

**AGAINST THE WAR/WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION**

[illegible]

SEP 1973

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## A black and white photograph of a protest march. A large banner at the top reads "Free the Gainesville &amp; All Political Prisoners" with a shield logo on the left. Below it, a smaller banner says "VIETNAM AGAINST WINTER" with a similar shield logo. Protesters are walking on a street, and a police officer is visible in the background.

# WATERGATE — P 14



## The War Continues:

# INDOCHINA



On the 15th of August, the Nixon Administration was forced to stop its bombing of Cambodia. With this act, nine years of Indochina bombing came to an end.

During those nine years, 9,768,267 tons of bombs were dropped as opposed to the 2,057,244 tons dropped by the United States in all of the Second World War.

The bombings in Indochina were used in the early part of the war to attack "enemy sanctuaries." In reality, this meant driving civilians from liberated zones to areas controlled by U.S. allies. As the U.S. continued its policy, the bombings took on a more sinister aspect -- one of terrorist revenge. Losing all semblance of military value, the final phase of the Nixon Administration bombings ended in the senseless terror bombings of Hanoi and other civilian areas in

the DRV at Christmas 1973, and the massive reprisal bombings of the Cambodian people for not following the Lon Nol regime.

We are told that the bombings are over, that our role in Indochina is over, and that the United States war of intervention in Indochina is over. But the same criminal elements which ordered the bombings and which lied about them to the American people are still in power.

We will not forget this and we will not be fooled.

The special forces began "reconnaissance raids" as early as November of 1968 in Cambodia. They would scout for "enemy held areas" and then would call in B-52 raids. Reports of American soldiers operating in Cambodia were labeled as vicious lies by the American government.

The United States government ordered secret bombings of Cambodia in 1970, and these continued for over a year. During that time, the administration denied reports of mass bombings in Cambodia, labeling such reports "communist propaganda."

The Senate confirmed testimony that hospitals were targeted for air and ground attacks, and that no restrictions were placed on field commanders as required by the Geneva Convention on Warfare. When Bach Mai (a 900 bed hospital) was bombed during the Christmas of 1972, Jerry Friedheim, Pentagon spokesman, said: "No such facility exists," and called these reports enemy propaganda.

Cambodia is presently fighting to free itself from a fascist

(Continued on Page 4)

## "Let Them Eat Cake"

In New York City, two men high-jacked a truck that contained \$1,800 worth of meat. Cattle rustling has been reported on the rise in the mid-west as beef becomes more and more scarce in the supermarkets. Two women, senior citizens, from Miami wrote a letter to their local newspaper explaining that they would continue to shoplift meat from the markets in order that they could eat.

The above items vary in the differing amounts of meat products taken, and vary in the intent of the individuals involved, but they all have one thing in common: the scarcity of meat in the markets is driving people in this country to get food in any way they can.

During the two week period ending August 13th, both Los Angeles and Chicago saw the price of eggs increase by 28%, while the price of pork jumped 10% in Philadelphia during the same period. In one week in New York City, the price of food rose an average of 4 1/2%.

We are told that there is a beef shortage, but this is not true. Cattle ranchers have cows in their yards, but are not selling them. The prices of beef have been frozen by Presi-

ent Nixon and these ranchers are holding the beef waiting for the prices to go up after the freeze ends on September 12th. So, there is no beef on the market because the rich ranchers are opting for larger profits.

The hoarding of cattle by the meat producers is not the only reason for the increase in food prices. Last summer, the United States arranged for the sale of grains to the Soviet Union, which amounted to 440 million bushels of wheat within the first two months after the announcement was made of the wheat sales. The enormity of these sales increased the price per bushel by 50% during those two months, and by this May the price doubled to approximately \$3.00 per bushel.

This sale drained the supply to farmers who had to pay more for feed for poultry, beef and pork which resulted in an increase in the cost of chicken, eggs and meat. In addition, the prices of bread and flour-based products also rose.

The question is who made profit from this at the expense of the farmers and the consumers? The answer is AGRI-BUSINESS\$. Agri-

culture Secretary Earl Butz, a friend of agri-business and not the farmer, saw it possible to tip off certain grain dealers and they held back selling their grains so that when the wheat deal was announced they could increase the price per bushel of their grains on hand. The result of this sale of grain to the Soviet Union has now made the prices of food soar out of proportion with the rise in the average income. Thus, families find it increasingly difficult to afford such staples as eggs and bread. On the other hand, large corporations such as Cook Industries, one of the biggest grain producers, showed profits five times larger than any time in their history.

The facts show that big business again profited at the expense of the people of this country. The shortage and increased prices of food are a direct result of the great American pastime, the profit motive. While businessmen get rich, the people of this country must resort to shoplifting, such as the two women in Florida have done, or face meatless days. Until there is a system of government that provides for the welfare of the people and not for the interests of business, there will continue to be food shortages and increased prices.



# VVAW/WSO IS ATTACKED



The trial of the Gainesville 8 has brought to the public attention the attempts by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to infiltrate the organization and out of this infiltration to falsely charge VVAW/WSO with trying to commit acts of violence. The key witnesses in the case are paid agent provocateurs, who by their very nature are shown to be of the scum of the earth. But as the agents uncover and perjure themselves in efforts to conceal their mental inconsistencies, the true nature of the Bureau will also be uncovered.

VVAW/WSO has had a long history of infiltration by the FBI and the FBI is still questioning and trying to harass chapters across the country. Just recently two FBI agents were found in the 'broom closet' of the Gainesville Courthouse, in a room adjacent to the defense lawyers chambers. This room provided for the defense was for the lawyers and defendants to discuss matters that were pertinent to the trial which were to be held in the strictest of confidence. The two agents from the Jacksonville office of the FBI admitted that they had worked on the Gainesville case and that they had prior to this attempt, installed wiretaps on phones.

Judge Winston Arnow discounted the defense objections to this devious plotting by the FBI and stated that the defense was "making a mountain out of a molehill." And even as the agents had in their possession, two amplifiers and transmitters, earphones, soldering equipment, propane gas, jimmy bar

and a book entitled 'The Electronic Invasion', Arnow ruled against the defense stating, "I find no basis here for the belief that there has been electronic surveillance by any one in this case." This ruling by Judge Arnow is not surprising. Paid government officials and agents have free reign in the courts of this country.

The FBI has resorted to other attempts to harass VVAW/WSO members. Dade County Coordinator, Jim Hale has recently been the target of the FBI and the IRS. Last summer, Jim worked on the convention demonstrations by obtaining camping permits. He is also a defense witness at the Gainesville trial. Jim is married to a Vietnamese woman and works for VVAW/WSO at Homestead AFB. On July 6 undercover police came to his house with a search warrant for LSD. They tore the house apart and allegedly found some marijuana. During their search they tore down articles that Jim had on his wall, and insulted his wife by referring to her with the racist slur, Viet Cong.

Jim was arrested and several hours later, at 9PM, was visited by the IRS who charged that he would be jailed for 5 years for every year since his discharge from the military. Jim was discharged 3 years ago, which means he would be jailed for 15 years! Shortly after the IRS left the jail, Jim was visited by the FBI who tried to get him to sign a statement about the Gainesville case. Jim refused. Several hours later, Jim was bonded by his close friend, a retired Lt.

