

sds new left notes



VOL. 5, #16 Less talk, More Action--Fight Racism July 20, 1970

New Bedford neglects housing for poor and blacks

By F. B. Taylor Jr.
Globe Staff

NEW BEDFORD — Housing for the poor is far from this city's most important product. Nothing has been built since 1956.

income according to city officials. The vacancy rate is put at a critical one percent. The New Bedford Urban Coalition reported recently that 6438 families are living in substandard dwellings. Demolition in the South End section took 1200

First Call in New Job Lottery

United Press International
WASHINGTON—The draftability of 600,000 19-year-olds assigned the priority list yesterday in a scientific induction prior to those last placed.

The 500 Largest Industrial Corporations (ranked by sales)

'Tiger Cage' Conditions Noted in '69

GENEVA (AP) — Well informed sources Wednesday said the International Cross Committee South Vietnam that conditions in Island unsatisfactory.

Six-year high seen for NEW

Two members of a U.S. congressional committee visited the prison early this month and said they had seen "tiger cages," small cells in which prisoners were held in heat and filth. Sources close to the Red Cross committee indicated it does not accept Saigon's claim that its delegates found conditions satisfactory at Con Son Prison.

FIGHT BACK!

against war, racism

THIS SUMMER

Campaigning is Big Business

Racist ROTC Must Go NOW!

The following series of questions and replies tell a story -- ROTC MUST GO!

I. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF R.O.T.C.?

ROTC provides 50% of the Army officers, 35% of the Navy officers, and 30% of the Air Force officers. Colonel Robert Pell, ex-commander of the now defunct Harvard ROTC unit, stated that the 11,000 newly commissioned officers from the Class of 1968 filled 85% of the necessary input of commanders for the year. ROTC pursues an active recruitment campaign, including literature, special mailings and meetings, and use of college catalogs. Thus, the primary function of ROTC is a recruiting agency for the Armed Forces.

II. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE U.S. MILITARY TODAY?

A significant part of US corporate wealth comes from economic activity outside the domestic economy. The gross value of production by American companies abroad is well in excess of \$100 billion per year. US enterprises abroad in the aggregate comprise the third largest country in the world -- with a gross product greater than that of any country except the United States and the Soviet Union. It is estimated that in 1964 one-fourth of all US corporate manufacturing profits came from foreign sources. The US also has a highly advanced technology which demands foreign raw materials. To secure these economic interests the US has created a massive military



Shortly before shooting, Guardsmen, surrounded by students, line Kent's campus center near burned-out ROTC building.

network around the world. Whenever the status quo is threatened, the military is activated. The Bay of Pigs, Santo Domingo, and Vietnam are the most recent examples. In addition, military aid to 'friendly' countries insures the maintenance of arrangements favorable to US big business.

Vietnam is a case in point. Realizing the economic importance of Southeast Asia to Japan and itself, the US gave two billion dollars in aid to the French effort to stop the nationalization of Vietnam from 1946 to 1954. The French defeat did not deter the United States from protecting 'its' interests, and directly flouting the Geneva Accords of 1954, the US set up the ruthless Diem dictatorship in southern Vietnam. By 1965 it became evident that the regime would fall without massive military support. The US responded to the need with 500,000 troops.

Vietnam is not an isolated case. The US is shoring up scores of unpopular dictatorships around the world (Thailand, the Congo, Greece, Brazil, Argentina, Guatemala, Iran, etc.). Not only does the military function to preserve US economic interests abroad, it does so at home, too. The military is often used to put down ghetto rebellions, mass demonstrations, and striking workers. The deployment of troops to move the mail is the most recent example of military scabbing.

III. SHOULD COLLEGE CAMPUSES, IN THE CONTEXT OF CURRENT AMERICAN DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES, HAVE A CONTRACT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO PROVIDE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE U.S. ARMED FORCES?

They should not. Military training is sometimes appropriate on the university campus. This is a judgment men must make with full awareness of the world in which they live, with full awareness of the responsibility they owe that world. In historical situations like World War II, it was right for universities to produce military officers. It is not right today.

IV. IS THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM AND MALE CHAUVINISM RELATED TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST R.O.T.C.?

Yes, and very concretely so. The US military is used to perpetuate racist attacks on blacks and third world peoples. In Vietnam, hundreds of thousands of US troops have been used to preserve US domination of Southeast Asia. Racism has been pushed hard to justify this war. 'After all,' say the war profiteers, 'they're only gooks -- so it isn't so bad if we kill a few and besides most of them are just dumb peasants who don't know or don't care which side wins -- just as long as they get a few bread crumbs.' Of course, this racist lie has been refuted by 20 years of heroic battle by the masses of Vietnamese for their freedom.

