PUBLICATION OF VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR/WINTER SOLDIER ORGANIZATION (VVAW/WSO)

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In September of 1973, Chris Heilman, a Machinist's Mate - Fireman (MMFN), reported for duty at No. 2 Engine Room on the USS WORDEN, a ship which is homeported at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan. One year later, in September of 1974, he was back home in Dayton, Ohio, with a General Discharge. The case of Chris Heilman is a classic case of the military's methods of removing individuals who voice political opinions that expose the role of the US military.

During his tour in the Far East, Chris, like many other sailors homeported at Yokosuka, began visiting the New People's Center where he often worked on the VVAW/WSO GI paper FREEDOM OF THE PRESS. When back on the ship, Chris often talked with other sailors about the reasons for the US Navy being involved in the Far East. Like many other GIs, Chris and his friends are getting wise to what the US military is all about and that they are deployed in the Far East to see that dictators stay in power in South Korea, The Philippines, South Vietnam and Cambodia, as well as protecting the vast corporate investments in the area.

The Commander of the WORDEN tried everything possible to keep Chris and the others quiet, but having failed in that effort, he resorted to the only solution he had left - discharging Chris out of the Navy administratively. This railroading process is very difficult to fight, with the only legal recourse being the "letter of objection."

Up until July 11, 1974, Chris was working in No. Two Engine Room as Throttleman, Messanger and Supply Petty Officer. On July 11th, he received a letter from the ship's commander informing him that he was "being processed for discharge by reasons of apathy, defective attitude, and inability to expend effort constructively .... " He was given three hours to get ready to return to Treasure Island Naval Station in San Francisco where he was processed out. Chris submitted a lengthy objection and documented the fact that Ensign Russell, his division officer, had lowered the evaluation marks given to Chris by his unit supervisor. Chris said that "Ensign Russell specifically told me when I asked him about the low performance record that all my 'evaluation marks would suffer if my associations with the wrong Japanese and Americans per-



sisted.' I then asked how to tell the 'wrong Japanese' and he stated 'they're the ones with their eyes more slanted than the rest'. " He goes on to say that the commander did "not give one single example or specific incident to support his vague and general accusations," and that the regulations were "being used as a weapon to suppress freedom of thought...." The objections, however, carried little weight against the falsified evaluation and the report of the ship's commander.

Commander Hays' report, while obviously reflecting the panic of the ship's officers, is also a tribute to Chris's skill in educating other sailors about the role of the Navy. The report points out that while Chris is "A highly intelligent person, MMFN Heilman has been clever enough to be totally disruptive of shipboard work and routine while at the same time not overtly violating the Uniform Code of Military Justice. He has had a tremendously negative impact on the morale of his shipmates, both the younger, less educated personnel to whom he preaches the evils of our 'imperialistic' country and the petty officers who are continuously frustrated in their inabilities to either make him a productive individual or to remove him

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from their environment through judicial or non-judicial proceedings." In summarizing the reasons for discharge, the commander points out that "it was not desired to pass this individual to any other command. "

Chris pointed out that he was one of three people out of an entire ship of 300 who had been shipped out in the last three months. "Both Lyle Daunt and myself served on the USS WORDEN and also worked together on FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, " Chris said. "When the command shipped Lyle off without prior notice, I knew my days were numbered." At least one shipmate that Chris knew quit going to the Center in Yokosuka after he started seeing his friends shipped out.

This tactic of controlling a ship by fear, of course, is nothing new to the Navy. It's the only method left to control people who are beginning to figure out what they're doing floating around all over the world, and it is used just like racism to keep people from gaining strength to fight the real enemy. Imperialism by its very nature has to oppress people, and uses GIs to do it. But in order to use them, the military also must keep GIs in line. Certainly it would be to the advantage of people like commander Hays to not have to oppress anyone, since oppression always breeds resistance - something the Navy would like to avoid. But imperialism is not

just individuals like commander Hays it is not individuals who are the source of the problem because imperialism is a system - a system which commander Hays represents just like Ford and Rockefeller do. It is a system that has only one motivating force - the constantly expanding and ruthless search for profits. By its nature, this is going to put people like GIs and workers and Third World people and women at the bottom of the list when push comes to shove. But when people like commander Hays push, we should shove back harder! At the same time we shove back at the brass, we do it knowing that they represent a system - a system that must be destroyed before we can end all. oppression.

