

Students for a Democratic Society

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Chicago, Illinois

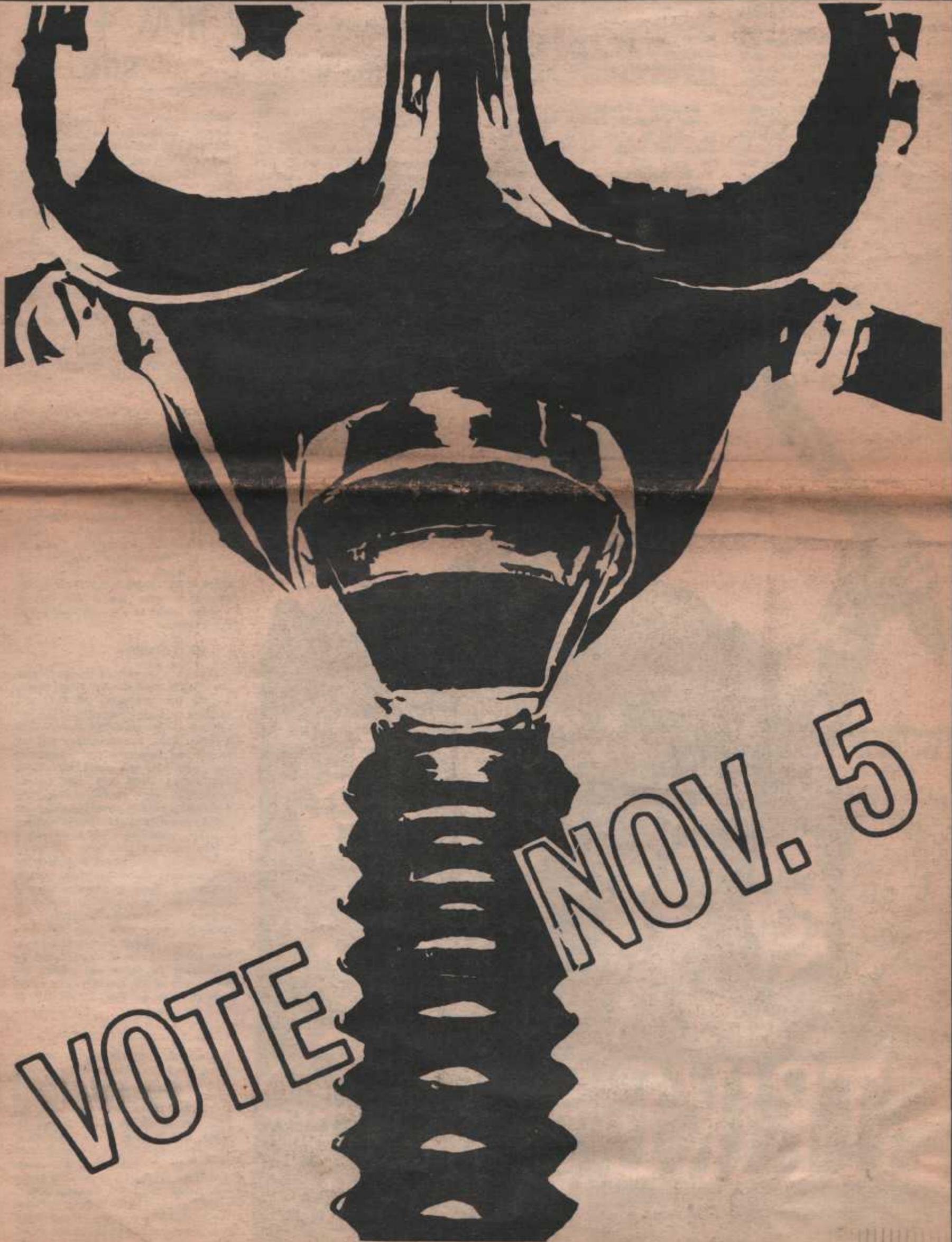
# SDS NEW LEFT NOTES

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE

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NEW LEFT NOTES  
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VOTE NOV. 5

# Behind the fraud: crumbling capitalism

by Fred Gordon  
SDS Internal Education Secretary

What are we offered in the forthcoming elections? We are offered three candidates who refuse to speak to the overriding issue, the war in Vietnam. Nixon has come up with a brilliant proposal for peace. He says that the war is not just a military one but also a moral and psychological battle. The U.S. must push a stronger propaganda campaign and have the South Vietnamese army take over a larger share of the fighting. Nixon says that these moves should have been made long ago. Good idea, Dick! Does he think that nobody remembers Kennedy's and Johnson's talk about winning the "hearts and minds" of the people? Does he think that we have forgotten Johnson's assurance that the war would be fought by "Asian boys" and not by "American boys"? Does he think that people have forgotten the "pacification program" (herding people into concentration camps)? Nixon offers nothing but the same programs and the same lies as Johnson. The difference is that at this point, with Vietnam winning, they become ludicrous absurdities and are seen as such.

**U.S. Aggressor**  
The facts remain: the "pacification program" failed because Vietnam refused to be pacified by an imperialist

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\* SDS  
**Strike Nov. 4**  
**Vote with your feet!** SDS

aggressor. Psychological warfare failed because "psychology" cannot transform the reality of murder. And the South Vietnamese army can't win because it is a mercenary army of a puppet government of exploitative landlords and adventurist generals. So much for Nixon. What about Humphrey?

Humphrey's foreign policy statements center around two themes. One is that he would, in some vague sense, be better than Nixon. The other is that he would call a bombing halt if the North Vietnamese would de-escalate. Brilliant proposals! The first says nothing. The second actually offers less than Johnson. Johnson at least SAID that he'd stop the bombing (and lied). Humphrey said that he'd stop the bombing if... Yet Humphrey's statement is touted by the press as a dramatic break from Johnson's war policies. The facts remain as always: the U.S. is the aggressor in Vietnam. There is just one "deal" that the Vietnamese can accept—unconditional withdrawal.

The war increases the conflict between the ruling class and the exploited. The "war on poverty" has been butchered and the cities continue to decay. There will be more black rebellions. The universities, which service corporate America with manpower and weapons research, will be the scene of more battles and occupations. And workers' discontent will rise as wages become frozen (in fact, real wages have fallen slightly during the past two years).

Enter Wallace/LeMay

Into this scene of domestic decay enters George Wallace. Internationally, he offers Curtis "Bomb them Back to the Stone Age" LeMay. A long-standing enemy of labor, Wallace plays on the white working class's job insecurity to get the racist vote. He speaks of people's power while in Alabama he has been the pawn of local capitalists. But Wallace does speak to people's anxiety about the decay of the system. Wallace would create a police state. Rising racial violence would become race war and apartheid. What lies around the corner is fascism, but are the other candidates so different?

Both Nixon and Humphrey have been pushing the issue of "law and order"—for the ghettos and for the campuses. This is inevitable: **THERE CAN BE NO PEACE AT HOME UNTIL THE WAR**

