



HIGHWAY 13

a newspaper by GI's and veterans



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DEMOS ROCK D.C.

The Bum Is Out

Richard Nixon resigned from the presidency on August 9th because, he said, he had lost his "base of support in the Congress." As one liberal columnist put it, that was like saying that a patient died because his heart stopped beating, meaning that the "real reason" for the resignation was the indisputable evidence that Nixon was guilty of Watergate-related felonies. That's like saying that his heart stopped beating because there was a hole through it.

What really shot Nixon down, of course, was the American people, who had shown in every way possible that they were thoroughly sick of Nixon and his policies. And people were beginning to wake up to the fact that Nixon's crimes -- not just Watergate, but the war crimes committed in Indochina, and the economic policies that are strangling the average American in order to bail out big business -- were really part of the system, not individual Nixon nastiness. So, in order to prevent such subversive ideas as "all politicians are crooks" from catching hold any further, Nixon's "base of support in the Congress" decided to get together and support someone who wouldn't give them all such a bad name.

The liberal media, especially the Washington Post-Newsweek-CBS conglomerate, which had been gleefully airing Nixon's dirty laundry to the world for two years, now went along with the game. In print and over the airwaves the universal message was: the system is working, healing itself; the presidential resignation is a necessary, but yet a tragic occurrence; all Americans are properly solemn and dignified on this somber occasion. That was the myth. On the evening of the resignation speech, the network anchormen were brought back to reality with a shock as they switched to their on-the-scene reporters in front of the White House. "You might think it would be very somber here on Pennsylvania Ave," one reporter began, "But it isn't." He was putting it mildly. There had indeed been a "somber" group of tourists in front of the palace most of the day. Then, about 8 o'clock, a VVAW/WSO contingent arrived with picket signs reading "Jail to the Chief!" and "Impeach the System!" The Park Police (or Pork Police, if you prefer) prevented them from picketing, but as a more radical crowd began to gather, the signs came back up, and the cops decided to see if they could keep the activity at the picket sign level.

They didn't have much luck. At 9 o'clock, Nixon came on the air, and the crowd of sev-

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G.I.s at DEMO

At least 12-15 active duty G.I.s participated in the march and demonstration of July 4th. G.I.s from Ft. Meade and other nearby bases such as Andrews AFB, and Ft. Myer were there, as well as 4 marines who drove all the way from Cherry Point Marine Base in North Carolina specifically for the demonstration.

The active duty people carried signs and banners reading "G.I. UNITY", "Active Duty-Active Resistance" and others. The G.I. contingent marched near the head of the demonstration. This emphasized two very important facts. First VVAW/WSO, being an organization largely made up of veterans, recognizes the special oppression with which servicepeople are faced. Secondly, this showed the concrete, fighting support, VVAW/WSO offers to all G.I.s in the struggle.

The G.I.'s, in turn, displayed a clear anti-imperialist consciousness. By their participation in the day's events, they showed their realization that we will never end our own individual oppression within the service, until we end the oppression of all people the world over. We will never escape the torture of the UCNJ or the humiliation of "Siring" officers, until we throw the whole military system off our backs and refuse to be used as the tools of the government to oppress people throughout the world.

We must fight no more Vietnams, and we must never allow ourselves to be used as tools as strikebreakers or riot cops.

SEE CENTERFOLD FOR MORE ON DEMO

Cyprus

On Sunday, August 18th, a huge crowd, estimated at at least 20,000 people, marched around the White House in Washington protesting the Turkish conquest of a major part of Cyprus. While some of the demonstrators carried signs appealing to President Ford not to forget his "friends" in Greece, most were not so naive. Most prominent were signs and chants demanding the removal of U.S. bases from Greece, an end to CIA involvement in Greece and Cyprus, and an end to the shipment of American arms that are making the invasion possible. The demonstration shows a remarkable rise in awareness of Greek-Americans, probably sparked in part by the militant riots by Greeks in the old country against years of manipulation and exploitation by the United States.

The action, like those in Greece and Cyprus, was sparked by the brutal Turkish conquest of half of Cyprus in early August. The Turks had originally occupied a small area in northern Cyprus to prevent a fascist group which had overthrown the elected Cypriot government from taking over the country and oppressing the country's Turkish minority (about 1/5 of the population). But this month, after the fascists had not been overthrown in Cyprus, but in Greece as well, the Turks, with the tacit approval of the U.S., broke the second UN cease-fire (they had already been flagrantly ignoring the first one), and occupied over one-third of the island. In the process, they drove up to 150,000 Greek Cypriots from their homes, which they then looted; raped and murdered others, and destroyed crops and livestock, the only livelihood of the Greek peasants.

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THINGS TO DO:

FREE FILM and DINNER

"A Question of Torture," an excellent film about South Vietnamese political prisoners, and "Potemkin," the famous silent flick about a mutiny in the Russian Czar's navy, will be shown at the project Sept 4th and 18th respectively, at 7:30 PM. Bring something to eat or drink, if you can, but no one will go hungry.

SPEAKER

Cesar Chavez will speak for the United Farmworkers of America (AFICIO) at Hopkins University, on Sunday, September 15th, at 7:00 p.m. in Silver Hall, Baltimore, MD.

THE MILITARY LAW PROJECT is planning a discussion & workshop on military law and counseling designed to teach GI's legal information and skills so they can protect themselves and help their friends. The one-day workshop will be held on a weekend in September.

The workshop will be led by an experienced counselor, and there will be no charge. Topics to be covered include:

Administrative discharges

How to fight Art. 15's

Filing complaints against officers and other useful information.

If you want to come, please call us at 792-0915 or 366-7200.

INSIDE - PRESTON PLEADS GUILTY

URINALYSIS DEFEATED

Drug testing is not legal--GI's force military to stop urinalysis program.
KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS! Page 6

GI'S BOYCOTT GIANT

Support the United Farm Workers, 2-4 pm Saturday, Laurel Shopping Center. Page 8

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News from The "FRONTIERS OF FREEDOM"

portugal

Antonio de Spinola, the conservative general who became president of Portugal following the overthrow of the fascists in April, has failed in an attempt to consolidate his position relative to left-wing forces in Lisbon politics. Radical junior officers forced the president to name one of their number as prime minister in June, and since that time, Portugal has moved to recognize the independence of Guinea-Bissau, her smallest mainland African colony. Also, popular unrest forced the relaxation of censorship, which was imposed when radical newspapers began advocating the desertion of soldiers with orders for Africa.

mozambique

Mozambique, meanwhile, is moving toward independence as Frelimo, the insurgent liberation movement, consolidates its control in the north of the colony and continues to advance in the central area. There have even been pro-Frelimo demonstrations in Lorenc Marques in the far south. Although the government in Lisbon wants to ensure that the country is handed over to an African government before chaos develops, South Africa and Rhodesia, both white racist dictatorships, and Malawi, South Africa's "Uncle Tom" black ally, are supporting moves by white settlers to detach the south and keep it ruled by whites. But many liberal whites oppose such moves, and most others seem to have little faith in their possibility of success: half the country's white settlers will have moved out by this fall. Meanwhile, the army has totally stopped fighting. The only contact with Frelimo is in soccer matches or joint patrols where the two sides co-operate to maintain law and order. One Portuguese outpost, deep in Frelimo country awoke one morning to hear a loudspeaker telling them to lay down their arms because the war was over. They were so eager to comply that they didn't even bother to check with higher headquarters -- and now, for them anyway, the war is over.



ABOVE:

Radical Portuguese sailors demonstrate for socialism and an end to the African war. The Portuguese active-duty anti-war movement has virtually paralyzed the armed forces in the African and Asian colonies.