In Chris's case, his discharge has meant that his anti-imperialist work will only change to another location, since he will soon be entering Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, and working with the VVAW/WSO chapter there. As the anti-imperialist GI movement keeps growing, it will be increasingly harder for the brass to stifle dissent by shipping people out or discharging them, because wherever they go there will be others who feel the same way.

# epression Continues

Mosi Chiwanda Imarogbe (Gregory Jackson) was scheduled to process out of the US Disciplinary Barracks military prison at Ft. Leavenworth on September 6th. Instead, he was sentenced on that day to spend 18 more years at the USDB.

As we reported in the last issue of GI NEWS, Brother Imarogbe was facing trial for allegedly assaulting a guard last March. Brother Imarogbe and some of the other inmates were holding a meeting on Tier 3. The guard was assaulted on Tier 7 while the meeting was in progress. He was immediate ly singled out of 200 other inmates in his section of the prison because he is a political activist who has been organizing other inmates to fight back against the conditions in the USDB. "We are striving to expose the prison system, " wrote Imarogbe, "in order to show the injustices, brutality and harassment that is perpetrated upon us. "

rogbe wrote, "... It's impossible to beat a stacked deck. My side proved that I didn't do it, but I was still convicted of it. It has destroyed my marriage if I can't get it dropped or a tremendous cut, because my wife is tired of waiting, and I don't blame her."

#### Repression Continues

Apparently quite a few things happen inside the United States Disciplinary Barracks on the Ft. Leavenworth Military Base that no one is aware of on the outside. The problem, though, is that little information about these problems has filtered out until recently. Attention was drawn to the USDB beginning late last year with the case of Brother Melvin X. Smith. More recently, the case of Brother Imarogbe has also brought some light to the situation there But this situation has also meant that the DB authorities have become more concerned about correspondence in and out of the prison. Consequently, most In a recent letter, Brother Ima- of our letters and any literature that

has been requested has been returned.

New People's Center in

BUILD THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST GI

UNITE TO FIGHT ALL OPPRESSION!

MOVEMENT

Yokosuka, Japan.

Today, Brother Melvin X. Smith sits in his cell facing 8 more years -8 years that he may never finish because his bones are quickly disintegrating due to osteomyelitis. Communication has been cut off between Melvin and those outside, including his worried mother in Chicago, and he is afraid to place himself at the mercy of the doctors at the base hospital.

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> Department of Defense Directive 1325.6 forbids anyone in the military from taking single copies of this paper or any other piece of literature from you. If anyone takes it from you, demand a receipt and then file charges against them.

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The conditions here are not unique to military discipline, except perhaps for the fact that the USDB generates over one million dollars yearly from the labor of inmates. The repression, the beatings and the racism are commonplace here as in any other prison. And the conditions at the USDB, as with any other prison, are not to be attributed to one individual or two individuals. The problems that prisoners face are a direct result of the system we live under - the system of imperialism, which must maintain a tight and repressive disciplinary system in all walks of life including the military.

Political awareness is one of the greatest threats to the smooth functioning of the military under imperialism, and institutions like the USDB <u>have to</u> be set up in order to isolate the "troublemakers" and those who have been forced to rebel.