Here at home, government troops have and will increasingly in the future be used to smash blacks rebelling against the rotten conditions of the American ghetto.

Male chauvinism is blatantly pushed in most ROTC recruitment literature.

V. ISN'T R.O.T.C. A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION WHICH ANYONE IS FREE TO SELECT OR REJECT?

Those who consider ROTC as voluntary fail to distinguish between the institutionalized freedom of ROTC to recruit on campus and the freedom of the Vietnamese and other third world people. The human freedom of all the Southeast Asians is at stake. Southern plantation owners of the 19th century would say their rights would be denied if they were not permitted slave ownership. Such 'freedom' is now considered intolerable. Freedom to oppress is no freedom at all!

VI. IS THE TAKING AWAY OF CREDIT FROM R.O.T.C. SIGNIFICANT?

It is not. The questions of academic credentials for ROTC must be considered insignificant in the light of the broader political questions concerning the use of the US military. It diverts attention from the real issue - human freedom - to the feeble misleading plea that ROTC does not belong in the academic community. Colonel

Tufts Student Workers Won't Scab!

Fifteen Tufts students were hired as laborers for the summer at Grounds & Buildings for \$1.75 an hour plus a \$100 bonus after ten consecutive weeks of work. This bonus system has been used for years to get student workers to stay on the job in case of a strike or threatened strike by the full-time workers. Contract time for the full-time workers comes up every two years during the last week of most student workers' 10-week bonus period. This scab bonus has been a particular sore-spot for many years, but little has been done about it.

This year, Tufts students working at G&B saw how they were being used to help Tufts exploit the full-time workers. They demanded that the bonus be eliminated and that instead they get a raise to \$2.50/hr. Vice-president in charge of finances, Mitchell, refused to negotiate, used the old bull about how the budget was set and how Tufts had no money to spare. He also used racism and anti-"townie" feelings by threatening to hire blacks and high school students who, because they could not get decent jobs, would be "glad to work for \$1.75 per hour."!! People saw even more clearly how this unemployment, that the bosses have created, is a dual-pronged attack on working people. One, it attacks workers who cannot find jobs or who have been laid off, and two, is used as a club over the heads of workers who, because of increasingly bad conditions, are fighting back harder than ever! But nobody will for this!

At this point the student workers got together and wrote a leaflet which was very well received by the permanent workers all over Tufts. Mitchell got scared and came up with enough money to grant an infinitesimal concession: \$2.00 an hour after the bonus period. All this means is not forcing student workers to take a cut in pay after 10 weeks, while not meeting the main demand: the elimination of the scab bonus. Mitchell also found enough money to hire some high school students, mostly black. By giving these students jobs isolated from other workers and by especially harassing them, Mitchell planned on intimidating them and dividing them from the rest of the workers. This did not work. Some high school workers, black and white, came to a rally outside the administration building organized by Tufts summer school SDS and the student workers. We all went upstairs to confront Mitchell. These high school workers, even though they were subject to the most intimidation from Mitchell, supported the demands and showed how this fight is in the interest of all Tufts workers.

Another demand of this rally concerned student workers being used as tradesmen's helpers. This is a special category which

cont. on p. 4

Pell himself stated that academic credit was not really the issue. As long as the army can get their men, they will be satisfied. They will be able to continue to function with academic credit or without.

We think that we have told the story of why ROTC must go, but we have not yet said how we are going to accomplish this task. Readers should write articles on how best to fight ROTC based on their experience.

Dave Schop & John Kolts RPI SDS

New Bedford

Ousts Brooke

The recent rebellion of black workers in New Bedford was portrayed by the press as a "racial disturbance". However, the true nature of the fight could not be completely obscured. According to the Boston Globe, in some "pockets of poverty" around the city, unemployment is 35 percent and most of the other residents are underemployed. Many have participated in Federal training programs only to graduate and find no jobs. Recent highway and urban renewal programs have destroyed 1,200 housing units—adding to the overcrowding. And the rents just keep going up every six months. The rebellion in New Bedford was really a fight of black workers against unemployment, gouging slumlords, and the cops—who protect the slumlords and harass the people living in the community. It is the conditions these people face every day—made sharper by rising unemployment—that led them to fight back. The only ones who benefit from the conditions in the ghetto and rising unemployment are the people who own and control the country—the big bankers and corporation owners who use the power and wealth of the country to serve their own interests.

It is only our own racism that prevents us from responding quickly to support such ghetto rebellions. We must see clearly that these rebellions are black workers fighting back against the special oppression they face. Within thirty-six hours of the outbreak of a black rebellion, people in SDS across the country should lead demonstrations to support those black work-

ers. We must also see that when the cops shoot a black teenager in New Bedford, it is an attack on all workers and students. For the only strength we have in fighting the rulers of this country lies in unity among all workers and students.