Colonel in the Marine Corps.

The IRS has confiscated Jim's savings of \$800 and his 1964 van. They claim that he owes \$7,000 in back taxes since January 1, 1973. It is important to remember that in one night, Jim was visited by undercover police. the IRS and the FBI. A co-incidence?

Another case of government harassment of VVAW/WSO involves the military and Jim Christopher, a member of the Harrisburg chapter. While in Vietnam, Jim received a letter from his wife, who was in the hospital, stating that she didn't know where their son was. Jim got emergency leave and came home. As the situation grew worse he asked for another 15 day extension and was refused. He went AWOL, and after months of harassment, he was finally given a discharge on January 17, 1971. He joined VVAW/WSO in Elizabeth, NJ. The apartment he was staying in was raided by the police and his suitcase containing his discharge paper was taken.

The military has just notified him that they are going to arrest him and charge him with desertion. Jim tried many channels in an effort to get a copy of his discharge, but even with the aid of a US Senator, the army denies its existence, after having told the Senator's aide that it did exist. In addition, the Elizabeth police no longer has on file the contents of the suitcase, which it did have at one time. Jim is now trying to go through the courts in order to finally stop being intimidated for working with VVAW/WSO. Hopefully, he won't get a judge like Winston Arnow.

The FBI and other government surveillance agencies have approached members in California, Colorado, Kansas, Wisconsin, New York, Washington DC, Florida, Texas, etc. They have consistently been rebuked by an informed membership. They will continue to harass the organization, but they will suffer utter defeat. VVAW/WSO understands now, by the example of the Gainesville case, that the FBI is no longer an agency that attacks crime. It has evolved into an agency that tries to suppress the right of political dissent. From their viewpoint peace and justice is more threatening than organized crime. Demonstrating peacefully is a greater crime than pushing dope. The FBI stands for the Federal Bureau of Intimidation.



# INDOCHINA

dictator who was placed in power by a CIA directed coup. Although Nixon can no longer slaughter thousands through senseless bombings, the administration continues to funnel funds to the dictator.

American advisors continue to direct the Lon Nol forces in the field and in the capital. The defense department has stated that although they cannot give direct military aide to Pnomh Penh, Saigon could give them American equipment and American aide.



Laos has reached an accord which would set up a coalition government, but there have been coalition governments in Laos before. Each time, once under Eisenhower and once under Kennedy, they were subverted and each time the Pathet Lao had to fight both CIA and Thai

mercenaries. Within the past week another attempt for a coalition government was almost thwarted by an unsuccessful right wing coup, probably CIA inspired as in the past.



Violations by the Thieu puppet regime continue. In the month of July alone, the Saigon army launched 184 large scale operations against the Provisional Revolutionary Government controlled areas. Thieu has continually stated that he will not tolerate the PRG, but this is in direct conflict with the Paris Peace Agreement.

Thieu has also consistantly refused to release the 200,000 political prisoners he now holds, saying that they are only criminals. He has jailed opposition politicians,

priests, nuns, students, newspaper editors, monks and teachers. Again such actions have been taken with total disregard for the agreement that both the Saigon and U. S. governments have signed.

The war is not over. The Nixon administration continues to support, both militarily and financially, puppet dictators.

As it stands now, the Laotian Pathet Lao continues to abide by the agreement of February 1973; the Khmer Rouge are close to liberating their country; and the PRG still suffers from the Saigon terrorist violations of the January 1973 agreement. As they continue to struggle against the U. S. led aggression and violations, so too must we continue to struggle in solidarity to end United States intervention in Indochina.

## UNITY-STRUGGLE-VICTORY



Without the cold and desolation of winter  
There could not be the warmth and splendour of spring.  
Calamity has tempered and hardened me,  
And turned my mind into steel.

Ho Chi Minh

The following telegram was received by the VVAW/WSO National Office from Thiounn Prasith, member of the Political Bureau of the United Front of Cambodia and a Minister in the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, in exile in Peking, People's Republic of China.

### VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR

NIXON HAS DECLARED CESSATION OF U.S. BOMBING OF CAMBODIA FROM AUGUST 15TH, CONFORMING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LAW STOP THIS IS A GREAT COMMON VICTORY, THANKS TO THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S AND CONGRESSIONAL STRUGGLE AND ALL WORLD PEACE, JUSTICE, FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLES STOP CAMBODIAN PEOPLE EXPRESS PROFOUND THANKS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE STOP SOLIDARITY BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES IS SEALED IN STUDENT'S BLOOD, KILLED BY THE NIXON POLICE AT KENT AND JACKSON STOP BUT U.S. BOMBING CESSATION DOES NOT MEAN THAT U.S. AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA AND CAMBODIAN PEOPLE SUFFERING IS ENDING STOP NIXON INTENSIVELY CONTINUES AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA BY ONE POLITICAL KHMERIZATION, WAR INTENSIFICATION, BY GREATLY INCREASING DOLLARS, AMMUNITIONS, 155 MM GUNS, PLANES OF ALL TYPES, ARMORED CARS, ETC AND FORCING THE POPULATION INTO THE PUPPET ARMY TO SERVE AS CANNON FODDER TWO INTERVENTION PREPARATIONS OF THE BANGKOK PUPPET ARMY WHICH WAS WITH DRAWN FROM LAOS AND THE SAIGON PUPPET ARMY THREE CONTINUING ACTIVE DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERS FOR SO CALLED COMPROMISE AND NATIONAL CONCORD BETWEEN FUNK, GRUNC AND THE PNOMH PENH TRAITORS STOP WE URGENTLY APPEAL TO YOU TO INTENSIFY MULTIFORM ACTIONS, MASS MEETINGS, DEMONSTRATIONS, CAMPAIGN DECLARATIONS, MASS MOBILIZATIONS, INFORMATION MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES TO ONE DEMAND TOTAL UNCONDITIONAL AND DEFINITE ENDING OF ALL U.S. BANGKOK AND SAIGON VALETS AGGRESSIVE ACTS TWO TOTAL AND IMMEDIATE ENDING OF ALL SUPPORT AND AID TO THE PNOMH PENH TRAITORS CLIQUE AND ALL U.S. INTERFERENCE IN CAMBODIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS THREE THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLES RIGHT TO SETTLE THEIR OWN AFFAIRS THEMSELVES WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERVENTION ACCORDING TO THE MARCH 23, 1970 DECLARATION OF SAM DECH NORODOM SIHANOUK, HEAD OF STATE AND FUNK CHAIRMAN STOP CAMBODIAN STRUGGLE SITUATION IS VERY FAVORABLE STOP IT IS A VERY AUSPICIOUS MOMENT FOR ALL PEACE, JUSTICE, FREEDOM LOVING FORCES TO BE MOBILIZED WITH THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLES TO STRIKE A DECISIVE BLOW AT U.S. AGGRESSION IN CAMBODIA AND BRING BACK JUST AND EVERLASTING PEACE TO CAMBODIA STOP WARMLY, CORDIAL AND MILITANT RESPECTS STOP

## SUBSCRIBE: WINTER SOLDIER

**\$6/YEARLY**  
**\$9/FOREIGN**  
**FREE TO PRISON**  
**\$3/GIS**  
**15/INSTITUTION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR, INC.  
827 W. NEWPORT, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60657



# SOLIDARITY in GDR



Võ Thi Liên, the sole survivor of the Song May massacre led by Lt. Calley, with tears streaming down her face, turned to us and said: 'I cannot help but be bitter about the murder of 18 members of my family by US troops, but I know you, the progressive people of America, have struggle valiantly to stop the US government's genocide against my people.' Then the two members of VVAW/WSO present at the meeting were introduced to the 100 Vietnamese delegates, and to our deep humility, the Vietnamese stood and applauded, shouting, 'Bravo! Bravo!'