BELOW:

Zimbabwean nationalist freedom fighters defend liberated areas of northeastern Rhodesia (called Zimbabwe by the Africans who make up 90% of the people but have no say in politics.) U.S. purchase of Rhodesian chrome supports the oppressive white regime, but the importation may soon be stopped due to a massive campaign especially among dockworkers, who refuse to unload the ore.



ethiopia

In Ethiopia, the feudal nobility which has ruled the country for centuries was overthrown completely during the past several months by middle-class groups led by junior army officers. Hundreds of dukes and princes are under arrest in an army barracks near the capital, and the first calls for removal of Emperor Haile Selassie, who has ruled for almost fifty years, are being heard. Whether the monarch is ousted or retained no longer makes much difference; he has already been stripped of all powers. The real priority for the new rulers of Ethiopia are the crushing poverty, illiteracy, and disease that put the ancient empire in the running for the distinction of the world's most backward nation. The old ruling class was supported in power by the United States, which has large economic interests in the country, as well as an important military base. American businessmen didn't want any of their potential profits wasted on the welfare of the Ethiopian people, and are unlikely to have a change of heart. The young reformers will therefore most likely have to choose between continuing their relationship with America and improving the condition of the Ethiopian people, who supported them in their rise to power.

vietnam

As a result of a continuing campaign by what the straight press likes to refer to as the "remnants of the anti-war movement", the American people now seem to be pretty much aware that the war in Indochina is far from over. The continued opposition to the war and its expenditures has resulted in drastic congressional cuts in aid to the Thieu dictatorship in South Vietnam. Coming on top of the refusal of a supplemental appropriation a few months ago, the lack of aid has severely curtailed Saigon's shelling and bombing of the liberated areas of the country. It has also meant the wholesale abandonment of a whole series of outposts established in liberated territory in violation of the Paris Accords. To add to Thieu's troubles, the insurgents have been launching limited attacks on three fronts -- the Que-son valley, War Zone D, near Tay-ninh, and the Ho-bo woods -- to punish the ARVN for their shellings of nearby liberated areas, and to force them to abide by the Accords, which they officially renounced in January, but which the Revolutionaries still recognize and would like to implement.

CYPRUS

CONTINUED from Page 1

As part of ancient and medieval Greece, Cyprus was conquered by the Turkish empire along with the rest of the country. In that empire, Turkish officials oppressed all the people, but the better-educated Greeks often controlled commerce and intellectual life. So Turkish peasants were taught to hate rich Greek merchants -- and therefore all Greeks. After some of Greece became independent, poor Greeks were rallied behind the merchants and priests who ruled (and still rule) the country, and who could point to Turkey as the oppressor of the Greek people.

Britain stepped into this picture a century ago by "helping" Greece liberate some more of Greece from the Turks -- and helped itself to the island of Cyprus. Like the rest of Greece, Cyprus had a large Turkish minority, which had settled there during the centuries of Turkish rule. After WWI, the Turks in Greek-ruled territory were sent back to Turkey, and the Greeks still under Turkish rule were sent to what is now Greece. "British" Cyprus was exempted from this exchange. Thus, when the Greek people revolted in the 'fifties, the British colonialists could use ancient hatreds to divide the Cypriot people against each other, just as they had done in Palestine with the Arabs and Jews, in Guiana with the Blacks and Indians, in Ireland with the Protestants and Catholics, in Malaya with the Malays and Chinese, and in India with the Hindus and Moslems (to name a few instances; divide and rule was the Empire's number one favorite tactic for keeping the natives in their place.)

Faced with guerrilla resistance aimed at uniting Cyprus with Greece, Britain set the island up as an "independent" state -- totally controlled by Britain economically, and with two huge British bases that are legally British, not Cypriot, territory. There was sporadic communal strife in the new republic, but

it came to a head when the fascist Greek government tried to overthrow the Cypriot government arranged the overthrow of the democratic Cypriot regime. The idea was to annex Cyprus, to provide the Athens regime with a dip-



lomatic triumph to take the Greek people's minds off the poverty and repression of their day-to-day lives. When Turkey invaded northern Cyprus, the Greek people were so outraged at the fascists that both the Athens government and its newly-established puppet on Cyprus were overthrown.

The significance of that move should not be overestimated; far-right forces control the economy and military of Greece, just as before, and the new premier, Karamanlis, while no fascist, is extremely conservative. But, like in Portugal, progressive forces have begun to move, and it is certain that the fascists would have a hard time re-establishing their power.

Turkey's original motive of invading to protect Turkish Cypriots from the Greek Fascists was viewed sympathetically by many. But the Turkish government is only slightly less overtly fascist, as was shown when the Turks moved out of their small beachhead and overran almost half of Cyprus. Obviously, Turkey has her eye on conquering the island.

The United States had originally backed the Greek move to annex Cyprus, since the Pentagon would like to take over the big British bases if (or, rather, when) the bankrupt and crumbling British Empire decides to give them up. Since the navy already had home-porting privileges in Greece, it seemed a good idea to make Cyprus part of Greece. The Soviet Union, just as greedy, but smarter, backed the retention of Cyprus as an independent mini-state, hoping to get predominate influence there after the British departure, and take over the bases. Now things are different: as soon as the fascists fell, Washington dropped the Greeks like a hot potato, since top strategists suddenly considered Turkey "more strategic", but America is still trying to play both sides of the fence, in the hope of salvaging the NATO alliance, to which both Greece and Turkey belong. Russia, on the other hand, is going along with Greece, which increases the chance of the Greek Communist Party (KKE in Greek) having a major role in the government. (Like in Portugal and elsewhere, the KKE is not really a workers party, their own rhetoric to the contrary, but is merely interested in promoting (1) the Soviet Union, and, (2) itself.) Backing Greece also makes Russia look good at a time when world opinion is turning against Turkey.

Demonstrations such as the one in Washington, and others in Greece and Cyprus (where the US ambassador was killed) have had an effect on American policy. But the situation is extremely volatile, and if the U.S. finally decides on a coherent policy, it may include the use of armed forces in the area. The purpose of that could only be one thing: to ensure the maintenance of established American bases in Greece and/or Turkey, or to take over new ones on Cyprus. If GIs are asked to risk their lives to conquer more overseas duty stations for their successors in uniform, there is only one logical answer for them to give.

HENDRIX TRIAL

Thank you for your article of May 74 on my case. I especially liked your emphasis of my trying for a retrial and not just a legal technical acquittal. The American public is only vaguely aware of fraggings in Vietnam and the extent of their occurring. Much as the public wants to forget Vietnam, to prevent future political wars you have to understand the reactions of G.I.s to the last one.

I didn't "frag" anyone, but by showing the extent and the reasons for this type of crime I can show why C.I.D. was so desperate for a conviction of anyone for a fragging.

If I'm successful in obtaining a retrial, Highway 13 would be largely responsible for that. My brother, who was in the Army at the time, went to the Military Law Project trying to find an attorney for myself. One that wasn't afraid to fight the military and was considerate of the fact that most G.I.s don't have much money. Your office recommended another C. West in Balt. He now represents me. He is filing my appeal before the U.S. Court of Military Appeals in about a week. The grounds for relief being that the attorneys appointed me in my '71 Vietnam court-martial were aligning themselves with my prosecutors. They tried to keep me from getting the death penalty but didn't contest or present any evidence. This can be proved, which it is in Mr. West's brief.

I will keep you informed on what happens. Can you send me a copy of the quote of Thomas Payne referring to the Winter Soldier?

