

SDS NEW LEFT NOTES

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LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE

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NEW LEFT NOTES
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An attempt to fully evaluate and analyze the elections strategy at this time would be absurdly premature. This evaluation, in terms of the political development of the organization, impact on building regions, and the success of the program in moving us beyond the campus, must be made in the weeks ahead. We are still gathering reports from many parts of the country, and it is clear that reports on demonstrations, actions, teach-ins, tallies, sit-ins, arrests, confrontations, will come in from literally hundreds of campuses and high schools in the next weeks.

It is impossible to describe any patterns or generalize about the actions around the country, because locally organizers have differing criteria for evaluating the actions. 200 people came to a rally in Seattle, but it was regarded as a good action because it united the student movement and turned people on. A nearly 90%-effective class boycott occurred at American University, but

(continued on page

VOTE WITH YOUR FEET VOTE IN THE STREET

INSIDES:
★ PRELIMINARY REPORTS ON 4/10
★ ELECTION FESTIVITIES pp. 4-8
JEFF GOULD & the Oleo Strut, p. 8
SPLIT in Ann Arbor SDS, p. 3



--picture from Boston area wallpaper

LETTERS TO THE LEFT

ARMY

Having just recently acquired your address, I decided to write immediately. Right now, I am in basic training at Fort Jackson. This is why I'm writing. I really don't know where to begin, or how to say what I want to say, but essentially, I want counseling on how I may go about getting out. I want out for a few damn good reasons, one of which is plainly that I hate this fucking army. I tend to be a CO, both to the War, and to killing and maiming.

Let me explain my position: I'm 17 years old—almost 18. My parents were very oppressive, and I felt that they were infringing on my natural freedoms and liberties too much. So therefore I took leave, and went to Boston to live with all the other people seeking personal freedom (I refuse to say that ugly word beginning with "H.") and other things. I instantly was accepted, due to my background as a motorcyclist in a large gang and my political stands. However I got busted on charges concerning drugs and juvenile girls, and was taken home. Here I was given the ultimatum of jail, school (probation), or the Service. At the time, the Service seemed the easiest way out—and I'd also be getting away from my parents!! (Yeah!!) So I enlisted. (Asshole!) Of course the first day I was here, I regretted it, but it was too late. Since then I've been trying to get out, without luck.

I desperately want OUT, but I also wish to avoid bad scenes—punishment, court martial, etc. I'd rather serve 3 here than 3 in prison. It may be the coward's way out, but then who is a hero?

To get to the point (finally!), I would like to start receiving literature from your organization, which I believe is a fine one. If I had the bread, I would've taken out a membership, but Uncle Sam and his silver are unseparable! The salary I receive leaves much to be desired. However, I do plan to become

a member as soon as someone lays a fin on me.

Would it be at all possible to receive New Left Notes, which I believe to be an outstanding publication in its field? Also, do you have any offices in or near Boston? On my Christmas leave, I would like to work on getting out. Do you think you could offer any kind of counseling at all? Man, I can't dig this army for 1 day more!! H'ain't just that I want to get out, it's that I cannot STAND the army, what it stands for and what it's doing!! It's totally against my basic principles!

Please answer quickly if possible—I will be shipping out to my AIT point soon, and I wish to establish some sort of connection before I change addresses. PLEASE try and help me, or direct me to someone who can!

Private
Fort Jackson, South Carolina

VIOLENCE

Brother Terry Cannon and I were pleased to note that Fred Gordon commented in NLN on the paper we have written on violence. In case any SDS members are currently wondering where they can obtain a copy, we would suggest that they write the NO and urge our secretariat to publish the paper as we have requested them to do, in order that our brothers and sisters may read the now-controversial work for themselves.

If the paper were available to our membership, it would not be necessary for us to correct Brother Gordon's obvious misinterpretation of a relatively insignificant point about the Bundestag fire in the early days of the Third Reich.

Brother Gordon, in reading the typescript, felt that we had cited the Bundestag fire as an example of well-directed violence. Not so. The example was used in the introduction, to show historically how the oppressor will use left-wing (or allegedly left-wing) violence as an excuse for

leveling even greater repressive measures against the general population. The ultimate silliness comes when brother Gordon refutes his own misconception by arguing exactly what our pamphlet argued, that left-wing violence must be clearly political, and not engaged in for kicks or for the achievement of random purposes.

However, all of this debate is going on in the public press and it still concerns a phantom pamphlet, as yet unpublished and unread except by a chosen few in San Francisco and Chicago. We hope that the NO will move rapidly to correct this condition, and kindly ask Mr. Gordon to stop misinterpreting our, or anybody's, work in public without giving everyone a chance to read and evaluate the work for themselves.

However, as hitherto unpublished authors, we did appreciate the mention. Now, if only the membership can get a chance to see what all the fuss is about....

We remain, misunderstood but still struggling,

Terence Cannon
Morgan Spector

WALLACE

The tone of Doug Youngblood's good article on the Wallace campaign leads me to believe that he either saw the edited version of my article which was circulated by LNS or that he in fact does not understand the electoral implications of the Wallace drive.

I would like to begin by quoting the last paragraph of my article which is the only part that I believe was omitted by LNS. "George Wallace's campaign represents a real danger that American fascist types before him were never able to realize. Father Cauglin and the fascists of the thirties were fought vehemently by organized workers culminating in a confrontation between fifty thousand workers and Cauglin's

fascists at New York's Madison Square Garden on August 19, 1939. But in the present post-McCarthy era when the left seems to present a direct extension of the welfare state liberals and union bureaucrats, there is only one alternative in the eyes of many workers—George Wallace! The Wallace campaign can NOT be fought by giving support to McCarthy, Humphrey, Rockefeller or their ilk for they represent the very forces against which the populist backup of the Wallace campaign pits itself. It is only by opposing these people with policies that represent the true interests of the workers that the Wallace campaign can be stopped!"

Youngblood correctly points out that we have an enormous job to do in the white community. But lest we jump over stages in the building of a revolutionary working class movement, we will still have to consider the using of electoral politics as a vehicle for building such a movement. We have to make workers class conscious in the economic as well as the political sense. The problem of making workers realize that electoral politics is a farce will be minor compared to the struggle which we have facing us i.e. the struggle to make the working class into a class fighting for its own interests.

In this respect I believe that the Peace and Freedom Party (and the Freedom and Peace Party) represents an obstacle. For instead of breaking unconditionally with the programs of the welfare state liberals it in fact has catered to gaining their support; e.g., one wing of the California P&FP thinks of itself as a pressure group rather than in active opposition to the capitalist system.

What is needed is a movement for the creation of a political party around the interests of the working class—a Labor Party. A political party which would organize the working class to fight in its own interests.

Joe Verrat

Red flag flies in Montreal

by Tom Good
San Jose State SDS

On one of the main thoroughfares of Montreal the red flag flies, hoisted over the Ecole des Beaux Arts by French-speaking students to show their solidarity with their comrades who have occupied ten of Quebec's 23 junior colleges.

