

Students for a Democratic Society

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sds new left notes



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US Out of SE Asia Cops Out of Ghettos demonstrate in august



SDS-led demonstration in Cleveland against Agnew and Mayor Stokes:
TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN--Stokes smashes black rebellions,
Agnew backs the Cambodian invasion.

Support Ghetto Rebellions

SELL NEW LEFT NOTES BUILD SUMMER SCHOOL SDS

Continue the Fight Against the War & Racism

This spring on campuses all over the country, students took tremendous actions to protest the expansion of the war into Cambodia, the murder of black people in Augusta and Jackson, and the Kent State murders. The actions showed that these people were very much aware of how ROTC, police institutes, and the oppression of black and white workers are all interrelated, and all help continue the war. Most of those people who acted were not in SDS; but, as their actions indicate, they should be. In fact, people in SDS probably have a few things to learn from them.

In areas where SDSers have gotten in touch with these people, the response has been very positive. For example, in Cleveland at the SMC/YSA-called anti-war conference, 65 people from Cleveland alone, were sick of YSA/SMC lies, wanted to learn more about SDS, and are now forming chapters in that area. Situations like this occur regularly when we really reach out to people and make contacts.

One of the best ways to make contacts is through the sales of New Left Notes. Not only do people get exposed to our ideas, but they begin to view the paper as their paper -- which is one of our goals. Otherwise cynical people learn the importance of a national organization such as SDS to tie together the increasing number of struggles all over the country. Many times, people who buy New Left Notes want to know more about SDS and are interested in doing something to fight against the war, racism, and male chauvinism. It is only our own timidity which is responsible for not letting these people know more about SDS and letting them join us.

To remedy this situation, it has been suggested by Jeff Singleton and Harvey Katz (both of Boston area SDS) that students participating in the work-in commit themselves to selling New Left Notes a few hours every week, making contacts, and following them up, this summer. Areas where students gather during the summer such as movies, parks, rock concerts, are good. But es-

pecially important are the summer schools where, because of lack of jobs, students assemble more than ever this year. ROTC, police institutes, and oppression of campus workers continue over the summer, and there is no reason students should forget about them. One big businessman said in a Newsweek article that this summer there would be trouble over unemployment, and trouble with ghetto rebellions, but at least the campuses would be quiet. Why should we let the university bosses off the hook just because it's summer!?! Not only should we sell New Left Notes at summer schools, but we should organize chapters and wage struggles over injustices that continue over the summer at colleges! In New York, people have already started to step up their work and New Left Notes sales jumped to 1500 in less than a week. All SDSers should join this effort now to make SDS a truly mass organization that fights harder than ever against the war, racism, and male chauvinism.

Fran Weindling
Editor

build for august

Over the past year, SDS has not done nearly enough to fight against the war in S.E. Asia or the racist ideology that the U.S. government uses to justify the war. In fact, on many campuses we're only just beginning to wage ongoing struggles against ROTC, counter-insurgency programs, police institutes, war research, etc. In the context of building these struggles, it is absolutely crucial that masses of students and working people see these struggles as their own. The only way this will happen though is if we get our ideas out to the people in a mass way. The demonstrations we're building for all across the country early next month are an important way to do this.

Working people, after all, are hit the hardest by the war. They are the ones who pay for it with their taxes and their blood. And in this country, it's black working people who are hurt the most, in terms of the draft, inflation and unemployment, all of which are intimately connected with the war.

Clearly, the fight against those who profit from war and those who push and profit from racism is one and the same struggle; and it's equally clear that the Vietnamese working people are fighting back heroically against the same U.S. government that smashes strikes in this country and calls in the troops on black rebellions.

It's up to us, in and outside SDS, to link up these struggles, to build massive August demonstrations against the war and racism, and then to go back to our campuses this Fall and build an ongoing militant movement that fights to win.

In building for these demonstrations, the importance of mass leafleting cannot be underestimated. We should really aim at saturating the summer schools with leaflets as well as the parks, movie theaters, rock concerts, etc. It is important that we follow up on the people we meet selling New Left Notes, get to know them better, and win them over to coming to these demonstrations and to helping build for them. People in the Work-In should have the perspective of winning over their fellow workers to coming to the demonstrations against the war and in support of black rebellions.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

August is less than a month away. In some regions, SDS chapters should consider calling conferences in the immediate future to plan for these demonstrations, possibly around the third week in July.

These conferences are very important and as many students as possible should be involved. The demands that these conferences formulate against your universities and other local bosses will be the ones that will be raised in the August demonstrations. Possible demands in your area might include ones against the local campus ROTC program or police institute, or in support of ghetto rebellions or local striking workers. The demands, however, will vary from one area to the next. In some cities, for example, students might wish to raise a demand against a particularly racist summer school course or a particularly vicious campus boss. More discussion regarding these demands and the activity around them in the next issue of New Left Notes.