This was the second day of the 10th World Festival of Youth and Students, an international event to promote Peace, Friendship and Solidarity between the peoples of all countries struggling for peace, justice and against US imperialism. 300 people from all over the United States and many different organizations united together to meet delegates from 118 other countries, some of them socialist, some still colonies, and other. There were delegations from Cuba, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the African National Congress, Zimbabwe (South Africa), Zahre, PAIGC, FRELIMO, Senegal, France, Chile, Argentina, Palestine, and scores of other nations and Liberation movements. The festival was held for 10 days in the German Democratic Republic's capitol city, Berlin. Over 300,000 people participated in the Festival.

We went to Berlin with some misgivings. Afterall, we were coming from the country that has and is wreaking unprecedented devastation throughout the world, and here we were going to meet the very people that we had fought against, bombed, and mined. The Vietnamese, the Laotians, the Koreans and many others. However, all was overcome in the great spirit of solidarity

that these people showed to us as we both recognized the common struggles that the peoples of all our countries are facing -- the monster US military and economic domination.

The Festival was packed with political events every day from dawn to midnight. There were seminars for discussion of various problems and struggles being waged throughout the world. There were massive solidarity rallies everyday the first being solidarity with the Indochinese people. VVAW/WSO had the great honor to speak for the US delegation at the solidarity rally for the Vietnamese people. Over 10,000 people were present as we spoke to the world of our deep commitment to the Vietnamese people and all the Indochinese; a commitment to see that any continued US involvement in their affairs is stopped and that the US government implement fully the points of the Jan. 27th Peace Accords. VVAW/WSO then presented the entire Vietnamese delegation with a roll of our "The Vietnamese have been Victorious on the Battlefield" poster.



VVAW/WSO also led the US delegation to the bi-lateral meeting with the Laotian delegation. For the first time, a large group of Americans met with a large group of Laotians to drink, sing and dance. When one considers that US bombers have totally destroyed the people of the Plain de Jars, and when one considers that the Laotian people have faced the largest bomb tonnage per person of all the countries in Indochina, it is not hard to understand our feelings as we hugged and drank with these fine, warm people. The Laotians asked VVAW/WSO to make a tape for their radio broadcast which was gladly consented to. In it, we spoke of our resolve to learn more and teach the American people what has happened in Laos and who the people of Laos are.

It is impossible to recount in words the different feelings that came up in these meetings with the va-

rious delegations. At first, we felt some guilt. Afterall, we do live in the heart of the beast. But that is exactly what makes the people of the other delegations respect us more than ever. They will tell you in no uncertain terms, as they told us time after time. We have the greatest, hardest, and most respected struggle of all, that of changing a government whose deadly fingers reach around the world, seeking ever greater profits and power. The rest of the world recognizes the great repression we face in our task, and they love us for it.

Again and again, the role of US imperialism was brought home to us. Many of us tend to forget that there are 50,000 troops stationed in South Korea, and that the government of South Korea is as repressive and dictatorial as the Thieu government in South Vietnam. The US delegation met with the delegates from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for over three hours. The Koreans laid out the 5 point plan for peaceful reunification that their leader, Kim Il Sung, made public along with a similar commitment from the South Korean authorities. They stressed that again and again, the US troops in South Korea are used as a provocative force, to keep the two Korean societies apart.

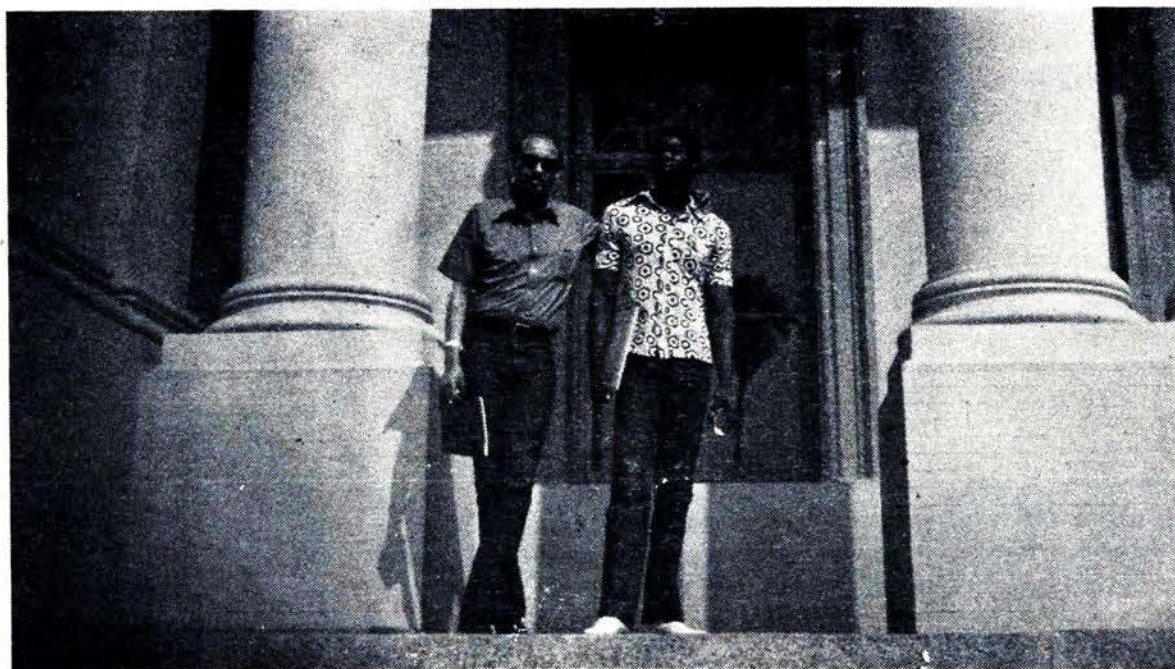
If space permitted, any of our meetings with delegations of other countries could be used to show the depth of solidarity between struggling nations and the progressive people here in the States. We had a brief glimpse of the extent to which the US military is used to force profits and resources from other poor people in every continent of the world. The African people, the Latin people, the Asian people, the Arab people and European people all have something to teach us about our country. The 10th World Festival of Youth and Students went a long way towards cementing a deep friendship between the American people and the peoples of the world.





## Racist Frame-up

# LAWTON TRIAL



Gary Lawton's second trial is well under way at this time, but the prosecution has managed to offer little in the way of credible evidence. Lawton and Larrie Gardiner are being tried for the murder of two police officers which occurred in Riverside, Calif. over two years ago. Since their arrests, the government has done everything imaginable to frame these two brothers with the shootings for the simple reason that Gary Lawton was a much too effective community organizer.