join  
the struggle!  
☆☆ **STRIKE** ☆☆  
**NOV. 4 & 5**  
sds

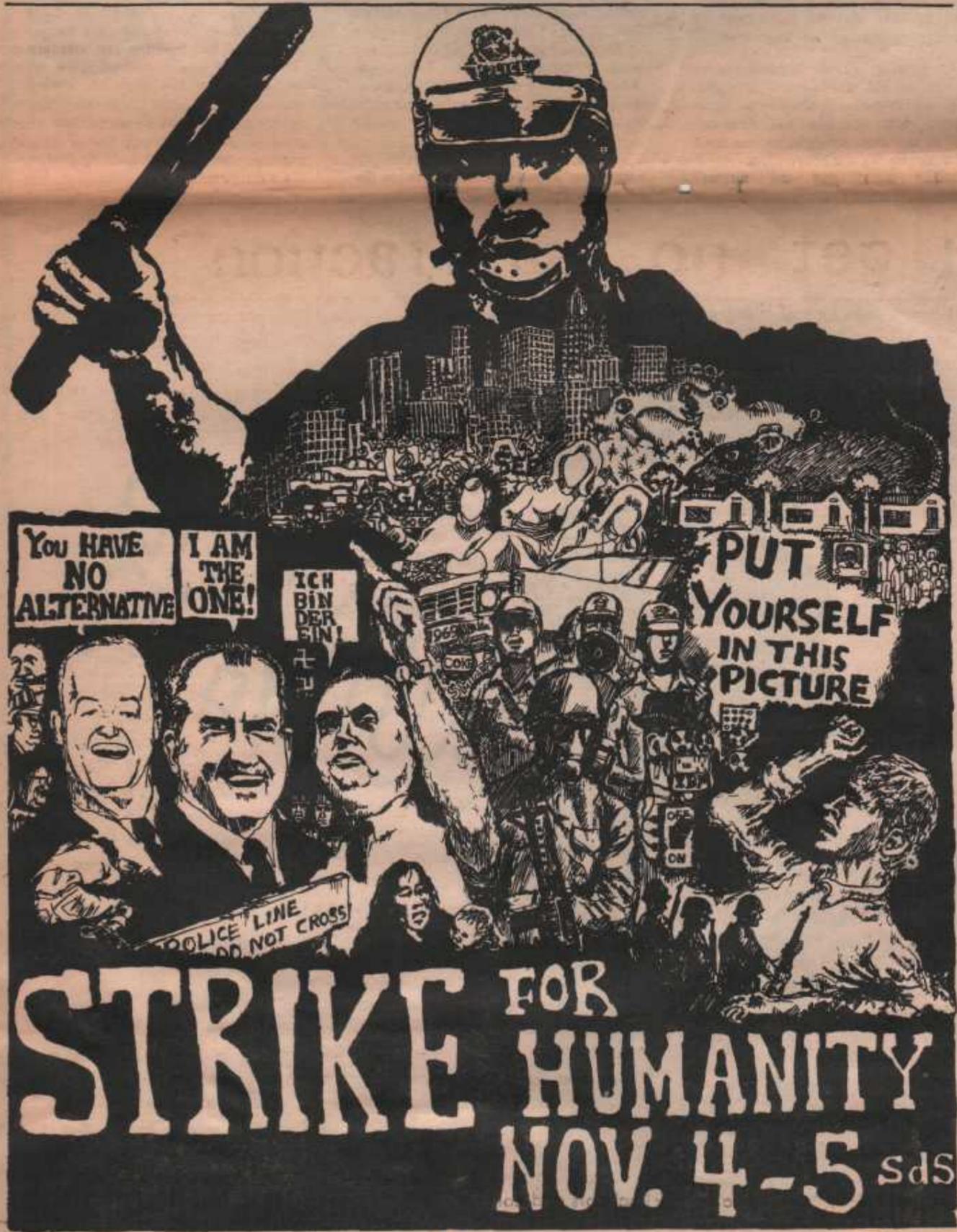
STOPS. But the war cannot stop. American capitalism needs profits. It is not just that they LIKE profits. Profits mean that U.S. corporations can cheapen production processes and export goods. They mean that the U.S. can buy up European and Japanese industry. And they mean that the U.S. can raise and supply armies to defend its empire. Without profits, instead of the U.S.'s owning 80% of the French electronics industry and 76% of the total industry of Canada, the French, Canadian and Japanese corporations would be able to buy up American industry and dominate American markets. It is not that American capitalists like profits (though they do), but rather that they must have profits in order to survive against international competition.

Investment in the Third World brings four times the return of investment internally. Thus the U.S. must defend and increase its investments abroad. So Vietnam. Vietnam is important to U.S. corporations in its exploitable wealth—tin, tungsten, rubber, and rice—but it has become even more important as an example. If "people's war" is successful in Vietnam, it would show that U.S. imperialism could be defeated. "People's war" might be tried in Thailand, South Korea, the Philippines, Guatemala, Greece, and dozens of other places. The loss of Vietnam would be a severe blow to U.S. imperialism.

### Internal Decay

That is why none of the candidates are talking realistically about peace. As the war continues, the U.S. will continue to decay internally. If the war continues, America MUST move toward a police state. The politicians will try to win the support of the majority of the people by talk about patriotism. The ruling class will also try to neutralize the discontent of the American people by turning one segment of the population against others: workers against students, blacks against whites. Racism has been repeatedly used by the government to deflect the revolutionary discontent of the people. Instead of joining in common struggle against the state, political energy is dispersed in race warfare. The majority group calls upon the state to defend it against minority violence, and so the state is strengthened by increasing the police and gaining the dependence of the majority. This is the spectre that we face in the talk of "law and order".

American imperialism is bringing about the decay of the society at home. As this process continues, people will have a choice—to move to the Left or to the Right. The Left is in the interests of all the people against the state. The Right is in the interests of the state only—it is a last-ditch stand to ward off revolution and allow American capitalism to rape the world. We cannot vote. The disaster toward which we move is not in the candidates, but in the nature of the system itself. The system must move to the Right. Vote against the elections! Vote with your feet!



Poster from Washington D.C., region

# "fighting movement" develops

by Mike Klonsky  
SDS National Secretary

I have been traveling since the Boulder NC, in California and Michigan, and have been trying to stay on top of regional development around the election program and GI Week.

Although the short time span from the NC to Election Day has put lots of pressure and severe limitations on us generally the work which is being done is encouraging.

It is clear now that a national action around a specific set of issues like those arising from the election, can build motion that has the capacity to pull our organization together on a regional and national level.

A lot of the bullshit things that have been keeping chapters and regions disfunctional, like personal conflicts, action vs. education debates, dope or no dope fights, etc., seem to be breaking down as groups of people on campuses and in communities move together into collective struggle. For this reason, it is probably better that we have only a few weeks to pull things together instead of months, when things tend to drag on and much of the spontaneous energy generated at first by national program, is lost in the quagmire of non-ideological factional fights and bourgeois attempts at personal gain from political action.

The election program has presented organizers with a chance to rap to people on the campuses about the questions which presently face the student movement—the need to develop class-consciousness by hooking up with the struggles of other potentially insurgent forces, electoral politics as an avenue to power in America, how to deal with reactionary student power and the anti-human role of the university.

At the University of Michigan, the

SDS chapter is going to lead people from outside the campus as well as students on a tour through the university ("and here you see the laboratory where germ and chemical warfare research is done, and here is where the death of Che was engineered, and here...")

This whole concept of not only moving the campus struggle into the community, but moving the community onto the campus which oppresses it, is very important. The age of the "outside agitator" is over. The university reaches its tentacles into every community in the world and must be seen as an enemy of the people.

At Kalamazoo, I spoke along with members of the Black Action Movement (BAM) to a crowd of 2,000 people, very receptive to the idea of the strike. This helped bridge the usual black-white tension that usually exists there and BAM people agreed to organize and pull the 1100 black students out on election day if whites

## GI Week

Suffering from the surge of energy around elections, has been GI Week. Only a few places are planning to have any kind of actions during the week (Nov. 1-5) because they are all wrapped up in elections. In a way, this seems rather foolish since those same GIs and Guardsmen will probably be the ones who are called on to repress the nation-wide actions against the election fraud. These are just young, mostly working-class guys, as turned off to the war and the false myth of American democracy as anyone else.

The coming street demonstrations (Nov. 5) should provide the area for young working-class people to come together with students and drop-out youth in common struggle, as was done in Chicago during the convention.

Another thing that the national

program seems to be accomplishing is the developing of a national collective. I first felt it after the NC, at a planning meeting on the steps outside the memorial center. The Boulder and Boulder proposal had just been passed and everyone talked about what was necessary to pull it off. Local organizers volunteered to help out the NO for three weeks, money was promised, who would go where was decided, people knew what had to be done and did it. This spirit has carried through up to now indicating that we are no longer an amorphous group of small chapters, each one "doing their thing" but a rapidly growing organization prepared to deal with power in a real way.

## Regional Collectives

This national collective I'm talking about is not a cadre being turned out of the National Office. Rather it is a collective sense developing at the regional level, building strong regional organizations responsible to each other and making the NO useful to their work. We have been turning out propaganda and agitational stuff around the elections by the hundreds of thousands of pieces. When the regions are pushing, it is hard to keep up, but we will if we get help. We are well on our way to meeting the mandate of the June convention which called for the developing of strong regions. This is our developing "national collective."

The Southern California region had its best regional conference ever, putting people from all over into motion. The Michigan region, with Ann Arbor as the center of street actions, is slowly being pulled together. New Jersey has recently sprung up and could be one of the strongest in the country. Texas-Oklahoma is also pulling together.

Finally, the election action is continuing a pattern of growth in the

# ELECTIONS

whole movement. That pattern can be seen by the development of, what has been termed "a fighting movement." At the various chapters I have visited the pattern is the same. The "go slow" factions have fallen by the wayside (as in Ann Arbor) too limited by their fear of "alienating people" to deal seriously with the strategy of "educating through action" and thus unable to meet the needs of a new, young movement bursting at the seams with new growth since the Chicago actions.

The fear of repression should not slow us down but should make us ready ourselves by building an organized defense. The fear of alienating the other sectors should not slow us down but should make us build programs that are relevant to people's needs and that provide action through which people together can confront their real enemy, the ruling class.

# "Can't get no satisfaction"

(This is the text of the short version of the SDS call for action around election day. Copies are available in bulk from the SDS National Office. Comments are welcome; let us know the response of people in your area to the call.)

The November elections are a hoax! Why? Because they are putting forth the concept of a Democratic America, which is a false concept. It is clear that the money interests (the giant corporations, the military, the university) make the important decisions about people's lives. The major presidential candidates are always people who clearly represent the interests of those who control America.