Anti-War Movement Needs To Link War & Racism

During the second week in June, ghetto rebellions erupted in two cities. In the Brownsville area of Miami, Florida, black people picketed and leafleted against the racist manager of a ghetto market. Meat sold at the market was spoiled and blacks who shopped there were treated like dogs. An injunction was served against the picketers. They left but returned more determined than ever the next day. The unity and strength of these people against their oppressors was such a threat that the cops used tear gas, shot six and injured twenty-six.

In one section of Brooklyn, New York, black people fed up with mountains of garbage that had not been collected by the city, burned piles of rubbish in the streets. This militance brought results as the sanitation crews were finally sent in by the city government. Police arrested two they said burned the garbage. The people marched to the police station where the cops then held a third man for fire-bombing a police car. The racist treatment by cops and courts sparked rebellion in the area.

When blacks rebel in the ghettos they're not just fighting against single incidents, the spoiled meat or the rubbish, for example. They're rebelling against the lousy conditions they're forced to live with every day, the higher costs of food and rent, the run down, over-crowded housing, high unemployment and low wages - all of which they, above all, are forced to endure. They're fighting the government's racist cops, courts, and war where forty percent of the casualties are black (while only eleven percent of the population throughout the United States is black).

Ghetto rebellions are direct attacks on the oppressive rulers of this country. However, the rulers' big weapon is to build racist attitudes among white workers and students (who mostly become workers) and try to keep white and black workers fighting each other; rather than uniting and fighting them.

They do this by saying that black people are savages in whose nature it is to burn their surroundings; that the reason they live in lousy conditions is that they don't know how to take care of themselves and their belongings; that they are happy to work for less money than white people are. In college racism is pushed by university bosses with a few more intellectual frills: Jensen's "scientific" finding that black people are genetically inferior and must learn by rote; or Moynihan's premise that black people suffer in this country because they come from matriarchal families.

It's no mistake that exactly the same lies are used to explain why American businesses feel it's their patriotic duty to exploit the Vietnamese. They say that the Vietnamese don't care about anything except their bowls of rice; they don't care what type of government they have and that they're incapable of governing themselves anyway. They completely ignore (among other things) the courage and determination of the Vietnamese in fighting to keep the U.S. bosses out.

Until we can fight these racist attitudes in ourselves and others, and concretely attack the material practice of racism; the war (which oppresses working people in Vietnam) and the oppression of working people in this country by the same people - cannot be effectively fought.

It is our responsibility as students to step up the fight against racism in this country and to win others to join us. On campuses racism can be concretely fought with struggles against ROTC (which serves the racist war) and against police institutes which teach the physical suppression of Third World people in this country. Racist pay differentials and hiring & firing of campus workers must be fought also. And racist ideology taught in the classroom must be challenged and exposed to other students.

This summer, in addition to all of the above means, we must support ghetto rebellions as a tremendous attack on the rulers of this country and on the war which they run in their interests.

SDS and other organizations are calling for mass leafletting and demonstrations to support rebellions when they occur. Also, specifically, these groups, including SDS, are organizing all over the country for demonstrations at the beginning of August, to show support of ghetto rebellions. (See contact list to get information on when rally is scheduled for your area.)

It is absolutely vital to have these demonstrations and to show people the necessity of fighting racism, if we want to fight against the war effectively and end the oppression of working people here and in Southeast Asia.

Harry Baker
Salt Lake City SDS

Fight Racism



Support Ghetto Rebellions

STUDENTS BACK L.A. TEAMSTERS

Thousands of teamsters truck drivers in Los Angeles have been on strike for almost two months now -- in defiance of both management and sell-out union leadership. At this point the main issues involved are sick pay (a benefit which L.A. teamsters do not have) and full amnesty for all striking workers. Management has stood firm against both these demands. Some firms, however, were generous enough to allot a sick pay provision out of a previously bargained for cost of living increase! Also, other firms have offered amnesty to 95% of striking workers on the condition that the remaining 5% 'trouble makers' not be rehired. Both of these management counter-offers are a flagrant mockery in the face of rank and file demands.

In conjunction with the student strike at UCLA and Cal State, large numbers of students have been joining the striking teamsters at the picket lines. On several occasions the number of students ranged up into the hundreds. This was a good show of force considering that the picket site was some 20 miles from UCLA and that the hour was 7:00 a.m.