One way that summer school chapters of SDS can concretely support ghetto rebellions is by building campaigns to abolish

ROTC and police institutes. Police institutes train cops to suppress ghetto rebellions just as ROTC trains officers to lead the National Guard, which is also used to suppress these rebellions. To abolish police institutes and ROTC on campuses across the the country is to fight on the side of black workers against the enemy of us all.

Paul Sedgwick - MIT SDS



POLICE VIGIL.—Ranks of policemen after protest Wednesday night that block street in New Bedford's West End lasted about three hours.

Rhodesia... 'underdevelopment'—another bosses' cover

This month the Rhodesian Printing and Publishing Company published the results of a most comprehensive survey carried out by them on the 'Rhodesian Way of Life'. The picture that emerges is one of unbelievable affluence for white settlers and dire poverty and misery for the African population.

In his so-called State of the World message a few weeks ago, Richard Nixon, among other things, said that the primary challenge facing Africa was 'economic development', and that the United States would direct its 'aid' at the 'basic blocks of economic growth' -- health, education, agriculture and transport. He went on: 'The United States support racial equality and self-determination in Africa, but warned that 'racial problems in the Southern region of the African continent will not be solved quickly, and could not be solved by force.' Nixon said many other stupid and reactionary things about Africa. The same tune was sung by US Secretary of State Rogers during his recent conspiratorial trip to some African countries.

Through this, the African people can see more clearly the real nature of US imperialism. It combines both soft and hard tactics to confuse Africa -- to benumb the vigilance of the African people, and to keep Africa in bondage.

It is no wonder that the utterances of Nixon and William Rogers were received with an air of satisfaction in the white-controlled areas of Southern Africa. The newspapers there gave them big publicity.

But Nixon must be living behind the times -- in a fool's paradise. Gone are the days when the honeyed words of American rulers could deceive the peoples of Africa. Now we have entered a great new era. As the proverb says, 'You can fool all the people some of the time,

but not all the people all the time.' Nixon and Rogers are just not the right people, to say the least, to lecture us about the problems of Africa, 'economic development', the use of 'force' and 'self-determination', to name just a few. Charity begins at home. The American society, their own cowboy society, is run on the basis of widespread violence for criminal purposes. It has assumed the proportions of a gangster-under-world. The economic backwardness of Africa is a consequence of the deformation of the African economies and the exploitation of African riches by international capitalism, in which American capitalism, which Nixon works for in the White House, has played a significant role. The situation of economic growth without economic development in which Africa finds herself is a direct result of the relations of dependence imposed on Africa by international capitalism headed by American capitalism. Underdevelopment, to use the jargon of the apologists of capitalism, in Africa is a cumulative process which correlates with international capitalist expansion. That is to say, the more the capitalist system of exploitation gets developed, the more 'underdevelopment' becomes deepened, even if per capita income may relatively increase. 'Underdevelopment' is in fact an aspect of the accumulation of capital on a global scale within the entire capitalist system. Consequently, in the task lying ahead, that of real, coordinated, independent economic development and reconstruction in Africa, experience shows that American imperialism, which will never become a buddah, has no role to play.

Self-determination? Let the people of Vietnam, Laos, and other countries first enjoy Nixon's 'love' for self-determination, and then we in Africa shall believe the sincerity of Nixon's words. After all, the events in the Congo -- the murder of Patrice Lumumba and the suppres-

sion of the popular rebellion there by the United States -- are still fresh in our mind. Racial equality? Let the black Americans and all other non-white American enjoy racial equality and then we shall believe Richard Nixon's professions about 'racial equality'.

Nixon says that the 'racial problems' in Southern Africa 'will not be solved quickly, and could not be solved by force'. But when and how? This could be everybody's guess. One could imagine that, since Nixon is 'opposed' to the use of force in Southern Africa and 'supports' racial equality and self-determination in Africa, he will leave no stone unturned to adopt 'peaceful' methods like total economic and diplomatic sanctions against the white regimes which perpetuate racial inequality and oppose self-determination and give unconditional financial and unreserved political and diplomatic support to the Liberation Movements. But this would be wishful thinking. The US has a 'consulate-general' in Salisbury, in the so-called Republic of Rhodesia. The Americans have full diplomatic relations with South Africa and with their NATO ally, Portugal. They have large-scale economic interests in Southern Africa and all-round commercial ties with the racist regimes. The American Government has still to tell us which 'Liberation' Movement receives American Government support. Perhaps this is a CIA secret.

Richard Nixon gives his fellow white racial maniacs free hands to continue using violence to oppress the Africans but warns the Africans not to use violence to put an end to repressive violence. WHAT A RACIST, GANGSTER LOGIC!