The students have initiated a major political confrontation with the administrators of Quebec's educational system to protest two major logical grievances: (1) while there are 23 French language colleges of General and Technical Education (CEGEP's), there are only three French language universities in Quebec, which means that most students have little chance of getting into a university. (2) There is

no room in the labor market for those students taking vocational courses (unemployment in Quebec has reached 8.8% of the work force). Other grievances include poor educational facilities, over-crowding and rising interest rates on loans.

The first CEGEP's opened in 1964, as a result of recommendations made by the Liberal Government in 1960, which had undertaken a study of Quebec's antiquated French language educational system. Originally, it was planned that most students would be engaged in vocational training while in practice the majority have opted for pre-university courses. In all, 28,000 students are involved in the crisis in the CEGEP's.

The dispute has deep roots in the wider social crisis that faces Quebec. At the same time as the students were

occupying their colleges, a new separatist political party, the Parti Quebecois, was created out of a merger between Rene Levesque's Mouvement Souverainete Association and Gilles Gregoire's Ralliement Nationale. The new party combines a reformist and popular leader, Rene Levesque, with the support of a right-wing separatist group, a merger unheard of in the orthodox of Canadian politics. The new party is trying to put forth a "respectable" image for separation and judging by the reserved and conciliatory comment of the English language press, it probably represents the first real possibility for independence. The more militant Rassemblement Pour l'Independence National was given the chance of merging with the new party at a later date and a resolution was passed praising its work.

With a seriously deteriorating economic situation, the new party intends to make a special effort to gain working-class support. In Montreal, it was announced recently that 300 employees of the Montreal plant of the International Telephone and Telegraph ("Canada") Company will be laid off so the company can relocate in Ontario for tax-exemption purposes. Most of those losing their jobs have been with the company 30 or 40 years. In addition, large layoffs are taking place in the textile industry and the construction industry is paralyzed because activity in the shipyards is at a low point. Also, according to the Confederation of National Trade Unions, the housing situation is becoming critical.

The student protest here is comparable in its political significance to the movement in France because it has raised issues in the college that have their roots in the problems that directly concern broad masses of people in their everyday lives. Just as one example of the base they have: at one of the CEGEP's a citizens' committee was formed and groups of local residents, including parents, joined the students in their occupation.

Culturally, it is obvious where the root of the problem is in Quebec—with the English-speaking community and the corporate power which lies behind them. The French ARE bi-lingual but most of the commercial interests make only a token concession to the language and culture of the majority. Quebec is moving toward independence either by referendum or revolution. Whether an independent Quebec will be a socialist Quebec depends largely on the ability of the militant students of Quebec to link their grievances with those of the working class.



Montreal policemen stand near occupied school.

Ann Arbor SDS splits

(We are running this long story because we see the situation at Ann Arbor as typical of many SDS chapters throughout the country. We think that the questions raised here about how to organize on a college campus are key to the development of our movement.)

by Bill Ayers
Jim Mellon
Terry Robbins

On Monday, October 14, most of the old leadership of SDS at the University of Michigan Chapter voted officially to disaffiliate with the organization. Their decision to leave came after about a month of faction fighting within the chapter. As members of the insurgent group which challenged the leadership, we'd like to talk some about what we think really happened, because the issues raised are widespread in the movement today, and their resolution is critical to our growth.

So, let's start at the beginning. Michigan has had a long tradition of student socialism. It was here that SDS was first formed, that the teach-in was first conceived, that militant anti-draft demonstrations first took hold.

But in recent years, Michigan has become one of the more moderate SDS chapters. SDS members have worked their way into various positions of student influence—on the newspaper, in the sham student government, on the student judicial board. SDS has, no doubt, exerted tremendous influence over the mechanistic workings of student "self-government"; the price it has paid has been impotence.

Last year, the SDS chapter decided to concentrate on University complicity. An extensive research and education campaign took place: exposes of classified research, teach-ins, actions around recruiting. Buttons saying "Go Michigan—Beat Thailand" sold in record numbers.

The campaign led up to a Student Government Council sponsored referendum, submitting two questions to the students: that the University should cease all classified research, and that the University should sever all ties with the Institute for Defense Analyses.

Resolutions Defeated

Both resolutions were soundly defeated, largely because the Engine School came out in force to oppose them. And when the Michigan Daily rather defensively ran an editorial reaffirming the evils of complicity a few days later, the letters began coming in: student power has been used, they said, and the will of the students must be respected. And that is true, if students somehow have the right to decide that U of M research should help commit genocide in Vietnam, or that Engine students, whose clear interest is in maintaining IDA, somehow have more rights than the Bolivian Liberation forces—who are being smashed with the help of the Michigan research team. But the rights of the Vietnamese, the Bolivians, American Blacks were left behind. The issue was dead. And with it in a very real way went SDS. For the chapter's leadership had finally found a way to be a polite inoffensive fart in the drawing room of the University; it had found a way to comfortably co-exist with what it considered to be the enemy.

It was out of this history that a group of insurgents began to form. Dissatisfied with the leadership and direction of the chapter, we began talking about new approaches to students and a new set of politics, based heavily on Columbia and Chicago. We also talked long and hard about our relationship to SDS and decided that we wanted to be a part of SDS—as an open, public caucus if need be ("the Lurleen Wallace Memorial Caucus," we wanted to call it), encouraging political debate, and hopefully beginning to get people in motion.

The first attempt to open debate came after a rather long, and we felt boring, introductory meeting. At the end, one of us stood up and, charging that the meeting had been one long stream of



SDS members hold a meeting inside seized administration building at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

bullshit, asked to talk to anyone interested in talking about new strategies based on new politics. "If you think the only thing to do with war research is to burn it up, and the only thing to do with bad classes is to take them over, and the only thing to do about bullshit candidates is to run them out with your own lives, then let's talk." And people came.

But "the fight" was on. People began talking about a split in VOICE SDS. The leadership was being challenged by the crazies. The second meeting would deal with the question directly....

Formal Debate

The night before the second meeting of the chapter, the SDS Steering Committee decided that a formal debate should be held. One speaker for each position, ten minutes each, followed by discussion.

Already we had problems. Many of us felt that this was too constricting a forum—based on a fairly simple notion ideas. Most SDS meetings we'd been to were brainstorming sessions where everyone throws out ideas and almost everyone leaves thinking something different from what they came in absolutely sure of. Confusing maybe. But not competitive. And apt to produce a lot of growth.