Because of the student picket line, a court order prohibiting all but two workers to picket at any given site was rendered ineffectual. Many trucks which would have otherwise entered the warehouse were turned away because of the large number of picketers. One morning a showdown developed between students and scab drivers, only to have the scabs suddenly swerve their trucks to another entrance previously unnoticed by the students. The following morning a similar situation developed but with both entrances blocked by the students. However, in the face of cop scare tactics, the student leadership backed down and allowed the trucks to roll. The leadership of this strike support effort was generally bad. (Due to the trials of UCLA SDSers involved in a sit-in last November, SDS was weakly represented on the strike support committee.) This committee had no recognizable political line. The lack of politics, however, was planned rather than accidental. For instance, when several students showed up with a picket sign reading 'SDS supports striking teamsters', about ten individuals confronted the two and forced them to abandon the SDS sign. A few moments later an SDSer was militantly restrained from passing out an SDS leaflet. A few days earlier an SDS spokesman had been told by a member of the strike support committee that SDS leadership had originally been sought! It became quite clear that a calculated move was under way to co-opt an SDS concept and to render it ineffectual. (These were the same mis-leaders who, when a viable struggle was under way to

ally with cafeteria workers at UCLA, had scoffed at the idea of a worker-student alliance proclaiming pusillanimously that SDS was dead!!!)

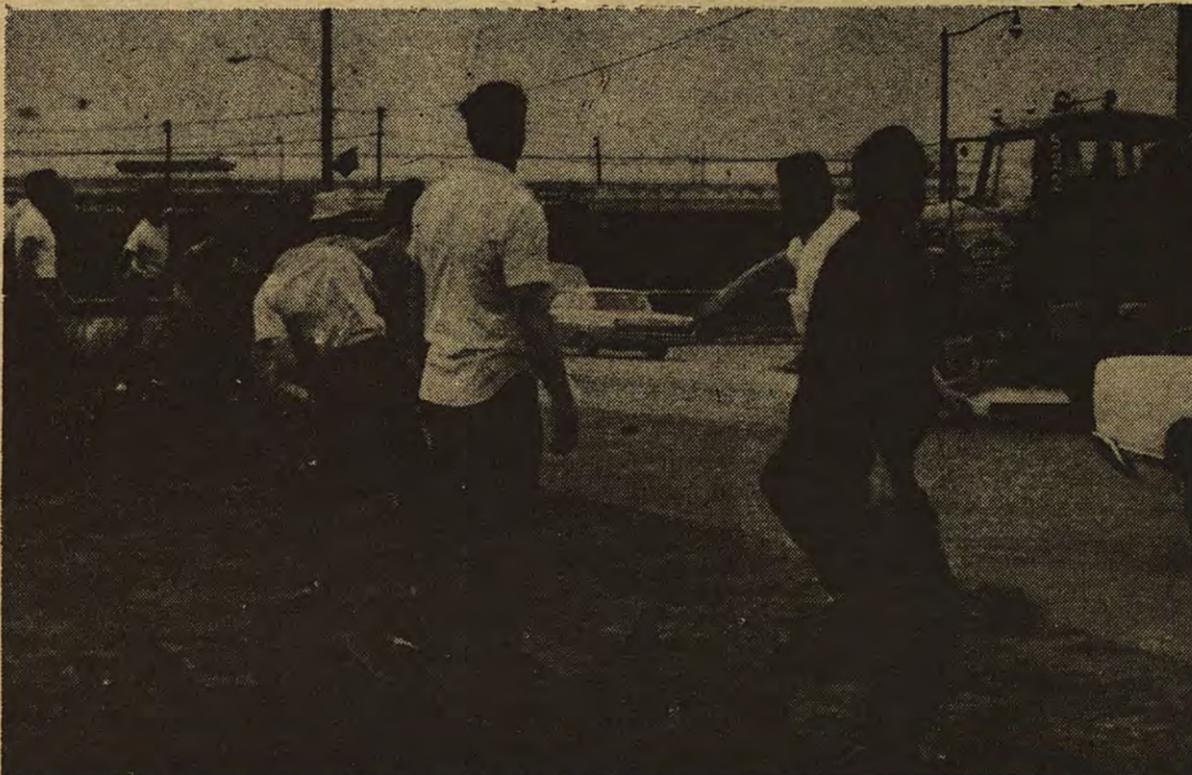
As a result of the opportunist mis-leadership many genuine students were frustrated and demoralized.

Although SDS was not in the leadership of this effort to ally students with working people, had not SDS been putting forward worker-student alliance politics it would never have taken place. This points up more than ever the tremendous potential of pro-working class politics. But the crucial lesson to be learned is that SDS must never be intimidated by or unwilling to confront bad leadership. SDS must continually point out, confront and challenge student misleaders. Rather than step aside and scoff at these pseudo-revolutionary invertebrates, SDS must stand fast against such rank, surreptitious opportunism.

The teamsters were glad to see that students were willing to support them. One worker in particular stated that when students were not present on the picket line the cops harassed the workers much more. In the final analysis, however, the workers were greatly disappointed that the students had not been militant and determined enough to prevent the trucks from rolling.