This year, more than ever before, the fraud that is called American elections is clear. There is no difference between Nixon, Humphrey, and Wallace. All three are clearly racists and warmakers using phrases like "law and order" to try to divert attention from the real issues.

These candidates will not and cannot do what must be done. We demand the withdrawal of troops from Vietnam and we support liberation struggles in Vietnam and other countries. We condemn the racism which divides our people and

we support the right of black people to struggle for an end to their oppression and for their liberation by any means necessary. We demand that the police be disarmed.

We cannot vote for what we demand in these elections, so we will vote with our feet.

## DEMONSTRATIONS

SDS calls for large regional demonstrations on Election Day in the major cities across the country. In the past, important issues like the war in Vietnam and racism have only been raised as a result of the people's confrontation with the government. That confrontation is not possible in the voting booths. It is clear that the only way to stop politicians from using racist phrases like "crime in the streets" while they avoid the issues is to continue our struggle. It is not our purpose to stop people from voting, but to provide a real means of political expression, to build the forces of our opposition.

## "NO CLASS TODAY — NO RULING CLASS TOMORROW"

On Monday and Tuesday, November 4-5, SDS calls for

a national student strike. High schools and universities are an intrinsic part of the American capitalist system which we are challenging. In the schools people are taught to accept and make possible a government which represses its people at home and puts down popular revolutions abroad. University research supports the war effort. Universities through their investments exploit the poor and working people in the United States and abroad.

## STRIKE!!!!!!

Strikes may range from a boycott of classes to a takeover of buildings. We should begin to prepare for Monday and Tuesday with campus election polls, teach-ins, open discussions, and small agitational actions in the weeks before. Teachers should be forced to turn their classroom time to a discussion of the elections. On Monday, actions should be designed to involve striking students; on Tuesday, students should be encouraged to join the Election Day demonstration.

## THE PEOPLE'S ELECTION

We must reach out past the high schools and colleges to the working

people of America. In the weeks before the elections, we should leaflet communities and places of work, speak to trade schools and community colleges, and hold meetings and rallies open to the public at large.

## NATIONAL GI WEEK

The U.S. government, not GIs, must be held responsible for this war. The warmaker is not a friend of the soldier. For the week preceding the elections we should try to reach out to GIs throughout the city, at bus and train stations, even at the bases. Where possible we should demonstrate our support for them, for the rights as human beings they are denied while in the service. Supporting GIs must mean fighting to end the war and getting the men out of Vietnam and out of the army.

## VOTE IN THE STREETS

While the Vietnamese are struggling to free their country from the grip of U.S. imperialism and blacks are fighting for liberation here at home and GIs are carrying on a struggle inside the military, we must go to the streets on Election Day. We must make our voices heard.



**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**UNITE!**

HIGH SCHOOL INDEPENDENT PRESS SERVICE  
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# Black boycott in Chicago

by Les Coleman

"Black people are taking the power of self-determination from government and other so-called legitimate institutions. This applies to schools too." (Black high school student spokesman)

Every Monday since October 14 black high school students in Chicago have walked out or boycotted their high schools. There have been frequent battles with the cops and each Monday the struggle becomes more militant. In some schools—like Waller—the boycott and disruption of classes continues on into the week.

The issues are emerging around questions like the hiring of black principals and the hiring of black teachers to teach Afro-American history courses. Deeper, in most cases, is the demand that the schools be controlled by the black community. Community as well as teacher support for the boycotts has been very strong, and is growing.

The pattern of the actions themselves has shown a careful and widespread understanding of the growth of a movement, and of power. Classes are disrupted, windows broken, fire alarms pulled. There is the impression of

(continued on page 10)



# HIGH SCHOOLS

## Students get together

NEW ORLEANS: (from an interview with a high school junior at Fortier High School.) "The way we formed SDS last year—there were military recruiters at school and a group of us just got together in a committee to try and do something about it. We were threatened with expulsion....He (the principal) said he'd see to it that I didn't get into any university in the United States if I did manage to graduate. Over the summer we decided that if everything we try to do is going to be stepped on like that, we had to have some kind of organization. So we formed SDS and sort of spread the word to different places and to all these people who were previously uptight about the scene though they weren't active.

Now that school's started we've got contacts with about six high schools around the city, and about 35 people who are putting out this newspaper and trying to work together on a concerted effort for the whole school system in New Orleans. Lots of people in the school are sympathetic, especially today. There are a lot of people in the school who are not politically minded or even rebellious but are of the opinion that most of the school are absolutely ridiculous. We represent the majority even if we are only a small minority who will stand up and say it."

SCHENECTADY: Seven high school students were suspended last week following distribution of 500 copies of "Free Student", an independent mimeographed newspaper printed by the Schenectady United High School SDS.

The newspaper was called "obscene" by Mont Pleasant school officials because it contained an article, "Student as Nigger". They attacked the paper as "unauthorized". The article points out how students are exploited and screwed by the educational system much as blacks are screwed because they're black.

Students have been circulating a petition calling for freedom of the press and amnesty for the suspended students.

PALO ALTO: As reported by the establishment press, something happened

at Ravenswood High School. A rise in black awareness happened. And a principal resigned.

Demanding the resignation of the principal, black student aides from area colleges in the schools, evening tutoring, black history courses, and more, the students held a sleep-in at the school. Holding an assembly to discuss their demands, the students pressured authorities into accepting the principal's resignation. How did it all happen? Well, for a beginning a group of students worked together all summer to form plans for the opening of schools. Students met to express their grievances. They tried to involve the whole community, especially parents, by showing them the problems. They held informational rallies before school began. On registration they leafletted the incoming students and presented their demands. By the second day of the school year the principal was gone. The battle has just begun. It was a good start.

YORK, PENNA.: Students from heavily black York High School walked out in protest of police actions and the use of police dogs. (Police dogs are a regular sight at school games; after games, the police let the dogs loose to disperse kids.) They were also demanding more black teachers and black history. During the next couple of days black people were circulating petitions demanding that the police get rid of their dogs, a long-standing issue in York.

The students from the senior high school went to the junior high and ran through the halls urging the students there to join them. They did, and that school, too, was closed.

NEW YORK: The New York High School Student Union has called for a city-wide strike on election day. The strike has been called to oppose the war policy of the Humphrey-Nixon-Wallace ticket, and the oppressive, racist situation in our schools. Support for the strike and choice of issues will be decided at each school.

# THE HASSLE WITH HIGH SCHOOLS

A big fat sign hangs on the wall of the high-school hangout—"NO LOITERING OR TRUANCY". The lady behind the counter is cool. The kids all love her because she knows them and cares about what they think. Yet this sign shows where things are really at. Any time a truant officer or cop wants to hassle the kids, they got legit because of this sign.

School is a total drag! But the hangout is where kids can talk freely, deal with each other, and relate what's really happening inside the prison. This is where all the kids go who cut and want to be with their friends.

Kids across the nation are fighting back against this ridiculous



and meaningless system of education in which it's not what you think, but how you talk or dress or where you come from that is important. High-school students are now realizing that walking out of school, wrecking the lunchroom, recruiting AGAINST the draft, or refusing to attend the classes of a lousy teacher are really more relevant than spending a day bopping between the counselor's office, one or two penalty studies, an English class that degrades every word they speak, and a history course that only talks about the wars we've fought and the Presidents, and never says a word about the people. Kids are finding ways to deal with the crumbling, 200-year-old system and with people like the bald, silk-suited

principals, by printing their own underground papers, refusing to accept dress codes, boycotting bad teachers, and organizing to change the educational system.

Organizing is the most important—because one person fighting alone is always smashed. Our newspapers explain to other students why it is that school is so bad: school is to keep us off the streets, to teach us certain ways of looking at life and certain attitudes toward other classes of people. It's not to teach us anything we really need to know. We are demanding that it is our RIGHT to have a voice in running OUR schools and in planning OUR curriculums. (reprinted from The Firing Line, newspaper published by JOIN Community Union and the National Organizing Committee, 4401 North Broadway, Chicago, Illinois 60640.)

# Trip to deserters

by Martin Kenner  
NY Regional SDS

On October 24, a delegation of 16 persons from all sections of the United States flew to France and Sweden for a brief inspection of American deserters currently living in exile. In France, they met with the American deserters who have formed the Second Front International, and in Sweden with the American Deserters Committee. At present, large numbers of deserters live in NATO countries and Japan, but because of the treaties between those countries and the United States, the deserters must remain politically silent. In France and in Sweden, however, they have formed into strong political groupings and co-operate in the publication of the Second Front International and the Second Front Review, both of which are distributed to American servicemen in Europe by student groups.