We are calling on everyone to help <u>end this isolation</u>. We are asking everyone to begin by doing the simplest thing possible - writing a letter. The second thing we are asking for is more publicity for the brothers in the DB. Complete information is available from our office in Dayton, at VVAW/WSO, PO Box 1625, Dayton, Ohio 45401. Let-

19th

ters of protest calling for the free flow of mail and literature, medical treatment for Melvin X. Smith at a hospital of his choice, pardon for Mosi Chiwanda Imarogbe and Melvin X. Smith, decent pay for the inmates and an end to the racism and brutality, should be sent to: Commanding Officer, USDB, Ft. Leavenworth, KS 66027, and also to Congressman Ronald Dellums, Washington, DC 20515. (Please send carbons to the Dayton office.)

#### UNITY-STRUGGLE-VICTORY

situation there is made even worse by the widespread racism. Racism is particularly strong among the higherranking enlisted men and the officers, as well as the base police who often beat and arrest Third World sailors. But the generally poor conditions also has the lower-ranking enlisted people uptight. This tense situation often leads to viewing the problem in terms of Black vs. white and ultimately to many racial fights at Norfolk. This of course is something the brass always takes a casual stand on since racism is an easy way to keep everyone divided and fighting among themselves.

The Black Military Resistance League and the Defense Committee are trying to break down this racism and white chauvinism among the people at Norfolk so the GIs there can begin to fight back against the real enemy, US imperialism. They lay the blame for the tense situation at Norfolk on three conditions: the racism of the base command; the anti-enlisted policies of the command; and the fact that the purpose and function of the base is to support the Sixth and Second Fleets in enforcing the system of imperialism. Since this system has no interest in serving the interests of enlisted people, the brass will do everything in its power to keep enlisted people divided so they can continue to use them to protect corporate interests all over the world.

CONTACT: BMRL, Box 6289, Norfolk, VA 23508 (804) 627-4095; or Defense Committee, Box 9870, Norfolk 23505 (804) 587-6588.

END ALL RACIAL OPPRESSION!



## COMMAND RACISM

The Black Military Resistance League (BMRL) and the Defense Committee have been waging a campaign against the racism and anti-working class outlook and policies of the Norfolk Naval Command for a long time. Their most recent campaign began with the beating, macing and arresting of ten Black sailors there on April 5, 1974. Since then, one sailor has been singled out by the command to receive the hardest punishment. After being beaten on April 5th by the base police, Reggie Wakefield was charged with eight counts and 23 specifications blaming him for the incident on April 5th and also two other incidents in which he had been beaten. Since then Reggie spent 71 days in the Camp Allen brig before being arraigned. He came to trial on August 22nd.

At his trial, Reggie was fined \$300 for wearing his hair in braids while in uniform and refusing an order to remove them, disobeying an order to "go inside and go to bed" on April 4th (when he was on liberty and on his way to town), and resisting arrest. The other nine brothers have either had their charges dropped or have been acquitted. In building their campaign around Reggie Wakefield, the BMRL and the Defense Committee centered on four demands which included the resignation of Captain Anders for his role in the April 5th incident and his role in imperialism; an end to racist police harassment; the dropping of all charges against Reggie; and the right of Third World GIs and all enlisted people to organize in their own national and class interests. The high point of the campaign was on August 19th when fourteen people marched outside the main gate of the Norfolk Naval Station.

Since this demonstration, Captain Anders, the base commander, has been relieved of his command and reassigned to a desk job in a nearby unit. The organizers of the campaign don't take all the credit for Anders' removal; his complete incompetence as an administrator also played a large part in his removal.