AFRICAN PEOPLE! Oppose whatever Nixon says, and support whatever Nixon opposes! Depend on your own strength, keep the initiative in your hands, go your own way, rely only on the solidarity of your genuine friends and carry the struggle for political, economic and social liberation through to the end.

Zimbabwe News Service

Liberal Politicians and the War

Reprinted from VIETNAM: NO MISTAKE, an SDS pamphlet

Many people who sincerely want to end the war feel that the best way to get the U.S. out of Vietnam is to support big-name politicians like Kennedy, McGovern, or McCarthy, who, they believe, can further the cause of peace. This type of thinking, once again confuses cause and effect. These same liberal politicians are, in fact, responsible for much of our policy in Vietnam. Kennedy was the one who started sending increasing numbers of troops and Johnson, once considered a liberal, was the one who bombed the North and sent 500,000 American troops to Vietnam. For months after the 1968 elections, "liberal" politicians did not say a word about the war! Now that the anti-war movement is being built again, the Vietnam Moratorium, which was part of that movement, offered the opportunity to every Democratic Party hack from McGovern to Muskie to Fred Harris to jump on the "anti-war" bandwagon, and provide another cover for our continued presence in Vietnam.

WHY MC. CARTHY RAN

The McCarthy campaign offers a striking example of how this sort of co-optation has worked in the past. It is no accident that the leaders of the Vietnam Moratorium are all ex-McCarthyites, for their position is the same: get the people off the streets, get them into responsible political channels where they can work for a politician who sounds like a "dove."

Why did McCarthy run? The answer was clear to Tom Wicker, who wrote in the New York Times, "McCarthy's purpose in running was to channel their (the students) energies into constructive political effort rather than let them explode in street demonstrations... If he did not totally succeed, at least he got an "A" for effort."

People argue, "Well, McCarthy didn't really want to get the U.S. out of Vietnam, but at least it was a step in the right direction." In reality, movements like McCarthy's have actually hurt the anti-war struggle--they have not attacked the issue of negotiations and have not attacked the "right" of the U.S. to be in Vietnam. McCarthy built a following around the notion of "let's start negotiating, and then we'll be on the road to peace." Two things have since become clear: (1) the "negotiations-now" position led people to mistakenly believe that withdrawal was around the corner, thus taking the steam out of the anti-war struggle. (2) The negotiations have been shown up for what they are, a ploy to keep people quiet at home while the government wages the war more viciously than ever. After one President's press conference even government officials admitted that the President saw the negotiations as a stalling tactic for "Vietnamization", i.e. building up the South Vietnamese army with American guns and American know-how.

The history of the anti-war movement is ripe with examples of how liberal politicians have tried desperately to channel all opposition to U.S. involvement in Vietnam into fake demands for negotiations or more "reasonable" solutions than total unconditional withdrawal. These movements put people on a merry-go-round which wears them down and leaves them cynical. It's no wonder that so many people have adopted the "you can't fight city hall" attitude when they have been led continuously by liberal and conservative politicians alike up so many dead ends.

While many have become cynical from all the lies and illusions about the Vietnam war which politicians have spread, many have learned from the past and seen these operations for what they are--old wine in new bottles. The way to end the war is not through symbolic actions or through mass demonstrations alone, but through ongoing anti-imperialist struggles--against ROTC, against university involvement with the Defense Department, against counter-insurgency institutes, etc.

cont. from p.2

provides an increase in pay when a regular worker is assigned to this position. Recently student workers are being used as a part of a long term effort to phase out the paint shop. Instead of hiring regular G&B workers at \$3.25 an hour, as a painter's helper, the university uses students at \$1.75. Also Tufts has hired a non-union subcontractor to paint many Tufts buildings.

Three things have become apparent during the course of the fight.

One is that it is very important to keep up the fight on campus in the summer. This means organizing summer school chapters of SDS. More and more students are seeing the importance of allying with workers in order to fight their common enemies, and they will carry these ideas with them when they return to their regular campuses in September. Since the summer school chapter at Tufts has begun, our work has progressed much more rapidly than earlier in the summer. The full-time workers are seeing that numbers of students, even though they are only going to be around for 6 weeks, want to fight the university bosses in pro-working class struggles. And the bosses are seeing this too!

Another thing is that we have learned a great lesson about unemployment. This is not just a way of attacking the working class to save profits by laying people off, but it is also the bosses' best way right now to build the divisions that they have created within the working class, especially racism and male chauvinism. If unemployment is not fought, the possibility of making real gains will be set back many years.