Whereas the draft-resistance movement and the anti-war movement in general has found its greatest strength in the Northeast and in California, the deserters movement has its roots in the South and in the Midwest. They are the people whom the draft-resistance movement has bypassed, people who never attended universities, many of whom have never graduated from high school. They have grown up in the small farming towns

and working-class communities which never had anti-war demonstrations and whose leaders never signed anti-war petitions, yet these are the ones who usually become the cannon fodder for the war in Vietnam. Faced with murder and death in Southeast Asia, they have chosen to desert and live in exile.

However, few Americans know of their dramatic story. Until now, the mass media has remained silent, and the American people largely ignorant of the situation of American deserters and draft resisters in Europe. As a result, the United States government has been able to apply continuous pressure on the Swedish government and has used every tactic at its disposal against the American Deserters Committee, without the restraining influence of American public opinion. The significance of the delegation derives from this situation: we must begin to break this deadly silence.

First of all, the delegation will bring to the deserters and draft resisters in France and Sweden tangible proof that all of America has not forgotten them, that many Americans appreciate and support their courageous actions. At the same time, the trip will offer the delegation an opportunity to meet and talk with the young people who have "laid their life on the line" for the cause of peace in Vietnam. Secondly, when the delegation returns to the United States, they will bring their story back with them.

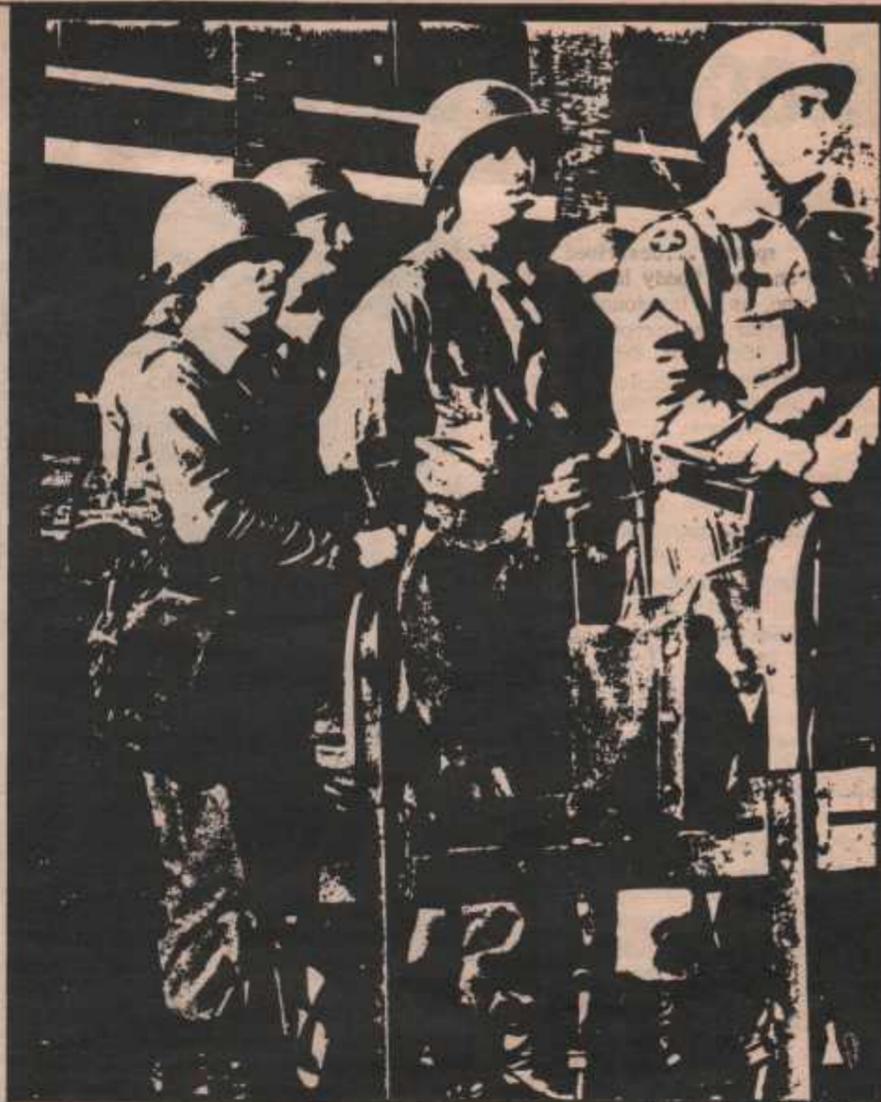


photo by David Millstone  
GIs and Guardsmen are not the enemy. These soldiers, on duty in Chicago during the Convention, were nervous. They didn't want to be there. Support GI Week.

## "It's all over now, Baby Blue"

At the moment I am sitting in the radio shack which, after all, is my job. But I'm only monitoring with my left ear, my right is impaled by the earplug of my cassetts recorder. In one ear, war. In the other, "The Greatest Hits of Bob Dylan." Quite a combination. An American squad just killed three VC suspects in a shallow cave, eating their rice.

"They'll stone you when you're at the breakfast table..."

I've been in a bad mood lately because everyone is leaving and I'm not. This brigade arrived here a year ago this month, so in a couple of days they'll all be gone except for us replacements. However, "in the darkest night, shaft of light becomes a ray of hope"...oh shit. Anyway, I have an R & R coming up in the middle of October, and my wife and I will spend a week in Honolulu....See, if you want a free trip to Hawaii, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Bangkok, or several other groovy places, just get drafted, get sent to 'Nam, and live through the first three months. Then you're eligible for rest and recuperation....

Things have been relatively quiet here lately, a relief to the great many infantry men leaving in the next week or so. Last week a PFC from Charlie company stepped on a booby trap and had both his legs blown off. An officer visited him and reported that the man was

"in good spirits." Such good spirits that he died the next day. He would have turned in his rifle today and been back with his wife by the end of the week. He got so close.

"Well, he hand you a nickel  
He hands you a dime  
He asks with a grin  
If you're havin' a good time  
Then he fines you every time you  
slam the door."

Late this afternoon a bulldozer clearing brush near here ran over and set off two tear gas grenades. We spent the better part of an hour in our gas masks. Lord, the stuff is bad. But I'm sure many of the Chicago veterans realize this already. At least I had a gas mask handy. The story about pigs in Chicago was fantastic, but sadly believable...

I leave with this: the hawks say that anti-Vietnam demonstrations demoralize GIs here. No, they let us know that people care that men are dying for a cause no one can name. It's good to know that someone cares if I make it back.

"Yonder stands your orphan  
with his gun  
Crying like a fire in the sun  
Look out the Saints  
are comin' through  
And it's all over now Baby Blue."

(excerpts from GI's letter from Vietnam, from the Dallas NOTES)

Although I am not an official student and I serve among the ranks of our nation's warriors, I feel that I relate closely with the Students for a Democratic Society and would like to receive the New Left Notes and any other publications concerning the SDS. Please write soon, let me know.  
(Greg, Air Force)

Congratulations on Chicago. It was truly a "shot heard round the world." Wish I could have been there. I had to drop you a line and let you know the news of your success was well received over here. (You have more supporters than you will ever know.)

Capitalism versus Marxism used to be just an intellectual puzzle used to relieve the everyday boredom of college. It took a year in South Vietnam to show me the face of my real enemy. For the youth of America, it took one long night in Chicago.

If I had the money in greenbacks I would send you an application for a membership-at-large with this letter.

As is I will be with you again in 46 days and am eagerly looking forward to renewing the chapter on my old college in Texas. I came over here a reluctant moderate. The Marine Corps has definitely changed that. Good luck on the elections—resist.

(Robert, Marines)

# GI'S march against the war

"Another speaker...described the death of an army buddy last year—a youth who, as he lay wounded from an NLF mortar blast, repeated over and over, 'Goddamn that bastard Johnson.' Several soldiers at the rally wept."

(San Francisco) Around 500 GIs took part in an anti-war rally here on Oct. 12. Joined by nearly 10,000 civilian demonstrators, they listened to GI and ex-GI speakers talk about the war and the injustices the soldier has to take from the military brass.

The civilians carried signs like "support the GI's right to oppose the war," and generally the march was aimed at support of the growing number of GIs in the Army. It represented one of the few attempts in the past months to build bridges, contacts, and communication between the movement outside the Army—protected as it is by the public eye—and the movement inside the army. These are efforts to give those GIs who are willing to speak out a voice with which to reach GIs who are thinking the same things to themselves.

The Army did its best to keep soldiers from participating. Parades and inspections were held every two hours to prevent AWOLs. Some individuals were specifically ordered not to participate in the march: they

did anyway, along with 500 others. They face the army's retribution. Institutions like the army—war machines, mind-disciplining machines, mobile prisons for the youth of America—cannot afford revolt.

Inside the army the actions of a minority challenge the unthinking to think, and begin to provide the movement GIs can join. What we found in San Francisco was that soldiers are just guys who got drafted. We found, also, a way out of the cynicism that grows out of being outside in this country. GI's found more of a voice and a few more brothers and sisters. The movement found more of its humanity.