According to organizers at Norfolk, the living conditions on the naval station are at an all-time low, due to the inept administration of the base and the conscious anti-enlisted base policies particularly in the handling of people in disciplinary or transient status. The

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## Trials End IWAKUNI FIVE

The trial of the Iwakuni Five, members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization, ended this month. The Five had been charged with distributing "unauthorized literature" that called for an end to US support of the South Korean dictator Pak Chung Hee. One of the Five was acquitted during a jury trial and charges against two others were dropped. However, stiff sentences were handed down to Frank Huff and Hugh Dalton. Huff will spend two months at hard labor and pay a \$400 fine. Dalton will be given a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Given the fact that these Marines may have been called on to protect the South Korean dictatorship, they felt it was their duty to educate other Marines about the situation in South Korea. They focused on the current wave of repression against all who speak out against the undemocratic policies of Pak. By handing out a letter addressed to Senator J.W. Fulbright, Chairperson of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, these Marines tried to comply with the anti-distribution order. But the military police and the base command did not agree with their interpretation of the limits of this order and they were arrested.

In the following statements, the Five talk about their reasons for handing out the letter:

Frank Huff - "The primary reason for my interest in the Korean situation is obvious - wherever people are oppressed, it cannot help but appall anyone dedicated to freedom and democracy. But in my ase, there is a further reason for taking direct action in support of the Korean people. I am in the position of being a world cop. In the Korean situation, I am Pak's enforcer, and I don't like what I'm enforcing.

"The US Military Industrial Complex know that Pak is a fascist dictator. They further know that the people will put up with Pak only so long and then they'll throw him out on his ear. But the capitalist class in America has financial interests in South Korea. It is also a strategic point to control the Asian economy. If there ever became the 'danger' of the Korean people nationalizing industries and controlling their own destinies, we will be called in to suppress the people and their righteous movement. The same thing is happening all over the world.

"The only way to insure that the US military represents the interests of the people of America is for the common people of the military (me and other low ranking personnel) to understand the issues and decide for themselves what causes are just. If only the power elite in the military (high ranking officers) make all the decisions and keep us in the dark, then we will be used only for the interest of the privileged class in America. What we are really trying to say is - NO MORE VIET -NAMS!"

Hugh Dalton - "To ignore crimes against humanity has to be the greatest



crime of all. Presently in Korea, these crimes exist - mass arrests, martial law powers for the President, and death sentences. Marines are tired of being puppets in a life and death game to oppress people in foreign countries."

Bob Falatine - "Another thing I want people to become aware of is those insane orders (anti-distribution), which say that anyone who wants to circulate a petition or pass out any written material must ask for prior command approval. This is just the command's way of suppressing anyone who disagrees with their point of view."

Jerry McCauley - "The military uses methods like this to silence men and women who bring up 'touchy' issues such as this (situation in Korea). When I enlisted in the Marine Corps, I swore to uphold the Constitution. I don't remember waiving any of my constitutional rights when I signed the paper, so how can they take those rights away? The strength to preserve your rights comes in numbers.

UNITE TO FIGHT ALL OPPRESSION!

## Italian Soldiers Join Mass Demos



Several hundred thousand people demonstrated and marched in the streets of cities all over Italy during four days of activity, Sept. 11-14, to support the resistance movement in Chile and calling for Italy to drop out of NATO. September 14th was the highpoint when 80,000 people turned out in Rome and 50,000 in Milan to march from one end of the city to the other. Three hundred soldiers in uniform marched in Rome, despite the threat of reprisals from their officers. During the march the soldiers chanted slogans which said "Soldiers organized for the right to struggle, the workers will know who they can count on, " and "Soldiers and workers united, there will never be a coup in Italy. " The soldiers were received by great warm applause and by another slogan, "Soldiers and comrades, you are no longer isolated. " In Rome as well as in Milan, two soldiers in uniform spoke on the podium. They were both members of the soldiers organization Proletariat In Uniform. (see the July GI NEWS for more on Proletariat In Uniform.) Also speaking in Rome were representatives of Chilean resistance organizations, including MAPU, Chilean Socialist Party, and MIR (Revolutionary Left Movement). The demonstrations were organized by Italian revolutionary organizations, including Lotta Continua, Avanguardia Operaia and the new Partito di Unita proletaria per il comunismo.

## Are You A Gung Ho Soldier?

Before you answer that question, you should continue reading.