About 60 students from UCLA, Cal State, and U of C at Irvine along with about 30 workers held a rally at Bethlehem Steel. Several hundred workers inside the plant were also within earshot of the rally. Two workers spoke, one of whom was a Chicano worker who spoke on the subject of racism. He clearly reflected the SDS view that racism profits only the bosses. (Note: Bosses = those few who run and control this country.) Five students also spoke at this rally mainly trying to clarify the concept of worker-student alliance politics and to point out the tremendous revolutionary potential of such an alliance. The student speakers also hammered hard on the fact that imperialism and racism hurt workers the most (i.e., that real wages are declining and that real prices are on the rise and that the sons of working people are the ones who die fighting against other working people in Vietnam). Many copies of New Left Notes were sold and we have since learned that one worker in particular spoke to about 30 or 40 of his fellow workers following the rally and elicited many favorable comments. Follow-up contacts are being made and new efforts are being planned for Bethlehem Steel.

Regional SDS of Southern California



Striking Cleveland Teamsters hurl rocks and bottles at National Guard

Become a Bulk Contact

I wish to receive bulk shipments of New Left Notes @ 10¢/copy, prepaid including postage
Air Freight ___ Air Mail ___ Regular ___

I wish to become a chapter contact and receive lit. lists, sample lit., and fund raising material regularly.

I pledge \$ _____/month to support SDS literature.

Bosses Use Layoffs to Keep Profits High

Millions of people continue to be thrown out of work as the unemployment figures skyrocket. Government figures report that over four million people are presently out of work. The government figures, though, don't include people who've given up looking for jobs, or part time workers looking for full-time work, or people on welfare, or people in the army -- and when these are added, the number is closer to eight million unemployed. This unemployment hits black and third world people the hardest -- 20-30%, even as high as 50% among black and latin youth.

This unemployment is not a 'mistake' or kink in the system. Capitalism has always depended on having masses of people unemployed, a 'reserve army of labor' that is used as a threat to those who do have jobs to keep their wages as low as possible. In times of recession and economic slow-down, workers are the ones who suffer first and suffer the most, through lay-offs and unemployment. In fact, the bosses' politicians advocate increasing unemployment as a way of 'curing' the ills of the economy.

The recent increases in unemployment are further examples of how working people at home are hurt by the Vietnam War. While big industrial firms have been making big profits off of war contracts financed by the taxpayers' money, the war economy has taken more and more money out of workers' pockets. Over the last five years, real wages (i.e. the amount of actual purchasing power in a paycheck) have declined! Now our 'overheated' economy is further taking its toll with the highest inflationary levels since 1962. There is no end in sight. Despite all the pronouncements from politicians and big business 'leaders' that prosperity is 'just around the corner', things haven't gotten any better.

As usual, the bosses try to use racism to cover up their part in the unemployment syndrome. Recently the New York Times said that white college students were having a hard time getting work because so many special programs had been created for black college students. This is nothing but a lie! In fact the bosses know that black people are hit hardest by unemployment and that is why they expect, as Newsweek predicted recently, more ghetto rebellions this year. We should support these rebellions because they are militant struggles against the bosses who control and exploit the employment situation. We should also have massive demonstrations this summer all over the country, demanding an end to layoffs and the creation of more jobs. Our slogan should be 'Either all of us work or none of us work!'

Joining the work-in and discussing the problem with other workers is another way to fight back. This was illustrated by one member of the work-in, whose boss, in a small printing shop, wanted to lay off two workers. Most of the others threatened to walk out. The two were rehired. It is only by allying with workers that we can demand an end to lay-offs, unemployment,

Cleveland-SDS wins

anti-racist anti-war support

The National Emergency Anti-War Conference of 1500 people in Cleveland (June 19-21) was an important event for the movement in this country. 300 SDSers went to the Conference to talk about our experiences on different campuses and to struggle against the politics of the Student Mobilization Committee-Young Socialist Alliance leadership which ran the Conference. Except for a few hours of workshops and a demonstration on Saturday night, the Conference consisted of a plenary session in which the conferees debated and finally voted on the 'direction of the anti-war movement'.

The first big debate took place on Saturday when SDS proposed a demonstration against Cleveland's Mayor Stokes in addition to the anti-Agnew demonstration already planned by the SMC/YSA. This proposal met with fierce opposition from the SMC/YSA on two counts. First of all, Stokes had sent a welcoming message and a plaque to the conference, which the SMC/YSA 'graciously' accepted. Secondly, the SMC/YSA, in its plea for a 'non-exclusionary' anti-war movement, wants to ally with all liberal politicians and big businessmen (like Cyrus Eaton, a multi-millionaire industrialist and financial backer of the SMC) who say they are against the war. SDS felt that Stokes should be attacked because he sent in National Guardsmen to shoot striking teamsters in Cleveland and he used the same troops to crush a rebellion in Cleveland's ghetto against the businessmen, cops, and slumlords who are making millions off the exploitation of black people. When the SMC/YSA leadership saw that these ideas were having a winning effect, the editor of the Militant tried to counter them by saying that of course everyone knew that Stokes wasn't a great guy but the black people of Cleveland didn't know that and wouldn't understand an attack on him. The black people of Cleveland are well aware of who sent in the National Guard when they justifiably rebelled against their oppressive conditions. Neither these racist lies nor the intimidating tactics of the SMC/YSA marshalls stopped 500 people from attending the SDS demonstration against Mayor Stokes, where, instead of listening to liberal sell-outs, we heard from a hospital worker, a speaker on women's liberation, a black student,