## VIETNAM G.I.\*\*\*

a monthly newspaper published especially for G.I.s and Vietnam veterans.

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# GI ACTION

## How to 'get' a coffeehouse

by: Tom Cleaver

The Oleo Strut is a coffeehouse in Killeen, Texas, just outside of Fort Hood. It was opened under the auspices of Summer of Support in late June of this year. SOS coffeehouses are operating in a dozen towns near military bases across the country.

Since opening, the Strut has been a social center for a large number of

Fort Hood soldiers, and has become a threat to the authorities—both military and civilian. Soldiers who regularly frequent the place find themselves called in and interrogated by Army CID or Military Intelligence; often as a result of these sessions, they find themselves transferred to shitty duty on-base, harassed by their NCOs and officers, and even transferred to some of the more "deluxe" Army

bases.

The coffeehouse is run by a staff of six full-time people, plus several local kids home for the summer from school, along with about 15 soldiers who are among the "regulars". It is headed by Josh Gould, an organizer from Los Angeles, along with Jay Lockard, a Radcliffe drop-out, Paul Bloom from the University of South Carolina, Alan Gottlieb from Madison, Linda Eaton from San Francisco, and myself. The harassment we have been subject to is usually in the form of stoppings for alleged traffic violations, parking tickets in places where no one else gets one, "ID checks" while walking in town, etc. It's petty harassment on the model of Mississippi '64, and one gets used to it quickly.

July 4th Be-In

We have engaged in several outside projects since setting up. Our first "outside activity" was helping to sponsor a July 4th Be-In in Killeen's Conder Park. About 200 people from Austin came up, and about the same number of GIs—attired in Nehru jackets, love beads, etc.—came. We also were graced with the presence of the "cowboys" (the GIs call them the "goat-ropers")—the sons of the city fathers. These are toughs on the mid-50's model, with a mid-40s outlook. They catcalled us from the hill, and finally about 6 p.m., not having gotten a response, they came down the hill and broke the thing up. This time the police decided to stop them before they broke up any property besides one GI's camera; even we have property rights in Texas. Since then, the Goat Ropers have come around the coffeehouse on Saturday nights after getting liquored up in Harker's Heights (Killeen is dry) and have tried to start fights in the place. A spontaneous defense squad—composed of soldiers who are ex-bikers, blacks, and just plain tough GIs—has formed and so far no major violence has erupted inside the place.

Even with this kind of petty mind-hassle, we have made terrific progress with the project. I have seen movement projects in operation for two years that haven't made the rapport with their community that the coffeehouse has made in two months of operation. Several times, I have been told by guys back from Nam that "... the Oleo Strut's the only thing worth fighting for in this whole damned country..." The guys feel that the place is theirs, and they are willing to put up with all kinds of personal harassment to keep coming to it. A group of them have started putting out an on-base underground paper, the "Fatigue Press"—a six-to-ten page mimeographed weekly that began after the Base Paper cancelled a story on the Strut after the August "Esquire" hit the stands.

On August 23rd, the petty harassment we had been suffering underwent a qualitative change for the worse. That

(continued on page 11)

This leaflet was prepared by the National Mobilization Committee for distribution to both GIs and civilians during GI Week.

## A message : to GI's

You have seen kids against the war, marching around with their signs. The lifers will tell you these kids are your enemy. And the brass will issue you orders that they are your enemy. (The brass would like to issue you everything but brains.) But the truth is the kids against the war are people, most of them your own age, who want to see you come home alive.

Every kind of American is now against the war. You all know someone—a teacher, a preacher, a truck driver—who says we have no business turning over the lives of thousands of Americans to a bunch of crooks running the corrupt government of South Vietnam. You may know that even retired brass like General Shoupe and General Gavin say that American interest in Vietnam is not worth a pile of peanut shells. Probably the Americans most against this war are the men who fought it—the Vietnam veterans.

Each day, more and more Americans stand up against the senseless slaughter of GIs and Vietnamese. These Americans make up the "anti-war movement." You may only know them as the kids with long hair, the ministers of your own religion or the guy beside you in the barracks. They get called peaceniks, Communists, and unAmericans—especially by the people who make a fortune in keeping the war going.

But as a soldier, you know better than anyone what it means to be harassed and humiliated by the lifers and the brass, especially if you open your mouth the wrong way. And everyone in the anti-war movement knows something about harassment too, for opening their mouths for American soldiers' right to return to civilian life.

Probably you resent the fact that peace demonstrations include kids who can wait out the war in college. You have every right to be mad about that. But do you know that the anti-war movement is trying to do away with the draft laws that give special privileges to some? In fact, the anti-war movement is trying to do away with all the laws that force people to fight and die in Vietnam while a few politicians haggle over how to keep the war going forever.

The lifers, the brass and the old people who run this country will stop at nothing to keep the spirit of the anti-war movement locked out of every base. So in case your commanding officer didn't tell you, the kids against the war SUPPORT soldiers. They support the man who says he may be forced to give his body to Uncle Sam but damn if he'll turn over his brain. And they support the idea that when a war cannot be defended, even by a double-talking, money-making politician, GIs have a right to come home—now.

## to the movement

The average GI is under the thumb of the military machine; he is not the operator of it. Either he was drafted, or he volunteered under pressure from a society that won't give a non-college man a job unless he has an honorable discharge—especially if he is black.

His first two months are spent in basic training at a huge post, far from home (by design) and far from any major city. In "basic" he is whipped into good physical shape and taught elementary skills such as rifle-firing. Most important of all, he gets broken down emotionally and intellectually by a process known as HARASSMENT. The trainee is forced to buff floors that don't need buffing, scream instead of talk, run instead of walk, memorize meaningless lists, prepare his belongings for inspections so petty that hygiene is forgotten (you have to have an UNUSED tube of toothpaste in your locker)...

After basic comes AIT—"advanced individual training"—or, for the vast majority, advanced infantry training. Men are given specialties: typing, machine-gunning, radio operation, and so on. Then they are assigned duty stations—Vietnam, most likely.

The GI's immediate enemy, from basic on, is the non-commissioned officer, or NCO, also known as the E-5, 6 or 7 (a reference to his pay grade) or "lifer." The lifer is a man who knows that his Army standard of living beats anything he could attain in the civilian world. Most lifers are poor southerners, white and black. They have sold their souls to the military, very much like factory foremen who owe their jobs to devotion to the boss.

The officer corps has its lifers, too, but—especially in Vietnam—it is made up mostly of college graduates. Sometimes generation ties replace caste ties. That is, young second lieutenants, in the field, sometimes join their men in blowing grass while the older officers and EMs drink alcohol. In general, though, the Army is like the rest of America—the well-educated give the orders, the less educated carry them out.

From barracks to the front-lines, the mood of the American soldier is, today, THOUGHTFUL. A basic trainee, like a college freshman of the same age, is going through a hell of a time deciding what he wants to do with his life and what he wants the world to be like. He knows that the war is costing him and his buddies more—limbs, lives—than it costs the rest of the American people. Given the huge percentage of people who oppose the war, and the fact that young people are significantly more liberal than their parents, ours is certainly one of the most reluctant armies in histories.

Of course, the officers and NCOs pressure GIs constantly to stop thinking, to simply obey. But men have always overcome attempts to bully and blind them, and this is what American soldiers are doing, in rapidly increasing numbers, today.

# Talking Cuba: no blues today

by Jim Mitchell

One night two of us were walking through the streets of Havana. There were the usual posters of Che and Fidel on walls and in windows, the posters telling of sugar production plans for 1970 and of revolutionary struggles throughout the world. We knew those posters; they produce a warmth of being at home with the island. This night we were coming up a street that was a little quieter than the rest. Not many doors and windows were open to the street, no one on the block. We came to a small indentation in the walls of the houses. A little niche where someone had placed a bust of Jose Marti, a leader of the Cuban struggle during the Spanish-American War and one of the great heroes of Cuba. At the foot of the pedestal were some planted flowers. A small light bulb shown down on the bust, very soft light in a very soft, quiet corner. A little plaque was there. It said "The fatherland is sacred. He who loves it owes it all his truth." It was very simple.

I had been in Cuba for a month, travelling over the island in an attempt to learn about Cuba, to "have the Cuban experience." Factories, farms, fields, meetings, talks, and more talks. Some of it exciting, some boring, much of it new, yet at the same time most of it having the feeling of being at home with what I saw and heard. The bust of Marti made me realize that there is something about the Cuban concept of fatherland which is more than nationalism. There is something about Cuba which is more than Cuba.