This trial of Gary (the first trial in Indio ended with a hung jury of 9-3 for acquittal) is proceeding rapidly. A few of the prosecution's gallery of unending witnesses are worth noting as examples of the racism, and blatant repression which is going on in the Riverside courtroom. The prosecution has put a long line of police officers on the stand to testify against Gary, and one of the most important is Ronald Lund who was the first officer at the scene of the murder. Lund testified in Indio that he had stopped Gary in a park near the scene of the shootings and told him to go home because he thought that Gary was a white man and he wanted to insure Gary's safety by getting him off the streets. Lund didn't file a written report about seeing Gary until the day after Lawton's arrest. In the Indio trial, Lund stated that he really couldn't be sure if he had seen Lawton in the park and wasn't positive that he was telling the truth. He also testified to having been on the look-out for "niggers" on the night of the murder, and stated that "what I want to kill is a nigger right now." In the Riverside trial, Lund has continually impeached his testimony. Now he claims that he had

been in the park prior to the shootings and had stopped Gary and told him that the park wasn't a safe place for a white man. Under cross-examination, however, Lund again admitted that he wasn't sure if he actually remembered seeing Gary in the park at all, or if he had just imagined that he had seen him when Lawton was arrested for the crime.

Following Lund's testimony, the prosecution put a series of witnesses on the stand to try to substantiate the testimony given by Lund. One afternoon in the hall outside the courtroom, a spectator at the trial heard the District Attorney tell a witness what to say on the stand relating to Lund's testimony. The spectator reported this to the judge, and for some strange reason that we have yet to figure out, the District Attorney himself called this spectator to the stand and asked him to testify that he had overheard the D.A. coaching a witness. If that is an indication of the D.A.'s level of mentality, then Gary should have nothing to worry about.

But stranger things have occurred since this specific incident. On Aug. 14th, Jonathan Clark Cameron was called to the stand. Cameron had been in a segregation cell at one time with Gary and he testified that Lawton had at one time confessed to him about the murders and running away from the scene of the shooting. During his testimony Cameron became very emotional and began crying. Gary took the liberty to stand up and shout: "You'd better cry, you lying son of a bitch," and the judge let the remark pass with only a mild reprimand. Upon cross-examination, it was determined that Cameron

had been convicted of five felonies. He stated that he had turned to a life of crime because his wife had hypnotized him at one time and he couldn't stop himself. Cameron also admitted to having been in several mental institutions after attempting to kill himself 3 or 4 times. So much for that witnesses credibility.

The witness who followed Cameron succeeded in providing even more entertainment for the jury and spectators. Next on the stand was a person once known as Bobby Ramirez, who was also in jail with Gary shortly after the arrest. This witness testified that Gary told him that they couldn't prove anything against him because he had run away from the shootings too fast. Ramirez also testified that Gary had told him the entire case was a frame-up and that the D.A.'s office would resort to buying off witnesses if that became necessary to convict him. The problem with Ramirez's credibility is that he has been arrested three times since he was in jail with Gary, with the most recent charge being prostitution. It seems that with the help of modern science, Bobby Ramirez has been transformed into Mrs. Joanie Marie, and in the future will be residing in women's prisons.

The prosecution has 30 more witnesses to call before resting their case. However, if the remainder of the witnesses include people with a history of mental illness, liars, and transvestites, then the defense should have little to worry about. In fact, one member of the defense committee expressed the feeling that the prosecution has done more to free Gary than they could ever have imagined. It seems that the District Attorney has been dragging people from the depths of the earth in his attempts to silence the community work of Gary Lawton. The fact that their credibility is zero seems to be of little importance to the D.A., but it should be clear by now that no sane jury in world could convict Gary and Larrie of this crime with the sort of evidence that they have been offered.

The trial is expected to last until the first part of October. Though the end is in sight, the defense is still in desperate need of funds. Send your contributions or information requests to: Riverside Defense Committee, P. O. Box 5154, San Bernardino, California 92412.



# GIs In The Struggle



Since its inception as an organization, VVAW/WSO (then VVAW) has had as a major focus the GI movement. Countless GI's fighting in the jungles of Indochina related to this group, not because they had been organized, but because they WERE Vietnam Veterans Against the War. Whether they had ever heard of the group in the United States was irrelevant.

It was from these beginnings that VVAW/WSO became involved in the GI movement. VVAW/WSO grew wherever there were military people. From 1970 through the present, it has spread from one base to another. There are three points which are directly related to this.

The following are excerpts from letters which VVAW/WSO and its NOSCAM office have received from active-duty GIs around the world.

From Germany: "Why do they want to take us away from our families, and treat us like animals, also American GIs NCOs treat the Americans as if they are dirt, and if the army has so much money why do we live in what they call barracks, looks like a stable, we are not horses.... The officers don't want to help us, but want us to help them, and we refuse until we get attention, because the Army needs us, we don't need it."

From Homestead AFB: "Wow! I just got your packet and flipped out! I really liked several of the pamphlets, especially Capitalism

One is why this happened, what is happening at present, and importantly, what will be happening in the future.

VVAW/WSO has long recognized who the majority of enlisted people in the military are -- namely, the sons and daughters of working class, poor and third world people. By taking the position that these people are essential to the struggle against imperialism, VVAW/WSO has been able to build close alliances and working relationships with GI projects, military counseling centers, and most importantly, with active duty GI's all over the world. VVAW/WSO is, without question, integrally involved with the GI movement.

plus Dope equals Genocide and Stop the Railroad (fighting Article 15s). We need more of this information."

From a brother on the USS JF Kennedy: "If I only had a passport I would definitely be on my way home today. I just don't feel that any of this shit is worth it."

From another brother on the same ship: "What I am really writing to you about is some legal advice on how I can get a decent and honorable discharge before I go crazy or AWOL because I am deathly afraid of prison. And this ship is a form of prison. Please send literature and anything else possible to allow other people on the ship to find out about your organization. There are as many as 5,000 men on this ship so we need

NOSCAM (an acronym for National Office for Servicepeoples Counseling and Materials) was created by the National Steering Committee of VVAW/WSO at its Milwaukee meeting in July of 1972. As outlined by the steering committee (made up of representatives from VVAW/WSO regions all over the country), NOSCAM's job was and is, to help VVAW/WSO build a strong, viable and ongoing GI movement.

Through its Dayton, Ohio office, NOSCAM has sought to provide both literature and legal counseling through the mail for active duty GIs. With on-going correspondence an integral part of its work, NOSCAM has helped to build concrete relationships with both individual GI's and with organizing projects in the U.S. and overseas. In March of this year, Gary Staiger, a staff member, traveled to Japan to meet with the four active duty chapters there. Plans to visit other projects coordinated for VVAW/WSO by NOSCAM are also being made.

Historically, the U.S. Military has been used against poor, working and third world people. Helping to build a strong, unified GI movement that can resist these abuses is, and will continue to be, a major goal of VVAW/WSO. As people all over the world, both within the military and without, unite in the struggle against imperialism, we will have victory!

all the stuff you can send. We are getting desperate. The people need your organization.

From Ft. Leavenworth Military Prison: "I was just reading a copy of Winter Soldier and I really dig it. If it is at all possible I would like to receive the paper. I knew we were getting the shaft, but I am just now realizing how bad!"