Solidarity -- Gary Hendrix, #34681, Box 1000
Petersburg, VA 23803

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

PATUXENT

Brother's

I've just finished reading some material concerning the VVAW/WSO, Insideout, Winter Soldier and the pamphlet that gives the rundown on the VVAW/WSO and what it is all about.

A Brother inmate here gave me the material, he also said that the VVAW/WSO may help us in giving us the support we need so much to stop the behavior modification and experimentation taking place in here.

I would like to give you a brief run-down on what Patuxent is:

Patuxent Institution was built with the concept of warehousing criminals, (Defective Delinquent), defined as: an individual who, by the demonstration of persistent aggravated anti-social or criminal activity, and who is found to have either such intellectual deficiency or emotional unbalance, or both as to clearly demonstrate an actual danger to society. Also, a man may be kept in Patuxent Institution for an indeterminate period, no matter what the original sentence may have been, the man's freedom is decided by the psychiatrists and the governing board of Patuxent Institution.

As I stated, Patuxent is supposed to be for men who are persistent criminals, but right now there are quite a few men in here that were never in prison before, some age seventeen. I myself have never been in prison before.

The so-called psychiatrists in here really do not care what happens to the inmate, and really do not try to help the inmate even if he does have a mental illness, which is usually not so. The psychiatrists in here actually advocate homosexuality, some of the weaker inmates who want out of the hell hole actually submit themselves to the doctors' advice.

On November 8, 1973, myself and eight(8) other inmates decided that something had to be done to stop these people. We wanted the people of the State to know just what takes place in here. The results of this incident, riot as the administration called it, was that the nine (9) of us were put in the "hole" after the State Police used a World War II Armored Car to bust in a wall. We were kept in the "hole" for forty-five (45) days to ninety (90) days. When we came out of the "hole" we were all placed on administration segregation (graveyard) just a form of behavior modification. I was told that I would be allowed off when I was "broken". When a man is placed on administration segregation he is kept in his cage on the average of twenty-three and a half (23½) hours a day, allowed out of the cage for just four and a half (4½) hours a week, in other words.

I came to this institution (?) in July, 1971, and as soon as I saw what was happening, I refused to speak to any doctors at all. I stayed here for sixteen months, and a judge made a decision and sent forty-four (44) men out of here to other institutions. I myself went to the Maryland Correctional Institution in Hagerstown, Maryland. I was there nine (9) months and I programmed, I joined self-help groups, worked, and had good-conduct. On June 12, 1973, I was granted parole, but just four (4) days before my release I was sent back here and into my present situation. Now, my five (5) year sentence has expired and I am doing Mr Agnew's time with no light of freedom because I refused to talk to any of these doctors, which I have been doing since my arrival here, three (3) years ago.

governments like the one in South Korea, so the five are going before a court martial sometime in August.

The marines, who object to being hired guns for a tin-horn Hitler like Pak, are part of a world-wide chorus of protests that has already had its effect: many of the death sentences in Korea have been commuted, the most odious of the decrees have been repealed,

Recently the News American Newspaper ran a series of exposing articles (June 9th June 13th) on Patuxent Institution, now there is going to be an investigation in Patuxent. But, the investigation is being conducted by the governing boards of Patuxent, as you know from Mr. Nixon no one can investigate themselves.

We are in desperate need of support, five (5) of us are in need of help in the courtroom because we have been charged with the Nov. 8 incident. All the inmates in here need support in getting the investigation turned over to someone who will not whitewash it.

I have sent twenty-eight petitions out in the last month. I have twenty-six ready to mail and eighteen more to write, as soon as possible I'll mail one to you if you like.

I hope there is something that you and the VVAW/WSO can do to help us, we need all the support we can get.

In Struggle,
Stewart E. B. Layman

Dear Brother,

Your letter makes us want to do everything we can as quickly as possible to help you. But this has both good and bad aspects. On one hand we are in a position on the outside where we can pass out those petitions and write articles in our papers to expose the bad conditions. This is what you ask, and we will do all of these things.

But that is not enough. You see, VVAW/WSO is an "anti-imperialist" organization. We know that the system cannot be changed from within. We know that ending the system of imperialism -- where one group of people lives off the work the rest of us do -- is the only real way of stopping the oppression you and we face.

Our role is twofold. First, we are a GI and veterans organization. Our main contribution is to build a strong organization that will fight for the day-to-day needs of GI's and vets, and show through this struggle that the system is at the root of their problems. Secondly, we work to join the struggles of vets with prisoners, students, and workers who are also building organizations. This coalition, a united front against imperialism, is the only way revolutionary changes will be won.

Our economic system is at the roots of our problems, not some bad guy Warden or judge or president or psychiatrist. When they are screwing us they are just doing their job -- the job the imperialist system is paying them to do. Sure, the rulers (big businesses, politicians & generals) are forced to throw out their flunkies every now and then, but only when the people are angry and ready to fight. The investigation you say is being whitewashed will be the same no matter who runs it. Whether they are liberals, like Kennedy, or conservatives, like Rockefeller, they are still screwing you.

Exposing the conditions in Patuxent is the first step. Indeterminate sentences and psychological and physical abuse are common. There is a trial scheduled Sept. 9th at the Howard County Courthouse, where Roosevelt Murray (another Patuxent inmate) will reveal the truth about Patuxent treatment. We will be there, and we encourage everyone to come.

But even more important, we urge people to contact and work with MARYLANDERS AGAINST PATUXENT. They will meet Aug. 29th, 7:30 pm at St. Ambrose Church in Baltimore, and can be reached at (301) 391-4782. By struggling together, we can expose the abuse in the prison system and go on to end the causes of that oppression.

and the parliament, long inactive, has been recalled without anti-Pak legislators being arrested for criticizing the dictator as had been threatened. The real victory, however, will come when the Korean people, realizing that they have international support, overthrow the Pak regime and free their country from foreign domination. And that will not only be a victory for them, but for every GI with orders for Korea.

Marines Fight Back

Ever since the early fifties, hundreds of thousands of GIs have been stationed in Korea and Japan in order to bolster the South Korean government. The reason for this expensive commitment is that that regime permits American and Japanese companies to control the country's economy and monopolize its resources. Strikes are also forbidden in Korea, which makes it a nice place to set up a factory if labor is getting too expensive back home. Increasing internal resistance to this kind of foreign-dominated government forced the Seoul government to resort to brutal repression in order to avoid being ousted. While mouthing platitudes about the restoration of democracy, the US government has gone along with, and supported, the repressive measures.

Our government's real attitude was demonstrated in July when five Marines stationed in Iwakuni, Japan, were arrested for showing others copies of a signature letter protesting recent death and prison sentences issued to 55 Koreans and Japanese for such crimes as belonging to or supporting a banned Student organization, or proposing changes in the constitution. The condemned included Kim Chi-ha, Korea's best-known modern poet. The five, members of the Iwakuni chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization, were planning to send the letter to a senator. They were off-duty, off post, and in civvies when apprehended displaying the letter.

There is no question that the marines were within their rights in doing what they did. They had purposely used a letter, rather than a petition or a leaflet, because those are prohibited by regulations (which they chose not to violate, even though they are clearly unconstitutional). Both U.S. law, which permits service members to write to their congresspeople, and Japanese law, which allows off-base political activity, so long as it is aimed at other Americans, not Japanese, expressly recognizes the legality of their actions. The military brass, which supports the Pak Chung-hi regime in Seoul, on the other hand, wants to ensure that GIs will continue to be used as tools to perpetuate



JULY
4th

Demonstrators march down Constitution Ave., in Washington on their way to the Ellipse, where 5000 rallied on July 4th.