REJECT UNION BOSSES

The second big debate came on Sunday afternoon, when the conference narrowed down the seven major proposals to two: the SDS proposal and the Gordon-Lafferty Proposal for Action (the SMC/YSA proposal). While the SMC/YSA proposal pretended to see the need to 'involve' working people in the anti-war movement, it actually said 'union officials should be approached to endorse and speak at anti-war rallies' (Gordon-Lafferty proposal, page 1). Relying on union leadership, which sells out militant struggles of rank and file workers, as in the postal strike and the GE strike this year, is allying with workers' enemies. Union leadership, while giving lip service in support of strikes, usually work together with bosses to quell those strikes. The

the population, that the bosses for whose benefit the war is fought use racist justifications like 'they're only yellow people, etc., who don't even care what kind of government they have', and that working people, and especially black working people, are the ones who have to pay for the war. The SMC/YSA said that racism is a side issue. The slogan of the SMC, 'Bring the Troops Home Now', is in itself racist; it's all right for Asian mercenaries to protect US attempts to build an empire in Southeast Asia as long as American soldiers aren't dying. The SMC/YSA proposal for a referendum also has racist implications for it 'suggests that a vote by Americans could decide whether or not the US government attacks on Vietnamese working people are justified' (SDS proposal, page 3). The SMC also suggested that struggles which really fight



"Smash Racism!" "Ally with Workers!" Inside the plenary session at the Cleveland Conference

SDS proposal suggested a repudiation of that phony leadership and instead support for workers' struggles, like the upcoming auto strike, and the formation of campus worker-student alliances which were built over the last year at New York University, the University of Minnesota, Wayne State, and on other campuses. The campus worker-student alliance was so strong at Columbia that 700 campus workers walked off their jobs during the national student strike, around the three strike demands.

back against the bosses in this country (the bosses who wage the Vietnam war and who also superexploit black people) should be avoided because they would alienate workers and black and brown people. This is a racist attack on the Vietnamese working people who have, of necessity, violently fought back against the US aggressors, and on the militancy of black and white working people, who have fought back in wildcat strikes and ghetto rebellions in this country. SDS, on the other hand, said that strikes and ghetto rebellions should be supported, and that racism should be fought wherever we encounter it.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Throughout these debates, the chair did everything it could to stop SDS and PL from getting their ideas on the floor. Seven speakers spoke for the Gordon-Lafferty proposal (Lafferty was chairing the meeting!) before anyone spoke against! When SDS asked to have the Radical Arts Troupe perform a skit, the chair accused us of trying to storm the stage. The chair also agreed to let an Independent Radical Women's Proposal (which called for the exclusion of liberal politicians) be discussed and then used male chauvinism and railroading to squash that discussion. Nevertheless, with each successive vote, SDS gained more support. Attendance at the SDS and Progressive Labor forums was very large, and 200 people expressed interest in learning more about SDS and/or joining SDS.

More and more people are seeing that in order to build an anti-war movement that can win, we must reject liberal politicians and union misleaders; that it is necessary to fight racism and male chauvinism and ally with working people, in order to fight against the war; and that the SMC/YSA leadership is dishonest to try to cloud these issues or stifle debate on them. These positive developments come about when we put forward our ideas clearly and try to make them the possession of masses of students -- we must concentrate this effort in all we do.



Crowds march from SMC demo to SDS anti-Stokes demo at City Hall

a member of the Progressive Labor Party, and a member of the SDS National Interim Council. These speakers showed why the anti-war movement must relate to the struggles of Third World and white working people and reject the misleadership of liberal politicians who say they want to stop the war but mean that the peaceful exploitation of workers all over the world should continue.

RACISM: KEY ISSUE

The deepest disagreement in the conference centered around the issue of racism. SDS argued throughout the conference that Vietnam is a racist war, that black people are forced to fight and die in it in numbers out of proportion to

Letters

Dear NLN:

A recent discussion in my American history class about the Vietnam war really showed how racism is used to justify the oppression of Vietnamese and third world people. During the class the teacher read a statement by Sen. Fulbright in which he said that the Vietnamese were too uneducated and uncultured to care who wins the war. In other words, these non-white, 'primitive' people couldn't care less who is exploiting them! Not true! The Vietnamese people are fighting and dying to keep US businesses from taking over their country. But racist characterizations like those made by Fulbright try to make us think that what the US is doing isn't of any importance to the Vietnamese and therefore, why should we care what happens over there. When I raised this in the class most people disagreed with calling what he said racism. But racism - the superexploitation of black and third world working people and all the rotten ideas which justify it - is just what the war is about. Saigon workers make \$1.40 a day, so naturally the rulers say that the people are stupid and don't mind what they make or under what conditions they work.