# FREE THE GA

## the TRIAL

The Gainesville 8 trial is progressing at a faster rate than was expected. The jury selection took less than 3 days, but though the selection was quick, the defense is very pleased with the jury make-up. The average age of the jurors is 31, with 8 of the jurors being under 30. Seven of the jurors are women, 3 are black and one is a Vietnam vet. Following the jury selection, the judge immediately sequestered the jury because of the 'unusual publicity' surrounding this case. Though the jury has not openly complained, it seems that these 12 people are not going to take the events of this case lying down. During the second week of the trial, 5 jurors sent a letter to Judge Arnow stating that they suspected their phones were being tapped. The judge did an adequate job of ignoring the jurors request that the phones be examined, so the jury should now have an understanding of the workings of Arnow's concern for fairness in this trial.

Opening remarks began on Aug. 3rd, and centered around the political rationale behind this trial. 3 of the defendants (Bill Patterson, John Kniffin, Scott Camil) are acting as their own attorneys, and John and Scott delivered opening remarks. As John Kniffin told the jury: 'We have asked for an end to war and the government has called us traitor. We have asked for justice for all citizens and received police clubs. We have asked for justice and received an indictment.' The opening remarks were moving and succeeded in explaining the political repression which is spear-heading the Gainesville trial.

The first of the prosecution's witnesses was Charles Marshall, Camil's landlord. Marshall testified that Scott had told him about some of the plans to disrupt the Republican Convention. He also testified to being a former police officer, but that he is now a private detective. The defense has since discovered that Marshall was never a member of any police department and that his detective's license was revoked for non-payment of fees. The second witness, Joseph Fennell, testified that Scott had told him about marbles and ball bearings to be used as ammunition. He later testified that both he and Marshall had been briefed by the prosecution with regard to their testimony, and that Scott had discussed VVAW/WSO as a non-violent organization with him. It should be noted that Fennell has been under investigation for false bookkeeping and mispending of funds while director of the county housing authority. When the facts relating to the history of these two men become evident, the word of th



ese witnesses will assuredly go down the drain, leaving all credibility behind.

Following these witnesses came the government's 'star' witness, Bill Lemmer, the informant responsible for the indictments. Lemmer testified that one of the defendants had told him he was organizing 'political assassination squads' armed by trading drugs for guns. These squads were to consist of fire teams to be trained on a Florida farm. At this point, the defense moved for a mistrial, stating that the testimony was 'inflammatory and prejudicial and irrelevant.' Naturally, the motion was denied.

The cross examination of Lemmer was filled with private hearings and bench discussions. The defense won the argument regarding Lemmer's medical history, and was allowed to question Lemmer on various illnesses he has suffered. However, the defense lost their argument to discuss Lemmer's activities as an FBI informant and agent-provocateur in the presence of the jury. During the cross-examination, Lemmer's history of insomnia, headaches, blackouts, depression, nightmares, periods of unconsciousness and amnesia were brought out, as was the fact that Lemmer was offered a psychiatric discharge from the Army.

Lemmer admitted to all of the above, but couldn't recall the amnesia. He also admitted that he had consistently taken amphetamines and tranquilizers to combat his illnesses.

During the cross-examination regarding Lemmer's activities as an agent-provocateur, Lemmer denied everything which was brought up. He couldn't recall stating in April, 1972: 'Now is the time to break down into affinity groups and fire teams and go underground,' but this statement will be proved true when the defense puts its witnesses on the stand.

It is interesting to note that Lemmer seemed fairly well together during his testimony, but when it came his turn to be cross-examined, his stories rapidly fell apart. The prosecution continually asked for recesses, at which time Lemmer was taken into the hall where Guy Goodwin was waiting to give him answers to the defense questions. The coaching of witnesses by the prosecution has already made itself evident to the jury. Arnow is making no moves to stop this coaching and the lines of defense have clearly been drawn. The repression and hostility of the court will continue, but the Gainesville 8 will finally be freed.



Tom Hayden  
Indochina Peace Campaign



Virginia Collins  
Republic of New Africa



# GAINESVILLE 8

## DEMONSTRATIONS



During the week of July 31st to August 4th, over 200 VVAW/WSO members from around the country traveled to Gainesville, Florida to participate in the five days of demonstrations which coincided with the beginning of the Gainesville 8 trial. The purpose of the week of demonstrations was to lend support to the eight defendants and to build support for these brothers, both within the Gainesville community and among the American people. With the five days of well-organized and disciplined actions, both of these objectives were accomplished.

The demonstrators spent their week in Gainesville educating the people of the community as to the true nature of conspiracy trials and the reasons behind the trumped-up charges which have been brought against the defendants and VVAW/WSO. VVAW/WSO members also leafletted and talked with the community people about the bombings of Cambodia and the fact that the U. S. is still heavily and aggressively involved in the war in Indochina. Other

leafletlets centered around building support for the boycotts of Gulf Oil, lettuce and grapes, as well as the political necessity of universal and unconditional amnesty.

Besides the daily leafletting, the demonstrators managed to pack the courtroom of Judge Arnow every day during their stay, and they came away with a good understanding of the workings of Arnow's kangaroo court. VVAW/WSO members also picketed A&P stores in solidarity with the United Farm Workers. Every evening during the week, silent candlelight marches were conducted to the Federal Building where late night vigils were held as a symbol of the lack of justice within our courts.

By the end of the week, things were in full swing in Gainesville. Friday, August 3rd, was the day of the People's Fair held at the Santa Fe Community College. The purpose of this fair was to invite the Gainesville community to come and meet with VVAW/WSO members and discuss the programs and projects of the or-

ganization. Approximately 400 people attended this People's Fair to view the booths which were set up explaining the particular projects that the various VVAW/WSO regions are involved in. Music and theater was also presented at this fair, and proved to be an effective method of political education. During the evening, VVAW/WSO played host to the people of Gainesville and a gigantic fish fry was held -- the fish having been caught and frozen by the Tampa VVAW/WSO members. Following the People's Fair, a candlelight march was held, and people from the community joined with VVAW/WSO in their march to the Courthouse.

Saturday was the day of the mass march and rally. Over 450 participated in a silent march to the Federal Building which was led by four disabled veterans. When the Courthouse was reached shouts of "Jail Nixon, Free the Gainesville 8" were heard and the defendants came out of the courtroom and joined the marchers which had assembled for their support. From the Courthouse, a spirited and disciplined march was conducted to the site of the afternoon rally.

The rally in support of the Gainesville 8 had approximately 800 participants. VVAW/WSO was fortunate enough to have been joined by Tom Hayden (Chicago 7 defendant, Indochina Peace Campaign), Anthony Russo (Pentagon Papers defendant), Virginia Collins (Republic of New Africa) and Pete Seeger (people's singer), all of whom addressed the crowd and offered their full support for the Gainesville 8. Tony Russo referred to this trial as "the biggest act of hypocrisy the government has ever tried to perpetrate." This large afternoon rally was the final climax of a very successful and energetic week of demonstrations.

Support was not only exhibited in Gainesville during this week. VVAW/WSO chapters across the country organized support demonstrations for those who were unable to travel to Gainesville. Rallies, guerilla theater, marches and leafletting were conducted in St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Chicago, New York City, San Francisco and Los Angeles for the purpose of building support for the Gainesville 8. The response of people around the country as they offered support to the defendants was overwhelming. Hopefully, this spirit of solidarity will continue until the Gainesville 8 are finally freed.