VETS SEIZE VA LOBBY

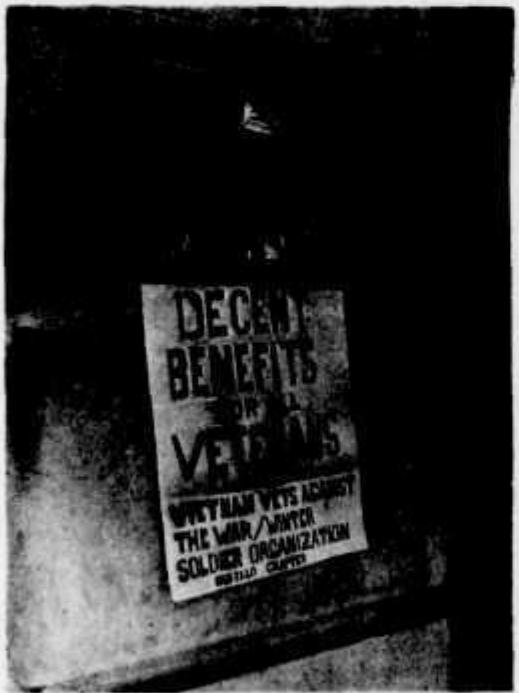
On July 1st, the first day of VVAW/WSO's national action in Washington, the first elements of what ended up as a massive 1200-person body began to arrive at the campsite on the mall. The large Wisconsin contingent, and others, were loaded onto a bus and taken to the Veterans' Administration National Headquarters at Vermont Ave. and H St., NW, to "set up a picket line". Once they were on the bus, they were told that a take-over of the lobby was planned, and that anyone who wanted to go in should be ready to do so when the tactical leadership gave the signal. The purpose was to force acting VA administrator Richard Roudebush to come down and discuss VVAW/WSO's demands for decent benefits and a single-type discharge for all vets.

Whether the entry could be made or not was doubtful at best from the start. Washington chapter members had tried a similar action only three days

before, but, although members had made sure not to discuss the plan beforehand on either the tapped office phone or in the bugged office itself, word had leaked out (probably through Watergate-style surveillance), and the lobby was full of cops by the time the vets got to the office.

Inside, the demonstrators began chanting: "We want the director!" until Roudebush, accompanied by an entourage of every kind of bureaucrat in VA-dom, descended to talk to four representatives of the group. After two hours of beating around the bush, the VVAW/WSO people decided that there was no point in wasting any more time listening to all the various reasons why the VA couldn't and/or wouldn't take any action to meet the needs of America's 7 million Vietnam-era vets.

Although it was unfortunate that the VVAW/WSO reps let themselves be suckered into spending two hours listening to Roudebush's excuses, the fact that he refused to discuss anything substantial with us reveals what our organization has come more and



more to realize: that the VA is our enemy, and is only a smokescreen to fool us into thinking that we, as vets, have an honored place in society. Sam Shorr, VVAW/WSO national coordinator, made that point in a speech in front of the VA the next day: VVAW/WSO is no longer going to waste time talking to the VA; from now on we are going to confront them and organize as many vets as possible to fight back against them. That point of view became official VVAW/WSO policy in August, when the organization's national Steering Committee voted to conduct a national campaign against the VA, to be kicked off this Veterans' Day by a series of investigations into the oppression of vets across the country. In this area, there will be an investigation in Washington the weekend of Oct. 27th (official vets' day) and another in Baltimore on Nov. 11th (traditional vets' day).

The second time around, an even bigger risk had to be taken: there were so many demonstrators that the bus had to make two trips, which meant that the first load of demonstrators was picketing outside the VA for half an hour, after being told that an entry into the building was planned, before the second load showed up to make a big enough crowd to make an entry possible. The risk, of course was that any agents on the bus would be tipped off to the plan. However, there were either none on the bus, or the vigilance of the brothers and sisters kept them from reporting their knowledge, because as soon as the second crowd arrived, one of the tactical leaders, dressed very straight, walked into the lobby (which was crowded with cops in riot gear), then walked out through the automatic door. Since the cops were keeping an eye on the entrance, some 25 demonstrators got in through

the people raised the demands and unveiled a 100 foot long vets "shit list" containing complaints from vets in New York about the way in which the VA treats vets. At the White House a dummy of Nixon was hung and kicked in "his ass for the crimes of his class." At the Court of Military Appeals a spokesperson burned up his "honorable" discharge since all multiple discharges are worthless scraps of paper.

Throughout the day construction workers and others lined the streets waving and cheering the demonstrators. These signs of solidarity raised the spirit and unity of the marchers causing them to realize that nothing the government would try to do could stop them from raising their demands.

VVAW/WSO

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization (VVAW/WSO) demonstration held in Washington, D.C. from July 1-4 brought together veterans, active duty GIs, workers, and students for a series of militant anti-imperialist actions. The spirit and unity of the people during those four days made the demonstration a major victory in building a united anti-imperialist movement in this country.

Members of VVAW/WSO, active duty GIs from Highway 13 and other bases, former POWs, members of Revolutionary Union, Indo China Solidarity Committee, Revolutionary Student Brigade and other groups began arriving in Washington on July 1. After setting up a campsite on the mall at the foot of the Capitol, veterans and non-vets together marched on the VA. Once there a picket line was set up while twenty protesters stormed the building demanding to see the head of the VA. Faced with such a large militant picket line, the VA leadership met with three protesters. It quickly became clear that talking to the VA was useless, they just do not listen to us. This action made it clear that this imperialist system in which we live and which the VA is one part is incapable of meeting the needs of the masses of people in the US.

After this incursion into the VA the people returned to the mall to hold meetings, have dinner, and prepare to try and sleep on the mall despite the fact that the government refused to give us permission to do so. VVAW/WSO had won the right to sleep on the mall in U.S. District Court only to have the government get two lackeys on the Court of Appeals to deny us the "legal" right to sleep. That action made it clear that the government wanted to stop the demonstration before it happened.

Around 5AM, mounted police approached the mall to harass us and hopefully arrest some of the sleeping protesters. Leadershi woke everybody up, assembled them in a line facing the police and the people raised their fist in a show of unity and strength. No one was busted.

That day, July 2, although the people had gotten little sleep, 400 marched and demonstrated at the VA, demanding "Decent Benefits for All Vets," at the White House demanding "Kick Nixon Out," and at the US Court of Military Appeals demanding "Single Type Discharge for All Vets." At the VA



The gentleman in the funny suit, and his numerous pals, were unable to prevent demonstrators from leaving their "calling cards" at the VA (photo at far left), and at the "Justice" Department (left).

At right, Ft. Meade GIs carry Highway 13's "GI UNITY" banner, leading the GI contingent in the July 4th march.

the people raised the demands and unveiled a 100 foot long vets "shit list" containing complaints from vets in New York about the way in which the VA treats vets. At the White House a dummy of Nixon was hung and kicked in "his ass for the crimes of his class." At the Court of Military Appeals a spokesperson burned up his "honorable" discharge since all multiple discharges are worthless scraps of paper.

Throughout the day construction workers and others lined the streets waving and cheering the demonstrators. These signs of solidarity raised the spirit and unity of the marchers causing them to realize that nothing the government would try to do could stop them from raising their demands.

That evening the police once again tried to arrest us for sleeping on the mall. This time they arrived at 3AM in buses as well as on horses. At that time people were woken up and we made a tactical retreat. The retreat caused people to become discouraged because tactical leadership failed to seize the opportunity for

Considering what took place on July 1st, the recent appointment by Jerry Ford of arch-conservative Roudebush to be permanent head of the VA is a slap in the face of Vietnam-era vets. It shows us that we are no better off under the new crook in the White House than we were under the old one.