This kind of subtle or liberal racism - that third world peoples' 'backward' culture justifies \$5 to \$8 a day in Korea - is fed to us all of our lives so that we don't even realize that it is racism. The kids in my class and the teacher didn't think they were being racist. But in reality those attitudes allow to go unchallenged continued exploitation and oppression forced upon the South East Asian people by feudal landlords and US businesses eager to settle down in Asia.

Workers and students here don't gain anything from this war. A victory in Vietnam - militarily or negotiated - means more money for the bosses at the expense of US and Asian working people. Just as racism keeps black and white workers and students fighting themselves at home, it also keeps people from supporting the struggles of Asians abroad. We must defeat these ideas and fight racism daily on the job and in the classroom. SMASH RACISM!

Jane Friedman
U. of Illinois Circle

It is nothing short of revolting that the criticism of the Southern Female Rights Union - and 'much of the women's liberation movement' - is that it is filled with 'Hypocrisy, Elitism, and Racism', considering the blatant presence of just these things in SDS. Even assuming that the ar-

ticle is unexaggerated, it is still hard to believe that the attack is meant seriously. According to the editor, 'this is the first in a series of articles that will appear in NLN on male chauvinism.' Are we expected to believe that this deals with sexism? Far from it, it builds sexism. I uses these attacks on Roxanne Dunbar to smear the Women's Liberation movement, an astounding development, considering that SDS has done less than nothing to fight sexism. This hypocrisy is only surpassed by its incredible elitism toward Women's Lib.

SDS believes that it should lead the women's liberation struggle; did it say that it was going to lead the fight for black liberation? Of course not, but underlying everything in SDS is the sentiment that racism is more potent, widespread, important, etc. than sexism. Not that SDS - in practice - has done much to fight racism, either. But, in the list of priorities, racism precedes sexism, the economic oppression of women precedes the social-psychological-sexual form(s), etc. These priorities serve only one purpose: to sweep things that men in SDS feel threatened by under the rug. It is easy for us to theorize about sexism, but much harder to fight it in practice, where, in many cases, we do benefit (women doing all of the menial housework, or passively screwing on command).

There are common reasons for our lack of fighting against both sexism and racism. The line on sexism is that 'working men are hurt, too'. The line on racism is that 'working whites are hurt, too'. Is this what the Women's and Black Liberation movements are fighting for, or are they fighting their own oppression, which is far more serious than that of their counterparts? This approach to sexism - ignoring all morality and appealing to male self-interest almost entirely - will inevitably lead to a male worker or student fighting only the aspects of sexism which hurt him, with no concern for the women involved, whatsoever. He would fight on the job (assuming he works with women), but at home, he would continue to oppress his wife or woman friend, just as SDS men have done and are doing.

In short, the only way that men in SDS are going to change, and the only way that organizations on the left are going to adopt anti-sexist programs, is if organized women lead those fights. Alone, women both in and out of SDS are isolated, having no organized strength to lead struggles and to force men to fight their own sexism. When the Black Liberation Movement was at the stage of the Women's Liberation movement, it had separate organizations (which are still need-

ed because of racism), and everyone thought that it was good. If one thinks sexism is as important as racism, then he or she should feel the same way about a separate women's organization. We must support Women's Liberation!

Alan M. Weber
CCNY S.D.S.

As the class struggle is growing in this country, it is also intensifying internationally. SDS has given active support to the Vietnamese people in their struggle for political and economic independence. However, we have given little attention to imperialist repression elsewhere. In the past few years there have been acts of repression by the ruling class against students in European, Asian, Australian, and Latin American countries. Student movements all over the world are beginning to lead struggles against the anti-working class rulers. Bosses and landlords attempt to repress workers and students all over the world by tactics such as encouraging racism, control of sell-out union leaders, company spies, scabs, strike-breakers, and various other gestapo-like police state tactics. A successful anti-imperialist revolutionary force can only be built by welding an alliance between militant students and workers. As SDS has supported the fight against imperialism in Vietnam, so also should we support struggles against oppression world-wide. SDS must develop a program for an International Worker-Student Alliance to unite workers and students in an international union to oppose the ruling class and smash the chains of oppression. From the numerous attacks on student groups around the world, it is probable there are many collectives already in existence ready to resist oppression. What is now needed is a catalyst to activate and unleash this tremendous revolutionary potential to smash the imperialist hierarchy. In our next convention, an additional National Interim Council member should be elected, who is qualified to deal with and mobilize this tremendous latent potential for an International Worker-Student Alliance effort against repression and exploitation. SDS must help develop a growth in political consciousness of global proportions. Workers-Students of the world unite!