As you may know, the term Gung Ho comes from China, and was introduced to the Marine Corps by Colonel E. F. Carlson when he formed the 2nd Raider Battalion during WWII. Maybe you remember the movie about the Battalion and the Makin raid called <u>Gung</u> <u>Ho</u>. But what you probably don't know is the true history of Carlson, the Raiders and Gung Ho.

First off, Gung Ho originated in the Peoples Liberation Army in China led by Chu Teh, Mao Tse-Tung and Chou En-Lai, all of whom were personal friends of Carlson. He met them when he was military observer for the US in China in the late 1930s. Carlson spent months marching, studying and fighting with the Red Army. While doing so, he learned an entirely new (for him) method of running a military. When he returned, he tried to tell the American people that it was the Communist Red Army that was leading the Chinese struggle against Japanese imperialism, and that they had a new and better way of organizing their military. Carlson called this style of military work Gung Ho, from the Chinese slogan "work together." Soon after he returned to the States, the Navy Dept. ordered Carlson to stop talking about China, the Red Army and Gung Ho. He refused to do this and resigned from the Marine Corps so he could continue to speak.

When it became obvious in early 1941 that war with Japan was inevitable, he rejoined the Corps and fought for the chance to form a guerilla battalion, originated on the basis of the Gung Ho principles that he learned from Mao Tse-Tung and Chu Teh. After Pearl Harbor and the defeats in the Philippines, Malaya, Wake, etc., he was given permission to form a new type of unit, christened the 2nd Raider Battalion.

Gung Ho meant many things to the raiders, but two of them stand out as most important. The first is absolute equality between officers and enlisted men. Raider officers ate the same food, slept in the same bunks, wore the same uniform as the enlisted men. They dug their own latrines, and carried their own packs. Officers did not order their men to do anything that they (the officers) were not willing and able to do first. There were regular weekly "Gung Ho" meetings between all the officers and men, where the men were encouraged to speek their minds freely, to criticize the non-coms and officers if they deserved it. Officers and non-commissioned officers had to earn the respect of the men that they led. If they failed to do so, if they felt they were better than the men they were to lead, they were kicked out of the raiders. The enlisted men were treated with respect. Their ideas were solicited and respected. Because of this men trusted their officers.

The second major element of Gung Ho was knowledge about why and how they were fighting. Carlson believed that the war was against fascism, and that defeating Japanese fascism would be a positive step for everyone. Carlson had nothing to fear from free and open discussion with the troops because he practiced what he preached. Democracy, respect and human dignity were practiced in the 2nd Battalion.

The "Gung Ho" meetings, of course, covered much more than criticism of officers and what the war was about. Before each mission and whenevery possible in the field a full discussion was held with the men, explaining why the mission was necessary, what was hoped to be accomplished, the tactics to be used and how it fit into the overall picture.

The Raiders were involved in heavy fighting throughout the war, during which their 1,000-man battalion suffered a remarkably low 17 casualties. Other units began to write and ask about Gung Ho. Newspaper articles were written. Enlisted people in other units began to talk about Gung Ho.

Suddenly the brass promoted Carlson to the job of plans officer for the 4th Marine Division. He was never allowed to command troops again. A new C.O. was appointed for the raiders, and his first orders were to eliminate Gung Ho meetings and re-institute saluting. All Gung Ho reforms were quick ly ended.

The brass destroyed the true Gung Ho for two reasons. First, because many of the officers knew that they could not lead men on the basis of their wisdom, courage and ideals, and also because they didn't want to give up the privileges of rank.

The second and most important reason, however, was that Gung Ho will only work when the military is fighting a just war - not when it is fighting an imperialist war like in Vietnam. A war that is supported by the people and the GIs can stand up to questions. But the US government had other plans besides fighting Japan; they also had their eyes. on the revolutionary movements in Korea, China, The Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia which they wanted to use GIs to help stop. The Back Home Movement among GIs after WWII, howevery, put a serious crimp in those plans.