Fatherland, patria is important for understanding Cuba. Oct. 12 was the 100th anniversary of the start of the Cuban revolution. Cuba today remembers very well that its fight for freedom began in 1868 against the Spanish. That struggle began as a fight for an independent Cuba. The fight continued against the United States. Fidel in 1953 was carrying on that fight for the patria. January 1, 1959, the day the Revolutionary Army marched into Habana and became the government of Cuba, was the end of the battle for freedom from foreign domination. It was the beginning of the battle for freedom from economic slavery, illiteracy, poverty, underdevelopment,

This new war took a different form; a different consciousness developed in the people. As people worked to develop the country, they realized they were now working for themselves, not for a foreign owner who would take profits and products away from them. The application of patria meant that people now owned the land, the refineries, the cattle and citrus trees. It became clearer to people that individual freedom and development was only possible as the society, as everyone, shared in that freedom and development. By 1961 when Fidel said to the masses that Cuba was a socialist country, they shouted back their approval, their affirmation of socialism.

Today in Cuba people remind me that the evolution is still in motion. Socialism has begun, communism is the goal. What this means is that people know that many aspects of Cuba today are not going to be relevant for the future. For instance, money. Cuba still has a pay scale. It is adjusted to decrease the differences between the factory worker and the ministry administrator. But eventually a point will be reached where production of material needs will be sufficient for the country. For example, enough sugar cane will be cut and refined so that sugar can be exported in return for what the island can't produce. Those imported goods will be distributed according to need. Everything will be distributed according to the needs of people. Money for payment will be unnecessary, since in effect everything is produced for the needs of each person.

## Cuban Workers

In a sugar-refining factory I asked some workers what would they do if the factory was some day fully automated and they only had to work two hours a day. Simple, they said, we would study technology so that we could go to build new kinds of factories. These are workers who spend twelve hours a day building a new section of the refinery, who have given up overtime pay, who volunteer to work on Sundays. Why so much work? To lift Cuba from underdevelopment, to make Cuba strong so she can help other countries. I asked a man in an electric plant what he worked for. "For Cuba,

that my children and all the children will not have to work as hard as I do." Sounds a bit like our parents, but there is a real difference because the workers are aware that they work for all, not only for themselves and their families.

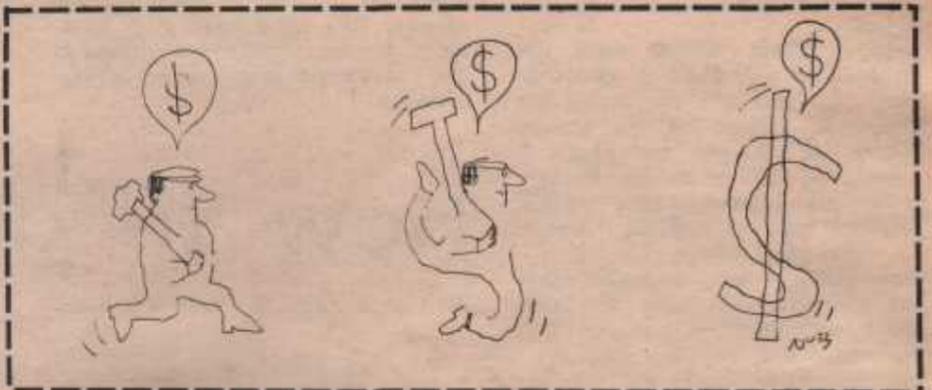
Those workers are bound to the students by the common struggle of developing Cuba, not by family bonds or individual gain. The workers know this, are aware that their labor in the sugar fields of Camaquey means that it is possible for students in Habana to study medicine. The students I talked to want to work with the people in the country, because they know that that is where they are needed most in the revolution.

When Marti talked in the 1890's about

situation. Black power relations with SDS, factions within SDS, national organization of SDS as opposed to regional organization: workers in a factory or farm would ask us and wait for our answers.

And the masses of people are aware that the struggles throughout the world today are their struggles. In a nation that is short of medicine and doctors, the people remember that they sent 24 doctors to Algeria in the early '60's. And if Viet Nam asked, tomorrow the boats would be leaving.

Internationalism in Cuba is an extension of the social system at home. People of Cuba are united in their fight for development. They are united in their opposition to any nation which would attempt to dominate them



patria he was preparing the psychological groundwork for the political system of socialism in the 1960's. The anti-illiteracy campaign is another good example. In 1961 Cuba started a year-long battle against illiteracy. The masses of Cuban campesinos and country workers could not read or write. Mostly young people, but anyone who could read or write, were called to educate the people. Most young people were leaving home for the first time. Talking to young people who were in the brigades that went to the countryside, they say they went because they saw the need to go. Sound like VISTA? A little, but there is a difference in consciousness, a difference in result. Illiteracy is seen as a limitation of people's political and revolutionary development. It is important for all people to be able to read and write, for that way everyone will be able to take a more integrated role in the common struggle. Literacy is seen as a necessity for a nation that wants political awareness for every person. For everyone to be able to read and reason out different positions is an important part of the total development of Cuba. Illiteracy was wiped out. A new bond was formed between the young and the old, the city and the country. People were more aware of the common struggle, of the brotherhood of Cuba.

The families of those in the education brigades were changed. Often the teachers were the first to become actively involved in the struggle of the revolutionary government. After them the mothers, sisters, brothers followed.

## Socialist Consciousness

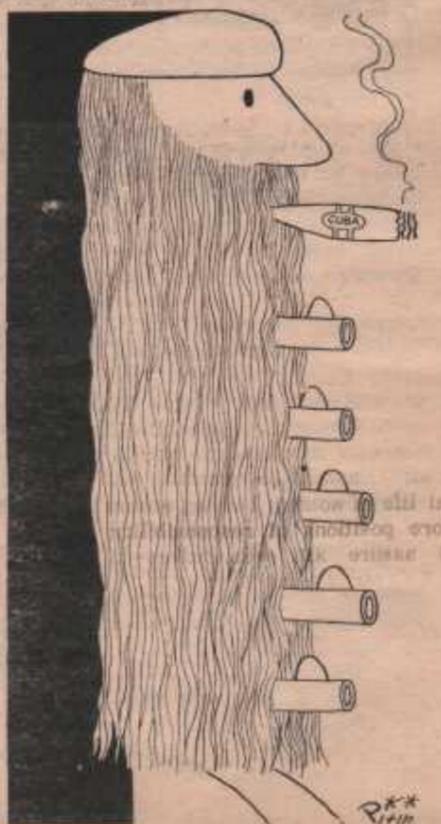
From a love of fatherland has grown a socialist consciousness. But it was necessary for the abstract to become real, for patria to become a country of the people. The capitalist ethic of working for yourself and individual ownership of factories and farms could not allow for everyone's development. Through socialism the people see that the work which they do is for themselves because it is for everyone.

Yet what is beautiful is that this love of fatherland is not exclusionary. There is no more international country than Cuba. It manifests itself in the dozens of days of solidarity with people over the whole world. "Day of Solidarity with the Black North American Revolutionaries" read a sign in downtown Habana. Billboards with huge art-nouveau lettering for the Vietnamese. We were walking through a park and a guide was pointing out the Chinese crane on the Japanese derrick with the Czech base which was ready to load the Cuban sugar on the Soviet freighter. The people asked questions about our movement which showed they were very much into our

—militarily, economically, politically. It is from this that they are united with all other nations who are struggling for development, who oppose domination from a foreign country.

From this national and international solidarity comes a mixture of joy and optimism which is manifest over the island. Old people sitting in a room at night with their doors wide open on the street, no fear at all of the city. Young girls laughing and giggling as they go out to the fields for filling coffee plant bags, a job they are doing for two years "because it has to be done." A peasant in his house a few miles up a dirt path in the Sierra Maestras who had sent his older children to school or to the Isle of Youth, but: "Before the Revolution they would have lived and died here."

Work is no longer an alienating necessity, but a collective struggle which everyone wants to join. In a boarding school for primary students the teachers said that the worst punishment they could give to a student was to not allow him to work in the fields for an afternoon. When the nation is at work, to have to sit apart, to not be part of that work, is painful. In socialism, not to be part of the brotherhood, the collective struggle, is to be apart and alone. Out of that struggle grows a new man with a new consciousness. It's called the revolutionary consciousness, it's Cuba, it's beautiful.





Vietnamese women tending a rice harvest as it dries.

# AROUND THE WORLD

## The liberation of Vietnamese women

by Bernardine Dohrn  
Inter-Organizational Secretary

"Ten women are not worth one man," signified the feudal role of women in Vietnam until 1945. But in the course of the struggle against two colonialist invaders, the Vietnamese women contributed greatly to the fighting and producing needs of their people, and in the process—are transforming their roles and consciousness. There have been many heroines: young commandos from the villages (those who punish the traitors), women's militia units which down US aircraft, sink US warships, and attack enemy outposts; the vice-commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the NLF, a woman who fought against the French and whose husband and son were killed by the foreign enemy.

Slowly under French rule, and with great acceleration under US occupation, the centuries of female dependency and fear were shattered by the hatred and anger at the slaughter of civilians, the oppression of the Saigon regime, and the occupation by foreign troops. In the struggle the women are building the basis for their society after the war.