The first speaker at the debate represented the newly formed "Radical Caucus"—the old leadership of the chapter and their supporters. He emphasized three things: 1) He favored education work among the students that would raise their understanding of the repressive nature of the system. He mentioned petition campaigns and dormitory organizing specifically. 2) He argued that, due to the conservative nature of the students at Michigan, any radical activity involving confrontation or outright seizure of university facilities would only alienate the majority of students. 3) He presented the position of our caucus as one which expected the revolution to come immediately and that seizure of university facilities was thought of as part of a seizure of power. He finished by characterizing the differences as being between "base-building" (which involves educational work preparing for later action) and confrontation (which was essentially romantic and based on unwillingness to see the backward position of the students).

Song:

You say you wan-na revolution,
We-el you kno-ow,
We all wanna change the world...
But if you talk about destruc-tio-on,
Don't you know that
You can count me out...
Allright, Allright, Allright, Allright.

Our speaker tried to argue that education which has not involved direct action was condescending, and based on an inaccurate assessment

of where students are at. A whole generation of young people manifests a malaise, a discontent. More than ever their lives are channelled. The students know that their lives are on a one-way street to corrupt and hedonistic suburbia, that their personal problems and hang-ups are common to their peers—but they don't see politics as the answer to their problems. They've heard all the old radical arguments, but people don't accept arguments just because they sound correct. They accept them when they see that the arguments make sense OUT OF THEIR OWN LIVES. We argued that politics of confrontation provides activity based on an elan and a community which shows young people that we CAN make a difference, we CAN hope to change the system, and also that life within the radical movement can be liberated, fulfilling and meaningful—rather than the plastic of suburbia or the tired intellectual arrogance of the old left. Essentially, then, politics of confrontation is a form of organizing. As such, it IS educational. And the dichotomy between "confrontation" and "base-building" becomes false. Confrontation, we argued, is a way of building a base.

Student Power

A second point raised by our caucus' speaker was that the old leadership had come to rely on a position of student power. Most past actions indicate that such politics assumes that the validation of a political idea on campus lies in the acquisition of a majority of the students to support it. Further, past actions indicate a belief that manifest expression of a radical idea by the majority of the students would result in real change. We did not believe this at all. It was clear that 1) a majority of the students is too much to hope for in this early stage of our struggle and that action cannot wait that long, and 2) a majority of the students is not enough to change the university in a fundamental and non-cooptative way. One of SDS's slogans is "A free university in a free society." That means that a free university is only possible in a free society—that fundamental changes in university will await revolutionary changes in the system of power in the country at large. Our job on the campus is to build a movement which will grow into the instrument of that change. Another issue concerned support for the revolutionaries in the third world. Our caucus argued that we are part of their struggle and see ourselves carrying our common struggle to the mother country itself. At one point, our speaker said we identify with and support the NLF of South Vietnam and asked if the old leadership could say the same. The point of the question was that many of the old leaders are so-called "third camp socialists"—who attempt to ingratiate themselves to the anti-communists by condemning the existing socialist states as strongly as they do capitalism. The darkest of the old leadership remained silent.

BUT WAIT A MINUTE. All that we've described happened, and we guess we gotta describe it this way for some clarity. But there's a lot more. Most of us have been organizing for a long time. Like that old leadership, we too believed our politics wasn't relevant to people: Don't be too radical. It'll alienate people. Get 'em on bread and butter issues. Bring 'em along slow. Build consciousness.

We were all breast-fed on the same milk.

Then Columbia happened and while our heads were still reeling, we were in Chicago and the cops helped our heads "reel" some more. Things were happening. Radical politics wasn't turning EVERYBODY off. Somebody was in those buildings. Somebody was in the streets of Chicago.

We began to feel, for the first time, that the situation was real. Not tomorrow. Or the next year. But real. We began to feel that our movement had something to offer to people: not just a rejection of plastic, cool-alick computerized America, but positive things: the way they lived in the buildings in Columbia, the way we developed community in Chicago's only more overt police state. A new culture, liberated, vibrant, audacious. A new style of activism—saying and doing who you really are. And now belief in yourself as a person really able to understand freedom, and to fight for it.

Action Faction

And more: we feel that we could begin to make that new sense a living thing to people—through action. Action at the meeting: what the old leadership called "heckling"—but what was really people for the first time trying to question, to communicate openly, unhostilely, honestly. Action at the state of the university rally: There's another "state of the university" from the president's one. It's all of us being channelled by the "educational process" into straight ties and collars. Some of us to destroy young kids' minds in school. Some of us to help murder Vietnamese, or "contain" blacks in their ghettos. Most of us simply to do the man's dirty work—while he profits off a Guatemalan's 90¢ a day labor. And—most important—there's still another state of the university: us refusing to buy their line, or be what they need us to be. Dancing in their corridors, screaming at their speeches, telling 'em we're hip to their lies.

Now, back to some more REASONABLE discussion.

After the meeting the old leadership quickly and forthrightly proceeded to over-react to the entire issue. They changed their line from characterizing the split as unreal, to charging us with "no politics." And from the beginning they were convinced that we were out to seize control of the chapter and push them out. Their strategy, agreed upon at a "Radical Caucus" meeting and

(continued on page 7)

San Fernando building seized

San Fernando Valley State College broke wide open on November 4, as students seized the administration building demanding an end to racism and centralization of power in the hands of the board of trustees.

The seizure of the building came after an SDS-called walk-out and an anti-election rally drew some 700 students out of classes. Members of the Black Student Union (BSU) seized the fifth floor of the administration building where the president's office is, demanding that an investigation of racist practices in the athletic department be held and that a coach be fired for roughing up a black athlete. The BSU also demanded that more black students be admitted to the state institution, situated in the heart of the lily-white community of Northridge and in the center of Southern California's military-industrial complex.

Although no joint action was planned, students, upon learning of the seizure by the blacks, moved to the administration building where a few hundred whites took over the second floor and put forth demands of their own. They acted against the planned centralization of decision-making on the part of the trustees which probably would have meant the banning of SDS on the campus. Then MASA, the Mexican American Students Association, took the fourth floor. Hundreds of other students

gathered outside in support of those inside the building.

It has been charged that black students on the fifth floor held the university president captive along with many of his aides; however, witnesses say that the president ordered all of the secretarial workers and lower-level administrators to remain for fear of being left alone.

People in the building communicated with the people gathering outside by shouting back and forth from the roof and telling them about the demands and the purpose of the militant tactics. According to Cliff Fried of SDS, "Within an hour, the crowd had turned completely in favor of SDS and the students in the building."

At this time, negotiations began between the BSU, the administration and the police. Eleven divisions of the Los Angeles Police Department were on alert and surrounding the school. Police chief Tom Reddin called the seizure of the building "criminal" and "not political" and wanted to send police in to clear the building. The administration, afraid of compounding the crisis, said "no." Amnesty for all involved was negotiated and the administration capitulated to the 10-point program of the students. The building was then cleared in five minutes by the students thinking they had won a victory.

By 10 a.m. the next day, warrants had been issued for the arrest of

demonstrating students on charges of "kidnapping" which is a capital crime in the state of California, "assault with a deadly weapon", "trespassing and disturbing the peace."