The third thing we learned was, again, the importance of allying with workers. This can't be emphasized enough. And here at Tufts what that means for now is overcoming years of defeatism and cynicism built up from having a lousy union that fights only for the bosses. We all have this defeatism in ourselves and many times it takes the form of elitism ("the other guys will just never fight back.") This is what we have to fight as an essential part of fighting back against Boss Mitchell and Tufts because only with the unity of workers can this fight be won.

Kathy Lannon Van Baehr
Tom Dorman George Goulding
Geoff Smith Robie Liscomb Tufts SDS

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Reject Liberal Politicians Fight ROTC, Fight Back!

National Interim Committee Report -- New York City -- July 4-5

The anti-war movement has grown tremendously during the recent national strike. Students have led massive struggles against ROTC, military research, and the other ways their schools are tied to the war effort. And even more exciting, thousands of workers joined with us in demanding the US end the war in S. E. Asia.

People who are running the war are pretty unhappy over these events. They have tried to portray the anti-war protesters as "bums" or a "small minority". This has not worked. So they have brought in their more "liberal" spokesmen to try to co-opt the movement. They hope to win thousands of students into working for liberal "peace candidates" as a way of ending the war. Many schools were shut down for the expressed purpose of getting students to work to elect these guys.

Let us not be tricked. These liberal politicians are not interested in getting the US out now. For example, a couple of SDS'ers went to a meeting in NYC at which Paul O'Dwyer, probably the most "liberal" of the liberals, spoke. Someone from the audience asked, "What's your plan for ending the war?" And he answered "Well, some people might think it's a popular position to withdraw all the troops now, but I don't think it can be done because even if we wanted to we don't have enough ships to handle the operation." If we have to depend on the likes of him we'll be in S.I. Asia forever.

The way to end the war is to reject these politicians and rely on the strength of thousands of students in militant struggle united with the millions of workers -- black and white, men and women -- who are the most hurt by the war and have the power to end it.

To implement this strategy, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) is calling for a national student strike beginning Tuesday, October 17, which will fight to eliminate things like ROTC, war research, and all the ways universities help the war effort. We will not be working to elect phony "peace candidates".

This strike will not be in unison with college presidents who talk good and continue programs like ROTC, but will fight the university administrators tooth and nail until they are no longer able to train even one officer to be used in Vietnam or to suppress a ghetto rebellion.

The last weekend in October, we will be holding a national convention, where we can all get together and discuss the best ways to further the strike until the whole country is shut down -- until the war is ended.

On election day SDS is calling a massive national demonstration in Chicago demanding that the US Stop Negotiating and GET OUT OF SE ASIA NOW! and that the US government stop its racist attacks on black people in this country. This demonstration will expose the elections as a hoax because no matter who is elected, "hawk" or "dove," the war will go on until we build a strong enough movement to end it. This demonstration will reject the idea of allying with liberal politicians to end the war and will put forward the strategy of militant struggles led by workers and students until the US gets completely out.

The importance of this demonstration should not be underestimated. For the first time, a national anti-war demonstration will have militant workers and students speaking about their struggles against the war instead of liberal politicians like Lindsay and McGovern, trying to co-opt the movement and get themselves elected. This demonstration will give the idea of a way to end the war, a big push forward because the thousands who attend will go back to the schools, communities, and shops with the perspective of building strikes and other militant struggles against the war.

SDS is inviting all other groups and individuals who want to end the war and fight racism to join us in making this election day in Chicago something the people who profit from the war will never forget.

Howie Wiener
NYC SDS

Fight Racist Rulers-

support ghetto rebellions

Unemployment is rising all over the country; but, as has always been the case, black and Third World people are hurt the worst by it. In New Bedford, Massachusetts estimates on unemployment have run all the way from eight to thirty-five per cent. Unemployment there for high school students is around forty per cent. In the rest of the nation, government figures put overall unemployment at near five per cent. These figures, bad as they may seem, do not represent the whole picture of unemployment, as they were figured from government employment office data which does not include the vast numbers of people who have not tried to get work through such offices or who have just given up looking for work.

Black and Third World people have always been the first to go when companies lay workers off; and it is these people who have the hardest time getting back on the job when the companies start rehiring. This racist treatment creates large pools of unemployed minority group workers which the bosses, the owners of the means of production, use to threaten and intimidate white workers, saying things like, "If you strike, there are plenty of black people out of work just waiting to take your job!" When the bosses do this they are using racism to hurt all workers; furthermore, in setting whites against blacks they are actually creating racism.

These wealthy businessmen use racism in another way to insure their profits: blacks and workers from other minority groups are consistently paid less than white workers who do the same jobs.

This same class of money hungry bosses hurts all working people with the war.