Anthony Russo  
Pentagon Papers



Pete Seeger  
People's Singer



# EDITORIAL

Political repression within this country has become so widespread that it may now be considered the norm in our society. The jailing of innocent people, and the persecution of those in our prisons has become standard operating procedure; as has the harassment and attempts to silence the so-called 'dissenters' who are simply making demands for a more responsive government.

In the wake of Watergate, it is not difficult to see who the real criminals of this country are. It is those who have abused their power to enhance the profits of the big businesses and at the expense of the average citizen. The power structure couldn't afford to end the war in Indochina, and it took the people of this country, working together, to say that they had had enough and to demand the war's end. Similarly, the power structure cannot survive without its profits, so the price of meat, bread, and a decent life will continue to rise until the profits are sacrificed and the needs of the people are finally met.

The political repression we are now witnessing will not soon end. In fact, this may be only the horrible beginning. As those controlling the government try to retain their power at a point where a lack of faith in that power is glaringly evident, the thumb of repression will come down even harder on the persons asking for a decent existence.

Perhaps one day the Atticas, the Starkes, the Gainesvilles and the Gary Lawtons will cease. But that day will only come if the people of this country unite, stand together and say, "no more." The day will come when the jailers will destroy themselves. And when that day comes, it will be the people of this country who will remain standing. We must always remember that the persecuted and imprisoned of our government will one day be finally freed, and they will be freed by the people - because they are the people.

## UNITY-STRUGGLE-VICTORY

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WINTER SOLDIER

## TWO CONVICTED

# Chino Escape Case



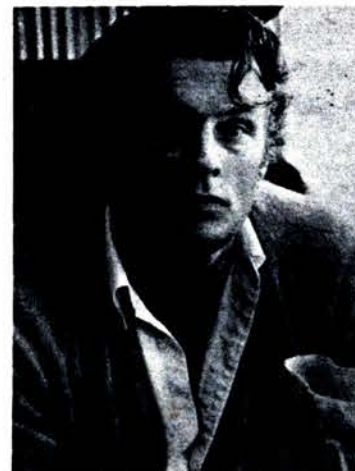
Andrea Burt

Doug and Andrea Burt, the first two defendants in the Chino Escape Case, have been declared guilty by a San Bernardino jury. In the face of overwhelming evidence which would clear the Burts, District Attorney Canty still succeeded in using racist appeals, destruction of evidence and unrelated 'facts' to obtain a guilty verdict on charges of murder, assault and rescue.

The Chino Escape Case began when a Chino inmate, Ronald Beaty, escaped from a state car in an ambush on Oct. 6, 1972. While Beaty escaped, one guard was killed and another wounded. Though before the escape he had been serving a life sentence with no chance of parole, after he was recaptured Beaty was offered parole in 7 years if he would testify against Andrea Burt (a member of the Venceremos organization), Doug Burt, Jean Hobson, and Bob Seabock; all are active in the prison movement.

The trial itself was conducted in an atmosphere of repression. The average age of jury members was 58 and the jury was all-white. All poor, young, working class and Third World people were dismissed immediately by the D.A. The trial was held in an intimidating glass-encased courtroom, filled with metal detectors and security officers.

The evidence presented in the case was totally ignored by the jury and judge. There were four eyewitnesses to the escape. The first was Ron Beaty himself, and he testified that Doug, Andrea, Jean and Bob were all involved with him. However, he also testified that he lied to the grand jury and the FBI about crucial events in the case and his testimony was continually impeached. Beaty had escaped from Chino once before, and his former escape partner testified that Beaty would do anything to save his own skin and that nothing he said should be believed.



Doug Burt

The second eyewitness, Mrs. Veldhuiser, said that she had an obstructed view from about 200 ft. and she thought she saw a profile resembling Doug's, but that she wasn't sure because it happened so fast. The surviving guard, who had known Doug Burt when he was in Chino, testified that he did not recognize any of the four defendants as having participated in the incident. Attempts at hypnotic recall by the prosecution failed to change this guard's mind.

The best eyewitness, Mr. Hallgarten, who watched the whole event from about 150 ft. with an unobstructed view, testified that he had never before in his life seen Doug and Andrea Burt. The prosecution had intended to use Hallgarten as a prosecution witness because he was so close to the scene, but failed to call him when his real story was revealed.

Added to this eyewitness testimony, the jury was told that none of the finger prints found in the escape cars belong to any of the defendants, and none of the hairs found in the cars belong to them. The previous owners of the escape cars established no link to the defendants. Also, three witnesses testified that Doug and Andrea were in Hayward, Cal. on the day of the escape, yet this prejudiced jury found the defendants guilty in the face of such blatant evidence proving their innocence.

Defense attorney Charles Garry has termed the trial a 'railroad' and announced his intentions to appeal the conviction. In the meantime, Jean Hobson and Bob Seabock face trial on the same charges. Their trial is scheduled to begin on Sept. 17th in San Bernardino. If you wish to contribute money or want more information, contact: Chino Defense Committee, 366 9th St., San Bernardino, California.





# 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**

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☐ I am an active-duty GI

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# ATTICA MEANS FIGHT BACK

Two years ago, from Sept. 9-13th, Attica State Prison exploded when men long treated as animals rose up to demand their freedom. The prisoners held control for three days as negotiations with the State were held. On the fourth day, Nelson Rockefeller ordered an all out assault beginning with a gas attack and ending with an armed assault.

In the wake of police violence, forty-three lay dead. Thirty-three prisoners and ten guards were all killed by the rampaging police.

The following excerpts are taken from an interview we had with Rahaam Karanja, a national coordinator of the Attica Defense, and a prisoner during the revolt. Rahaam is presently under indictment for the Attica rebellion.

"When you first get to Attica you're given an orientation program where they say, 'If you're black, stay with blacks. If you're white stay with whites, if you want to leave here alive.' They make it plain they want it segregated.

"Then when you're out in the yard, you get ice to put in your thermoses. First you hear 'white ice' and all the white prisoners line up and get their ice. Then you hear 'black ice' and all the black prisoners get their ice. And don't you be changing lines because if you're black, that white ice won't cool your water.

"There was no educational program if you had above a fifth grade education. If you're not in school, then you work either raking the yard, kitchen duty, or in the metal shop. The metal shop makes 1.8 million dollars a year profit, but prisoners only get paid 25¢ a day. It used to be only 5¢ a day, but

there was a sit down strike that forced the man to increase it a little.

"Visitors procedure was really hard. There was no personal contact allowed. You couldn't kiss your wife or hold your baby because there was a chicken wire fence between you and your family.

"The rebellion wasn't really planned. Everyone saw the need to bring this racist and repressive system to the public's attention. Everyone just knew what they had to do and we didn't need guards to protect us, or society. After the rebellion, there was an elected governing body which represented all of us and voiced our demands to the authorities.

"On the fourth day, state police and prison guards (who had orders not to come into the prison) attacked.

"Even after they'd subdued the prison, the police assassinated 3 prisoners who had been seen up to two hours after the police regained control. They were: Elliott 'L.D.' Barkley, a leading spokesman during the uprising; Sam Melville, 'the mad bomber,' known for his bombings against the state in protest against the war; and Tom Hicks. All were assassinated.