Think about the war in Indochina. A true Gung Ho outfit would have discussed the reasons for the war and decided that fighting to maintain a corrupt dictatorship over the Vietnamese people so that US and Japanese corporations could exploit them was not a good enough reason to die for. (Eventually, of course, GIs did come to this conclusion)

As long as US imperialism is in existence, the US military will not be able to afford having true Gung Ho outfits because so much of what the US military does is unjust and undemocratic and serves only to benefit a few rich businessmen, generals, admirals, presidents and dictators. All over the world the US military is being used to ensure the stability of corrupt dictators, military regimes and so-called 'democratic' countries where US corporations have lucrative investments. True Gung Ho units will return to the US military only when US imperialism is finally defeated

BUILD THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST GI MOVEMENT!

(Thanks to SEMPER FI, published in Iwakuni, Japan, for this material)



Chinese papercut depicting Red Army soldiers and the people of Nanking City following liberation of city during the revolution.

# fighting the regs Extra Military Instruction (EMI)

(The following article is from the soonto-be published, updated edition of TURNING THE REGS AROUND. Thanks to UP FROM THE BOTTOM in San Diego for this article.)

#### EMI. What is it?

Extra military instruction, or EMI, according to the military, is a way to train you if you are not performing your job well.

#### Is it legal?

EMI is legal only if it is used for training; EMI is illegal if it is used for punishment. Punishment can only be given by a court martial or by NJP (non-judicial punishment). An example of illegal EMI follows: A person who had placed his parachutes down improperly was then ordered for EMI to take two parachutes from shop to shop with a petty officer. He had to put them down properly and tell everyone what he was doing. The courts held that this was illegal EMI because it was punishment (US v. Ranier, 22 CMR 695; US v. Reeves, 1 CMR 619). Most EMI is illegal.



#### Who can give it?

EMI is usually given by your executive officer and is usually used in your work place or in your living quarters. It is given for such things like not putting your clothes away, being an hour late for work or sluffing off on your job.

#### Does EMI have to be accepted?

No. You can refuse EMI, but you may then end up with an NJP. On board ship, people usually accept EMI because a Captain's mast will usually be worse and a mast cannot be refused when you're on a ship. If you are stationed at a base, post or attached to a shore party, you have more rights. If you refuse EMI and are given NJP, you can then refuse NJP, and ask for a court martial where you can defend yourself a little better. But before you refuse EMI make sure that you have a good case.

So if you actually violated a regulation like failing to clean up your rack or got up an hour late for muster and you do not have a good excuse or defense then you may want to take the EMI. EMI is just extra duty. But NJP can result in fines, restrictions, confinements, reductions in grade and extra duty.



## GI Conference

In past issues of GI NEWS, we have mentioned plans for a national conference of GIs and GI organizers. Originally scheduled to be held over the Labor Day weekend, the conference will be held over the weekend of October 11 - 14 in Chicago.

This conference, which is being sponsored by VVAW/WSO, is being held as an effort to begin building a programmatic unity within the GI Movement. Some of the topics which will be discussed will be current military strategy, the use of GIs as strikebreakers and riot police, the UCMJ and the military disciplinary system, working and living conditions in the military, racism in the military, women in the military, organizing on ships, GI defense work and counseling. Throughout the conference we will be discussing ways in which to deal with these problems by trying to develop an overall, anti-imperialist program. Results of the conference will be published in the next issue of GI NEWS.





OCTOBER 1974

## **Resistance Builds STOKES HAIR TRIAL ENDS**

In a small courtroom filled with soldiers and supporters, the second round of court-martial proceedings began against soldiers who refused to comply with military hair regulations. PFC Louis M. Stokes of HHD, US Army Communications Command in Mannheim W. Germany, was sentenced to 4 months of confinement at hard labor, a bust to El and loss of 2/3 pay. The Special Court-Martial took place on Sept. 18 - more than 5 months after Stokes' initial charge. After a 3-minute "deliberation", Stokes was found guilty on two counts: disobeying a "lawful" order from an NCO and failure to obey an order or regulation from a commissioned officer.