The administration claimed that concessions were made only "under duress" and that they were not obliged to stick by them. Many suspensions and expulsions have been handed down by the administration. SDS, MASA, and BSU leaders have all been arrested. The heaviest charges have been brought against the black and brown students. They have all been charged with compound felonies and are out on extremely high bail. The SDS members have been arrested on misdemeanor trespassing charges in an obvious attempt to split the insurgent groups. As of this writing, 36 arrests have been made.

A "November 4th Committee" was formed as a coalition organization and a united defense is planned. The steering committee, made up of members of all campus organizations as well as independents, has been trying to raise bail and push the demands of the demonstration. On Friday, November 8, the November 4th Committee led a march on the administration of 2500 students in support of the arrested students. A faculty support committee has been formed.

SDS organizer, Cliff Fried, was busted in the middle of the night in his

home on charges of trespassing and disturbing the peace and was placed on \$1200 bond. Other SDS organizers returned to the campus to be arrested there. These include Ira Standig, John Mazo, Vicki Tempkin, and Don Costello. Twenty-four black students have thus far been arrested, including four minors.

The action generally is considered the most advanced to date in the region and the best in the history of the Valley State movement. In conjunction with the other regional actions, it marked a high point in the nation-wide SDS election program.

As we go to press, it is learned that 75 more warrants have been issued for people involved in the Valley State action. Informed sources have told SDS people that there are 25 felony warrants and 50 misdemeanors. In an apparent attempt to "clean house", warrants are being issued for people long associated with the movement at Valley State who did not even take part in the demonstrations or the seizure of the administration building.

Preliminary report

(continued from page 1)

people didn't show up on the campus that day, so the chapter couldn't pull off any demonstrations.

In other words, successes and failures depend on what the chapter learns about its relationship to the mass of students on its campus, on how the chapter assesses the level of political consciousness on the campus, and not necessarily on how many people it did or didn't pull out of classes or into the streets.

Here are the beginning reports gathered by the N.O. about actions November 4 & 5. Please send in reports and evaluations and articles from your chapter or region as soon as possible.

NEW ENGLAND: Complete reports from the New England Region have not come in yet. In Massachusetts teach-ins were held at Emmanuel College, Southeast Mass. Technical Institute, Boston College, U. Mass Boston and U. Mass Amherst, Mt. Holyoke, Boston State and Northeastern University. Boston area SDS is emphasizing work at new schools, particularly state schools, catholic colleges, jr. colleges, community and trade schools. Educational materials included a special election issue of the Old Mole and a wall newspaper. The rally and march in Boston had about 4,000 people in a spirited, militant demonstration with minor scuffles with the police. In New Haven, Connecticut about 400 people rallied on election day with a lot of high school participation.

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK: A year ago this month, the University of Rochester had a 3-day total student strike. The issue was the suspension of 23 graduate students who sat in against the Dow recruiter. This year, however, the chapter felt that a strike was unfeasible quite this early, and it wanted the issues to be more locally developed and clearer before calling for another strike. They are shooting for a major action next month against the Center for Naval Analyses on the U.R. campus. They used the election festivities as a focus for educational work building toward that confrontation: massive guerrilla theater blitz attacks on the campus, and an Irish Wake for electoral politics on election night. The chapter is preparing scenarios of guerrilla skits for later printing in NLN and use elsewhere.

MARCH ON UFT: On Monday, the New York Region of SDS called for a march from the Ford Foundation to the offices of the United Federation of Teachers, which is still striking in New York against community control of black and Puerto Rican schools. Simultaneously with the SDS demonstration, the dissidents and the radical caucus within the UFT had also called a demonstration at the union headquarters. Teachers for a Democratic Society, along with SDS, marched to the UFT, where several people, including many of the dissident teachers, were beaten by the police. Marching from Columbia campus down to the UFT, a few students were busted for incidents like jay-walking, but were slapped with such charges as inciting to riot.

PENNSYLVANIA: A new chapter, which shall go unnamed, at a small state college in Western Pennsylvania, heard through the local newspapers that SDS had called demonstrations for election day. So, they mobilized the new group of 30 activists for their first public demonstration, and took off for the local polling place. The national office had sent them a bunch of the election brochures, which called for the strike and the demonstrations, but the chapter had decided that the text was "too radical" for this early in their existence. At the polling place they carried signs which said "Don't Vote" or recommended that people write in Eldridge Cleaver or Dick Gregory. Of course, this was the biggest commie-conspiracy action ever to take place in this town. The students have since had their lives threatened, been confronted by local right-wingers, and been totally misrepresented in the local press. When we called them, one of the local organizers speculated that, since their lives were all being threatened anyway, they might as well have used the national leaflets, since they couldn't get in any worse trouble and some people might have learned something from them.

At Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa. a rally of support was held for a local man who refused induction on the morning of November 5, and about 50% of the student body boycotted classes. Chris Eaby, who's been in F&M SDS for 3 years, was suddenly picked up on Tuesday morning by a Federal Postal Agent, and was charged with sending obscenity through the mails. (All reports now say he mailed a postcard to the New York SDS office which bore the legend: "Elections don't mean shit.") Chris is out on \$500 bond.

OHIO: The chapter at Kent State in Ohio felt that their election program was a success; a new chapter, they used it to reach out on the campus. Their education activities included a pre-election rally of over 1,500 and the production and distribution of lots of materials. On election day, there was guerrilla theater in the dorms and classrooms and a march of 4-500 people. There was a march on the campus, ending with a coffin-burning, symbolizing the state of the democratic process. Follow-up leafleting of the dorms is planned for next week.

Ohio State SDS was pleased with its election program. Organizing work included producing a great deal of educational materials, holding mass meetings, and working in the dorms. The election day demonstration was a funeral procession on the campus, where SDS presented the 3 candidates' positions on the issues. By the afternoon 300 students had joined the rally with rock bands and political raps. The chapter, divided into action workshops (women's liberation, research, draft, underground paper, dorm organizing, etc.) now has 120 at its weekly meetings. A hundred students participated in the action at Ohio University in Athens. A small march and guerrilla theater performance was followed by a 2 hour discussion.