JULY
4th

Demonstrators march down Constitution Ave., in Washington on their way to the Ellipse, where 5000 rallied on July 4th.

LOBBY

operated from the entrance by a barrier) ops managed to block it. It was the in the book, and they most assuredly lots.

demonstrators began chanting: "We want!" until Roudobush, accompanied by an every kind of bureaucrat in VA-dom, talk to four representatives of the two hours of beating around the bush, people decided that there was no point my more time listening to all the var- why the VA couldn't and/or wouldn't ion to meet the needs of America's 7 nam-era vets.

was unfortunate that the VVAW/WSO reps be suckered into spending two hours Roudobush's excuses, the fact that he discuss anything substantial with us our organization has come more and



The gentleman in the funny suit, and his numerous pals, were unable to prevent demonstrators from leaving their "calling cards" at the VA (photo at far left), and at the "Justice" Department (left).

At right, Ft. Meade GIs carry Highway 13's "GI UNITY" banner, leading the GI contingent in the July 4th march.

ize: that the VA is our enemy, and is screen to fool us into thinking that have an honored place in society, Sam WSO national coordinator, made that speech in front of the VA the next day: no longer going to waste time talking from now on we are going to confront anize as many vets as possible to fight them. That point of view became offi-0 policy in August, when the organizational Steering Committee voted to conduct campaign against the VA, to be kicked eraus' Day by a series of investigations of vets across the country, there will be an investigation n the weekend of Oct. 27th (official and another in Baltimore on Nov. 11th vets' day).

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VVAW/WSO DEMO JULY4

The Vietnam Veterans Against the War/Winter Soldier Organization (VVAW/WSO) demonstration held in Washington, D.C. from July 1-4 brought together veterans, active duty GIs, workers, and students for a series of militant anti-imperialist actions. The spirit and unity of the people during those four days made the demonstration a major victory in building a united anti-imperialist movement in this country.

Members of VVAW/WSO, active duty GIs from Highway 13 and other bases, former POWs, members of Revolutionary Union, Indochina Solidarity Committee, Revolutionary Student Brigade and other groups began arriving in Washington on July 1. After setting up a campsite on the mall at the foot of the Capitol, veterans and non-vets together marched on the VA. Once there a picket line was set up while twenty protesters stormed the building demanding to see the head of the VA. Faced with such a large militant picket line the VA leaders met with three protesters. It quickly became clear that talking to the VA was useless, they just do not listen to us. This action made it clear that this imperialist system in which we live and which the VA is one part is incapable of meeting the needs of the masses of people in the US.

After this incursion into the VA the people returned to the mall to hold meetings, have dinner, and prepare to try and sleep on the mall despite the fact that the government refused to give us permission to do so. VVAW/WSO had won the right to sleep on the mall in U.S. District Court only to have the government get two lackeys on the Court of Appeals to deny us the "legal" right to sleep. That action made it clear that the government wanted to stop the demonstration before it happened.

Around 3AM, mounted police approached the mall to harass us and hopefully arrest some of the sleeping protesters. Leadership woke everybody up, assembled them in a line facing the police and the people raised their fist in a show of unity and strength. No one was busted.

That day, July 2, although the people had gotten little sleep, 400 marched and demonstrated at the VA, demanding "Decent Benefits for All Vets," at the White House demanding "Kick Nixon Out," and at the US Court of Military Appeals demanding "Single-type Discharge for All Vets." At the VA

a militant demonstration. But at 7AM the people united, realized their power and seized the streets in a militant return to the mall. The demonstrators marched over and around police barricades and cars, held a quick rally on the Capitol steps and retake the mall.

That morning, July 3, the protesters took the streets in a militant march to the Justice Department to demand "Universal Unconditional Amnesty". They renamed street signs and spray painted the demand on the Justice building. On the return march to the mall the protesters marched over more police to protest at the District Court that Ehrlichman and the rest of the imperialist war criminals be jailed while war resisters be given amnesty.

That afternoon as the marchers started in the streets for the Capitol to demand the implementation of the 1973 Paris Peace Agreements and of All Aid to Thieu and Lon Nol the government once again tried to stop us. The police viciously attack us, but instead of retreating we fought back. When the dust was cleared, although we had suffered some casualties the police were forced to back off and we continued with the demonstration. At the capitol anti-war former POWs spoke in support of our demand and in solidarity with the Indochinese people.

That night the police were afraid to move against us and we remained the entire night on the mall. On July 4 over 3500 people marched over five miles in the hot sun for our mass rally on the ellipse in front of the White House. Speakers, on top a stage which flew the flags of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the Pathet Lao, and the Royal Government of Cambodia, addressed each demand. Letters of support from vets in prison were read and songs of solidarity with Indochina and the struggle against imperialism were sung.

After the rally people marched back to the mall where everyone agreed that this had only been the first step. Now we must take the spirit and unity displayed during those four days back to our communities to build a fighting movement. As a result of the lessons learned in building the demo VVAW/WSO learned the necessity of organizing veterans and GIs into the united front against imperialism.



Thus during the months ahead VVAW/WSO will continue to conduct local actions around the four major demands raised in Washington (we already kicked Nixon out) as well as other related demands with a primary focus on organizing veterans and GIs into the anti-imperialist movement.

This region of VVAW/WSO will be holding demonstrations and picket lines throughout September and October to build for a series of Winter Soldiers Investigations to show how the military, the VA and the entire system screw GIs and veterans. On October 28 (vets day) a large demo will be held in Washington D.C. and on November 11 a demo will be held in Baltimore. For more information contact the nearest VVAW/WSO chapter or Highway 13.

Finally one thing was clear during the four days of struggle. That was that we were strong when we took unified mass action against the system. This proves that when veterans, active duty GIs, workers, and students unite against the imperialist system we will be successful. We must remember that "THE PEOPLE UNITED, WILL NEVER BE DEFEATED!!!!!!"

COPS ATTACK DEMO

Demonstrators, on their way to a rally at the Capitol to demand an end to all aid to Thieu and Lon Nol, confront police who tried to stop the march. More than a dozen brothers and sisters were injured, along with several cops. A few motorcycles were damaged, and six brothers were arrested. They were released on bond that evening.

ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER BU

I've been trying to get off Air Force now for 10 months. The chine is no longer where my body is. Unfortunately, my body is still until I get out-- I'll tolerate games while "on duty": like a uniform, having short hair, etc. "duty" I feel I should live my less of their rules and regulations course, the USAF doesn't agree for sure they don't particular wardrobe:

I took a few days leave in order to take part in the national demonstration in D.C. I staffed chapter office the first night back to Andrews AFB with a friend's discharge hearing. a fatigue shirt at the time, al anti-war buttons on it, and the "U.S. Air Force" tag over had one that says "VVAW/WSO." an obvious improvement to stamp issue!

Ma Bell aids

The VVAW/WSO demo was well-publicized with stickers announcing the a stickers, announcing 'Demonstrations' were found in phone booth clubs, the old PX, and other 1

Because certain sinister elements some of the stickers, it became some of them. Some phone booths or 16 stickers. The removal was the army's campaign to prevent the demo. At Ft. Myer, Va., they fall whole companies out and or have anything to do with the J WSO wishes to express its sincere Myer brass for the free public to keep GIs from getting together jurisdiction in order to make a learn anything from any other officially approved." That's b of the service", and those of the different, in fact opposite this find that out, "the needs of the tube.