The Stokes case has set off a wave of resistance to the hair regulations among American GIs stationed in West Germany as they begin to fight back against the policies designed to set them apart from the rest of society. It has long been the policy of the US military to set up as many barriers as possible between GIs and civilians, both in the US and in foreign countries where GIs are stationed. There are

many ways used to separate GIs from civilians, including geographic isolation, racism, encouraging the use of prostitution, encouraging chauvinist attitudes toward other nationalities, and of course the ridiculous hair cuts. Braids, muttonchops and moustaches are popping up all over in West Germany

and as of September 22, fifteen GIs in West Berlin have received their courtmartial papers for long hair. The number is expected to rise much higher in the coming weeks as more and more GIs resist the regulations of the imperialist army.

CONTACT: FORWARD, 1 Berlin 62, Herbertstr. 6; or FIGHT BACK, 69 Heidelberg, Marstallstr. 11a, W.G.



Vietnam Veterans Against the War Winter Soldier Organization Objectives

1. To struggle for an immediate cessation of fighting and the withdrawal of all American troops, advisors, planes, and military and economic aid from Southeast Asia. We support as a basis for the cessation of these hostilities the varic is peace proposals of the people of Southeast Asia based upon their right of self-determination and actual control of their own destinies.

2. To struggle for the immediate termination of all other operations by the United States government, its agencies, and American business interests that are designed to suppress the rightful struggles for liberation and self-determination of the people of the world. This includes the creation and maintenance of dictatorial governments, economic domination and the theft of the natural resources of this and other countries.

3. To struggle for the goal that all military people (Active-duty, Reserve and National Guard) be afforded their constitutional rights which are denied by the United Context Military Justice. We condenn the use of the National Guard, Reserves and Active-duty personnel as strikebreakers, and we support the efforts of servicepeople in the struggles against military repression. We oppose the use of the military as an oppressive and policy-making force domestically and overseas.

4. To struggle for universal unconditional amnesty. This will include a single-type retroactive discharge for all vets, and amnesty for all persons in prison, underground, or in exile as a result of their resistance to the imperialist war machine as well as the clearing of all their resulting civil and criminal records.

5. To struggle for decent benefits, full medical care (including the recognition of Post Vietnam Syndrome as a service-connected disability), and productive employment for all veterans with parity for all war resisters. We demand an end to discriminatory corporate hiring practices based on Vietnam-era service or Special Processing Numbers or descriptions, and the exploitation of veterans as a tool to divide the working class.

6. To struggle against racism which is historically used as a tool of U.S. imperialism to prevent and destroy unity among the people and justify the oppression and exploitation of third world people at home and abroad. We

must fight this dehumanizing tactic which divides us, and strive to build unity between all people.

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

8. To struggle for the right of all workers to organize and strike to protect their income and safeguard their employment. We support progressive struggles aimed at improving working conditions.

9. To struggle against the use of the criminal justice system (police, courts, prisons, grand juries) as a tool of political repression, recognizing that this system now serves the interests of the rich and powerful while suppressing the majority of poor and working people. We will fight for the freeing of all political prisoners.

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

## scuttlebutt

#### RECOMMENDED READING

US COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY APPARATUS: THE CHILEAN OFFEN-SIVE is the title of the July-August issue of the Latin America and Empire <u>Report</u> published by the North American Congress on Latin America. This issue covers the role of the CIA in undermining and overthrowing the Allende government in Chile, and is available for \$1.00 from: NACLA, Box 57, Cathedral Station, New York, NY 10025.