"They stripped everyone else and made them lay down nude in the mud. Then they painted an 'X' on the alleged leaders backs and chests. They ran the alleged leaders out through a gate to other holding cells known as the block. A priest was on the outside of the gates with the wives and children of the guards. When they ran you through the gate, he would lead the kids in applause, saying 'there goes another nigger;' or to a white, 'there goes

another nigger lover.' You had to run through a gauntlet of police who hit you with whatever they had -- clubs, pipes or pistols. They especially aimed for the eyes and groin."

Attica was retaken by the state but the fight continues. Fifty-nine of the brothers that survived are on trial for the rebellion. These brothers are still confronting the system and they have made the following three demands on the state: 1. that the indictments on the prisoners be dropped, 2. that the indictments be brought against the police responsible for the killings, and 3. that the original 28 Just Demands of the Attica rebellion be instituted.

The trial must be one of the major focuses of the movement. Just as the Attica Brothers have not stopped, so must the movement support their struggle. The rebellion itself spoke of the needs long exploited. During the insurrection the prisoners -- black, white, and Latin -- united. They had no problem living together, struggling together and electing a government. They took the prison -- not for ransom -- but for the right to live as men, free from the racism and oppression of the prison and the government outside which had put them there and from which they will one day again be freed.

The Attica Brothers are in great need of financial assistance. If you wish to contribute or would like more information on this trial, contact: The Attica Defense Committee, 1370 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14209. The phone is: 716-884-4423.

Attica coverage will continue next issue.





# STARKE



During the past several weeks there have been a couple of prison rebellions that have taken place. One at the Oklahoma State Prison in McAlester and one at Ft. Leavenworth in Kansas. In both cases the rebellions were sparked by the prison officials refusal to grant the reasonable demands of the prisoners for things like improved medical facilities. In each case the prison guards put down the inmates with armed force. At the McAlester Prison where the prisoners held hostages, one of the hostages reported after being freed that they would have been let go earlier except that the prisoners were frightened by the gunfire from law officers outside. Just as with the Attica rebellion two years ago, the prisoners of this country are demanding improved facilities and better treatment.

There is another prison that is in the throes of rebellion. The Florida State Prison in Starke, Florida is experiencing the same thing that happened in the other two prisons. Prisoners are being beaten and charged with various crimes in connection with an incident that took place on April 30th, 1973.

It is significant to note that the Prison at Starke contains 1013 inmates; 627 of whom are black. These prisoners are assigned to various jobs, the worst being working in the garment factory. In this factory there are 150 inmates working, 139 of whom are black. With the majority of the inmates being black they are in the minority of prison personnel and there are no blacks in the Division of Correction's Administration Department. The conditions in the prison are in favor of the whites, with the blacks getting the worst jobs and the most harassment.

On April 30th, in the garment

**WINTER SOLDIER**

factory, four prison officials attacked one of the inmates. When it was believed that the prison guards were coming into the factory, those who came to the defense of the inmate fled, along with others from the building. Of the 95 inmates in the factory at the time, 41 remained in compliance with a prison rule that states that 'no inmate shall depart... the place where he is working except with the authorization of the Superintendent...'

The 41 remaining inmates were put in administrative segregation, (maximum security); all of them being black. The prison officials then conducted an investigation, interrogating the 41 and threatening them with felony charges. But when the inmates asked for legal counsel they were told that they were being questioned and not charged and therefore didn't need lawyers.

As a result of this investigation, 14 of them were charged with arson, assault, and riot. They will go on trial during the first week of October. The other inmates remain in confinement and are not given the full 'privileges' that are due them, such as visitation rights and mail rights. None are guilty.

On Sunday August 5th, the prison experienced a rebellion by about 550 inmates. Prison officials maintain that the cause of this action by the inmates is racial although one official stated that there was no evidence of racial conflict within the prison. In a letter received from one of the inmates, he states, "The papers have carried and continue to carry the bigoted reports of the Prison Director, Louie L. Wainwright, who absurdly claims that black inmates are terrorizing white inmates." The prison officials are not admitting that the cause of the disturbances are not because of racial differences

between the inmates, but are directed towards the racist conditions fostered on the inmates by a racist prison system.

Another inmate has written to us to explain what the conditions are there. "Black inmates are subjected to the tyrannical rule of the prison administrators, plus the constant harassment of the prison guards and is defenseless against the prejudice shown toward them in job assignment, disciplinary actions, religious and political beliefs.

"We, the 14 black inmates are subjected to the injustice of being tried in Bradford County, whose total economy resources are interwoven with the prison system. Being that this legal lynching is being spearheaded by the racist prison system there is no possible way for justice to be done in our behalf.

"On behalf of the struggling brothers let it be sufficient to say that it is never entirely possible to eliminate the possibility of error in life's struggle. The chances and risks to be taken are no greater in proportion than those taken when we continue to live under the devastating disadvantages of tyranny and fascism. Liberation acts are always waged upon precarious grounds... the life of man is uncertain. He travels a road of scalding grief... he is found in the heat of battle... where the water is deepest and the load is heaviest. We, the fourteen, have only one life and we mean to live it as men."

Those who protest at injustice are people of true merit.  
When the prison-doors are opened,  
the real dragon will fly out.

Ho Chi Minh

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# WATERGATE



"We were only obeying orders..."

The first phase of the Watergate hearings by the Senate Select Committee has come to an end. During the past several weeks we have seen the closest advisors to the President testify about their involvement in the Watergate break in. They have contradicted each other and have given us insight into the mentality of those who run the government. The single clearest thread to the testimony of the witnesses points out the amount of surveillance the administration engaged in to link demonstrations and demonstrators to violence and unlawfulness in an effort to help Nixon win re-election.

The most indicative testimony came from H.R. Haldeman, Nixon's most confident advisor. There was a demonstration in Charlotte, North Carolina at a rally honoring Billy Graham at which Nixon would speak. A memo was sent to Haldeman explaining that the planned demonstration was to be 'violent' and 'obscene'. Next to these words he penned in 'good' and when there was mention made that some of the protest would be directed at Graham, he penned 'great' in the margin of the memo. Haldeman defended this by saying that it would show the true intent of the demonstrators and that it would make the President look good.

In another memo written by Haldeman and sent to John Dean, he wrote, "We need to get our people to put out the story on the foreign or Communist money that was used in support of demonstrations against the President in 1972.", and "We should tie all 1972 demonstrations to McGovern and thus to the Democrats as part of the peace movement."

As Nixon's closest advisor, we can see that the administration encouraged surveillance and infiltration of protest organizations in an attempt to discredit both the organizations and the political opponent of Nixon.

The most obvious of these plans shows up in the infiltration of VVAW/WSO in the Gainesville trial. As in the case of the demonstration at Charlotte, the administration felt that to discredit VVAW/WSO would be to make Nixon look better. They attempted to provoke us into committing acts of violence, but their agent provocateurs failed in each attempt.

We are asked to believe that the White House had no hand in the covert operations of the 'plumbers.' The testimony of Haldeman doesn't substantiate this claim. Knowing that Haldeman was the closest advisor to Nixon, we cannot believe that Nixon did not have a hand in this strategy. According to a Quale Poll taken, 63% of the American people believe that Nixon should bear the blame for Watergate and a Gallop Poll shows that only 31% believe that Nixon is a good President.