While they make billions in profits from the sales of war commodities, and while they reap fantastic profits from foreign investment, hurting the working people in other countries, working people in this country pay for the war through taxes and with their lives. But again, it is black people who are hurt the most. Almost half of the fighting men in Viet Nam are black, while they make up only eleven percent of the total population in the United States.

Black and other Third World people are fighting back against the terrible conditions they are forced to put up with. Ghetto rebellions are the most advanced and militant struggles of working people against the class of rich businessmen who for years have made profits from their misery. When they happen we should respond quickly with demonstrations and mass leafletting in support of them.

In New Bedford, Massachusetts, black, Puerto Rican, and Cape Verdian people, during the middle of July, fought for at least five days in an organized way against these bosses and their cops. The rebellion began when youths defended a black driver against the violent attack of a well known racist cop. During the first night of the rebellion the government's phony "Model Cities" office was burned. Model Cities had promised more and better housing for everyone but in fact spearheaded urban removal, destruction of hundreds of workers' homes to build highways needed by big business, and to build high income housing. Workers waged the struggle in a large scale, organized way. As police terror mounted, hundreds of workers met on the streets to discuss how to keep the

cops out. Barricades were erected and cop attacks were repelled by sticks and rocks. And when black-liberal Senator Brooke went into the ghetto to try selling out the people's fight by pushing pacifism, his life was threatened and he was thrown out of the ghetto. These people know their enemy is a class of people, the wealthy businessmen who run the city and systematically oppress them--not white people in general.

SDS in Boston has responded to rebellions in Asbury Park, N.J., New Bedford, Mass., and the Brownsville area of Brooklyn, N.Y. In order to act quickly (inside of eighteen hours in the case of Asbury Park) we organized telephone chains. In each case we worked through the night writing and printing leaflets and calling people. Demonstrations were held downtown and in working class neighborhoods. Some of the people we talked to are working with us now.

Students must see the need to fight against the war and racism and that the two are interrelated, that ghetto rebellions are a fight against the same class of people that is responsible for the war in South East Asia.

We must continue the fight against ROTC, war research, racist institutions and working conditions. These are concrete ways we can fight the war and racism.

SDS is building nationally for demonstrations in early August in support of ghetto rebellions and against the war. Help build for these demonstrations! Fight the war and racism, support ghetto rebellions!

Joanne Goldberg
Harry Baker Boston SDS

Business Week says invest
(re: EXPLOIT) abroad!

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Ness International

Strengthen The Fight Against

Male Chauvinism

While SDS has grown around the country as a fighting anti-imperialist organization, we have begun to see more clearly the need to combat many of our own bad ideas. A key issue has been defeating male chauvinism.

Bosses use chauvinist ideas: women aren't smart, they can't work as hard as men, they are frivolous and passive, they aren't actually supporting families, just working for extras - to justify paying women lower wages and making them work in worse conditions than they do men. Because the bosses are able to make people believe that women are inferior, it is hard for men and women to get together to fight the bosses that oppress them both. And meanwhile, the bosses reap huge profits off this division.

University administrators are just like any other boss in their use of chauvinism. They teach, actually push, the same ideas that the bosses put into practice. One way this chauvinism hurts students' fight is that it keeps students from seeing the necessity to fight for the demands of women workers. For example, students fighting against the chauvinist wage differential among Radcliffe cooks have found that men don't consider this fight important. In such cases when we have talked about the political necessity of fighting male chauvinism have united and made the fight against the boss stronger.

But more often students start a fight around the conditions of women workers and don't notice that the people they are fighting with and for are women. At the University of Chicago, students raised the demand of free meals for cafeteria workers. It took them four weeks to realize that all the cafeteria workers were black and another two weeks to realize that most of them were women. Until students pointed out that no free meals was part of the racist, male chauvinist abuses of workers, the struggle was really weak. People didn't take this demand seriously and they didn't take seriously the idea that the university is a boss. On all campuses, over half the workers are women and they invariably get the lowest paying jobs. Unless we recognize this chauvinism, we won't be able to fight it.

Male chauvinism makes it hard for students who are already fighting to get others to join. Women often feel uncomfortable about starting conversations with men or getting to know men better because they've been taught that they're not supposed to play that kind of a leading role. When women do talk politics to men outside the movement, the man often doesn't want to take her ideas seriously because 'everyone' knows that women are emotional and can't think rationally'. During a boycott of the cafeteria at the University of Illinois, when a woman was trying to talk a man out of crossing the line, the man said, 'I can't stand to have a woman tell me what to do', and went into the cafeteria. We should not ignore such statements; but rather talk about them when they occur, and try to get people to see how these statements continue the oppression of women, and also hurt men.