DEMO JULY4

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ACTIVE DUTY MEMBER BUSTED

I've been trying to get out of the Air Force now for 10 months. The Big Blue Machine is no longer where my head is at. Unfortunately, my body is still in. So until I get out-- I'll tolerate the USAF's games while "on duty": like wearing the uniform, having short hair, etc. "Off duty" I feel I should live my way regardless of their rules and regulations. Of course, the USAF doesn't agree. I know for sure they don't particularly dig my wardrobe:

I took a few days leave in July in order to take part in the national VVAW/WSO demonstration in D.C. I staffed the D.C. chapter office the first night, but rode back to Andrews AFB with a friend the next morning (I was to be a witness at a friend's discharge hearing). I was wearing a fatigue shirt at the time. It had several anti-war buttons on it, and in place of the "U.S. Air Force" tag over my pocket, I had one that says "VVAW-WSO." I think it's an obvious improvement to standard government issue!

Ma Bell aids DEMO...

The VVAW/WSO demo was well-publicized at Ft. Meade: over 40 phone booths across the post were plastered with stickers announcing the action. The orange stickers, announcing "Demonstrate! Come to DC July 1-4!" were found in phone booths at the service clubs, the old PX, and other locations on post.

Because certain sinister elements took to removing some of the stickers, it became necessary to replace some of them. Some phone booths got as many as 15 or 16 stickers. The removal was probably part of the army's campaign to prevent GI participation in the demo. At Ft. Myer, Va., they went so far as to fall whole companies out and order them not to have anything to do with the July actions (VVAW/WSO wishes to express its sincere thanks to the Ft. Myer brass for the free publicity). The army needs to keep GIs from getting together outside its own jurisdiction in order to make sure that they don't learn anything from any other sources than those "officially approved." That's because the "needs of the service", and those of the GIs are two very different, in fact opposite things. As soon as GIs find that out, "the needs of the service" go down the tube.



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SEPTEMBER 1974

PAGE 5

When we got to the gate, the guard first waved us in, then stopped us. He had me get out of the car, show my I.D., then took me to Security Police headquarters. My commander had to come to sign a release for me ("Bail" and "own recognizance" are terms the military hasn't learned yet. Enlisted people aren't considered "responsible" enough for such rights). While he was at it, he cancelled the rest of my leave. Later on, I began to wonder "Why cancel my leave when I didn't have any problems until I came back to Andrews ??!"

My shirt was impounded as "evidence" (This is what you call giving somebody the shirt off your back). The SP who brought me in was cool about the whole thing (just doing his job, so to speak), but a major there a HQ who had been standing there with arms folded watching all this suddenly pointed at me and said to my commander, "I want this man charged!!" in a rather hostile tone. I guess he didn't like the obvious improvements I had made. I suppose I won't make the USAF's "Ten best-dressed" list, either!

I was given an Article 15, referred to by the USAF as Non-Judicial (read: "Non-Just") Punishment. A \$50.00 fine. I think the whole incident was summed up best when my commander said to me afterwards, "If you gamble with the Air Force you're going to get burned."

"I know," I replied, "but I already told them I want to take my dice and go home."

"Radical"

"Radical" means getting to the bottom of things. (The Latin word "radus" means "root".) The person who is radical looks at a problem, tries to find the underlying reason for it, and then wants to change that reason. This is different from a "Liberal", who only wants to change the symptoms of the problem, but gets worried when you start talking about basic, or radical, changes. Liberals usually believe that the way we have society set up now is really the best way possible. If only we could make it work. Radicals believe that the present set-up works just the way it was supposed to, and that's why we have to change it.

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- Who Let You In Here? (Erroneous Enlistment/Induction)
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- American Servicemen Have Rights - Do You Know Yours?

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**DON'T
WAIT**



Article 134

In a decision that sounds like it was written in the 17th Century, the Supreme Court ruled that Article 134 which prohibits "all disorders and neglects to the prejudice of good order and discipline in the armed forces" is legal. Article 134, also called the General Article or Catch 22, is so broad and vague that it makes almost anything illegal. In the past, it has been used to prosecute EM's for sexual acts with a chicken, cheating while calling bingo numbers, and window peeping in a trailer park.

This time it was used to uphold the conviction of Dr. Howard Levy, who spoke out against the Vietnam War in 1965 and 1966, while he was stationed at Ft. Jackson. Levy also refused to train Green Berets (saying they would use the medical training for torture in a war that was illegal), refused to join the officer's club, and worked in a voter registration drive in a largely Black county in South Carolina. He was released after serving 2½ years of a 3 year sentence, just as news of the torture-murder of a Vietnamese civilian by Green Berets was on the front page of newspapers across the country. Levy's comment was, "As I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted...."

This decision puts a terrible weapon in the

We've Got The Bums On The Run



(cont'd. from P. 1)

eral hundred said hardly a word until he got the point where he announced his resignation. A cheer went up, then loud chanting of "Jail to the Chief!", then, for the rest of the speech, sarcastic comments ("He should have cut 18 minutes out of this one."), laughter, sporadic cheering, booing, chanting. The speech was the familiar collection of Nixon cliches, lies, and general cow droppings. It could have been, except for a few (key) sentences, delivered five years ago.

When it was over, the mood was high. The crowd in Lafayette Park stormed across Pennsylvania Ave. to join another group directly in front of the White House. The chanting and singing began again. One group of students was singing "Happy Days are Here Again". Then a contingent of the Revolutionary Student Brigade from Maryland arrived, and the chants got more militant: in addition to "Jail to the Chief!" people chanted "Nixon's not the only one, put all the bums on the run!", "The people united will never be defeated!" and "Resignation's not enough! Revolution! That's the stuff!".

By now, most of the tourists had left, along with the CIA-supported Korean guru's "Prayer and Fast" people -- the last and hardest



In a surprise decision, the highest military court (the Court of Military Appeals) ruled that a soldier is not required to give a sample of his urine if he fears it might be used against him.

The case involved the conviction of Robert Ruiz for refusing a direct order. Ruiz's refusal has now been overturned, and the end of the drug testing program benefits us all.

Ruiz had been sent to a detoxification center in Nam because a urine test showed he was using hard drugs. When he returned to his unit, his co. ordered him to supply another specimen to see if he was still strung-out. Ruiz refused, and was given a Special court-martial. They "awarded" him a Bad Conduct Discharge, 4 months hard labor & a \$400 fine.

But in a 2-1 decision, the COMA quoted the first part of a GI's Article 31 rights:

No person subject to this chapter may compel any person to incriminate himself or

hands of the brass. Court-martials under Art. 134 were becoming rarer recently because many civilian courts had ruled it unconstitutional. As the dissenting Supreme Court members said, Art. 134's are "catch-all's designed to allow prosecutions for practically any conduct that may offend the sensibilities of a military commander."

A civilian lawyer who watched the Supreme Court case explained to HIGHWAY 13 that the decision was not made on legal merits. The military's attorney was an ex-law professor, and old friend of many of the judges.

(from NMILAC & GI News)

core of the Nixon faithful. What was left was some two to three thousand demonstrators, and enough radical leadership from various local groups and collectives, including DC VVAW/WSO to show them how to take over the street. Once the crowd surged into Pennsylvania Ave., and urged the cars to honk at Nixon -- which most willingly did. Those that didn't, didn't get by. The cops cleared the avenue, but within minutes, the people had blocked it again, this time so effectively that it became for all practical purposes a people's park, where the cops moved with discretion. For hours after Nixon resigned, there was, literally, dancing in the streets in front of the White House.