Louiz Viridius

Cal State L.A. SDS

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ROCK AND ROLL:

Its Use and Abuse

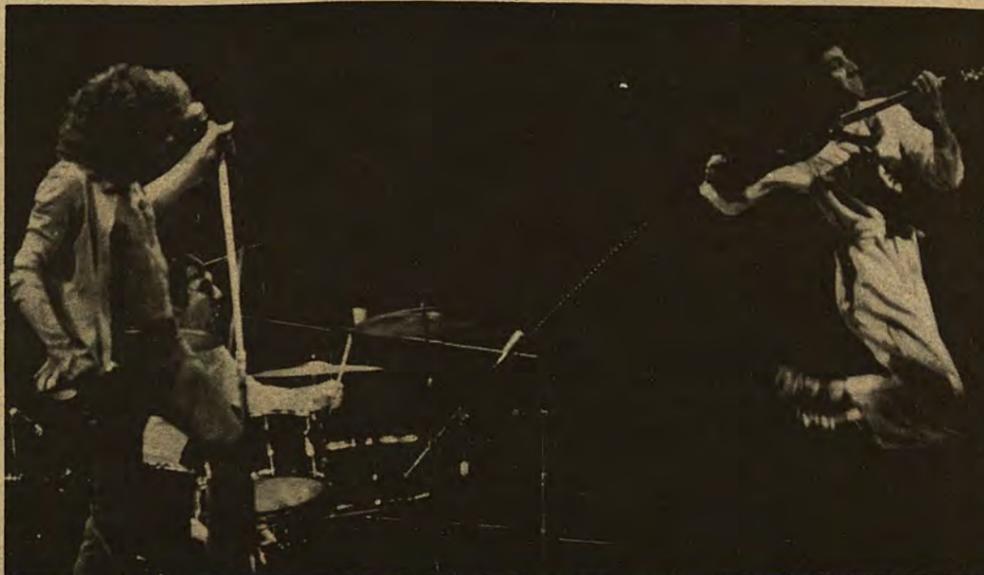
Certainly one of the major cultural forces in the United States over the last twenty years is the institution known as 'rock and roll'. Although this cultural institution centers around music, in more recent ears it has expanded to the point that it defines a whole way of life (i.e. communes, drugs, festivals, etc.). In order to understand the significance of 'rock and roll' in American society and more specifically its relationship to the struggle for social change, it is necessary to view 'rock and roll' in its social context.

Rock music essentially began in the early fifties, drawing from the musical traditions which preceded it: blues, gospel, country and western. It was a dynamic, unpretentious, aggressive music which summed up the moods and feelings of young working people. One only has to see a movie like 'Blackboard Jungle' (1955) to see how rock music was an integral part of the lives of working class youth. This is not to say that the rock music of the fifties contained a sophisticated class analysis of American society; it rather said it all from the guts with its slamming piano, rhythmic guitar work and its lyrics which always implied a rebellion of one sort or another. The best example of the rock of the fifties is probably Chuck Berry, whose music not only made you jump but who also wrote lyrics which related the feelings and social situation which captured the plight of the young working man or rural farmworker. Probably the best example of his work is 'Too Much Monkey Business', which is a classic of its type. The problem with the music of the fifties was that it offered no solutions. The working man was getting screwed, there was no question of that. Unfortunately, however, the music had an existential quality to it. The best a poor working guy could hope for was to get a lucky break and 'make it'. That was unlikely. More than likely he would wind up in a bar 'rockin' his blues away', and sort of symbolically thumbing his nose at the authorities. Behind the music was an incredibly depressing scene. Businessmen and record promoters signed young ghetto kids to absurd contracts which gave the record company everything and the artist nothing. These business sharks saw a good thing and exploited it for all it was worth. The result of all this was not only huge profits for the record companies but it also turned people's troubles inward instead of outward toward the businessmen who were screwing them.



Lennon's message: "Free your mind instead."

Out of this music of the fifties developed today's billion dollar rock music industry. And today 'rock and roll' is not only directed at working class youth but has expanded to include the middle class students. Supposedly the rock music of today offers more than disillusionment and a privatized existence. It claims to offer an alternative; joy, happiness, a kind of communal or-



Rock opera Tommy tells us "Don't fight back"

gasm based on the brotherhood of man. In reality, however, does the rock music culture offer anything of the kind? Between Chuck Berry's music of the fifties and the music of the Beatles and Rolling Stones today the American businessmen have increased their profits through an even more vicious exploitation of working people both at home and in Third World countries. What hope does rock music offer for these people? What hope do communes and Woodstocks offer for the millions of people who must work long hours with small wages to support their families while the bosses become richer and richer? The answer is quite simple: nothing. In fact rock music today serves the same purpose that it served twenty years ago. It allows people to personalize their problems rather than struggling to change conditions around them. It makes people think that they can somehow liberate themselves by escaping the horrors of society. And at the same time as this it continues to make huge profits for the businessmen.