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN: SDS at Ann Arbor used the election program to do a lot of preparatory educational work in the dorms and in the classrooms. On the 4th, there was guerrilla theater on the campus, many classrooms were turned into forums on the elections and the university, the chapter gave guided tours of counter-insurgency institutions on the campus, and a thousand students attended a noon time rally. That night a torch light parade began with about 400, moved through the dorms, and finished at the President's house 2,000 strong. The group's demands were: 1) that no person associated with the university engage in war research; 2) that the university's dealings with defense corporations be ended; 3) that university admissions policies which favored white middle class students be eliminated; and 4) that the students and faculty have direct, democratic control of the university. On election day, there was a march of about 600 from the campus downtown; they returned to the campus and took their demands into the President's office, where they remained for about 4 hours. Chapter reports indicated that they were able to use the program well to reach new students, and they plan to use the momentum built by the actions to continue their educational-agitational programs in the classrooms and dorms.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN: The Madison chapter was hoping for a chance to take some buildings and do a big strike from November 5 to Thursday the 7th, when the Dow recruiter was to return to the campus. But they also wanted to use the strike call as a means of assessing the level of the movement on their campus. So they called a mass march through Madison on election night. 3000 students took part in the march, including about 100 local high school students. Following the march, a mass meeting of SDS was held, and 1500 students attended it. The chapter had passed a resolution previously, deciding that it would propose the strike and the taking of a building, and put it to the vote of this mass meeting. After a long discussion of the election politics and the nature of such strike demands, the vote was greatly opposed to taking buildings or calling the strike. Organizers, although disappointed by the vote, feel that they learned a lot about the mass student movement, and feel that in a certain sense, it was threats by the administration that caused the negative vote. (The president of U.W. had previously made it clear that any students who were arrested in a building would face automatic expulsion, and that cops would be crawling over the campus in a matter of minutes.)

Texas confrontation

One of the most interesting and important actions around the country took place at Northern Texas State College in Denton, Texas. The SDS chapter, new this year, has been growing through the fall, doing educational work and successfully driving the Air Force ROTC recruiters off the campus last month.

Their election action program began Sunday night with a 24-hour teach-in/sit-in. By noon Monday 600 students rallied to hear Ken Cloke of Los Angeles speak. During the afternoon rally, a group of ex-Marines began heckling the crowd and urging students to leave. Significantly, nobody left; they stayed and debated, finally voting to continue the teach-in/sit-in another 24 hours.

Another significant breakthrough was announced when black students and residents of the black community announced that they were mobilizing to join the sit-in en masse.

The size of the rally and the alliance with the black forces occurred in an atmosphere of intimidation and harassment. Ten people had been busted within the past two days for distributing the special election issue of Dallas Notes; the charge — "distributing obscene and indecent literature". One illustration in the paper said, "The elections aren't shit...Vote in the streets." In addition, radicals had been

threatened and harassed the previous night.

LIBERAL RETREAT

Despite the size and spirit of the rally and the new alliance with blacks, liberals on the campus and in the chapter could focus only on the heckling. After the group of 600 had already decided to remain and continue the teach-in/sit-in another day, the liberals began their pitch: "We'll probably have trouble." "We've proved our point, let's break it up before we have a confrontation." "There might be violence." And so when unfortunately a core group of the radicals had left to get some food, the liberals had another vote taken, and the rally was dissolved on the spot.

CONFRONTATION: A NEW FIGHTING SPIRIT

But many radical students, black and white, did not retreat. Monday night, the climax to a week of harassment and intimidation, there was a confrontation. About 200 black students and young people from the community and 20 whites had it out with the "super jocks" and ex-Marine hecklers. Moving through the campus past the athletic dorms, the radicals took care of those Kappa Alphas who wanted to fight and moved onto the football field, fighting another crew to a standstill and creaming the

(continued on page 7)



--Photo by Miriam Bokser/LNS

MP's stopped New York movement people from entering Fort Dix, where a demonstration was held during GI Week.

on election action

HOUSTON, TEXAS: Between 300 and 400 University of Houston students attended an election day rally on the campus. The SDS chapter used the election program to do an intensive educational program on the campus, including a teach-in which attracted almost 1,000 students, and work in some Houston high schools which have a good core of SDS activists.

NORTH CAROLINA: At Duke University in Durham, 200 students rallied on election day in spite of pressure and intimidation. The election day rally and march at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill was attended by over a thousand students. A confrontation with the police produced several arrests. The action was the largest in the state.

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA: November 4, the first rally ever happened at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. AT V.C.U., SSOC had called for a student strike on the 4th. It's a good example of the hazard of calling a strike in a place where there is no regional consolidation, where the chapter is quite new and isolated and where the political direction of a strike is ambiguous even in the minds of its organizers. About 50 students attended the rally.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA: A rally at the University of Virginia drew about 100 people on the 4th. But at the white, working-class Elias High School also in Charlottesville, students took over their classes and threw out the teachers in protest over the administration's turning a fellow student over to the local police that morning (for defacing the bathroom walls with agitprop stickers).

WASHINGTON DC—BALTIMORE: American University pulled off so effective a boycott on November 4th that a planned demonstration couldn't be held because not enough students were on campus to participate in it. In the Washington area, campus chapters held all-day rally-teach-ins, with about 500 people attending at all times, but without a student strike at any campus but A.U.

Over 500 students attended the largest rally ever held on the University of Maryland campus. Towson State College in Baltimore was the site of a rally/teach-in of over 1,000 students. Students at Johns Hopkins University did a great deal of educational work, have by far the largest active chapter in their history now, and are working with beginning chapters at Baltimore Jr. College and Baltimore University. About 1,000 students from Hopkins marched to the jail where the Catonsville Nine are being held in another action during election week.

On election day, SDSers from Maryland, Virginia and Washington gathered at the Lincoln Memorial where a local high school student and Carl Oglesby spoke. They then marched to Lafayette Park, across the street from the White House, where they were immediately ordered to disperse. A lot of fighting broke out between police and demonstrators; the students protected several people from being arrested and in the end about 100 people were busted there in the park. The crowd decided to head back to the G.W. campus to regroup. Once there, they occupied an intersection on the campus to continue their rally. But the police moved in again, and busted another 30 or so students. At this point the students dispersed for the night, with plans to return the next day.

LOS ANGELES: 500 L.A. City College students walked out of class on strike with 1,000 at their campus rally. At Valley College 500 marched on the administration building. Claremont College had its first big action. The Black Student Union began by moving 100 strong to the streets heading to the city hall downtown. 200 students participated in the spirited march and rally, returned to the campus and marched on every administration building on campus. Black and white radicals had their first militant joint action. High school students were active in the L.A. area; at Fairfax High, 500 rallied in front of the school. There was also action by white high schools in other parts of the city.

A thousand high school students held their own rally at Hancock Park later, joining the 600 campus SDSers in a march downtown which started at Pershing Square and moved through the street to the Civic Center, L.A. Police Department, and Federal Building. About 900 joined the night march on election day.

SAN FRANCISCO: First reports from the Bay Area include the following actions: San Francisco City College held its first rally, with 450 students. Initial actions were also held at Santa Rosa and the College of San Mateo. In Palo Alto about a thousand moved to Lytton Plaza, and approximately the same number rallied in San Francisco at the Civic Center Plaza.

SEATTLE: A week ago the mayor of Seattle made a speech in which he announced that his intelligence sources had informed him that SDS, the Black Panthers, and the Peace & Freedom Party and the Resistance had changed their strategy from "confrontations with the police to urban guerrilla warfare." He said the new plan of SDS is to "terrorize the people of Seattle and the suburbs."