The demonstration was not only an incredible experience for the participants, but it was educational, too. People saw that they could confront the police successfully and overcome them. Most also realized, by the end of the action, that "happy days" are not necessarily here again just because one crook has been eliminated. One popular chant was "Don't buy that Ford!" In the short weeks since he took office, our new fearless leader, who was always known to be every bit as reactionary as Nixon, and about as smart as a dodo bird, has given us ample reason not to buy his line any more than we did Nixon's. The appointment of the murdering millionaire Rockefeller as vice president, and of Richard Roudubush as head of the VA (see article on p. 6); the attempt to increase aid for the war in Vietnam; the tacit support of the invasion of Cyprus; and the continuation of Nixon's latest so-called policy on the economy, all show us that, in spite of such gimmicks as the phony amnesty, and the press's gushing praise of the new administration (they like Ford's press secretary better than old Ronny Ziegler), we can expect nothing from this clown but more of the same -- just as we can from all the other politicians put into office by big business to get things done for them.

to answer any question the answer to which may tend to incriminate him.

The gov't attorneys tried to argue that that urinalysis sampling wasn't covered by this protection. Indeed, to keep the civilian courts off their backs, the brass had promised long ago that drug traces in the urinalysis samples would only be used to give "General" discharges, instead of courts-martial.

They were amazed, then, when a military court ruled that a forced confession--whether it can lead to a court-martial or an administrative discharge--is illegal.

The civilian judges who make up the COMA are finally admitting what every vet knows: admin discharges, even though they aren't considered criminal convictions, can still ruin your chances for jobs & VA benefits.

After the decision the services tried to continue the illegal drug testing while they waited for a later decision. But GI's stationed in Europe heard about the case, and soldiers and airmen refused to submit to the urinalysis. Fearing more widespread rebellion, the DoD suspended the tests.

HIGHWAY 13 doesn't think shooting dope or staying stoned all the time is going to solve anybody's problems in the military. And we don't recommend it. But we've also talked with GI's who've been through Meade's behavior-modification Crossroads program, and it has even less to recommend. The urine testing program has clearly been used to threaten and control soldiers' lives.

Sanitation Workers: "No Cash, No Trash"

Baltimore, Md.—On July 1, Baltimore sanitation workers started a wildcat strike which involved about 1000 people by the end of that day. The union, AFSCME local 44, was forced to authorize the strike, and over 3000 workers were out before it was over.

The main issues were wages and the point system. The point system was instituted by the city in order to cut down absenteeism. Workers were given one point for each absence, whether excused or not, and could be fired after getting eight points. The point system was used by foremen and supervisors to harass certain workers and to try generally to speed up the work.

What sparked the strike was a sell-out contract, especially for the sanitation workers, just agreed on by local 44. The contract, approved on Sunday, June 30, at a meeting of 700 out of a union membership of 11,000, gave the sanitation workers a measly 20 cents an hour increase (the workers wanted 50 cents), and nothing was done about the point system. The workers started the wildcat Monday before the contract was officially signed.

The wildcat's size and militancy (the union president was hung in effigy), forced the union leadership to refuse to sign the contract and to hold a union meeting Tuesday where the strike was made official. One union official admitted in a TV interview, "There were 700 votes for the contract but we have to consider 1000 men on strike as 'no' votes." The union did not issue a strike call to its entire membership but let each section decide for itself. Over 2000 others quickly joined the strike.

The city government immediately responded by threatening to fire all the city workers. But the unity of the workers and their support among the people of Baltimore forced the mayor to back down quickly. The mayor then tried to break the strike by getting white collar city workers to "volunteer" to pick up the garbage in city cars and rented trucks. The mayor also played on a false sense of community pride— "Let's work together in these difficult times and keep our city clean"—and tried to create hysteria about the health menace.

The mayor also went to the courts and got an injunction against the strike. The courts imposed a \$15,000-a-day fine on the union and was going to arrest the union leaders for contempt of court by the time the strike ended.

Four landfill sites were opened to the public for garbage dumping, and after the first few days the police arrested any one who set up picket lines there. These landfills were in poor and working class communities and created intolerable conditions of garbage stink, flies, and rats. At one of the landfills next to a predominantly Black housing project, the residents organized picket lines to prevent the dumping of garbage. When police broke up the picket lines, people began ambushing trucks going to the landfill and throwing rocks at them. On several occasions, trucks were attacked, the keys thrown away and damage done to the engines.

As the people began to fight back more, the police stepped up their protection of the scabs and harassment of the pickets. They did this even as they were having "job actions" for a raise. (these "job actions" came several days before the police strike in Baltimore and consisted of a huge increase in the number of tickets issued for minor traffic and parking violations.)

The Revolutionary Union and On The Line (an anti-imperialist working class newspaper) initiated the Baltimore Strike Support Committee (BSSC) to help develop support among other workers and in the community. Several of the strikers participated in BSSC, as did several other organizations. The political basis of BSSC centered around two points. As a leaflet by BSSC put it, "This fight of the striking workers is part of the fight of all poor and working people just to survive. The whole system is in a crisis and they're trying to force the burden onto us through inflation, speed-

up, repression, attacks on the right to strike and by any other means they can. The job of the sanitation workers who sparked the strike is one of the dirtiest, hardest, and most hazardous in the city. The racist oppression of the system means that mostly Black people are found in this type job. But all workers, Black and white, are uniting together to fight to change the conditions on the job."

Before BSSC was officially formed, the RU and On The Line had organized a picket line at City Hall, Monday July 8, in support of the strikers. Then on Wednesday night, July 10, BSSC organized Garbage Day at City Hall.

Using the slogan "They say landfill, we say no: City Hall is where the garbage goes", BSSC rallied people to not take their garbage to the landfills but to take it to City Hall instead. About 50 people, led by striking workers, marched to City Hall carrying their garbage. They were joined there by over 100 others. As the marchers, chanting, "No Cash, No Trash; Junk the Point System" and "The People United Will Never Be Defeated", passed some housing projects, people joined in.



At City Hall, there was a short rally where a person from the Farmworkers Union and a representative from BSSC and On The

PRESTON PLEADS GUILTY

On Aug. 26th, more than six months after he brought an army helicopter down on the White House lawn in a hail of gunfire, PFC Robert Preston, of the 661st Transportation Co., Ft. Meade, pled guilty to charges of "wrongful appropriation" of the aircraft, and of breach of the peace. The charges carried a maximum penalty of two and a half years in jail and a dishonorable discharge, considerably less than the decades of confinement that the army could have imposed had they been able to stick him with all the counts, which included assault with intent to kill, that they had originally brought against him.

The army's overeagerness to throw the book at Preston enabled his lawyers, DC attorney Thomas Farquhar and JAG Capt. Herbert Moncier, to win several trial motions, including one making Preston's six month pre-trial confinement period count toward his sentence — something that is routine in civilian cases, but a rare privilege in courts-martial. The illegal collusion between Ft. Meade, Pentagon, Anne Arundel Co., and, possibly White House officials, which has been reported here over the past months, and which was successfully exposed in court by Moncier, had been designed to (1) keep Preston in jail under maximum security conditions until trial, and, (2) give him the heaviest possible sentence, either in a military or a Maryland court. The ineptitude and heavy-handedness with which the army went about this railroad attempt was exposed in court when the trial resumed in early August after recessing in June following the filing of defense motions. The result was that the judge dismissed the charges of assault against Maryland police officers (which were trumped up to start with) because, he said, the army had no jurisdiction over them. Preston's pre-trial confinement was applied to his sentence when JAG CPT. Cobb testified in another trial (the Stuckey murder

Line spoke. As people started to leave their garbage, the police attacked the crowd and arrested 12 of the demonstrators. The charges ranged from disorderly conduct to assault. But, as the BSSC leaflet that came out the next day said, "Wednesday night we took the garbage where it belongs—City Hall. And City Hall sent the cops in to break it up and try to scare us. But all that it showed was how scared they were of the growing support and unity of the striking city workers. The cops singled out the representative of the United Farmworkers Union who have a long history of strike work on their own and in support of others, in order to try and divide them off from the rest of us. They beat up several people so that supporters would stop their active support of the strikers and strikers would be afraid to work with other people. But it won't work. We are the ones who are strong because of our militant unity and they are the weak ones who are running scared. What happened Wednesday night only makes us more determined to build the strike and increase the support."