The main function of the whole 'youth culture' movement of which rock music is a major force is a co-optive one. It is designed and carried out by the rich businessmen of this country to get people to act out their frustrations symbolically and personally. Some movement groups would argue that what was wrong with Woodstock was that 'our music' was exploited by a group of opportunists, failing to see that Woodstock served a much more insidious purpose: that of turning people off to struggle. Why else would Life magazine acclaim Woodstock as the 'dawning of a new age'? Precisely because Woodstock was nothing more than a turning away from political struggle and into narcissistic jubilation. I need be, corporate businessmen will sponsor a thousand Woodstocks and provide the drugs themselves rather than have young people engage in political struggles which threaten their profits.

All this does not mean that we should stop listening to the Beatles' records at parties or start feeling guilty if we attended Woodstock. What it does mean is that we must not allow these things to substitute for the real changes needed in the society around us. And those changes require that we fight back. That we fight back in alliance with working people, who are not only the most exploited segment of the population but are the only segment capable of bringing about the needed social changes. Rock music rather than being a liberating force can be an obstacle to liberation if it is not viewed in this social context. A Rolling Stones album or a Woodstock can never free us. It is only our ability to struggle against and defeat those who reap profits from the sweat of others that will pave the way to a liberated society.

Glen Pritzker
San Francisco State SDS

UConn: SDS, BSU Fight Racism

During the national student strike, SDS raised the need to make the national demands relevant to local issues. At the University of Connecticut this involved a campaign to abolish ROTC and turn it into a free day-care center for campus workers as proposed by the radical women's caucus of women's liberation. To thwart this struggle, both the dean of students and the dean of men used racism (singled out black students and threatened them with loss of scholarships and suspension) in an attempt to keep black and white students from fighting together against the university bosses. These racist tactics were exposed and combatted by an SDS-BSU (Black Student Union) alliance. This alliance called for action to expose those scab teachers who were holding classes during the strike. Students entered these classes and forced discussions on strike issues. During one of these classes, the dean of students singled two black students out of the group for disciplinary action, claiming that he 'held them responsible'. As a result of this racist attack, 350 students occupied the administration building, demanding that no action be taken against strikers.

Although SDS at UConn was able to mobilize many students, problems still hindered part of the struggle. Externally, liberal misleaders pushed 'militant non-violence' and continually baited SDS; they even accused SDS of calling the cops on fellow students. Internally, the administration building sit-in was weakened by a lack of strong leadership and a failure, due to racism within SDS, to stop trashing tactics suggested by a few black students. Nevertheless, through these struggles UConn SDS has grown from seven people last fall to 350 at the last meeting in May! Struggles will continue over the summer as people are mobilized to attend the trials of several SDSers who were arrested at demonstrations against a GE recruiter and the president of the university. Many students at UConn are aware of the way in which the bosses control the courts and the universities, and the trials this summer will spread and strengthen that awareness.

Ellie Goldstein
Karen Cassyd
Kevin Keyes
John Chiaputti, UCONN SDS

Iranian Students Side With Workers

Face Deportation

Last April, the Iranian government attacked Iranian workers and students by raising the bus fare 300%. Workers and students responded to this attack by boycotting and stopping the buses, and calling a general strike, which was later joined by the bus drivers. In spite of the Iranian government's attempt to smash this struggle by killing several people and jailing 1000 (200 of whom still remain in jail), the people prevented the fare hike and won an inspiring victory. The repression that followed included torture leading to false confessions and in some cases death.

In order to focus world attention upon the repression of workers, peasants, and students, fighting back against the Shah, a front man for US and European business interests, the Iranian Student Association sat-in at the Iranian Consul in San Francisco on June 26. San Francisco cops attacked the demonstration, beating and arrest-

ing 41 students. They are still in jail with bail possibly running up to \$100,000, and facing deportation.

The US has a direct interest in maintaining a stable relationship with Iran. Its interests lie in maximizing profits by maintaining favorable access to its precious material, oil, and a cheap 'docile' labor force. American oil interests receive 40% of all oil profits in Iran, while the per capita income is \$314 per year. In 1953, the CIA, under the direction of Kermit Roosevelt, carried out a coup d'etat to set up a regime more favorable to American investment. Kermit Roosevelt then resigned from the CIA to accept a high-ranking position in Gulf Oil Corporation, which had gained a major portion of Iranian oil trade due to 'his' engineered coup.

Racism is the tool used by bosses to derive super-profits from the labor of third world working people. Racist justifications are pushed

to divide and prevent workers and students in this country from supporting these struggles -- for instance, that the Iranian people are content with wages of 86¢ per day and that the Shah is a 'progressive' ruler, in other words that feudalism is 'appropriate' for those people.

The Iranian struggle is important because this shows that workers and students can fight and win against the exploitation and repression that the bosses inflict upon working people all over the world every day.

The Iranian Student Association (ISA) and SDS are calling for nationwide demonstrations to support the struggles of Iranian workers and students against their puppet government and to support the jailed Iranian students.

DEMONSTRATE IN SUPPORT OF THE
IRANIAN PEOPLE

END ALL RACIST ATTACKS ON THIRD
WORLD PEOPLE

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