The following response was issued as a press release:

After months of careful research and investigation by tireless undercover agents who (in the line of duty) had to endure months on end without comfort of either bath or shave, the Mayor of Seattle is at last able to bring the truth to his trusting citizens. Despite intensive security measures, passwords, codes, and retina pattern identification methods the Mayor's agents managed to penetrate deep into the subterranean swamp of perverts, drug addicts, and sadistic degenerates better known as THE RESISTANCE comprising several notorious groups located mainly in the city's teeming University District and troubled Central Area.

On the basis of his agents' reports, the Mayor has fearlessly announced the existence of a "conspiracy" in the City of Seattle the Queen City and Heartland of All That Is Good and Pure. Always a man of caution and discretion, the Mayor's statement to the Rotarians was a gross understatement. Perhaps to avoid a widespread panic, perhaps to avoid tipping his hand, the Mayor failed to mention the following items:

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY is armed with atomic weapons supplied by Albania.

THE PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY grows its own deadly virus...Radix Gesundheit...which spreads like wildfire.

THE STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY practice weird sex rituals using Japanese aphrodisiacs known only to the descendants of mental telepathic ancient Samurai families who killed by mental telepathy.

The members of the RESISTANCE are actually North Vietnamese in Occidental clothing.

They are controlled by a malignant race of robots unleashed in the last years of WWII by the Germans, now dwelling in caverns beneath Lake Chad and the Faroe Islands. Each Member has a transistor planted in his posterior lobes which will detonate upon radio command. The insertion of the transistor is made possible while the subject is under the influence of DRUGS...or SEX....

The entire CONSPIRACY flew to Japan in the Goodyear blimp last Monday to terrorize helpless Tokyo riot police in the name of the International Week of Solidarity Against the War. The Statement (above) was delivered to the press by homonuculi pseudopodes.

They are all 17 feet tall and eat babies.

They are covered with spiders each having the Mayor's own face broken in a thousand mirror splinters chasing him down his dream....Anyone wishing to verify the Mayor's report should investigate for himself...at last word the next secret gathering will be somewhere in the steam tunnels beneath the HUB...check the DAILY for the exact location....

On election night SDS had called for a big street action in Seattle, but it proved smaller than the organizers had expected, so instead they held a "celebration" on the Mall, with musical instruments and singing, and making congratulatory visits to the campaign offices. A good time was had by all, and in evaluating it one SDS man said that people got to know each other and shared the feeling that bigger and better things would develop as a result of this night's action.

- WALLPAPER - n-1

At the Country Fair on November 5th, we can choose from among an elephant, an ass and a pig. We know that they all have been brought by the same farmer and trained to do the same tricks.

We know the choice is from among three grimaces on the TV screen, from among three sets of initials in the headlines.

WE'RE BEGINNING TO LEARN WHO THE OWNER IS, AND WHO WE ARE.

Until yesterday we thought we were Rockefeller, Harriman and Kennedy. In the land of opportunity, in the open society, their way of life was open to all, we thought. Until yesterday we thought we had come over on the Mayflower to the Land of Opportunity that spreads Civilization and Freedom all over the world.

We had thought that the nausea, the boredom, the anxiety, were personal hangups.

But now we know that the nausea comes from selling the living hours of our lives, the boredom from consuming instead of creating, the anxiety from the knowledge that we're not innocent. And we know that this is related to the fact that we don't run our own lives.



We know we're manipulated, we're brainwashed, we're being had. We know we sell ourselves to the same boss. We know we're used to keep each other in line.

Until now we've looked for someone else to make our decisions for us, to think and act for us.

But some of us finally realize what our real choice is:

If we VOTE, the boss thinks and acts for us.

If we STRIKE, we think and act for ourselves.

It took us long to realize that the Vietnamese, the Blacks, are fighting against OUR oppressor. They're fighting instead of us.

It took us long to realize that we are not the beneficiaries of the oppression, but its tools, and it took us even longer to realize that we couldn't stop oppression by changing its "image," by giving it a new grimace.

We're only now aware that our real alternative is not between this or that TV mug, but between serving the oppressor and struggling against him.

We tried to avoid this choice. Cretins posed and answered the questions for us. We let them talk us into depending on OTHERS to direct OUR lives.

Some of us never questioned our total powerlessness. We looked for a Panacea to fall from the sky. And it did: Superman, Batman and Captain Marvel--all condensed into one candidate.

Some of us can no longer let others fight for us. That's why we'll strike, not vote.

The strike is the first step. We have no illusions that this strike will end Racism, end the Vietnam war or close the University. But there's one thing we do know: the day before yesterday we accepted the war, the brainwashing;

only yesterday we learned that we were the racists, the killers sent to Vietnam.

Only yesterday we learned that we were the next generation of brainwashers manufactured by the University. And only today, a few of us have decided to annihilate our dependence, to reject the role for which we're being prepared.

For us it's the end of peace and quiet. We know it's inconvenient; we'll have to change our habit structures. But we also know that, if a few of us have gotten this far today, more of us will get further tomorrow, and the rest will be with us the day after.

For us, this strike is not asking those in power for reforms, and it's not demonstrating our "superior sensitivity." The strike, at this time and place, in this manner, is our way of placing ourselves in solidarity with those who have started the struggle before us. It's a way to force those who are today where we were yesterday to join us, so as to prevent our isolation, and to minimize the suffering.

We now know that we can't run our lives by delegating our power, that representatives cannot win our freedom for us. That's why we're going on a strike approved by NO AUTHORITY; that's why we're calling for GENERAL ASSEMBLIES instead of voting: to EXPRESS OURSELVES and ACT COLLECTIVELY.



STRIKE!

Chicago

CHICAGO (LNS)—On Election Day, 500 people gathered to listen to rock bands, to watch street theater, and to rap with one another. The site of the activities was Lincoln Park, the scene of a police riot during last August's Democratic Convention.

Later, the group marched downtown to a rally at the Conrad Hilton to protest the "election fraud." They spent the evening shouting and singing outside the election headquarters of Nixon and Humphrey.

Demonstrations and other agit-prop activities were held on most of the university campuses in the Chicago area. A death march through the dorms of the University of Chicago ended at the key Military Research Department Building. On the Circle campus, guerrilla theater broke into classrooms.

Black high school students held another of a series of "Liberation Mondays," which began with a 75% effective walkout on Oct. 14. This week, police broke up sit-ins in several black high schools. A group of students representing most of the large white high schools picketed in downtown Chicago in solidarity with the black high-schoolers.

Iowa

About 350 people, mostly students from Iowa campuses, marched to the state capitol in Des Moines. The politics of the march were based on the Election Day march on the White House proposal discussed and rejected at Boulder.