### Fighting and Production

In North Vietnam, there are two main tasks: fighting and production. Women's militia units fight in close coordination with the main force units, assure the transport of troops through rivers and countryside, neutralize time bombs dropped in rice fields. About 70% of the productive power in the "rear front" is women: women manage and operate most of the large grain cooperatives, many factories, light industry, and education.

It is the conscious policy of the socialist government of the North to have women take less charge in the family and more in political and social activities. Women cadres work to encourage the assumption of social responsibilities. A year ago, the DRV issued a resolution on the problem of women to: 1) assure the material and spiritual life of women; 2) bring women into more positions of responsibility; and 3) assure all prerogatives of women, i.e., strict equality.

The revolutionary significance of the resolution lies in its commitment to raising the consciousness of the entire population. The Decree requires both the self-effort of women and the education of men. It is compulsory that it be

studied by both sexes: several weeks of discussion were spent on this decree in unions and factories, in agricultural cooperatives, army units, etc. These groups help to educate and criticize: to bring down to daily concrete life the implications of the liberation of women. This resolution is not limited to time of war. It is building the cadres for the future society, where the decentralized distribution of work, the education of children, the equality in family life and in responsible posts will continue.

### Women's Union

The Vietnamese Womens Union is the women's organization which embraces all categories of women's organization in the DRV. It has a central executive committee, and is organized on province, district, and village branch level. The Union sends representatives into the localities to assure women's rights and publishes a monthly journal, Vietnamese Women, to educate and defend the rights

of women. Most strikingly, everything issued by the government concerning women must consult and have the approval of the Union, for example, laws on marriage, or the resolution on women.

In the South, the struggle is both military and political. Many women join units of the Liberation Army, particularly the guerrilla forces. In areas occupied by the US troop or puppet army, women play the main role in the political struggle (parallel to military organizations), women take back sons and husbands press ganged into the puppet army, sit and lie before US tanks engaged in mopping up actions, prevent the destruction of crops, organize demonstrations during bombing raids to carry the corpses of the dead directly to the enemy installation, and contribute to assuring the logistic supply of food, clothing and material. The famous "long haired army" engages in both "legal" demonstrations which disrupt

enemy troop travel, and propagandize and agitate against the puppet administration, and in armed struggle.

In the major cities, women students and young workers, including some of the prostitutes in Saigon, played an important role during the Tet offensive. They served as guides (the eyes and ears) of the NLF fighters, taking them through complicated streets, identifying traitors and agents, and housing and protecting them, assured supply lines, cared for the sick, and helped return the main forces to bases in free areas.

Liberation of Vietnamese women is being forged from very concrete actions: actions of survival, of humanity. No claims of utopian liberation already achieved. No pleas from passive victims of violence and brutality. But the fusing of action and consciousness as women, as Vietnamese, and as members of the Third World.



Two Vietnamese women man a gun against US planes.

# HIGH SCHOOLS

(continued from page 5)

chaos. Then there are rallies in cafeterias, walk-outs, and marches to the Board of Education. Beneath the impression of chaos, organization is building. Disruption is a cover which creates the tension, urgency and diversion that makes organization possible.

"We intend to build a mass black student movement, in Chicago to seize control of black schools and make them relevant to the black colonies."

The high school actions raise the question first of all as to what white students will do. Puerto Rican students have already begun to organize, presented their demands for Spanish-speaking teachers to teach Latin history and have added their ranks to the boycott. But white youth are split. Is it only a question of black power against white power? What will white students do?

One answer must come in an understanding of the irreversibility of the black students' struggle. It will continue after the issues now at stake are settled. It will continue because it is the beginning of an assault on power. When you don't like the things an institution does you must learn to assault the power which controls the institution.

For the black students, as for the white students, what is wrong with the high schools goes a long way beyond who teaches what course. Black students are demanding that schools meet the needs of the ghetto, but it is clear that the goal of the people of the ghetto is for self-determination and freedom from the oppression of the ghetto. The high schools maintain the oppression of the ghetto just as they maintain the exploitation of the white working people who pass through them. The goal of the high schools is to train people to accept an oppressive and exploitative

system. The goal of the people must be to keep the schools from functioning in that way. The people can only be successful if they direct themselves at the power which controls the schools.

It is not as if white high school students do not understand what is wrong with the schools—from THEIR point of view. Schools that seem like stupid straitjackets and lead to stupid jobs or the army are acceptable to nobody who goes there. But before there can be a movement of white high school students there must be an understanding of power, and how motion must be built to assault it. Hopefully the Election Day demonstrations, starting in Lincoln Park and ending up in a rally at the Hilton that night, will give white high school students a chance to get themselves together in motion. The elections, like the schools, must be attacked.

Assess the evil. Assault the power that controls the institution!

(This round-up of plans for election action programs across the country is just a sampling. Please send us reports on your plans, information about the actions that occur in your area so that we can get it out to our brothers and sisters all over the country.)

## TEXAS-OKLAHOMA

There will be 5 major areas of activity on the 4th and 5th: Austin, Houston, Dallas, Stillwater, and Norman. In all more than 30 campus chapters and groups will be involved in activities ranging from leafleting and general educational effort to rallies and demonstrations. There will be a special regional election issue of DALLAS NOTES: 75,000 copies will be distributed.

Sample program in that area at Southern Methodist Church (SMU)—Week of Oct. 23: Distribution of election questionnaire, leafleting campuses and high schools in Dallas for street dance; rock concert and election education program for high schools and campuses in Northern Texas; week of Oct. 30: "The Great Halloween Debate for the Hollow Election!", fun-serious political satire and SDS rap. Dorm canvassing, roving discussion groups pushing "Vote NO! Vote for People" rally with emphasis on classroom work Nov. 5: Election day rally on campus; Nov. 6: day of mourning with final rally—"We will continue the struggle".

## WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE

The area will hold its election day demonstration in front of the White House in Lafayette Park; the government has said that no demonstrations will be permitted until after the elections. Universities and high schools in the area will prepare for the demonstration: canvass, leaflet, hold rallies and teach-ins.

## NEW JERSEY

Newark will be the site of the election day demonstration. Pre-

paratory work will include factory leafleting and campus educational programs.

## NEW YORK

Pre-strike action: Oct. 26, joint SDS-High School Union rally in Washington Square to announce high school strike action. Four to five movement centers will be opened around the city with 24 hour a day programs. The first two editions of the city wallpaper have already come out, with more planned. Nov. 3 will be another Washington Square pre-strike rally. Example of college program for the strike: QUEENS COLLEGE will establish a free university in the cafeteria on the 4th and 5th. There will be a constant round of programs, including leaflets, wallposters, films, speakers, open mike forums, rock bands, communal dinners, and an evening party to watch election returns.

DEMONSTRATION: move through the city to rally at Central Park then head downtown to the Nixon campaign headquarters for his acceptance speech.

SPECIAL GI PROGRAM: Oct. 24, women's group went to Ft. Dix to rap with GIs and invite them to a weekend party. Many of these GIs will join those already active in helping to plan the following week's rally at the base. Oct. 25, adult delegation to the commanding officer at Dix requesting use of the parade grounds for the GI rally. Nov. 3, picnic rally for GIs at Ft. Dix.

## NEW ENGLAND

Plans for the 4th include: GI teach-in at Boston College and Northeastern; canvassing dorms and the neighboring community at Boston University and Harvard; teach-ins at MIT, U Mass, Emmanuel, and strike at Holy Cross. High schools will be a focus in the Worcester area. Leafleting GIs at bus stations, preceded by training program for students about the Army and GI organizing. Action also planned in Northern New England: University of Maine,

Goddard, Stowe, Franconia, Dartmouth.

REGIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS will be held in Boston, Providence, Hartford, and New Haven.

## LOS ANGELES

Walk-outs are planned for the L.A. campuses, action in the high schools; there will be a rally at Pershing Square and march downtown. Regional wallposters are already out.

## CHICAGO

Election day: anti-election festival in Lincoln Park for college students, high school and neighborhood youth. Evening rally at the Hilton and all night "vigil". Special effort in junior colleges and trade schools. Pre-demonstration activities include: death march through the dorms at University of Chicago; teach-ins and rallies on most Chicago campuses and at U. of I., Champagne-Urbana. A demonstration at local draft board is planned by Elmwood and surrounding schools. Northwestern is leading the campus support for the high school boycott in Chicago.

## MICHIGAN

Two thousand people at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo rallied to hear Mike Klonsky of SDS and Dick Hutton of the Black Action Movement call for election action. The following day the student government voted to shut down the school and support the SDS-called student strike on the 4th. A confrontation with the administration has already begun. At the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, there will be walk-outs and a rally. Students will give guided tours of the sites of the university's counterinsurgency and warfare institutions for the community as a new way of explaining why they are striking. Included are: the Thailand counterinsurgency institute, the laboratory where Che's death was planned, and the ROTC complex. Ann Arbor will be the site of the regional mass street demonstration on the 5th.

