

Cairo United Front



Cairo, Illinois is a small town located at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and was formerly known for being the first stop on the underground railroad. Now, Cairo is known as Little Egypt; a place torn by racism and open warfare. Individual and institutional racism has been rampant in Cairo since the early 1900's, but in 1969, the day came when the black citizens of Cairo began to organize themselves into dealing with this racism. They decided that the best way to deal with its institutionalized economic base was an economic boycott, and in April, 1969, the

black community began their non-violent boycott of Cairo businesses. The white community responded to this action with gunfire, and within the past four years, the people of Cairo have been the targets of over 200 nights of fire-fights. The local police and a white vigilante group (White Hats) have, since then, fired into the black community with machine-guns, automatic carbines, high-powered rifles, sub-machine guns, and shot-guns. The black community has continued to defend itself.

The mechanism of organization within Cairo is the United Front against racism, exploitation, and oppression. The Front was formed in 1969 and will be celebrating their anniversary on June 16th, the 4th Annual National Solidarity Day. For the past two years, VVAW/WSO has been involved in sponsoring supply convoys to Cairo, taking food, medical supplies, clothing, etc. to the black community. We will be in Cairo on the 16th to participate in the celebration and offer support to the struggle in Cairo.

Since 1969, the United Front has made sufficient progress. They are now in the process of obtaining 900 acres of land which will be used for collective farming so that the poor and black community will be able to support themselves. They are also trying to develop cooperatives and private business enterprises so that the community can be developed economically. The people of Cairo have their own housing projects and are erecting new homes so that the dilapidated shacks in which so many blacks live will no longer be needed. The community is also establishing a liberation school which will provide the needed alternate educational system.

Racism is still prevalent in Cairo, but the community has succeeded in establishing concrete programs to combat their position of the oppressed. The Front needs support in order to continue their struggle. If you have donations of any sort, or if you want further information as to the activities in Cairo, contact: The United Front, P. O. Box 544, Cairo, Illinois 62914.

SOLIDARITY IN CUBA

This article is written in solidarity with the 20th celebration of the Moncada attack of July 26, 1953, led by Fidel against the second largest fortress of Batista's repressive forces and considered the actual beginning of the Cuban revolution. There will be celebrations of this anniversary in many U.S. cities, (sponsored by the Venceremos Brigade) with displays showing all aspects of Cuban life 20 years later.

On March 19th, I arrived in Cuba along with over a hundred Brigadistas to begin an experience that changed part of the "I" in all of us to "we," strengthening our resolve, improving our attitudes toward work and collectivity and giving us an opportunity to build with our hands a real part of the new society. We spent six weeks doing construction work. Together with Cuban workers we made pre-fab concrete forms for houses, completed six houses, nearly completed six more, and finished two floors of a five story apartment building. These buildings will form part of a complete town for the workers of the Los Naranjos Cattle Breeding project. After our work, we toured Cuba for two weeks on new buses over thousands of miles of new roads; neither existed before the revolution. We visited some places - beaches and restaurants - where the majority of us and our Cuban comrades would have been too poor or the wrong color to make use of. Mostly, we saw new schools, day care centers, towns, recreation centers, factories, and hospitals all built since the revolution; many were built just in the last few years. These have added momentum in the struggle to go from extreme poverty and degradation to prosperity and national dignity.

Cuba is a socialist country; under socialism all interests

are collective. This means that you don't work for yourself but for everybody and it also means that everyone is working for you. This is why in Havana buses are only a nickel and public phones are free. It is also why most Cuban's transportation to work is free. Public transportation is so thorough that on a four hour truck ride to the small mountain village of Uvero (there is a grave yard there where sick peasants died waiting for a boat because there were no medical facilities and no road) I saw over three public buses pass.

Since the motive of profit has been destroyed, conditions for the people are better in all ways. In the Matahambre Copper Mine, I talked to a miner who had worked there 19 years. He told me that before the revolution, conditions were very hard. The miners stayed underground 8 hours in unventilated, unsafe conditions and hardly got enough pay to live on. Now the shifts are only 6 hours. Transportation, work clothes, lunches and beer after work are all free, and wages and conditions are better.

Education is free and of excellent quality. Students not only study but they work in some form of productive labor; usually agriculture for junior and high

school students and a work place directly related to their future jobs for college students. Not only this, but college incorporated into work allows full time workers to work and advance their education at the same time, while students respect the value of work and workers.

The position of women has advanced immensely. I talked to women who watched their children starve before the revolution. Their daughters can now work and take equal part in political activities. Their granddaughters will have full opportunities for education, all kinds of jobs, and self development. One example was the 14 year old sister of one of the Cubans I worked with. I was told that she is studying to be an engineer and is already elected head of the political youth organization in her school. I also saw young women in leadership positions in universities, factories, block organizations, day care centers, etc.

The Cubans are not just dedicated to their own prosperity but support all the peoples of the world struggling against imperialism. I talked to workers in a furniture factory who were voluntarily working overtime to make furniture for children's hospitals in North Vietnam which are being rebuilt after being destroyed by U.S. bombs.

All of these developments have happened in the short space of 13 years, a large part the result of volunteer labor. This could not have occurred without the support of the vast majority of the Cuban people.





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April) by US Farmers Assoc.

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Published by Americans Exiled
in Canada

Subscription Rates

\$5 - one year \$7.50 - two year

Mailing Address:

AMEX-CANADA
PO Box 187, Station D
Toronto, Ontario M6P 3J8

WINTER SOLDIER
is the official national publication
of:

Vietnam Veterans Against the War
Winter Soldier Organization

It is published monthly by the
National Collective
at

VVAW/WSO
827 W. Newport
Chicago, ILL 60657

Subscribers of LNS



... when a government is not responsive to the needs of the people,
they may exercise their constitutional right to amend it,
or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.
-- abraham lincoln