Women in SDS sometimes play on chauvinism in an attempt to combat anti-SDS attitudes by coming on like 'nice sweet girls who really won't hurt you like they say all those SDSers will'. This is really bad -- it just builds the idea that girls are easily duped; it admits to the premise that SDSers do hurt people; and certainly does nothing to defeat chauvinism.

CHAUVINISM STRENGTHENS PACIFISM

Because of chauvinism, men in SDS often don't feel that it's important to struggle with women who aren't in SDS. For example, when a couple walks up to a boycott line or comes to an SDS meeting, people tend to talk mostly to the man. Or men may try to talk politics seriously to women, but not be aware of how deeply set chauvinism is and therefore not be effective in talking to her. For instance, one guy invited a girl he had been talking to in class to an SDS party. She thought he was inviting her as a date so when he called up to explain that he couldn't give her a ride because his girlfriend was sick, she didn't understand. Because of chauvinist ideas, both on the part of the girl and the SDS guy involved, the girl assumed he talked to her more for 'romantic' reasons than because he felt that it was important for her to participate in SDS programs. By the same token, the guy should have realized

that the misunderstanding was probable, and made the invitation so the girl would know that his girlfriend or other people were coming.

One very blatant effect of chauvinism on SDS meetings is that usually not nearly as many new women as men show up for them. Also, women are often very hesitant to speak up at meetings or in discussions and expose their ideas. Another problem, which is related to this, is that women in SDS often view themselves as 'base builders', not ideologists. In other words, they figure they can be friendly and get to know people and win them over to SDS ideas, but can't really play a role in forming those ideas or making decisions. Women and men must both struggle against this view of women as non-thinkers. One way to do this is for leaders in SDS to make an extra effort to consult and include women in

making decisions (1) because their opinions are necessary and valuable, (2) because it will help them to fight their own chauvinized attitudes.

Chauvinism also strengthens pacifism in women. Women are very often afraid to fight physically because 'I don't know how' or 'I might get hurt'. For instance, in Chicago, one SDSer was attacked by three Weathermen as three SDS women stood by, not doing anything to help him. This wouldn't have happened if there had been more struggle beforehand against the male chauvinist idea that women can't be fighters. At San Francisco State, where this idea was struggled against, women played a leading role in fighting off the cops during the strike there.

MORE SELF-CRITICAL APPROACH

One thing we must start doing is correcting chauvinist ideas when they come out in meetings. For instance, someone talking about the GE strikers at a recent meeting mentioned the 'guys' on the picket lines, when actually there were both men and women there. Usually these things go by uncorrected and therefore help to build chauvinism. We should also fight against an intimidating atmosphere at meetings -- one in which peo-

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Even a "dumb blond" -- the owners of Dictaphone Corporation brag -- can work "our new line of calculators." The above advertisement, clipped from the Wall Street Journal (4/23/70) is only one example of the way in which the bosses' press builds male chauvinism. Not only are secretaries "dumb" and sexy, they are also obviously underworked. Notice the uncluttered desk. Obviously she has nothing better to do all day than to attend to her nails.

Cont. from preceding page

ple feel they have to make long speeches in order to be listened to. This affects both men and women new to SDS, but affects women more because they aren't as used to making speeches.

One of the strongest bastions of male chauvinism is personal relationships. Practices which are easily recognizable and fought within a group of people become much more subtle and harder to tackle on a one-to-one basis. The most important factor in fighting chauvinism in personal relationships is guaranteeing discussion or struggle with the understanding that both people must be willing to be critical, self-critical, and willing to work on changing their bad practices. It is only in such a situation that women will not internalize problems; but rather bring them forward and discuss them without bitterness. Conversely, only when men see that they are not the originators of male chauvinism and that a better relationship ensues when they fight it, will they actively try to change themselves.

It is also a good situation when men point out their chauvinist practices to each other. Occasionally a couple will discuss something while other people are present and the man will use chauvinism. It is the tendency for other people to remain silent and assume it's not their business. In actuality they can contribute a lot by pointing out the man's bad practice. In the first place, the discussion and relationship can only improve. Also, other people will learn from the situation. It is when we fight male chauvinism in ourselves that we can better convince others of the necessity to fight it. And it is when people are involved in fighting it that they can also fight the people who benefit materially from its practice -- the people who rule this country.

In the past we've been lax in bringing up male chauvinism in a mass way. In most leaflets or

struggles on campus, chauvinism has been hardly mentioned, much less explained. This has made it seem that chauvinism isn't important to fight against. It also makes it harder to fight chauvinist ideas when we encounter them. It's absolutely necessary that we change this and start more discussions on male chauvinism in leaflets, meetings, forums, etc.