# Education for what?

by Gerald Long

Early in this century Upton Sinclair resigned as president of Columbia University because he considered the university system to be full of shit. Just a couple of months ago Grayson Kirk resigned as president of Columbia University because at long last many Columbia students were picking up on the truth of what Sinclair had been running down some fifty years ago.

Sinclair accused the university system of programming people to become cogs in a system which channeled the labor of the vast majority of society in a highly exploitative way so as to benefit only a very few at the top. The function of the university was not to prepare people to lead lives which would in some way be more "human" as a result of this educational experience, but was rather to prepare people to perform somewhat more complicated managerial and engineering tasks than were required of the bulk of society.

As true as this may have been in Sinclair's day, when only a very few could pay for a university "education", it is infinitely more true today, now that the role of technology has expanded so greatly. To quote from Carl Davidson's pamphlet on the multiversity, "According to James Conant, over 1600 different academic degrees are possible within our diploma mills; most of which parallel the skill demands of the new technology....Just as different factories can produce different KINDS of commodities, different universities produce different KINDS of students... The traditional Ivy League schools shape the sons and daughters of the ruling class and old middle class into the new ruling and managerial elites. The state colleges and universities develop the sons and daughters of the working class and petty bourgeoisie into the highly skilled sectors of the new working class, the middle sector white collar workers, and the traditional middle class professionals. Finally, the new community and junior colleges serve the increasing educational needs of, for the most part, the sons and daughters of the working class."

To get an "education" today is to prepare for a career. I once, with genuine naivete, asked a philosophy instructor whom I really dug why a person would want to major in philosophy. At first he was surprised at the question but then answered by saying that one would major in philosophy in order to go on and get a PhD and go into teaching; then he really began to wax eloquent about the wonderful life of a teacher—good pay, pleasant surroundings, lots of time off, job security, all that shit. Can you imagine Socrates telling someone that he should study philosophy so that he could obtain job security and lots of time off? Well, I couldn't, so I walked out of that guy's office really putting him down. But the fact is, he was right. I hadn't asked the question I had thought I was asking, which had something to do with living a meaningful life. I had asked him why anyone would major in

philosophy and he had given me an honest answer. You go to school today in order to fit into a certain slot in society tomorrow.

The thing is, what do you do if you come to believe that the particular society in which that slot exists is, in some kind of objective way, evil? What do you do if you observe that that society is responsible for most of the suffering that goes on in the world and that simply by taking your place in that slot you will be contributing to that society's ability to continue being responsible for that suffering? It seems clear that logic demands that you not step into that slot.

This would be all well and good, but many people come to these conclusions about society only after they have already spent a good number of years preparing themselves to fit the slots, and, what's worse, society tends to so order itself that those who refuse to fit into slots have a very hard time maintaining their existence within it.

These problems are resolved by many would-be radicals by a very clever manipulation of logic so that they come up with a category of existence known as "working from within". In this way, they assure themselves, they are contributing to the downfall of the pernicious social system while at the same time achieving job security. Unfortunately for these folks, the scientific study of history has proven that the notion of "working from within" is bullshit. If your job within the system is secure it is only because you are no threat to the system. If you are a threat to the system, and such a threat that the system actually begins to feel the effects of your radical work, then you will be ejected from your slot. At this time you will face the same problems as you would have faced had you never stepped into the slot.

When dealing with the question of "education" and its role within the system, this problem is the major one facing the Movement and would-be

# GI

(continued from page 7)

day, five of us—Josh, Jay, Alan, Linda and myself—were busted for possession of marijuana, based on seeds planted in our car. Josh was held on \$50,000 bail.

The city council—in a special closed session—voted unanimously to have the City Attorney seek a restraining order and injunction against the coffeehouse as a "public nuisance...detrimental to the health and welfare of the city".

The Army's role in this cannot be pointed out too strongly; in late June, a message came down from the Pentagon, directing local commanders who had a SOS coffeehouse in the vicinity to work to get the civilian authorities to shut it down, and to keep the Army's role as quiet as possible.

members of the Movement. Listen closely to your school song, take a close look at the faces of the governing body of your school, then compare what's said in your classes with what kind of coherent picture of the universe you can glean from the newspapers and television news; you can hardly help but conclude that our educational system is full of shit because it is the prostitute of an evil society.

But this conclusion is useless unless it impels us to figure out how to utilize ourselves to a good radical end without at the same time filling slots which allow the evil society to function. In a society in which your education, your career, is your meal-ticket, great numbers of people will feel hard pressed to the wall when asked to give that meal-ticket up. There is no simple solution to this problem, the whole thing about "style of life". That is what the movement is really all about, but a movement whose purpose is to assault an oppressor's power provides certain functional roles in which to begin to solve this problem.

# EDUCATION

"The New Left is composed of radicals, anarchists, pacifists, crusaders, socialists, Communists, idealists, and malcontents. This movement, best typified by SDS, has an almost passionate desire to destroy the traditional values of our democratic society and the existing social order." — J. Edgar Hoover

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO: More than 300 University of New Mexico students sitting in the bleachers watching ROTC drill practice, surged onto the field, and, joined by some of the ROTC students, held the largest demonstration in this campus' history. The following day, Larry Russell, chairman of the SDS chapter was suspended. The action was the first by a new campus group—'Radical Rush.' Set up to provide an alternative to sorority and fraternity rushing of incoming freshmen, the group is a coalition group including SDS, the black student group, and the Chicano student activists. Continued action is in the works.

MIAMI, FLORIDA: University of Miami students demonstrated last week when Curtis LeMay hit town. The SDS chapter—140 strong at its first meetings—is working with high school students and making plans for election action.

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI: "The youth of white Mississippi confronted the twisted, fascist 'law and order' that has ruled Mississippi for over two centuries. We confronted the people with the truth and deputies of the High Sheriff of Hinds County busted two out of six the first day, twelve out of fifteen the second day, and none out of twenty-five the third day. We won. The truth was the second issue of the KUDZU, Mississippi's new underground newspaper. Students from Millsaps College were distributing the KUDZU to Jackson high school kids. Meanwhile at Mississippi State University, the school administration refused to allow the KUDZU to be sold on campus and the student senate promptly voted to allow the paper to sell on campus. Shortly after the senate's decision was announced, the paper's biggest sales in the state were recorded. A new spirit is rising in the South. The closed society of crackers is cracking." (from a letter to the NO)

BOSTON: New things are happening in the greet-your-candidate actions sweeping the country this election year. At a Muskie speech here, radicals filed through the audience selling flags which said "The Election Is A Hoax, Bring the GIs Home". Sales were brisk and people rallied round the flag. Then Agnew hit town. This time 200 folks marched through the streets led by 3 large dragons: Hump/Nix/Wallace. The cops met them heavy; the crowd was charged by mounted police. That part of the election action remains the same.

MONTREAL (LNS): Students are in revolt throughout Quebec province. They have occupied 13 junior colleges and private colleges for the past week.

Eight departments at the University of Montreal are in the hands of the students and eight junior colleges have been shut down, while sympathy demonstrations have been held at McGill University, Sir George Williams and Loyola College.

Students at 12 other junior colleges returned to class after threats from the Minister of Education, but demonstrations are being held on at least three of those campuses.

The demands include more scholarships and loans, and room for more students transferring from working-class junior colleges; culture (a French-language university) and the assurance of meaningful jobs.

FT. COLLINS, COLORADO (special to new left notes): Student power demands raised in a fight to control the student center at Colorado State University and to drink beer on campus have led to the arrests of 179 CSU students.

Students occupied the student center on October 11 and raised their demands before the administration. A week later, after the demands had not been won, students held a drink-in in the student center, with the approval of the student government. Two thousand students drank beer to the accompaniment of a rock band. When police ordered them to leave, most did; however, 179 remained and were urged over and over by members of the student government to be arrested quietly and "not make any trouble," because they had broken the law and had to "face the consequences." They were arrested quietly and booked right there on the campus with the cooperation of the university. SDS members tried to show that you don't have to let yourself be arrested as an enemy of the power structure, but to no avail.

The next step in the struggle, according to SDSer Tom Waymen, will be to call for a student strike around the elections and tie that in to the student power fight.

NEW ORLEANS: Workers at the large Roosevelt Hotel here have begun a militant strike. The brothers and sisters on the campus should note that the boss-owner of that hotel is Benjamin Swig, who is on the board of trustees at BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY and YESHIVA UNIVERSITY. For more information contact the NOLA EXPRESS, Box 2342, New Orleans, Louisiana 70166.

## new left notes

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**THE ELECTIONS  
DON'T MEAN SHIT**

**VOTE WHERE POWER IS**

**OUR POWER**

**IS IN THE STREET**