The march started in the Des Moines ghetto where the Des Moines Panthers had leafleted in support. There was also extensive leafleting of factories in Des Moines and Iowa City earlier in the week. Although violence was expected and Mayor Urban dared SDS to make the march a showdown, there was no confrontation. At one point, the police demanded that either the march move faster, or it should take half of the street. The marchers decided to do neither and the police backed down.

Roving monitors leafleted bystanders, but in Iowa, as elsewhere, there was not much public interest in the march save in the black community where bystanders raised clenched fists in solidarity and a few joined in. At the capitol, the press again reported a liberal speaker from a radical farmer's union, but neglected to report the speeches by Fred Barnett, Fred Gordon, Carmen Kramer, Joe Berry, and others calling for a worker-student alliance.

The week before the march there were a number of very good SDS actions around the state. On Friday, at the University of Iowa, there was an illegal rally on the chapel steps in protest of the repressive "Code of Student Life". The rally lasted for three hours with an open mike and between 600 and 800 students. About 150 students announced their names and student I.D. numbers in the mike to stand behind the rally and take equal responsibility for the infraction of university rules. U of I SDS presented seven demands, the last of which was that no company which is on strike should be allowed to recruit on campus. Again, the Iowa press printed all the demands but that one.

At Iowa Wesleyan, where SDS is just

getting going, there was an SDS election teach-in and films that brought out 150 students (there are 800 in the school) and at the U of Northern Iowa, there was an all-weekend political and programmatic discussion attended by between 30 and 80 students.

New York

NEW YORK (LNS)—Police arrested 100 New Yorkers who looked as though they might intend to participate in a demonstration called for 8 p.m. on election night at Nixon's headquarters—but the arrests were made in the two hours preceding the planned action. Charges ranged from disorderly conduct to inciting to riot.

Many of those arrested were left-overs from abortive demonstrations held earlier in the day at Times Square and Rockefeller Center. Cops dispersed a crowd of 700 at those demonstrations before they could really get underway and gain momentum.

Columbia University students seized an auditorium in the university's Ferris Booth Hall student center on election eve, insuring that it would be available for use as a Movement Center for election day activities.

Two hundred students from the City College of New York were arrested on the day following elections. For nearly a week, they had been providing sanctuary in Finley Hall ballroom for an AWOL soldier. Though attempts to arrest the soldier were expected, the students had mistakenly assumed that the City College administration would not call the cops to clear students from the sanctuary.

Texas

(continued from page 5)

heart of the football team in the process.

What did the confrontation mean for that campus in the heart of the southwest? First, it was a new type of action: a fighting coalition of black and white. Second, they were not fighting about free speech or free assembly. For the first time since the free speech fight at the University of Texas, radical students emerged as a force, a power which the university and the town power structure were hardly aware existed. Third, a new opening exists to continue to expand in an unprecedented way at Northern Texas State—if the radical forces on the campus prevail in the chapter. They have asserted themselves with a good program, insisted on and fought for their survival, and confronted opposition—a portion of which may now be open to talking with them.

So the chapter faces the problem: will the liberals be allowed to hold the campus back, continue to sell out the initial six hundred students to the SDS program and action, and allow the fighting alliance with the black students and community to die? That choice will determine the chapter's ability to deal with what remains a highly explosive situation.

The sheriff has already threatened more busts; one guy was jailed for a peace bond hearing with \$10,000 bail. The cases on distributing "obscene literature" begin to come up next week. One cop told an SDSer: "The thing you have to understand is that you can work and work and work; but this town isn't going to have any SDS until it's good and ready." If the liberals prevail, that will probably be true. If the radicals continue to expand their base and maintain their fighting spirit, the powers that be in Denton, Texas will see that the people ARE ready...now.

RADICAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

A New England Radical Economics Conference will be held at MIT in Cambridge, Mass., the weekend of Nov. 16-17. This is an effort to bring together academic economists, non-academic economists, Movement organizers, and other interested persons to discuss "radical economics".

Some of the topics to be discussed are (1) neo-capitalism, (2) Cuba as a model for economic development, (3) the political economy of under-development, (4) decentralized socialism, (5) the relevance of Marxist, neo-classical, and institutionalist economic analysis to current problems, (6) what is wrong with the way economics is being taught and applied, and (7) what can academic economists do for the Movement.

At this meeting, an apparatus will be set up to co-ordinate radical economic research in the New England area.

For information, contact Ted Behr, Department of Economics, M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass. 02139, (617)-864-6900, Ext. 6662.

ACTION.



Michigan

(continued from page 3)

reported in the Daily, was to have "sergeants-at-arms" at the next meeting if any "disruption" occurred, ("living the revolution while building the revolution"), and, if necessary, to walk out and prevent us from following.

And so, our next meeting. Nothing much. Discussions about structure, committees, candidates for office. Not a whole lot of substance. No arguments—or sergeants-at-arms.

Meanwhile, at the ranch, talk continued. "They'll make their move at the next meeting—they're just laying low for a week."

Looking back on it now, in fact, our own feelings were probably naive. We recognized significant political differences. We expected long political debate. We expected some personal animosity. But we did not expect—nor did we accept—some of the charges leveled against us: "authoritarian," "brown-shirt tactics," "power-grabbers." Nor did we expect the "Radical Caucus" to walk out of SDS.

So let's talk about that for a minute. Ostensibly, the walk-out occurred over issues raised at the third "caucus" meeting. One was an election strategy calling for disruption of candidates when they speak in the area, a student strike on Nov. 5 to protest the election bullshit, and a call to Washington on Inaugural Day to help Dick Nixon celebrate the presidency—from behind a bunker. The second was a proposal from the "Radical Education Committee"—a five part document—calling for the formation of a radical education workshop, confrontations in the classroom around issues like

democratization, the structure of courses, exams, etc., and some "actions" such as burning your exam as it is passed out, presenting public critiques of the course, exposure of political connections of professors, etc. Both proposals were aimed at making radical politics relevant to local feelings of discontent, and providing new options for doing things. Both were opposed by the old leadership at one meeting—the election strategy for unspecified reasons, the education proposal because it gave the committee a "blank check."

Both proposals also passed. Not through manipulation or fist fights, but after long debate, approved democratically by our chapter.

AND THAT'S THAT. By the next week the "Radical Caucus" pulled out of SDS. The only reason we've heard is because we wouldn't allow debate, and they didn't want the constant hassle.

LET'S SET THAT STRAIGHT. Walking out at this time can mean only one thing: the old leadership, on two issues, had democratically LOST its hold on the chapter. And seeing this, they walked out.

And that's the whole story—as we know it. And as best we can tell it. Political movements will always involve disagreements, differences, and struggle. But that's what we're about, anyway. Because this particular movement—for the first time—is gaining a sense of itself, and learning from our own experience about growth—how hard it is. How liberating it can be. "We're out," says Cleaver, "to send the elephant back to the zoo and the jackass back to the farm. And in the process, we're figuring out a way to make this country a place for people to live in."

new left notes

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The National Interim Committee (NIC) will meet in Michigan the weekend of November 16-17 in an attempt to analyze the election action around the country and to determine where we go from here. No money will be available for NIC members to travel on, and those coming should begin raising expense money. NIC members are also asked to bring money with them to pay for regional bills for election propaganda and the WATS line.