ROLE OF WOMEN'S CAUCUSES

SDS women's caucuses can be helpful in fighting chauvinism and building SDS. In the past, some women's liberation groups have been formed that built the idea that all men are enemies of all women. They didn't see the struggle against the oppression of women as part of the struggle against racism and imperialism, or explain that in order to fight women's oppression, men and women both have to fight the people who cause it and benefit from it.

The purpose of a woman's caucus should be (1) to bring women who hesitate because of male chauvinism into SDS, (2) to strengthen the political understanding and develop the leadership of women, and (3) to promote struggle against chauvinism in the chapter. They should talk about racism, the war, and current struggles going on, as well as male chauvinism in these meetings.

In order to fight male chauvinism, women must take the lead in the fight. Because of the oppression of women, however, it is often difficult for women to do this. THIS is the reason caucuses should be formed -- in order to improve the ability of women to (1) change their own attitudes which are chauvinized (or attitudes of subservience) and (2) to struggle with men to overcome their male chauvinist attitudes and practices. Therefore, one of the goals of a woman's caucus should be to dissolve itself, i.e. to strive for the situation in which men see the importance

of fighting male chauvinism and will do it side by side with women. Unless this happens, there is the imminent possibility that the caucus will become anti-men. Unless women strive to make such a fighting alliance with the men, it is all too easy for them to become cynical about men's desire to defeat chauvinism. Unless included in planning and discussing methods to improve the situation, men (and women) are liable to misunderstand or become bewildered when implementation takes place. When this occurs in the case of men, it is easy then for women to assume that men aren't serious about defeating chauvinism. The end result: animosity and distrust on both sides, rather than improvement. It is a positive (rather than an anti-men) approach that shows people that chauvinism is not just a women's problem. The same approach will lead to a situation in which a women's caucus isn't necessary because women feel comfortable about raising their ideas in regular mixed meetings.

In order to defeat chauvinism, we must be constantly aware of it and of the necessity to fight it. If it is not fought against, the oppression of women and men will continue.

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If you haven't been receiving your New Left Notes; or if you've changed your address for the summer, please send your address to the National Headquarters: 173a Mass. Ave, Boston, Mass. 02115.

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Militant Sanitation Strike Southern Movement Grows

'The movement in the south is a few years behind' or is 'retarded' are statements which attack southern students and workers like those at Augusta, Orangeburg and Jackson State. These people have fought and died and continue to fight against the war and racism. At this time in Atlanta hundreds of people are involved in different actions. Members of SDS and PL recently arrived in Atlanta joined in a sit-in at the Dobbs House restaurant where strikers had been picketing for nine weeks. We talked to the picketers and found they were earning \$1.60 an hour before the strike. The workers thought that a sit-in would be a good tactic to use in order to talk to the scabs and other people who were crossing picket lines to eat in the restaurant. The firing of 57 black workers has touched off a strike at Butler Shoe Co. The firings came after workers stormed the bosses' segregated bathroom.

We think that one good way to bring a lot of people together in effective struggle would be to build an anti-war conference to plan a march against the war and racism in August. We have met many people through selling New Left Notes who are interested in the idea. The more people and new ideas the better, so please get in touch with us at Box and we'll do it together.

One of the sharpest examples of struggle in the south is the Atlanta sanitation workers' strike:

When Sam Massell came to office on Jan. 5, 1970, he said his administration would like to be a 'people's administration', but the strike of sanitation workers (AFSCME 1644) showed the people of Atlanta he was just another puppet of big business.

On Tuesday, March 17, 1970, 2500 city sanitation workers walked off their jobs in disputes over a five dollar raise to 2300 of the lowest paid workers. Massell offered only to give the raise to a handful of employees. This was the beginning of one of the dirtiest strikes in Atlanta's history.

First, Massell threatened to fire striking employees if they did not return to work by noon Friday. A few workers returned, but most stayed out, and Massell not only fired the workers who stayed on strike but offered city prisoners time off their prison sentences if they scabbed.

All during the strike the city claimed they didn't have enough money to give the workers (average pay \$70-\$80 weekly) a pay raise, but it seemed

to find enough money to pay policemen a half million dollars in overtime wages to ride shotgun on sanitation trucks manned by scabs.

Meetings between union and city officials were often heated confrontations with accusations and counter-accusations made by each side. An economic boycott of downtown business districts was initiated with nightly marches made from West Hunted Street Baptist Church. It soon became a daily ritual. Marchers swarmed through the stores chanting 'Don't shop -- Boycott' and 'Don't shop -- Shoplift'.

The mayor said garbage pickup was 60% normal. Garbage was picked up in the very rich neighbor-

hoods, but left to pile up in cans in the black areas.

On April 22, Earth Day, the sanitation workers were sold out to AFSCME. Union representatives accepted the contract for the sanitation workers. The workers learned they must rely on their rank and file militancy, not union sellouts.

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