#### RESOURCES

"Important Books on China, Vietnam and the Third World" is the name of the catalog from China Books and Periodicals. A catalog can be obtained by writing to one of their three offices: 2929 Twenty-fourth St., San Francisco, CA 94110; 125 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003; 210 West Madison St., Chicago, IL 60606.



#### EVENTS

Dishonoring vets - August 19th was "Honor Vietnam Veterans Night" at Shea Stadium in New York City. Twenty members of VVAW/WSO went there to protest the sham nature of this attempt to "honor" vets. Although other vets organizations were allowed to raise their banners, 30 security guards started coming over the fence when the VVAW/WSO members raised their banner. The banner was lowered until the playing of the National Anthem when they again raised the banner. This time the guards charged over the fence and attacked the group with blackjacks and fists. They then dragged six of the brothers into the lockerroom where they locked the door, ripped the legs off wooden chairs, and began to beat these brothers. One vet was beaten by six guards at once who broke several ribs and cut his head up. He was then taken

to the police station where he was charged with felonious assault. Another brother received a misdemeanor charge. This only one example of the lengths to which the government will go to silence VVAW/WSO's attempts to expose the Veterans Administration, the continuing war in Indochina and the government's imperialist policies.

Protest Ship Conditions - Seaman Recruit David Medina, 21, of Las Vegas, Nevada, received support from more than 100 persons protesting the charges against him. Medina is charged with "solicitation to leave military authority" for his efforts to organize a news conference to publicize what he and fellow crewmen felt were unsafe conditions aboard their ship, the USS AGERHOLM. According to Medina, the needed repairs included the ship's primary firefighting system, which leaked badly; poor below-deck ventilation; rusted engine mountings; frayed wiring; and broken navagation equipment. Medina is also charged with distribution of "unauthorized material." This stems from a newspaper, SCAGGIE AGGIE REVIEW published by Medina and about six other AGERHOLM sailors. The demonstration took place on September 25th. Courtmartial is scheduled for Oct. 1. CONTACT: Center for Servicemen's Rights, PO Box 2016, San Diego, CA 92112.

#### DOD POOP

Reservists - According to the WASH-INGTON POST, the Pentagon is preparing to ask Congress for authority to call up 50,000 reservists and national guard troops for three months without a declaration of national emergency or congressional approval. The Defense Department wants to be able to use such reserves quickly in such situations as last fall's airlift of military supplies to Israel during the Arab-Israeli war. The proposal is also linked to the Pentagon's plans to move more planes to reserve squadrons and to help fill the ranks of regular battalions with reservists. These moves are described as part of the effort to give reserve units "real missions" that will improve their readiness and give active duty forces more confidence when dealing with reserves in wartime. The quotas for all branches of the service have been dropping since the end of the draft, and clearly the military is worried about its ability to respond quickly and effectively in foreign or domestic struggles of working people.

#### LEGAL

Some of the VVAW/WSO GI organizers at Lowery AFB, Colorado, report that they were able to help an airman assist his friend at the counsel table during a Special Court Martial. The Staff Judge Advocate approved the airman's request to have a non-lawyer act as counsel at his court-martial on the basis of the UCMJ, paragraph 48(a): "In any case, whether represented by counsel or by himself, an accused may have a non-lawyer present and seated at the counsel table and may consult with him, subject to the discretion of the military judge or the president of a special court martial without a military judge. " The organizers feel that GIs should be encouraged to build unity with other GIs around courts martial by working on a defense. This tactic can also promote the idea of self-defense among GIs rather than complete reliance on a lawyer. "We hope to continue the practice of encouraging the building of unity through practice like this - the unity continued after the court martial and is being expanded and built on. " CONTACT: The Law Office, 1026 Bannock, Denver, CO 80204.

#### FROM OUR OFFICE

SOLDIERS AND STRIKERS, by Vince Pinto, describes how the Rockefellers and other wealthy people in the US have used soldiers to break strikes at their factories, mines and other workplaces. 40¢.

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