Those wishing to attend the NIC should call the national secretary for directions to the meeting place. The NIC meeting should be made up primarily of elected representatives except from areas where there are no NIC members. Those NIC members who missed the last meeting or two had better get their ass to this one.

Josh Gould and the Oleo Strut

(The following is an interview between Michael Klonsky of SDS and Josh Gould, one of the organizers of the Oleo Strut coffeehouse at Fort Hood, Texas. Josh is presently out on \$2,500 bond after the Strut was raided and he was arrested for supposedly possessing marijuana.)

JOSH, WHAT KIND OF PROGRESS ARE YOU MAKING DOWN IN KILLEEN NOW THAT SUMMER IS OVER?

Well, the Strut right now is in a little bit of a slump. There are a number of reasons. The first is that it's winter and it's getting cold in Texas. The guys aren't coming in to Killeen as much now. They've started going down to Austin. Things like that. The more important reason is that ever since we've been open, the NCOs, people in command, have been intimidating the guys to keep them from coming down to the Strut. There's never been a direct order. There's never been an official action making it off limits.

There has been a lot of cooperation between the civil and the military authorities to intimidate people from going. The common reaction amongst a lot of guys is, "I can dig the Strut, but it's a bust." That's one of the things we're trying to overcome now by doing more work on base.

We've also had a lot of problems getting entertainment. That kind of thing. The daily kinds of bureaucratic shit like the restaurant supplier who boycotted us. So we haven't been able to get the supplies we needed.

So right now we're in a little bit of a slump. We had a damn good summer, very dynamic, getting a foothold with our kind of ideas. We've just now solved the conflict between culture and politics. We have one room that's culture and one room that's politics.

HOW IMPORTANT WAS GI WEEK?

Well, it's kind of hard to judge from here. We were pretty isolated from whatever national impact it had. As far as Killeen and Fort Hood goes, it had little significance for guys, even guys who were involved in organizing the

teach-in here and down in Austin. We don't even know what happened at Dix. We don't know what happened up at Ord. We don't know what happened at any of the other bases. Possibly there should be efforts made to analyze and communicate what did happen. We're analyzing our mistakes and what we did. There was a small turn-out in Austin. This was for a number of reasons. The main one is that people just didn't do a lot of work around it. There wasn't the motivation because people just didn't understand the basis of it. Was it supporting GIs who were against the war? Was it supporting GIs against the brass? These kinds of questions were never really clearly talked about.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE? DO YOU THINK THERE ARE POTENTIALS FOR THE MOVEMENT OUTSIDE TRYING TO RELATE TO THE MOVEMENT INSIDE? IF SO, HOW DO YOU SEE THAT DEVELOPING IN THE FUTURE?

As far as we're concerned down here, I seriously doubt that we're going to take part in any national actions for a long time. We're going to do a lot of retrenching. We're going to be doing a lot more work on base. There has been a conflict between the ideas of organizing on base and organizing in the Strut or out of the Strut. We're coming to a resolution of that conflict very quickly now. People are beginning to see that they have to go back to the barracks to talk to guys.

About 60% of the guys here at Hood are Nam vets. And they're in riot control. And those are the issues, Nam and riot control, the primary issues that are facing these guys.

DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU SEE LITTLE POSSIBILITY FOR LINKING UP WHAT'S GOING ON AT HOOD WITH THE MOVEMENT OUTSIDE, LIKE IN AUSTIN AT THE UNIVERSITY THERE OR IN DENTON WITH THE NORTH TEXAS STATE MOVEMENT?

No, there is going to be that. A lot

of guys go down to Austin on the weekends. When they go down, they go down to see SDS people, people who work on the RAG, they go down to see anti-war people, and I think that's great. They have that personal contact with the movement that they've been isolated from for so long. That's one of the functions the Strut has served.

A lot of guys are short. They're getting out of the army real soon. We've managed to arrange things for them to do when they go home. They have contact with the movement through the Strut. They know the Strut is movement-linked. We talk about the movement a lot.

When guys get out, well, one guy's working on the NEWSREEL project, one guy's working in Washington, one guy's working in the Tacoma coffeehouse that came out of Hood. Because of these things, we think a link-up with the movement outside is important.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SDS PEOPLE OR ORGANIZERS GOING INTO THE ARMY NOW AND TRYING TO ORGANIZE INSTEAD OF TRYING TO RESIST THE DRAFT OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH DRAFT RESISTANCE BUT INSTEAD OF GOING TO CANADA OR DOING TIME IN JAIL?

Going to Canada, it seems to me, that you've got to have a commitment to your people, the people in this country. From what I've heard about what's going on in Canada, it's not too hot. I think people should stay in this country. You may be able to organize in jail, but I doubt if many people are doing that.

I think people should resist the army as much as they can. They should try every way possible to get out. Guys in the army do relate to civilians very strongly. It's wrong to say that civilians can't work with guys in the army just like white people can't work with blacks.

You have guys from many different class backgrounds in the army. A place like the Strut is a place where people from those different backgrounds have been able to get together and talk and feel comfortable, and that's been a very

conscious thing. That's why we play down the hippie thing, at times play down the left thing so that guys can feel comfortable.

I don't think people should enlist. I think that going into the army specifically to organize is silly because the tools of repression in the army are really set down. They're very arbitrary. They're personal tools. Like, you can get an NCO and he can fuck you over very bad and I think that before any organizer goes in, he should have a very good understanding of what he can do and what he can't, because he can be isolated very quickly. I think people should do their damndest to stay out, but when the time comes, if there is no other way, go in. Work with the people.

HOW IS YOUR TRIAL COMING?

They keep putting it off. They say they're going to bring it up in December or January.

HAVE THERE BEEN A LOT OF DOPE BUSTS ON POLITICAL PEOPLE?

Yes. Lee Otis Johnson, a SNCC organizer in Houston, got the same thing. He got 30 years. In Texas, for the first offense, possession is two to life. Since Nicholas Van Hoffman (AP and Washington Post correspondent) got down here in July, and wrote that fucking story about "Fort Hood," that's what's been going on, busts and severe sentences. People should put a boycott on Van Hoffman. He fucked up a lot of people as a result of that story. He brought down a lot of static from the Fourth Army and from the Pentagon.

WHAT ARE YOUR IMMEDIATE NEEDS?

We're really pushing hard to get a staff attorney down here. We had to fight like hell to get an attorney for Bruce Peterson, who was sentenced to eight years for possession. We got one, but it was a last-minute rush deal.

(Funds and lawyers and stuff can be sent to Josh Gould, c/o Oleo Strut, 702 W. Ave. C, Killeen, Texas.)