The response to the demonstration and arrests was overwhelming. Many people saw plainly the role of the cops as strike breakers and were aroused by the militancy of the demonstrators. One steel worker who was arrested practically got a hero's welcome at work the next day. One of the striking workers said that if they had known the action was actually going to come off, more of the strikers would have come. The demonstration encouraged a lot of people to more active support of the strike. It also forced the union to call for a mass public rally on July 15, which was cancelled when the strike was settled that day.

The workers won 70 cents over two years, and the union and city have 45 days to work out a replacement for the point system. The strike was a very important lesson for the people of Baltimore and for all workers. As the BSSC leaflet summed it up "A united rank and file, relying on itself and drawing support from the masses of people, is the strongest weapon the workers have."

case) that only "troublemakers" were put in the cellblock during pre-trial confinement, and that he "didn't know" why Preston had been put there.

As HIGHWAY 13 went to press, only the defense presentation of their case to show extenuating circumstances, and sentencing by the jury still remained to be done. Moncier told HIGHWAY 13 that he was "very happy" with the jury, which included two SP4's and three E-6's, along with five officers. Moncier expressed the hope that Preston's sentence would not exceed the time he had already served. Since he had been found not guilty of damaging the chopper, and since the charge of theft had been reduced to "wrongful appropriation" (meaning he intended to return the aircraft), there was at least the possibility that the sentence would not be too heavy.

The "extenuating circumstances" were summarized by Preston in a statement made during the session in which he pled guilty. Preston told of enlisting for flight school with the proviso that if he were dropped, he would have a two-year obligation to fulfill as an enlisted man. When he was unjustly washed out, he was arbitrarily given a three-year enlistment, then assigned to Ft. Meade as a helicopter mechanic. That wouldn't have been so bad, since he loves aircraft, except that he "spent more time sweeping floors than working on aircraft." On the day before the evening that he took the chopper, he had just got the latest of a long series of army run-arounds concerning his efforts to have his period of enlistment reduced to two years. Deeply depressed by his inability to get a responsive hearing from the army bureaucracy, Preston took the helicopter both in order to be able to fly (which he loved to do), to get his mind off his problems, but also in order to make the army stop ignoring him and start listening to his complaints. The well-publicized rumor that he took the craft because he was depressed at having been stood up by a woman is a total distortion.

(CONTINUED on P. 8)

NOW IT IS UP TO YOU

In 1965 farmworkers in the Coachella Valley of California started a five year strike and organized an international boycott of grapes, as tactics in their fight to be represented by a union. A union that would fight the growers for a minimum of \$2.00 an hour, a seniority system, overtime pay for work over 9 hours, medical payments, paid holidays, and numerous other things the average worker in this country has had for years. The farmworkers are just another example of how our system uses Chicanos; for doing work at low wages and horrible working conditions and using physical force against them whenever they try to resist.

In five years of hard struggle the United Farm Workers Union signed contracts with 85% of the grape growers industry. A struggle fighting court injunctions stopping them from picketing, boycotting phony elections set up by the growers, being fired for striking and being replaced by scabs, and many other tactics used to stop the farmworkers fight for a decent life. This fight they won, only because of their unity and the support of the people of this country who supported their boycott of grapes.

In July of 1973, the first of these contracts between the growers and the UFW (United Farm Workers) started to run out. As each contract came to an end, they would sign with the Teamsters Union and not the UFW. By August the Teamsters had signed contracts with the majority of the growers.

The Teamsters contracts reinstated the old labor contract system, provided no protection from pesticides, no grievance procedure, and undercut their wage proposal by 40¢ an hour, as a few examples.

The farmworkers showed the growers which Union they wanted to represent them when 7000 workers went out on strike by the end of August.

But as the striking farmworkers started to set up picket lines they ran into trouble with the growers, the Teamsters, and the courts.

The courts limited the strikers to ten people at each ranch, ordered the picketers to be spaced one hundred feet apart, and limit them to one hour a day to use bullhorns. The Teamsters went into the fields and signed scab laborers into their union. In an attempt to show that they were the representatives of the workers, they used force to keep farmworkers from walking off the job, they damaged cars belonging to the strikers, and attacked hundreds of the striking farmworkers with clubs, and different kinds of weapons as the police stood by and watched. On August 16, the terror against the strikers reached the peak

when a picketer was killed by a sniper.

A few days later all pickets were called in by the union leadership and it was decided to use another tactic against the growers and Teamsters. To take their fight to the cities and towns of the country and ask the people to boycott non-Farm Workers grapes and lettuce.

We at HIGHWAY 13 support the farmworkers in their fight against the common enemy. Baltimore representatives of the Farmworkers attended one of our meetings and showed a slide show of their 12-year struggle against the growers. With their help we have set up a



picket line at the Giant Food Store at the Laurel Shopping Center. While walking the picket line we hand out leaflets to the shoppers explaining why we are there, and how important of a role they play in helping the farmworkers win the right to be represented by the union of their choice.

With the growing support of the people across the country in boycotting grapes and lettuce not carrying the UFW label, the growers are losing a lot of money. To help them with their money problems, the Department of Defense is buying produce picked by scab workers and putting it in the Mess Halls and the Commissaries on the military posts across the country.

The Military is using you as the tool to break up the UFW. There are a couple of things to fight back against the military and help the Farmworkers at the same time:

- 1) ask the produce manager in the commissary, or the cook in the mess halls if they use United Farmworkers' products
- 2) refusing to buy scab grapes and lettuce in the commissary, or eat the non-union produce in the mess halls
- 3) talking to your friends and let them know about the boycott
- 4) come to the boycott at the Giant Food Store at the Laurel Shopping Center on Saturday between the hours of two and four.



PRESTON CONTINUED from Page 7

tion. It is true that he was stood up that night, and that that contributed to his depression, but the army's assorted hassles had been working on him for much longer, and were much more significant. When he entered the airfield, on impulse, and found that there was absolutely no security whatsoever on the field, he recalled having all his possessions thrown out of the window in flight school because he had forgotten to lock his locker -- a "security violation."

He took the aircraft thinking that the army would be lenient with him when they considered all the hassles they had caused him, and realized that he had pointed up their lack of security. His landing at the White House was motivated by great feelings of patriotism and the hope that that action would make people really take note of his hassles.

A lot of Preston's naivete has probably been cured since that night. The army doesn't just have a few faults, like lack of airfield security, or local red tape, that can

be pointed out and corrected; on the contrary, it is corrupt and rotten to the core; its many failings are too numerous and deep-seated to be corrected, so the army doesn't take it kindly when they are pointed out. What Preston needed was some kind of leverage to force the army to listen to him, which was something that he lacked, since, like all GIs, he was totally powerless. He stated in court that he thought that the act that he committed was "justified," as a protest against arbitrary authority. It was. But it was to a large extent futile, because (1) it was based on the premise that the army really would take care of the individual GIs interests, if only the right bureaucrats could be made to listen; and, (2) because Preston acted alone, and could easily be dealt with as an individual by the army through its judicial machinery. It should be clear that the army doesn't care about Preston or any other GI except inasmuch as it can use him or her to accomplish its "mission" to be ready to fight wars like the one in Vietnam. And it should also be clear that only by uniting in acts of protest with large numbers of their brothers and sisters can GIs ensure that they can effectively air their grievances, get results, and avoid reprisals.

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