On August 14th, Nixon again stated in a televised address that he accepts the responsibility. In doing so, he takes the blame for the infiltration of political organizations and the break-in of Watergate. He is a criminal and should be treated as such. It would be in the best interests of 'national security' to have him face the American people and admit to his criminality, rather than skirt the issue as he did in his August 14th speech.

## Milwaukee

# LABOR DAY PARADE PLANNED

On September 3rd at 2:00 pm, the Third Annual Peace and Solidarity Labor Day Parade will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The purpose of this parade is to express the culture of the various participants, as well as to emphasize issues of extreme political importance. The paraders will make the following four demands on the city of Milwaukee and the U.S. Government: 1. that there be an immediate end to all U.S. aggression in Indochina, 2. that all attacks against workers be ended, 3. that national and racial oppression be ended, and 4. that total, universal and unconditional amnesty be given all war resisters.

The Milwaukee chapter of VVAW/WSO has participated in this parade for the past two years, but this is the first year that VVAW/WSO has rounded-up the co-sponsors for this annual event. Besides VVAW/WSO, the co-sponsors and parade committee include Revolutionary Union, the Milwaukee Worker, Milwaukee Rank and File, the East Side Job Co-op, and the Survival Center.

These groups are working together to organize this parade and over 900 people are expected to participate; most of them will be labor people. The parade committee also expects that there will be approximately 18 vehicles and/or floats present in the event, and these will also be a means of showing solidarity. For example, the VVAW/WSO vehicle will be known as the Waupun Prison special, and will travel in the parade as a visual means of support for the brothers in Waupun.

Following the Peace and Solidarity Parade, there will be music, theater, food and fun at the Alternate Site, a Milwaukee park. VVAW/WSO plans for this follow-up event include guerilla theater, and skits on amnesty and the true nature of conspiracy trials.

The co-sponsors of the Parade are looking for and welcoming any organizations or groups of people who wish to participate and who support the demands that the parade will focus on. For more information about this Labor Day event, people should contact the VVAW/WSO office in Milwaukee at 2439 N. Fratney, or call (414) 562-9371.



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(815) 758-8410

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VVAW/WSO  
1023 Allen Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63104  
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### OHIO-KENTUCKY-INDIANA

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(606) 441-3811

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Kansas City, Missouri 64111  
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### W. PENNSYLVANIA-W. VIRGINIA-

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Eugene, Oregon 97401  
(503) 686-0028

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Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212  
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Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
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### NATIONAL OFFICE

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827 W. Newport  
Chicago, Illinois 60657  
(312) 935-2129

## Project Offices

### GARY LAWTON DEFENSE COMM

c/o RPPDC  
PO Box 5154  
San Bernardino, California 92412

### OPERATION COUNTY FAIR

see Alabama-Miss. -Tenn.

### AMNESTY CLEARINGHOUSE

see National Office

### POST VIETNAM SYNDROME

CLEARINGHOUSE  
see Wisconsin-Minnesota

### NOSCAM (National GI Office)

PO Box 1625  
Dayton, Ohio 45401

### GAINESVILLE 8 NEWS BUREAU

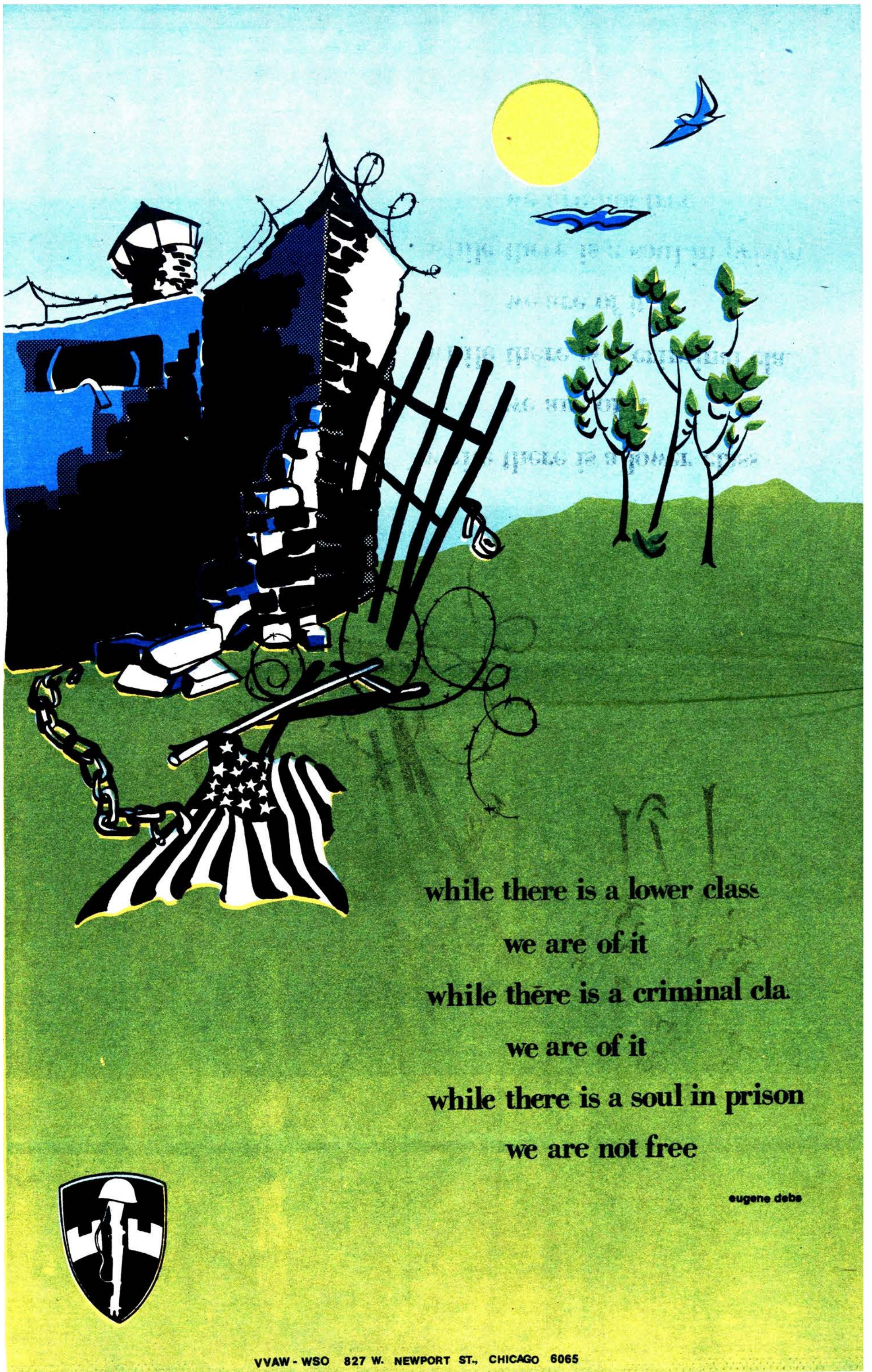
307 SE 2nd Street  
Gainesville, Florida 32601  
(904) 372-3175

### GAINESVILLE DEFENSE COMM.

PO Box 14078  
Gainesville, Florida 32601  
(904) 378-0774







while there is a lower class  
we are of it  
while there is a criminal class  
we are of it  
while there is a soul in prison  
we are not free

eugene debs

